

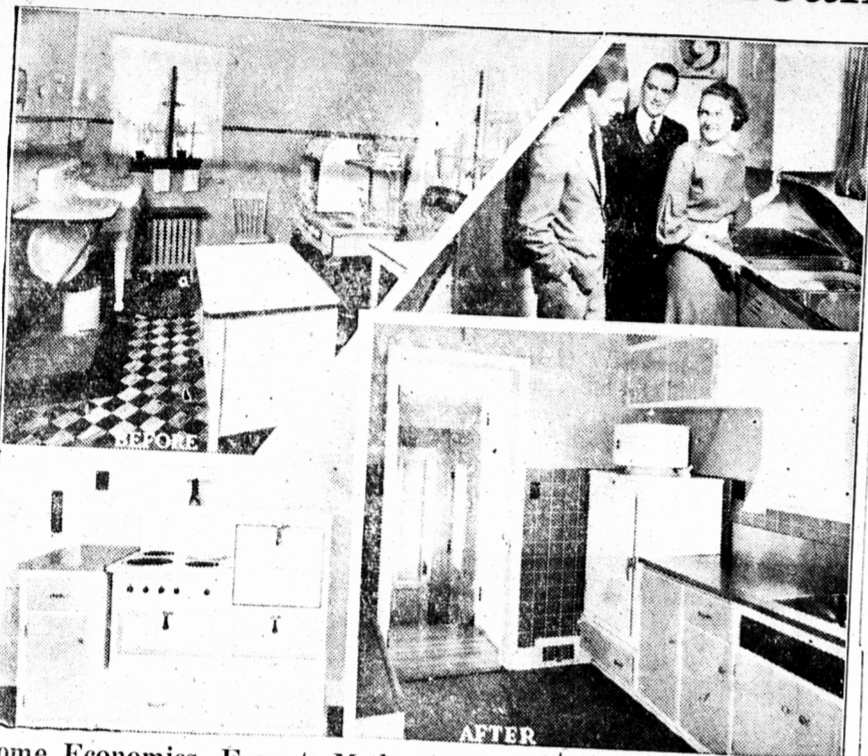


1937 is HOME Improvement YEAR

The Year For Putting Men Back to Work



My Kitchen Gets A Loan



Home Economics Expert Modernizes Her "Workshop" Under Government Plan

By E. Frances Thompson

Most of us have our "castles in the air".

It is human to dream dreams and dwell for a few magical hours, now and then, in that glorious Land of Make-Believe.

From time to time, we learn of some fortunate individual who has been able to bring her castles down to earth, as it were, and realize her ambitions. Personally, I must confess that I have found it difficult not to feel just a little envious when I have read about a lucky sweepstake winner or the discovery of a long-lost heir who inherits a fortune.

For, I too, have had my "castles in the air".

But, at last, I have been able to bring one to earth. I have been so thrilled and excited in the realization of a long-cherished dream that I am not worrying a great deal about the smaller castles which remain aloft. Let me hasten to banish the thought that I am either a sweepstake winner or a long-lost heir. If I should be, at any time, so much the better!

Modern Equipment

The castle I have brought to earth is a thoroughly modern kitchen in my own home. It is equipped with all those facilities which save time, labor and temper. I am not suggesting that I did not have a kitchen before, because my office downtown was really a modern kitchen in a skyscraper. But I wanted a gleaming, up-to-date "workshop" in my home also, where everything I did would be a pleasure by reason of the environment and the modern appliances available. I use the word "workshop" advisedly for, after all, the kitchen is the woman's workshop. It should have a modern refrigerator, electric range, up-to-date sink and dishwasher, ventilating fan, plenty of cupboard space,

plenty of surfaces which are convenient, plenty of light, attractive color scheme, and other features which make a kitchen modern.

Frequently, I have been asked how I managed to secure the money for this kitchen, and thus accomplish something upon which my heart had been set for some time.

Idle Money Gets A Job

It was all so simple! Yet so few people apparently know how to get money for this purpose that I believe it well worth while to explain how I went about it.

I had seen advertisements in newspapers and magazines which drew attention to the Home Improvement Plan approved by the Federal Government. Under this scheme, I read that home-owners could obtain loans to make improvements on their homes. Needless to say, I was interested! My dream kitchen began to take shape more vividly in my mind.

Without wasting any time, I took the first step. I visited my bank manager and had a heart-to-heart talk with him, explaining fully what I wanted to do.

"How much will you require?" he asked. I told him that \$500 would cover the improvements I wanted to make.

"And now," I added, "I want to ask some questions."

"Go ahead," he smiled.

"In the first place, I said, "what is the rate of interest? I have to pay and what period is allowed to repay the loan?"

"Your money," replied the guardian of my gold, "is discounted at 3 1/2% before you receive it, and it is repaid over a twelve-month, twenty-four-month or thirty-six-month period, as you desire. That is to say, if you borrowed \$500 and wanted to repay it over a year, you would receive \$483.75 and repay at the rate of \$41.67 a month. If you

I learned that all appliances installed under this Government loan scheme had to be built-in, and not portable.

After my application had been duly approved by the bank manager and I had received the cash, I had a consultation with my General Electric dealer, who gave me valuable advice on equipment I had

A Dream Comes True

The transformation was amazing! Mere words cannot possibly express that thrill I experienced when I stepped into my modernized home "workshop" when it was finally completed. I wanted to shout and dance and invite the world and his wife in to see it. I capped my hands in sheer ecstasy. When I calmed down, I held an inspection beginning with my refrigerator, which I had located against the west wall, built-in alongside a new waist-level sink with dishwasher. There were cupboard shelves all round and built up to the ceiling. I had always wanted plenty of cupboard space so that there could be room for everything.

I studied my oblong kitchen more closely and had to admire the delightful color scheme. The cupboards are white with black trim. When I opened the cupboard I was confronted with a delicate shade of blue, which harmonized with the walls and the floor. The inlaid There was even a blue tiled effect. There was a new window over the sink. The flood of light caused the modernistic chrome taps to gleam. In fact, the whole kitchen radiated a glistening cleanliness. Everything was to trim, neat, and inviting. It was truly a dream kitchen.

I glanced around at the south wall and only a few steps from the refrigerator stood my range, the latest type, with automatic oven control, the economy cooker, and a warming closet. It was so well designed it readily became a part of my "built-in kitchen."

I now had ample working surfaces—just the right height with bright lighting where I wanted it. There were also plenty of additional outlets. I was glad that I had decided on the built-in ventilator which would dispel all cooking odors. I passed through the new and convenient swing doors to my dining-room, more than satisfied that I had done the right thing in getting my kitchen a loan.

I won't readily forget the kitchen-warming I gave in honor of my new home "workshop." All my women friends were equally thrilled. They pointed out that men would not work in an out-of-date workshop, and why should women have to do it when it is so simple to modernize old kitchens? As a result, I am not sure I was any too popular with the men-folks. But, all's well that ends well, for I have seen some of them talking to their bankers, recently! I think I know why!

Electric Range Simplifies Making of Brown Bread

BEAT UP THE BATTER AND LET ELECTRIC THRIFT COOKER DO THE REST

Boston Brown Bread —hasn't it been ages since you searched out the old steamer and spent a morning "brown-breading"? Perhaps, you haven't the time; then again, perhaps, you make Boston brown bread often and, think you, enjoy it very much because of your new electric range.

The modern electric range with its permanent, easy-to-manipulate steaming unit affords a grand way of making this delicious bread which everyone in the family adores.

The process merely amounts to beating up the batter, and letting the concealed, insulated cooker kettle do the rest. One cup of water placed in the cooker supplies enough moisture to outlast the two-to-three-hour steaming period. Just think, you don't have to juggle around kettles or scalding hot water. In addition, a low degree of heat keeps the water boiling, so you don't have to keep adjusting the heat nor peek into the steamer.

Here's the Thrift Cooker way to make Boston brown bread:

- Boston Brown Bread
- 2 cups whole wheat flour.
- 1 cup cornmeal
- 1-2 teaspoons salt
- 2 teaspoons soda
- 3 cup molasses
- 2 cups sour milk
- 1 cup flour, seedless raisins.
- Place rack in the Thrift Cooker and use High heat to bring 1 cup water to boil.
- Mix bread as water heats. Sift and measure flour and corn meal and sift with soda and salt. Mix molasses and sour milk, and add with raisins to dry ingredients.
- Pour into well oiled pound baking powder cans, or into a mold. Cover.
- Place in Thrift Cooker. Cover.
- Steam on High heat 10 minutes and on Low heat 2 to 3 hours.

Sandblasted Wood

Sandblasted wood, properly finished, gives some odd and beautiful effects. A simple, attractive finish is obtained by first dusting off the surface thoroughly to remove all fine sand which may have been left in the pores. After that a stain is applied—preferably a penetrating, transparent oil stain. This should be wiped off immediately to produce an even effect. Two thin coats of stain should be used.

WEATHER HARD ON FURNITURE

Home-owners these days are going in for terraces to an increasingly large extent, until the "room" of the household which has the sky for its ceiling is appearing in communities where new building has progressed.

For its walls the terrace can have one or two of the outer walls of a house, and for its floor there are flagstones, bricks or a carpet of green grass. Outdoor furniture must be comfortable and practical whether it is of wood or wicker, rattan or metal, but no matter what its type of construction it must be safeguarded against weather ravages by protective coatings.

Exterior house paint of good quality may be used on furniture which is going to spend its summer out of doors. Two coats of this paint should give it plenty of weather resistance. Spar varnish is also a protection, if the wood of the furniture has a natural finish. And here are some tips on painting your outdoor furniture:

If the old finish is glossy, dull it by washing it with water to which sal soda has been added. Use one pound of soda to one gallon of water.

Have surface clean and dry before starting to paint. If surface is cracked and peeling you will have to remove with a wire brush and varnish remover and then sand with a priming coat thin with turpentine.

Turn small tables and chairs side down and paint the underneath sections first.

Don't forget to do your painting in a place which is free from flying particles of dirt or lodge on freshly painted surfaces. In choosing colors for your outdoor furniture take into consideration the color of the house.



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