

Homemakers Treated To An Array of Holiday Decorating Ideas

(Continued From Page 34)

rosemary bush outside the manger in Bethlehem and Mary used it on which to dry the swaddling clothes. From then on it has its lovely smell.

She also decorated a candle mold by adding greens, candles and on one end she added a "pineapple", created from a pomander lemon topped with a pine cone. She explained that the pineapple has been a symbol of ex-

travagant hospitality since the 15th century when they were found in South America by Europeans. When they found they could not grow them, they imported them for Christmas celebrating.

Along with her early American theme, she decorated a coffee grinder by adding a styrofoam top, in which she supported a candle and greens, and a bell, saying that the bell is the most primitive of all musical instruments. According to Christians, she said, the "bells heralded the birth of Christ and will herald his second coming."

Another interesting wreath created by Mrs. Behler was one for feeding the birds. She added a ribbon, bells of parakeet food (or, she said, suet balls would do nicely). She cut apples in sections and attached them with wooden picks. She said it's important to use wooden picks and insert them in such a way that the birds have a place on which to perch to eat the apple-without freezing their feet.

In another part of the program, Mrs. Nancy Wenrich, director of home economics for Metropolitan Edison Company, spoke on "making less do more at Christmas". In addition to presenting holiday food ideas, she urged the women to use electricity wisely in their cooking—using the oven to full capacity when preparing meals and baking those holiday goodies. She also encouraged them to use electrical appliances during "off-peak" periods—before eight o'clock in the morning and after eight in the evening, and on weekends.

She included one cookie recipe which she said makes excellent use of off-peak electricity:

Forgotten Cookies

2 egg whites
Two-thirds cup sugar
1 cup semi-sweet chocolate bits (optional)
1 cup chopped nuts (optional)
Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Beat 2 egg whites in small

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Small Rooms

Are you tired of small, cramped rooms in your house, apartment or mobile home? You can make a small room look bigger through the wise choice of wall colors and furnishings and by the placement of your furniture, points out Mrs. Helen Puskar, Extension home furnishings specialist at The Pennsylvania State University.

She suggests you first avoid large amounts of dark wood in furniture, paneling and woodwork. Instead, choose light or medium colors for the large pieces and also for the floor and windows. You can make the walls look more spacious by choosing a cool, light color, such as pale blue.

Secondly, Mrs. Puskar says, make patterns work for you. Avoid big-bold contrasting patterns on drapes, upholstery, slip-covers or floor coverings. They only cut up the space. Instead, choose small pat-

terns with muted colors and use as little pattern as possible. A one-piece floor covering in a solid color will stretch the space in a room. And if you want to combine wall colors and furnishings with tile or linoleum, make them the same color.

You can make a room look taller by adding long, tailored draperies that stretch from floor to ceiling or from the floor to the top of the window.

According to the Extension specialist, you can make a room look larger by the way you arrange the furniture. Keep the center of the room open and place large furniture pieces parallel to the wall. Discard any furniture you don't need. It just takes up space. When you buy new pieces, choose simple, lightweight furniture that's small in scale. And use only a few accessories to avoid a cluttered look. Clutter always makes a room look smaller.

mixer bowl until frothy. Gradually add sugar and continue beating until stiff mounds form. Fold in semi-sweet chocolate bits and-or nuts. Drop by spoonfuls onto 2 greased cookie sheets. Place in preheated oven. Close door and turn oven off. Allow cookies to stay in oven for 12 hours. Note: These can be made after an evening meal—then by morning they are done, and you're not tempted to "take a peek-see".

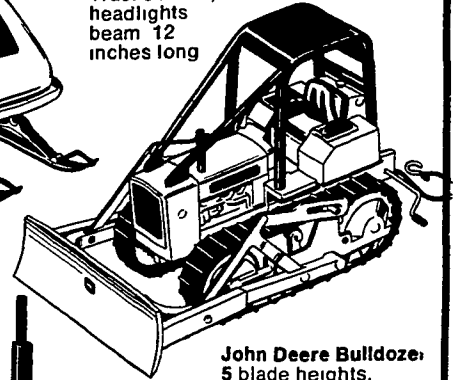
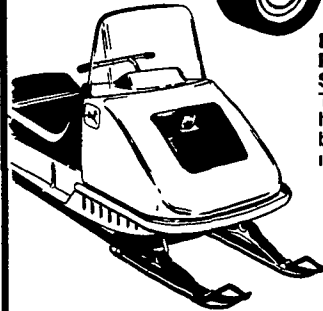
Gift-giving ideas were presented by Mrs. Alletta Schadler and Mrs. Cheryl Reitz, Extension Home Economists, as well as "show and tell" items presented by the homemakers themselves.

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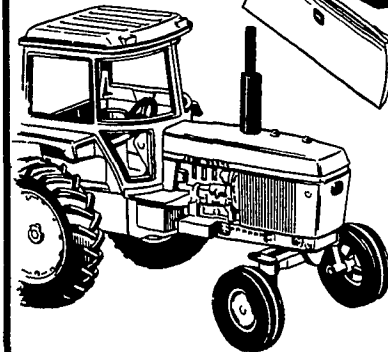
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