

Help Yourself To Appliances



DO-IT-YOURSELF fans should remember that electricity and gas should be handled by experts. But there are parts of the job of installing your White Christmas appliances that you can do yourself if you wish. Here's a man whose wife needed more storage space in her kitchen and who wanted the stack-on type of equipment. Upper left he is unpacking the cases. Upper right, he has removed the old stove after carefully shutting off the fuel supply. He has found where the new will fit in the kitchen and is stacking it on. In the lower picture he is finishing up by putting the cooking top on the base cabinets beside the oven. He has put the old range in the basement recreation room and has arranged to have fuel connection made for both at the same time. Some of the more highly skilled home handy men may try to make the final connections themselves. In many communities, however, it is a violation of the law to do such work unless it is inspected by an official whose job it is to make such inspections. Safety groups also warn that you can endanger not only yourself but others in your family unless you know exactly what you are doing.



Modern Machine Servants Change Living Habits Of Many Americans

Revolution has reached the American home — an extension of the Industrial Revolution that started two centuries ago. It is providing a staff of machine servants for many families.

Here are some of the details spelled out by inventors, business men and trade associations that are the driving force behind the revolution.

Data gathered by many agencies show that U.S. homemakers are turning more and more of their tasks over to their machine servants and doing other things with their time.

Sometimes they have jobs outside their homes. There are about 16 million women with jobs and many of them are homemakers. But they are also doing other things. Sometimes they sponsor civic programs, welfare activities or cultural projects. In most cases they build richer lives for their own families.

EFFECTIVE DRYERS

Typical of the revolutionary ma-

chines is the clothes dryer.

In a survey of 1,100 women who have used mechanical dryers at least a year, 37 per cent said that labor saving was the most important benefit they got from the machine. This reflects the fact, brought out in another study, that a typical woman who dries her clothes in the back yard carries up to three tons of wet clothes out to the line every year. Added is the labor of stooping, picking up, shaking out and pinning up each piece.

Another 18 per cent of the women said that time saving was most important to them. In addition, 31 per cent found that the dryers did a better job—gave them softer, fluffier clothes—while 14 per cent found most important the fact they avoided weather delays in drying clothes.

Another study showed that an automatic dishwasher saves from 32.7 to 62.2 per cent of the time it takes to do the job by hand. It has been estimated that the av-

erage family needs an hour of hand dishwashing a day. There are about 45 million homes in America.

Most dishwashing is still done by hand. Dishwashing machine salesmen say their product can cut a 45 million woman-hour work load in half. Their claim of a daily potential 22½-million-hour time saving for America is largely in the future.

Many other machine-servant savings already have been made.

Our mothers and grandmothers wiped out the chores of storing and regulating wood and coal cooking ranges. They installed gas and electric stoves, but even that saving is being extended. Modern stoves have automatic devices that take over much of the work of cooking.

Timing devices can prepare a meal when there is no human being in the house. Such devices are commonplace on modern gas and electric ranges. But there still are millions of families which do not have them.

In the same way our grandmothers had iceboxes and our mothers had refrigerators. It was a triumph just to keep things cold. Modern refrigeration engineers are refining that triumph. They have scores of devices to make food easier to handle. They have others that regulate temperatures and humidity inside the box.

CHANGES MADE

Water heaters have been with us a long time. They helped make the Saturday night bath a thing of the distant past and make daily bathing a necessity.

But today's water heaters are far from the old boilers that helped start the revolution. Some of the sleek new installations fit beautifully into the decor of playroom, kitchen, bathroom. Or they occupy odd corners in the small new homes.

Modern designs are planned to deliver more hot water faster and cheaper than ever before.

Washing machines are another triumph of the past. But the women who blessed the work saving of the first machines would be amazed at the changes. Today, you put the clothes in, push a button and let the machine do the rest. You can have the kind of washing you need. Those grimy overalls

can have a vigorous going over. The next batch may be delicate underthings that need and get the most careful handling.

And with the latest washing machines and dryers are the modern ironers that mean time saving in that department.

FREEZERS HELP COOKS

Home freezers are, perhaps, one of the most effective work savers. You shop at your convenience, pop the food into the freezer and use it when you need it. You cook, or rather prepare dishes, when you have time, leave them in the freezer and let your range finish the meal when eating time rolls around.

Because home freezers are comparatively new, the possible time savings are not yet fully known. Work habits are changing. Fewer shopping trips are made. New recipes and methods permit more saving of time, money and energy every day. Home economists suggest that freezers have already brought large savings, but that their big day lies in the future when America learns more about using them.

The full story of America's home revolution cannot be told here. It would require a library.

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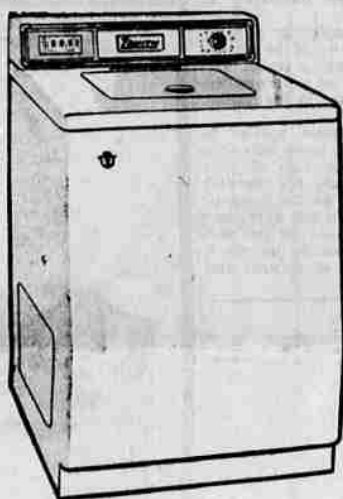
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