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U. S. Department of Agriculture

COTTON IN THE HOME

AN EXHIBIT PREPARED BY

the

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENTS OF
AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE

and

THE COTTON TEXTILE INSTITUTE

co-operating

NATIONAL COTTON SHOW

Memphis, Tenn.

September 28 to October 5.

1929.



The New Uses for Cotton Committee, a group composed of representatives of the Bureaus of Agricultural Economics and Home Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture, the Bureaus of Foreign and Domestic Commerce and of Standards, U. S. Department of Commerce, and the Cotton Textile Institute, New York City, have for the past few years been engaged in developing new uses for cotton and extending old ones. While more of this fiber is used for industrial purposes than for household textiles and for clothing, the number of places where it may be utilized in the home is astonishing. The Committee has furnished this house in order to emphasize this possibility of increasing the consumption of cotton in a legitimate way.

Cotton in the Home

This is the house that cotton furnished! Come in and count the number of articles made of this very useful fiber. Until all the various household items that are commonly made of cotton are brought together in one place it is hard to realize that without it, the average home would be a bare, uncomfortable place.

Floor Coverings

Time was when fashion and necessity decreed that every inch of the floor, even the kitchen, must be covered with heavy, dust-catching carpet. Many of us remember how laboriously this had to be untacked every-time house cleaning came around. And that was not all. After arduous beating by the small boy or man of the house it had to be stretched back in place, a task that required the combined strength of most of the family.

Today washable cotton rugs are found in many homes, their lovely colors a real contribution to the beauty of the rooms. The "washableness" of these makes them particularly desirable for bed rooms and bathrooms, but in the hot summer months, they give a feeling of coolness that makes them welcome in every room.

Now that hooked rugs are so fashionable it is possible to make many of these at home. Such floor coverings are not only inexpensive. They often fit into the spirit of the room and provide an effect that can be obtained in no other way.

The old-fashioned rag rugs are also coming into their own again and are delightful in the colonial rooms now in vogue. Fortunately the modern ones are being made with much more attention to color harmony and good design. A well-designed rag rug is a treasure; a poor one is an atrocity.

Draperies

Occasionally (fortunately this is very occasionally) we find a home without any curtains and its bareness is a sharp reminder that properly dressed windows are a necessity if a home is to be a restful place. Few other household articles are missed so much when they are absent and few other household textiles require so much material and labor in making. Here again cotton comes to the rescue. No other fabric is so inexpensive and no other provides an equal amount of durability in return for the money expended. No other fabric can be found in such a variety of colors, finishes, and weaves. Dignified cretonnes and gauzy nets are ready for the living room and dining room, and crisp dimities, organdies, soft voiles, and dainty marquisettes fit into the furnishings of many bedrooms.

Recently a new fabric called osnaburg, has appeared on the cotton-goods counter -- at least it is new to homemakers. For years this material has been used for industrial purposes but never for household furnishings. It is an attractive, coarse cotton fabric with a rough, uneven texture that makes it very appropriate for boy's rooms, sun porches, and even for the living room if a crafts-like atmosphere is desired. Most of it is available in neutral cream color which gives a good background for gay borders and other decorative trims. This material can be used for curtains, couch covers, bags, and many other purposes. Since it is made from short staple and waste cotton it is an inexpensive fabric.

Just which fabric to choose from such a wealth of possibilities is a troublesome question, but how to make the curtains so that they will be a lasting source of pleasure is an equally vexing one. The U. S. Bureau of Home Economics has prepared a bulletin to help answer just such questions. (See last page of pamphlet)

Cotton in a Four-room House.

Living room

book bindings
 book covers
 card table covers
 carpets
 chair covers
 couch covers
 desk sets - artificial leather
 door hangings
 furniture covers
 lamp shades
 picture canvas
 rugs
 rug cushions
 screens
 slip covers
 sofa pillows
 sofa pillow covers
 table scarfs
 upholstery
 wall coverings
 wall hangings
 window hangings
 window shades

Butter cloths
 cheese cloths
 dish cloths
 dish towels
 hot dish holder
 hot dish pads

Dining room

artificial fruit
 carpets
 cases for silver
 doilies
 lamp shades
 lunch cloths
 rugs
 rug cushions
 sideboard sets
 table cloths
 table felts or pads
 table napkins
 table runners
 tea cozies
 tea bags
 wall coverings
 wall hangings
 window hangings
 window shades

Kitchen

jelly bags
 linoleum
 pastry bags
 toweling
 twine
 vegetable bags

Bedroom and bathroom

bath mats
 bath rugs
 bath sheets
 bath towels
 bed spreads
 blankets
 canopy tops
 carpets
 comforters
 dress covers
 dresser scarfs
 face towels
 lamp shades
 mattresses
 mattress pads
 mattress protectors
 medical gauze
 pillow shams
 pillow slips
 pillow ticking
 pin cushions
 quilts
 rugs
 rug cushions
 sheets
 shoe bags
 shower curtains
 toweling
 wall coverings
 wall hangings
 wash cloths
 window hangings
 window shades

Miscellaneous

awnings
 broom covers
 button bags
 clothes lines
 clothes pin bags
 dress form covers
 dust and scrub cloths
 dusters
 electric light cords
 emery bags
 flags
 garden hose
 grass bags for lawn mowers
 hammocks
 hot water bottle covers
 ironing board covers
 knitting bags
 laundry bags
 mops
 oil cloth
 pattern pockets for
 doors, closets, etc.
 sewing bags
 shoe polish cloths
 tape measures
 vacuum cleaner bags
 wall brushes
 window ventilators

Bedding

Were it not for this inexpensive and adaptable fiber most of us might still be sleeping on corn husk mattresses and as linen sheets have long since become too expensive for most pocketbooks, it is hard to say just what would be between us and the husks. To-day we not only have the soft felted cotton mattress within the means of families of every income but smooth, finely woven sheets can be purchased of sufficient size to tuck in cozily under the mattress and leave the unwrinkled surface that we all appreciate. Spring covers, mattress covers and beautiful cotton coverlets combine to make a modern "well-tailored" bed that appeals to our sense of good taste as well as to our love of comfort. We should not forget the fluffy cotton blankets so universally used now for the in-between period when some covering is necessary but it is not yet time to get out the woolen blankets.

The Cotton Textile Institute, 320 Broadway, New York City, has made a special study of sheetings and upon request, will send information about this important household item.

Toweling

Nothing gives quite the same feeling of luxuriousness as a well-made towel of ample size. Although cotton is not our most absorptive fiber, many cotton towels, like the Turkish ones, are made so that their absorptive properties are as great as possible. When substantially made, these last for years and are more inexpensive than towels made of other fibers. The same can be said of the excellent bath sheets, bath mats, and other accessories found in a well-equipped bathroom. There is no room in the house which adds more to the comfort of the family than a properly equipped bathroom and no other to which cotton has made greater contributions.

Cotton out-of-doors

Relatively few homemakers have fully realized the possibilities of the modern awning. When all awnings had to be made in dark ugly colors so that they would be weather-fast, they were never used except when absolutely necessary to make the interior of the house bearable. But now-a-days, inexpensive dyestuffs, fast to light and water, are available for every purpose and beautiful, gayly colored awnings have appeared.

These are none the less useful because they are ornamental. Awnings reduce the interior temperature of a house greatly and add enormously to the comfort of those who cannot get away to the beach or the mountains during the summer months. In addition, they often change a common-place, ordinary looking house into one of distinction and beauty. They can be used not only to dress up the windows but also to replace the old-fashioned porch roofs. On certain types of houses, they are extremely effective over tiled or bricked terraces. A bright awning will make the children's sand pile a more attractive and comfortable place and certainly many a sleeping porch has been made more "sleepable" by sturdy canvas curtains that keep out the rain and sun.

Canvas chairs and divans are the newest in porch and garden furnishings and when they match or harmonize with the awnings we have as lovely an out-of-door living room as could be desired. Often the same effect can be produced by making new slip covers for the comfortable but worn chairs that have been relegated to the porch.

Government Publications of Interest in Connection
with this Exhibit.

Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, U. S. Department of Commerce.

Cotton Fabrics and their Uses (printed circular).

Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Farm Uses for Cotton and its Products (mimeographed pamphlet).

The Use of Cotton Bags as Consumer Packages for Potatoes (mimeographed pamphlet).

Bureau of Home Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

1180F Housecleaning made easier.

1219F Floors and floor coverings.

1449F Selection of cotton fabrics.

1497F Methods and equipment for home laundering.

1513F Convenient kitchens.

1516F Principles of window curtaining. 10 cents.

Leaflet 11 Childrens' Rompers.

Leaflet 24 Sun-suits for Children.

Leaflet 26 Dresses for the Little Girl.

Leaflet 52 Suits for the Small Boy.

Note: These publications will be sent upon request.
Address the departments listed at Washington,
D.C.

The Bag Family
is here

COTTON
IN INDUSTRY

U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF
AGRICULTURE

SOME FACTS
ABOUT
COTTON BAGS

AMOUNT OF COTTON BAGS USED	POTENTIAL CONSUMPTION OF COTTON BAGS
1927 45,000 BALES	10,000 BALES
1928 45,000 BALES	10,000 BALES
1929 45,000 BALES	10,000 BALES
1930 45,000 BALES	10,000 BALES
1931 45,000 BALES	10,000 BALES
1932 45,000 BALES	10,000 BALES
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COTTON BAGS HAVE A HIGH
SAVING VALUE

National Cotton Show
Memphis, Tenn. 1923
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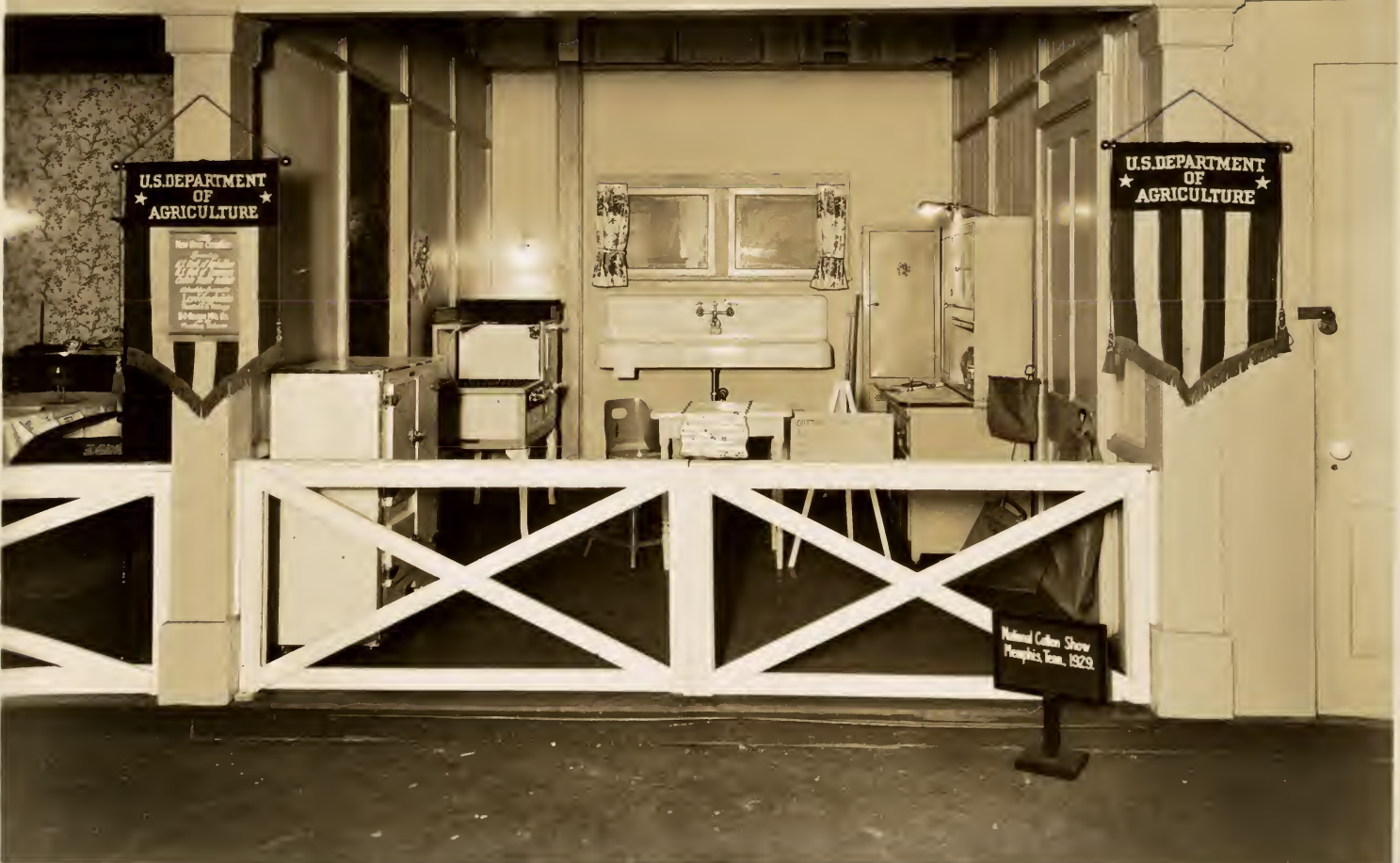
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U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF
AGRICULTURE

How Much Cotton
Do You Need?
The U.S. Department
of Agriculture
has the answer.
See the exhibit
at the
National Cotton Show
Memphis, Tenn., 1929.

U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF
AGRICULTURE

National Cotton Show
Memphis, Tenn., 1929.



NEW JESS COMMITTEE

U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF
AGRICULTURE

How Best to Obtain
a Good Quality
of Cotton Seed
and How to
Plant and Grow
Cotton Seed
Cotton Seed
Cotton Seed
Cotton Seed
Cotton Seed

U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF
AGRICULTURE

National Cotton Show
Memphis, Tenn. 1929
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National Cotton Show
Memphis, Tenn. 1929.
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COTTON IN THE DINING ROOM
Cotton can furnish every need
for tables in this popular room.



National Cotton Show
Memphis, Tenn. 1929.

