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## Our Farm Women

Edited by MRS. W. N. HUTT

### A REMODELED KITCHEN

Characteristics of This Plan Are the Built-in Equipment and the Absence of Steps and Thresholds—Second Prize Plan in Our Kitchen Contest

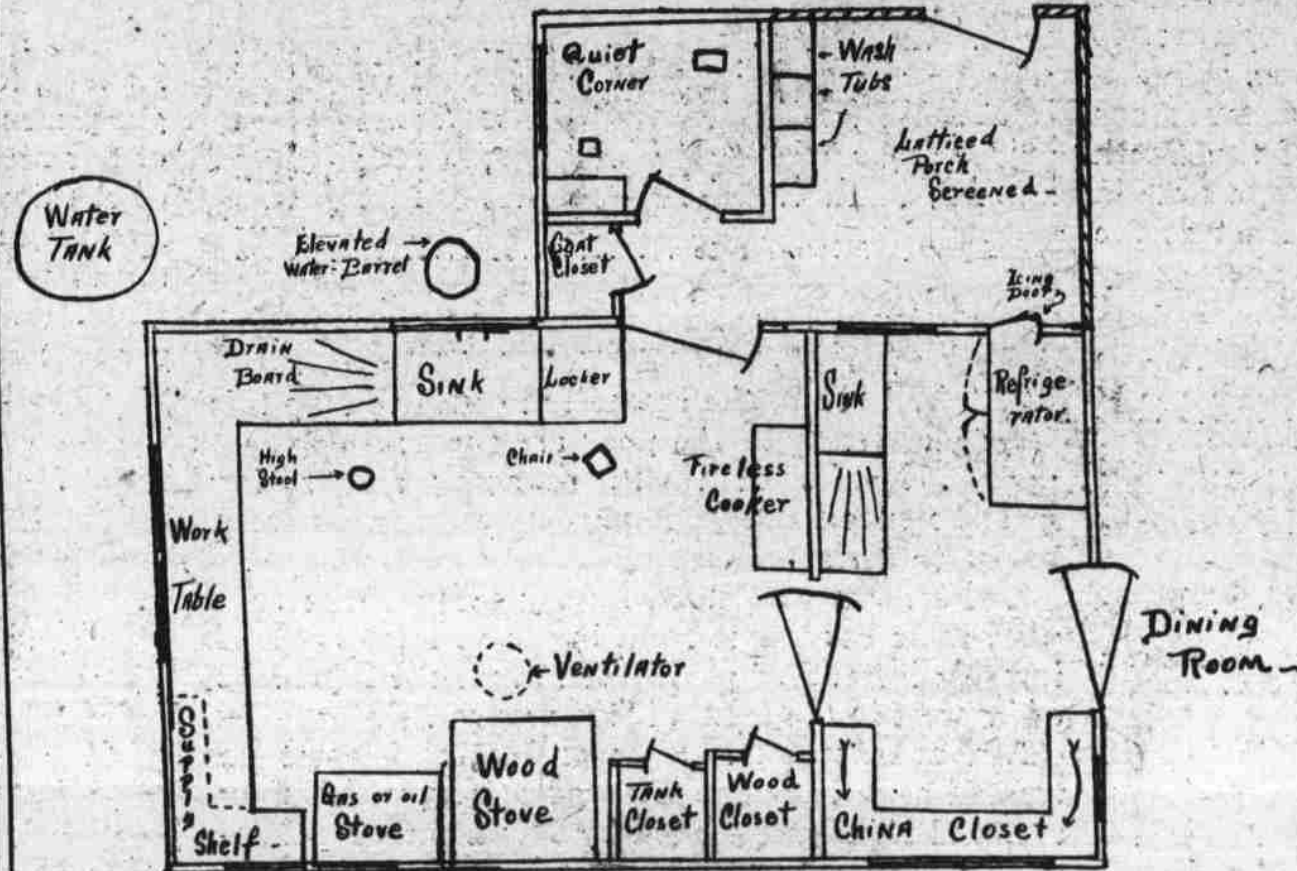
I HAVE remodeled my old kitchen so as to have plenty of wall space for storage and yet not have so much floor space. The floor is covered with inlaid linoleum and the walls are of hard plaster painted with oil paints in a soft yellow flat finish, so that it will not glare but be restful to the eyes. The wood work is cream white enamel. The window over the sink is four feet from the floor, with cream white enameled zinc extending from sink up to window. Just above the sink is a place for the cleaning materials. The two small windows over work table are six feet from the floor and under these are shelves for supplies. Under the work table are bins for flour and meal, lockers and drawers. The space behind the back door

### A PLEA FOR THE ROCKING CHAIR

The Little Rocker in the Kitchen Will Save Many a Backache and Prevent Actual Illness

NO, I don't mean to plead for more handsomely upholstered, leather-cushioned pieces of furniture to be placed in the living-room for the use of the occasional caller, nor even for the housewife's own Sunday enjoyment. My aim is to advocate the putting of a simple, low, comfortable rocker into the kitchen itself, where the busy mother may have it available for every bit of sitting work the day's duties demand. Now I fancy I can see a supercilious smile on the face of some of your strong, able-bodied readers; but read this, I beg of you!

Just a bit of personal history by way of preface. My mother (bless her!) was a woman of fine physique and of seemingly unlimited endurance, who, in her splendid strength and immaculate housewifery, scorned any of the easy methods of doing



and sink is filled with shelves, drawers and lockers.

The kitchen linen is kept in a locker near the sink. There are shelves in the upper part of the wood closet around the sides to keep supplies, ppts and pans that are not needed often. These shelves are low enough to be easily reached.

The ventilator is in the ceiling of kitchen, near the stove, as indicated in the floor plan.

MATTIE WOOD OSBORNE,  
Clyde, N. C.

**Comment by Mrs. Hutt:**—The characteristic of Miss Osborne's kitchen plan is the built-in equipment in the kitchen, butler's pantry, and on the porch. It is a little more ambitious than the first-prize plan was, and the third plan given will be a little more complete than even this one.

You will observe in this plan the use of swinging doors and the absence of steps and thresholds. This kitchen has upper ventilation in both high built windows and ventilators over the stoves.

A butler's pantry is a very great convenience, especially where the family is so large that a cook is kept and yet the children are expected to do a portion of the work. The butler's pantry enables the refrigerator to be near the dining-room door, to be removed from the heat of the kitchen, and to receive the ice from the outside. The absence of the door between the porch and the butler's pantry is to be commended.

The quiet corner deserves mention. Observe also the stationary wash tubs. It depends entirely on the climate as to whether or not the wash tubs would be better in the kitchen, in the room reserved for mother's quiet corner, where a small laundry stove might be installed, or on the porch.

things. The good old-fashioned ways, no matter how hard, were good enough for her. Not even the much recommended high stool graced her kitchen, but all her paring of fruits and vegetables was done while heroically standing.

Partly as a sequel to this, I can but believe, mother today in her mature years, which should be her prime, is but a worn-out bundle of nerves. Still one more bitter result, I firmly believe—I, her fourth child, was born after some ten years of this career, a weak little “cry-baby”, whose life for three years, so I have been told, was spared of. The fifth, and last, child was lost at the age of three months. All my life I have been more or less a weak woman physically. Not for one instant would I blame mother. She did the best she knew, but I am just as firmly convinced that my weak constitution, in a certain extent at least, is due to prenatal influences, as that I have one at all.

But to my original subject—the rocker in the kitchen. I have long since found that a rocker is cheaper than doctor's bills, or even the hire of an inefficient maid-of-all-work. Today I have four little girls of my own, live on a farm and do all the housework required thereon, except the washing, and I attribute my ability to do this, in a great measure, to my judicious use of a little rocker. (My back forbids the use of the recommended high stool.) I keep it—the rocker—by my kitchen table or on the back porch where all my preparing of fruits and vegetables is done. Here my mending is all done; here I am ready to pick up baby and nurse her; here I can look over a paper or magazine for a few resting moments; and here I am ready when a tired feeling comes, to lean back, close my eyes, relax and snatch a five minutes' rest. Here also—and now, good house-

wives, you have my permission to laugh if you wish—I do my ironing with the ironing board resting on seats of two chairs in front of me. Of course, the rocker is of no particular use here, as any other low chair would do almost as well, except that occasionally it is such a relief to rest the back a minute and to be able to adjust it to just the most comfortable angle possible.

In all seriousness, may I not beg you good women who read this column not to work to the very limit of your endurance; but for the sake of your children, both born and unborn, halt a while in your busy career, study to see if there are any easier methods than those you now employ and, yes, if you feel the need of one, do not be ashamed of using a comfortable kitchen rocker?

“KENTUCKY.”

### Selling Eggs Cooperatively

IN ORDER to get together to buy and sell on the cooperative plan and to be able to save and help each other, we, the ladies of this community, met and organized a club of United Farm Women. Our first work was to get cartons, gather our eggs once or twice a week, placing the number of each farm on the carton so that each person would be responsible for his or her eggs, and if any bad ones were reported we could easily find out who sold them. Of the 3,000 dozen not one bad egg was reported from our club members. This, however, was not very satisfactory, as we sold in large lots to grocers, and they sometimes were so long disposing of them that they must have been stale. It is much better to get the cash for eggs than it is to take them to any little old grocery store and take any old thing in trade. If we ever succeed in educating our members to separate the roosters from the hens so as to have eggs that will not spoil so readily, I think we shall be able to sell direct to consumers, by parcel post and be able to demand better prices and let the poor city folks know how good and nourishing a real fresh country egg is.

Our second meeting was for the purpose of selecting shirtings and gingham and such small articles as we could get reasonably by buying in wholesale lots. We have bought and divided quite a number of things in this way, and realized quite a little sum of profits thereby. By getting the short lengths in dry goods we sometimes save several cents on the yard, which means a great deal to the majority of people. We met with the County Meeting of Farmers' Union and had a picnic dinner and fine addresses.

MRS. J. Z. GREEN,  
Marshville, N. C.

### All Must Work Together

BY COÖPERATING we have accomplished greater things than we ever thought possible. I assure you that when our club was organized it was with fear and trembling that I undertook the presidency. We started with the problems of everyday life in the home, and the quickest and easiest ways of solving these problems.

At one of our meetings each woman brought something she had found especially useful in her own work. Sometimes it was a very simple thing, yet another one had never thought of it. We also read and talked about labor-saving devices that none of us had. We just enjoyed knowing about them and talking about how they worked.

At another meeting we talked of the spring sewing and had samples and prices of seasonable dresses sent us; also ready-made button-holes, collar bands, for shirts, etc. Later, we had a lecture by a domestic science teacher, another on nursing by a physician, and one on canning by a representative of the canning clubs. Our exhibit at the fall fair proved that we had taken advantage of the information gained at this meeting. Every member had something on exhibition.

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