

SIMPLE HOME REPAIRS

A NEW VENTURE!

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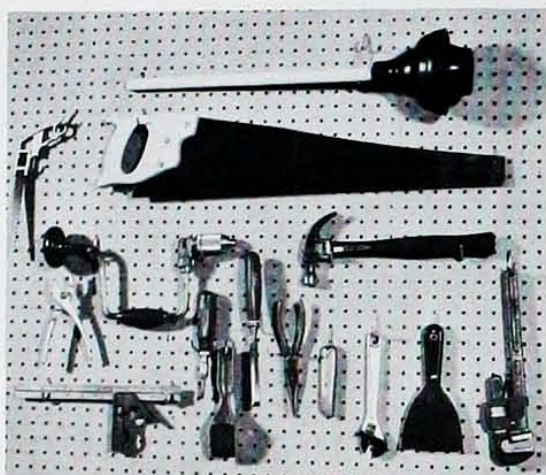
Minor household repairs become major expenditures when you have to pay someone else to do the work! There's also the inconvenience of losing time from the job while having to wait at home to let in the carpenter, electrician or plumber.

What's the answer to this problem?

It's the new short course "Simple Home Repairs" offered by the Home Economics Branch! This course may just be the solution, even if you are not the mechanical type.

What's this "Simple Home Repairs" short course all about?

You'll get the opportunity to learn and practice how to do



"simple" electrical and plumbing repairs. Instruction sheets, and the necessary tools and materials are provided to complete a repair at individual work stations. By actually working through an electrical or plumbing repair, you'll gain the necessary experience and confidence to tackle such repairs at home.

What repairs and stations are part of this course?

The electrical repairs you can try are:

- replacing a lamp socket and cord
- replacing a lamp switch
- installing a dimmer switch
- replacing a ceiling fixture
- replacing an electrical receptacle
- repairing and replacing electric plugs



John Eaton, Grimsby, checks an electrical connection while Joyce Canning, Supervisor of Home Economists for Central Area, looks on.

At the plumbing work stations you may:

- repair washer type faucets
- repair washerless type faucets
- do emergency plumbing repairs
- install an extension cable shower unit
- repair a pop-up drain
- repair the toilet

The major thrust of the course is simple replacement repairs. You will certainly not be equipped to go home and install a new plumbing or electrical system. Also, safety in doing any home repair is emphasized throughout.

What happens if you do not understand the repair or run into problems?

The strength of the course is the presence of resource people to give advice and encouragement to finish the repairs. If necessary, they give suggestions for improvement or safer working practices.

How's this course been received?

The "Simple Home Repairs" short course went "on the road" in the Niagara Peninsula this year. As a new venture for the Branch, it has been met with overwhelming support and enthusiasm.

In the Niagara Peninsula, the course was held in six locations. There were two sessions of twenty participants at each location.

The Women's Institutes in each location helped to find the hall and the resource people; and to publicize and advertise the program. This assistance definitely increased the popularity of the course!



The high calibre of resource people assisting at each session contributed greatly to the knowledge gained by the participants. The majority of people were electricians, plumbers, handymen — some retired and others still in the field. In most cases, these experts were husbands of Women's Institute members. Energetic Women's Institute members and 4-H leaders also acted as resource people. A special training session for these people was held prior to the short course.

The willingness of the resource people to share their skills and knowledge voluntarily with the participants has been very impressive. Their faces literally lit up as they talked about something they knew and enjoyed doing. Their interest and assurances made the participants feel that they could master the repairs.

Why not join in the do-it-yourself trend?

Keep an eye open for this "Simple Home Repairs" course being offered in your county or district. When it comes, be one of the first to sign up. You will be glad that you did!