

New Methods Make Ironing Much Easier

Ironing can be easier and more pleasant than many women realize. The secret is in learning the newest tricks of the trade and taking advantage of some of the new equipment ideas.

Home economists have found that in preparing clothing for ironing, care should be taken in dampening. Rayons should be ironed before they have dried completely. Other items need not be dampened at all. Keeping the various articles separate in the laundry basket will save time and effort during ironing. It's a good idea to have a moistened sponge handy for re-touching spots that have dried out on dampened clothing.

When you're ironing, the clothes basket preferably should be on the right and at nearly the same height as the board. This reduces reaching and bending. Also within easy reach should be a flat surface such as a table on which to place finished items. It's a good idea to iron a sheet first, then do other flat work and underwear. These are laid on the folded sheet which can be used to carry everything away in one trip.

Iron all seams flat to give clothing a well-tailored look. After the seam is ironed, nose the iron under the seams on both sides to remove seam marks. Always iron clothing as you go along until the fabric is absolutely dry. This keeps the cloth from wrinkling and saves time otherwise spent in going over the same piece.

Heat is the prime factor in ironing. Don't waste energy by bearing down heavily on the iron. It should be glided along with unhurried, rhythmic motions, giving the heat time to do its work.

A good ironing table is a must. It should be free of wobble, fold easily, have a strong top and be adjustable in height. A new ironing table recently introduced by Arvin can reduce ironing time by as much as one-third, homemakers have found. Instead of being symmetrical with both sides straight and nearly parallel, it has one straight and one curved side. The effect of the curve, which is away from the homemaker, is to allow her to iron with a natural, swinging motion of her arm instead of with her elbow up and over the iron in an uncomfortable and tiring position. Also, the table is wider than most, providing more room at the center for ironing large pieces such as sheets, tablecloths, shirts and skirts.

A steam iron is another new aid to ironing. It should be lightweight — from 3 to 5 pounds is sufficient — have an adjustable heat control and be comfortable in the hand. Plain tap water instead of condensed water now can be used in several models. Most makes also can be used as dry ironers.

Window Fans Insure Hot Weather Comfort

Thousands of families who buy electric window fans this spring and summer will find them the most economical way to provide cool comfort during hot weather.

In purchasing a fan, several features are desired. One of the most important is that spaces in the protective grill be small enough so youngsters can't poke their fingers into the whirling blades.

Weatherproofing also is important. Unless the motor is adequately protected, the fan must be removed from the window every time it rains so moisture won't cause a short circuit in the wiring.

Strength of the motor mount should be checked. The best fans have four-point motor mounts. If the fan is bumped or dropped, the motor can't shift position causing the fan blades to hit the sides of the housing.

The motor itself should be a capacitor induction type that starts easily and causes no interference with radio or television sets. The fan should be equipped with expandable side panels which permit fitting the unit into any size window opening. Often these panels are part of the fan, but sometimes it is necessary to purchase them separately.

Household Hints

By UNITED PRESS

Hollow-handled pieces of silverware, such as knives, should not be washed or rinsed in excessively hot water because expansion of silver will cause the handles to pull away from the core inside. Never soak knives and forks with plastic, horn, ivory or wooden handles.

When buying pork cuts, remember that Boston butts and blade steaks are the leanest, with 84 per cent meat. Loin roasts and chops are fairly lean, with 67 per cent lean meat. From 63 to 59 per cent of the meat is lean in ham and spareribs.

A kitchen safety note: When you take off the lid of a toaster or saucepan, lift the far side of the cover first so that the steam escapes away from your face and hands.

Thorough cooking is a must for fresh pork. A meat thermometer is most reliable, but this method also works: make small incisions next to the bone. If the meat has changed from pink to grayish-white, the pork is done.

WOOD CABINETS POPULAR. Wood kitchen cabinets were installed in 80 out of 100 single-family homes built in the first quarter of 1950, according to a survey reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor.

New Products

By CLYDE H. FARNSWORTH
United Press Staff Correspondent

NEW YORK (UP) — Simplified picture taking is promised with a new 35 mm. Argus camera that uses ordinary numbers instead of the traditional lens opening symbols. A built-in light meter designates which of the new numbers to use.

You set the shutter dial of the new Argus "Math-Matic C3" for "scenes" or "action," and then adjust the light meter to a matching number. The meter then designates the correct lens opening number.

Do you get fouled up threading a movie projector? Bell & Howell Co. of Chicago has introduced an automatic threading projector, the "Auto Load," which whisks film through a threading mechanism in less than three seconds. After inserting the film in a threading channel, a mechanism forms film loops, engages the sprocket teeth and directs film through the channel of the aperture and pressure plates.

Black and white "Astro Murals" put space phenomena on the walls of your home. The specially treated murals represent the first exploitation of outer space for decoration, according to Astro Murals, Inc., of New York, the manufacturer.

Ideal for figuring your income tax is a new portable adding machine, said to be the first one designed primarily for home use. Smith-Corona, Inc., of Syracuse, N.Y., says its easily operated machine will index five columns of figures on paper tape and will total six columns.

You get a ticklish window washing problem when a window air conditioning unit is installed in your home. Since in most cases the window above the unit is sealed the only access to that window is from the outside. F. C. Russell Co. of Columbiana, Ohio, mindful of the problem, has introduced a special kind of window with glass inserts that may be removed and washed. Outside air can be brought into the room by movement of a vertical slide panel.

Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Co. has come out with a reflective liquid you can brush on boats, trees, mailboxes, step risers and the like that makes these objects brightly visible at night when seen behind headlights or a flashlight. At all other times the material looks like ordinary gray paint. The company says the liquid is safe to use because it contains no phosphorous, radium or luminescent material.

From 1,400 to 9,300 loaves of bread per hour can be cooled with a new rack-type bread cooler designed for the baking industry by Capitol Products Corp. of York, Pennsylvania. The double-deck design reduces space requirements and permits lower maintenance and installation costs, the company says.

OREGON COW SETS

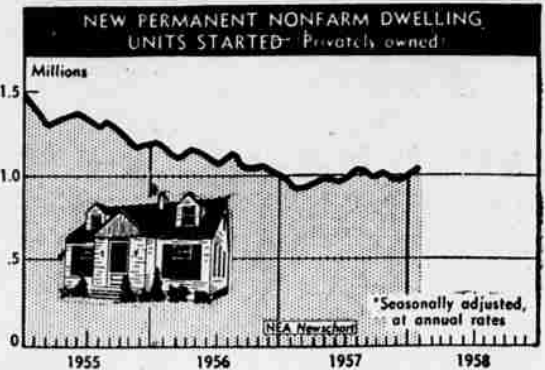
NEW MILKING RECORD

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. — At an age more than twice that of the average dairy cow, a registered Holstein cow owned by Edwin and Priscilla Barber, Nehalem, has shattered an all-time Oregon production record on Herd Improvement Registry test.

The Holstein-Friesian Association of America reports that Segis Burke Valdesa Posch 2317146 (VG) established a new high for 15-year-olds milked twice daily in the HIR program.

Her official 300-day production totalled 13,815 pounds of milk and 510 pounds of butterfat. Weighing and testing were supervised by Oregon State Agricultural College working in close cooperation with the national Holstein organization.

Benny Goodman began his musical career at the age of 14, as a clarinet player in a band on a Chicago excursion boat.



Ore. Farm Prices Down A Bit;

Lower Livestock Price Noted

Oregon farm prices turned downward last month in contrast to national farm prices which continued to rise, according to Mrs. Elvera Horrell, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State College.

Lower livestock prices in the state during April more than offset a slight rise in crop prices paid farmers, Mrs. Horrell said. Milk, beef cattle, hog, lamb, and wool prices slipped during the month and helped lower the price index. It marked the first drop in meat-animal prices in the state since October.

However, crop prices inched up a little during April, largely due to increases in prices paid farmers for corn and potatoes. This helped Oregon farm prices stay about three per cent above those of a year earlier, although they stand about one per cent below last month.

On the national scene, record high prices for fruits and vegetables, and a substantial increase in prices paid for cotton, gave the national farm price index another monthly boost. Prices received by the nation's farmers gained one per cent during last month and now stand 10 per cent above April, 1957 and at the highest level since January, 1953, Mrs. Horrell said.

Prices of things farmers buy also moved up one per cent last month to a new record high, six per cent above a year earlier. Prices paid for farm production items were responsible for the increase, as higher prices for feed, cattle, feed, baby chicks, and turkey poulters more than offset

slightly lower prices for feeder lambs, building materials, and fertilizer.

Farm family living items held unchanged from the previous record high in mid-March as a rise in food prices was balanced by unchanged or lower prices on other items.

With both prices received and prices paid by farmers advancing a like amount, farm product purchasing power held its own at mid-April, Mrs. Horrell said. The parity ratio — the government's yardstick for measuring the relationship between prices received and prices paid by farmers — stood at 87 at mid-April, unchanged from mid-March but five points above mid-April, 1957.

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