

## **DOLL: “MRS. SCRAP DOLL” OVERVIEW OF THE OBJECT**

**Repository:** Crandall Public Library.  
Folklife Center  
Glens Falls, NY.

**Creator:** Dorothy DuRose

**Title:** Doll: “Mrs. Scrap Doll”

**Dates:** ca. 1990

**Quantity:** 1 doll

**Identification:** Folk Art & Artifacts

### **BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

Dorothy DuRose, known by friends and family as the Rural Poet, has spent her 83 years in and around the village of Pottersville, in the Adirondacks' northern Warren County. Her poetry and stories are of her life in these mountains. They fondly recall spring cleaning at her Grandmother Higley's farm; her Irish father, a master of many trades, and fiddler by night; the beauty of nature and the miracle of life; and a hardy respect for things old. “Use It Up, Make It Do” continues to guide her life. Inspired by “Molly”, a doll made by her father, and the many useful items once made out of cloth flour sacks and grain bags, Dorothy made Mrs. Scrap, a rag doll with a cloth flour sack body, and dressed in the remains of sewing projects, and bits of old lace. Dorothy DuRose was part of the Folklife Center at Crandall Public Library's *Women of the Adirondacks* project in 1987, and presented in the children's workshop series, *Growing Up in the North Country*, in 1992. Her *Mrs. Scrap* doll was feature in the exhibition, *If Only They Could Talk: Dolls, Stories, & the Spirit of Dollmaking*, October-December 2000.

*Use It Up; Make It Do*, a poem by Dorothy DuRose

Use it up, make it do.  
Mend a sock, fix the lock  
Make a stew, out of what? Oh, this and that.  
With what you've got. Fill 'em up, make it do.

Don't throw away the apple peels, make some jell  
The kids will yell it was swell.  
Save the grease. Make some soap,  
Hard or soft, stir it well. Make it do.

What about the broken chair? Well, use some glue,

You can use it for a spare.  
Mix the odds and ends of paint, it might turn out a lovely hue.  
Make a cushion for a chair,  
Sew it well so it will wear. Make it do.

Turn a hem, now and then, up or down, press it well.  
Patch a hole nice and neat, rather on the knee or seat. Make it do.  
Save the buttons off the shirt, now the shirt is just a rag.  
We can always use a rag: rags, too, have a special bag.

Those were famous words we heard, in the days when folks made too.  
Days we long for now and then when we had to make do.

## INDEX TERMS

**Topics:** Dolls  
Doll makers  
Folk Art

**Places:** Pottersville, Warren, New York

**Important People:** Dorothy DuRose

**Form/Genre:** realia

## ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

**Preferred Citation:** Doll: "Mrs. Scrap Doll"  
Folklife Center  
Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, NY.

**Accession Information:** Purchased 1986 – 1996

**Processing Information:** Arranged and described by Erica Gonyea, 2019

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE OBJECT

"Mrs. Scrap" is a handmade cloth doll, 12 inches long, with embroidered face and yarn for hair, handmade clothes, undergarment, bonnet and shoes.