

On being a farm wife - And other hazards

Joyce Bupp

Goodness me, here it is, Turkey Time again.

There will be no ordering up of a turkey across the phone, or carefully selecting from a buffet of birds at the local supermarket for this farm wife

My turkey's waiting at the back door. Laterally, I found him sitting on the picnic table on the back porch one day, while his cohorts were around the other side stealing the Indian corn from my front porch decorations.

Those birds were cute little things as their adolescent feathers grew in, picturesque as they scratched their way through the back yard, and even pebble when they settled on the garden fence to roost for the night.

But that was at their better moments

Too often, their collective behaviour was anything but mannerly.

Like hummingbirds to sugar water, those nine big white feather friends could smell fresh high moisture corn in the dairy barn before it was halfway out of the storage unit. They'd rush toward the barn like a team of college football players on the five yard line and headed for touchdown.

Turkeys in the dairy barn, as any milk inspector could tell you, are strictly a no-no.

Then there's that other little matter of the remnants they leave behind as we chase them off into yonder field. One of the barn crew labels them "tar puddles."

Just the other day, I skidded through a "tar puddle" hiding under a maple leaf, nearly dropping the full crockpot of hot

chocolate on its way to guests in the barn office.

My opinion of backyard turkeys dropped several additional notches.

And now they've claimed the spot of lawn smack under my wash line as their very own, with two of the biggest roosters bent on keeping me well away from their beloved hens.

I don't want their hens. All I want to do is hang out the dozen pairs of jeans in the laundry.

Nevertheless, the big fellows put themselves up to their fullest, tail feathers extended into perfect broad fans, heads turning brilliant blue and red in intense displeasure with my presence.

With a couple of steps angled in my direction, and a mean-sounding "hiss" to accent their

opinion of me, these strutting show-offs edge closer and closer, feinting pecks toward my knees, until I finally swat them with a well-sweatshirt.

Therefore, you will find no remorse, no regrets, no sorrow as the Thanksgiving celebration looms for these two troublemakers.

Neither do I expect to find a \$20 bill with my grocery list, as did one farm wife I've heard about, along with a note to "go get a turkey we don't know."

And this holiday will be celebrated for the many blessings we have so abundantly, as well as the fact that once again I will be able to hang up laundry unharrassed.

Thank goodness.

And a happy Thanksgiving!

Duo operates

(Continued from Page B2)

"Once again," said Bonnie, "we pulled on our resources from past experiences of childhood days and present knowledge and promoted the new line in a beautiful country market place; vividly colored with baskets of fruit, quilts for sale, fresh flowers, harvest wreaths and homemade breads.

As Bonnie looked from corner to corner in the store, she remarked, "It is remarkable that the simple, special touches of the country life are what makes the shop a warm country pleasure to all who have ventured through the door." And to some she said it is a step back into the past and to even others it is simply the uniqueness of it all.

Whatever the case may be, Bonnie and Theresa plan to continue finding treasures of old and new to supply the growing interest in simpler times and easier ways.

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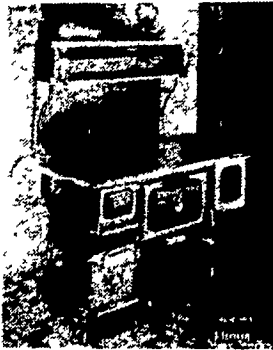
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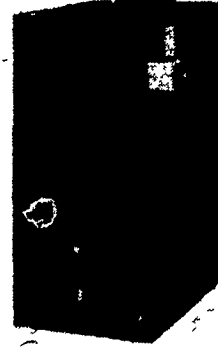
Elmira Oval Wood or Coal Burning Deluxe Cook Stove



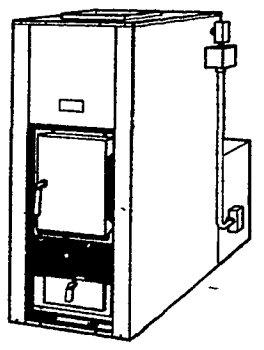
Enterprise Airtight Coal Furnace



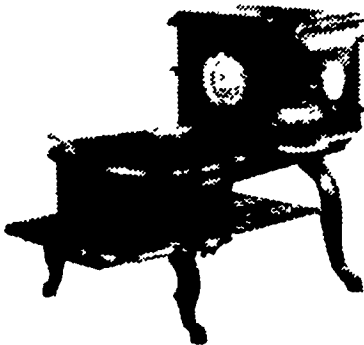
Monarch Wood or Coal Furnace



Monarch Quality Airtight Wood or Coal Burning Add-A-Furnace

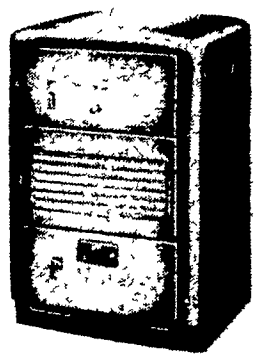
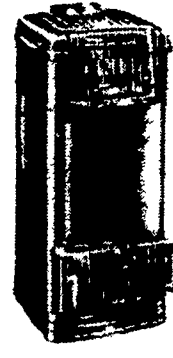
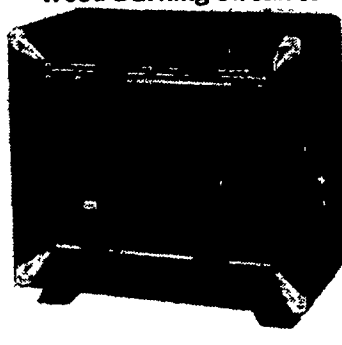


Enterprise Queen Cook Stove

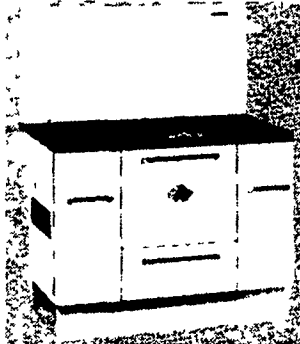


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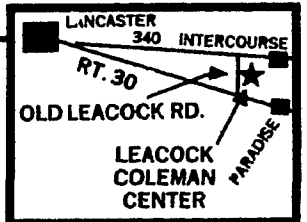


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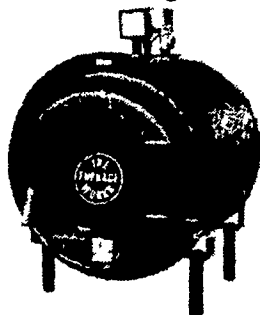


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