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Lady Fair DOES ELECTRICAL REPAIR

REPLACING SWITCHES and RECEPTACLES

Extension Service
University of Nebraska College of Agriculture
Cooperating with the U.S. Department of Agriculture
and the College of Home Economics
E. F. Frolik, Dean J. L. Adams, Director

REPLACING SWITCHES and RECEPTACLES

By Norm Teter
Extension Agricultural Engineer

Light switches and receptacles in walls (plug-ins) don't often wear out, but they can become cracked, broken or defective and require replacing. You need not call an electrician for this job, just follow the instructions below.

You will need:

A test light (available in hardware stores)

Screwdriver

New receptacle or switch

The following procedure will replace a wall receptacle. You may replace a wall switch the same way.

1. Shut the power off. In the fuse box, pull out the main entrance. This will disconnect the circuit you want to work on (Fig. 1).

2. Put a test light on the circuit to be sure there is no power being supplied. The test light will not glow if the power is disconnected. (See bulletin EC 71-2009 for instructions on using a test light.)

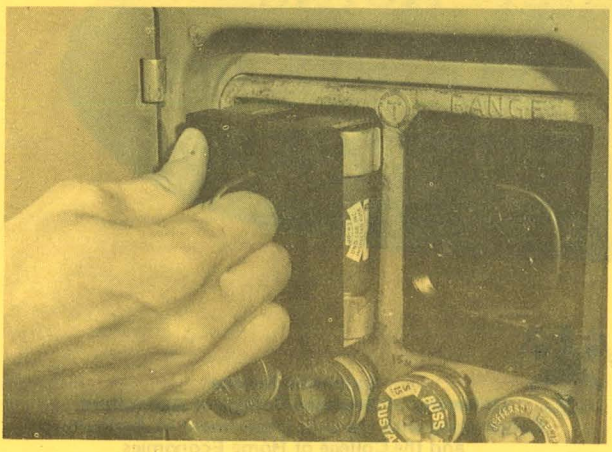

Figure 1

3. Take off the cover plate by removing the center screw (Fig. 2).

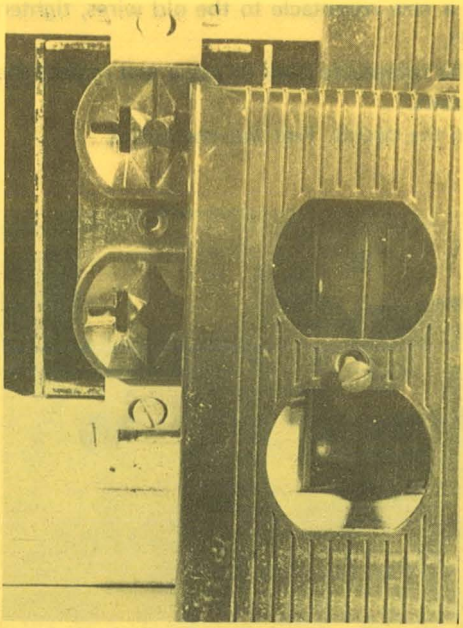

Figure 2

4. Remove the top and bottom screws and take out the receptacle (Fig. 3).

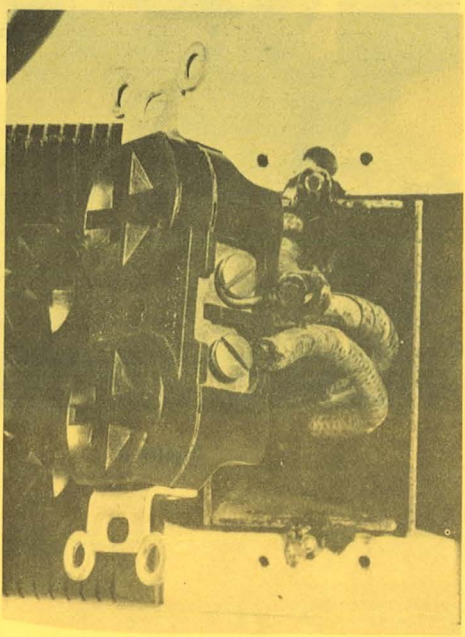

Figure 3

5. Loosen the side screws, unwrap the copper wires.

6. Fasten a new receptacle to the old wires, tighten screws (Fig. 4).

7. Stuff the receptacle back in place and replace the three front screws.

8. Turn on the circuit. Test the new outlet.

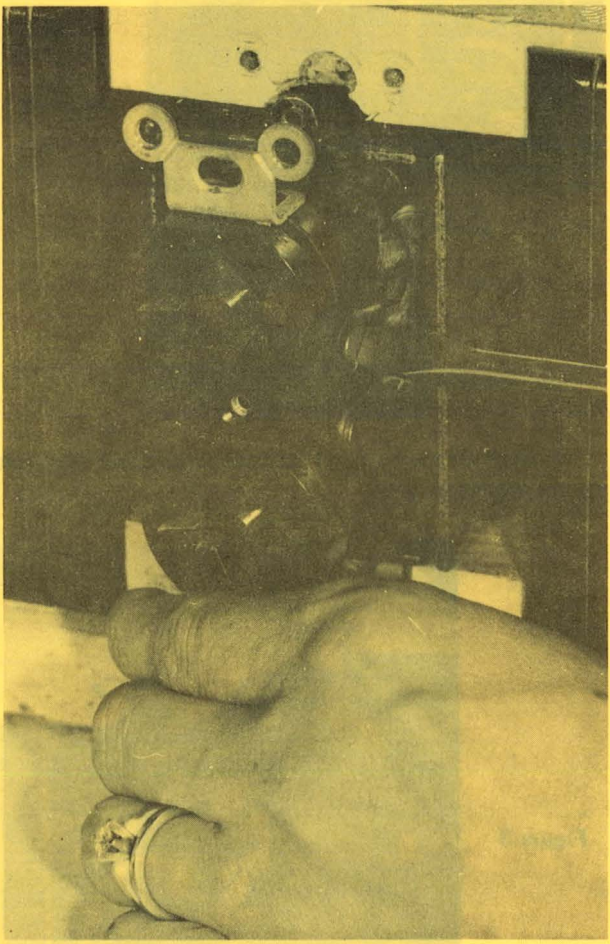

Figure 4