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## Thanks, everybody!

For the nice Christmas cards, the sincere letters and all the other friendly evidences of good will and interest-we thank you! We shall do our utmost to repay your confidence and good will by giving you all the inspiration and practical help that we can this coming year. Home making is the most important job on earth to us, as it is to you, and we sincerely hope that at the end of this new year we can look back on a job well done, a home that more nearly approaches our ideals, hopes, and aspirations.

The cover: Valentine from the Weyhe Gallery collection; background paper courtesy, Norcross



The home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Thump Whitemarsh, Pennsylvania


The home of Mrs. Mary E. Rock Santa Barbara, California


The home of Mrs. David R. Schmied
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The home of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley R. Blackmore Columbia, Missouri

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Flush makes shor Flush makes shon germs. It spots, smells, and gering. A never injures plumbing. cleaner toilet with lots less work.

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"Boxley's" garden is small, but careful planning creates an illusion of space

## A Sackage of Ceeds

I paid a dime for a packaǵe of seeds
And the elerk tossed them out with a flip,
"We've got 'em assorted for every man's needs," He said with a smile on his lip.
"Pansies and poppies and asters and peas!
Ten cents a packağe! And pick as you please!"

Now seeds are just dimes to the man in the store,
And the dimes are the things that he needs; And I've been to buy them in seasons before

But have thought of them merely as seeds; But it flashed through my mind as I took them this time,
"You have purchased a miracle here for a dime."
> "You've a dime's worth of power which no man can create,
> You've a dime's worth of life in your hand!
> You've a dime's worth of mystery, destiny, fate,
> Which the wisest cannot understand.
> In this brigght little package, now isn't it odd?
> You've a dime's worth of something known only to God."

# "Boxley"-a little cottage 

WHEN our house was built in 1922 it rather worried some of the neighbors, for report said it was to be only a one-story affair. Worse than that, it was to have a garage beneath it, the first in the vicinity. That was considered likely to be not only highly unpleasant but perhaps against the law as well, one friendly critic ventured to point out. As it neared completion you could feel a lessening of tension for, though truly of but one story originally, it by no means gave the impression that had been feared. It was a cottage because it preferred to be so; a cottage with refinements, yet with a stern avoidance of pretentiousness and tricks. And then, because we did not cut down every living thing around it of less than eighteen inches in diameter, it was decided by the discerning ones that our house had possibilities after all.

These possibilities had all along been apparent to us. The land, considered by many as being too rough for building purposes, fell away in the most varied fashion toward a brook; and the soil, in quality and moisture content just as varied, gave later a three weeks' difference in blooming period for like plants. It proudly supported twin elms and twin sycamores of noble size, and thickets of elderberry, dogwood, sassafras, and gum, while rushes, May-apple, pinxter flowers, Jack-in-the-pulpit, and bellwort kept company with others of their choice fraternity.

In the midst of this we placed our T-shaped house, long and low, with casement windows. The walls were of shingles dipped when frosty in yellow


Photographs by Richard Averill Smith
"Boxley" is a cottage because it preferred to be so; a cottage with refinements, yet with a stern avoidance of pretentiousness and tricks
place, earnestly entreated us to buy a new suite of matched furniture for the dining room at least. This, being rather reverent of ancestors' opinions, we did. The Queen Anne reproduction suite-even to the china closet and phalanx of chairs-became ours. Our high resolves faded, however, upon living with it, and their several magnificences became the property of a prosperous carpenter who was marrying off his daughter. This committed us to a delightful orgy of replacement. Neither our walnut hunting sideboard, corner cupboard, and serving table, nor the painted Sheraton chairs, and cherry two-piece drop-leaf table obtained during the orgy

LOUISE CHAMBERS CORKRAN

paint, so that they never looked new, and the shutters had yellow panels with gray stiles, the cut-out motif being the Korean symbol of the cosmos.

The living room and dining room had rough finished patent plaster walls, that had required many cold damp hours of supervision to insure their being done with the proper restraint and softness of texture. These were later painted an antique buff, various colors being added in daubs and obscured to almost the vanishing point. The woodwork was made a very light putty tone, also antiqued. For the dining room, which had a northeast exposure, these colors were warmed up slightly.

The furnishings of the house were planned and bought long before we moved into it. One maternal ancestor on seeing the collection of objects and furniture we were happily picturing in
had any common past. They met for the first time at "Boxley," but they found themselves agreeable room-mates. The room needing more pattern, I ventured to decorate the old chairs; using as a central motif a bit of design sketched from a Cellini chalice at the Metropolitan Museum and treasured for months on end, awaiting this undreamed of use. The draw curtains are a block printed landscape linen in copper color on a cream ground, and edged with copper and blue. A blue and $\tan$ small figured rug of Oriental type was used on the floor. The pewter coffee urn, and the Britannic teapot and cream pitcher on the sideboard had the soft sheen that belonged to the simplicity of the room. The ruby parrot of a little panel hanging at the casement window was the gift of one of the world's best stained glass designers.

The living room also has known two regimes. It was first a purple room, so called, although actually, the only red-


The long, low living room is quietly dominated by a painting of an old lighthouse. The stone of the chimney is from the structure of this guardian of two centuries, now fallen into the sea, the hearthstone, a step from the lighthouse entrance. It is reminiscent of many pleasant childhood memories
violet in it was the wool fringe on the green, brown, plum, and tan block printed linen draw curtains, plus one purple velour cushion, a pair of Chinese sleeve bands in orchid, and a hint of plum in the sand-colored tapestry of the sofa. The other tones were those of the antiqued buff walls, creamy glass curtains of cotton voile, sand-colored rug, and a turquoise blue vase for a high note. The important furniture consisted of several pieces of mahogany or rosewood, that I wish I might say I inherited, but had, on the contrary, only recovered from colored people whose forbears had belonged to my ancestors. Derided by my family at the time of my forays in search of it, I now find in their comment a not thoroughly concealed chagrin. Other pieces were acquired on byroads not so ancestral, some even in department store aisles; nevertheless, one pair of side chairs is upholstered in Jacobean embroidery nearly three hundred years old, the softly brilliant blue-green wool motifs being appliquéd to a new and firm background. In its second era, after the room had been enlarged by taking out a partition and thus made thirty feet long, its new draw curtains were of glazed chintz, patterned in generous bouquets of roses and smaller flowers in russet, pink, green, and amethyst, on a peach background. These curtains were bound with amethyst chintz, the same being used for the tiebacks. This color is echoed in a chair upholstered in amethyst in a jaspe
weave Radnor cloth. The long low room is quietly dominated by a painting of an old lighthouse atop the shimmering sand dunes of Cape Henlopen.

Of the bedrooms, the first has white paper with a green diamond pattern, cream woodwork, and glazed chintz curtains in mauve, green, and soft yellow. The pattern of the chintz was taken from an old English bed quilt, plus some apple blossoms, so a Sunday night guest told me. She knew, for she herself had de-
signed it while sitting under the apple boughs. These curtains have an apple green ruffled edge; the rug is of mauve chenille. A tight looking little Empire chair in a green diaper patterned chintz sits near. The twin French beds, which I designed after a full size antique bed, have green armure covers. Of the three other master bedrooms, one has a wide window looking toward the southwest, having folding sash that can be pushed aside completely, giving opportunity for


This simple, charming bedroom has a paper of a pink diamond pattern enclosing a shell, blue woodwork, draw curtains of a blue honeycomb patterned sateen dress lining with a small pink flower pattern; and an inherited pink and white Democrat Rose quilt on its maple bed

a sunbath. This room has paper of a pink diamond pattern enclosing a shellan old and tried design-blue woodwork, and draw curtains of a blue honeycomb patterned sateen dress lining with a small pink flower.

The architectural offices of my husband in the garden wing are paved with brick and flagstone, waxed. The walls are of rough plaster, the woodwork of pine, both in natural finish. These, with the curtains of small figured yellow
calico, bordered with turkey red, make a good background for his furniture of pine, maple, and apple wood, and his plans, maps, and sextants. The windows of the office overlook the two gardens. The vegetable garden is terraced up to the waste paper burner, which is modeled in stone after a Chinese sacrificial urn. The terraces, edged with phlox subulata, are productive of corn and peas, parsley, chives, and other vegetables in variety.

The flower garden is small, and has

been completely shut away from the outside by hedges on top of the retaining walls at the rear, and by a rose-covered fence. Its varied topography has lent itself to the creation of secondary points of interest. Through this, and with a careful observance of scale, the eye is drawn to the extreme limits of the garden, creating an illusion of space. The central feature is an irregularly shaped pool that takes advantage of the natural depression in the center where once the rushes grew; willows have been planted to dissipate some of the excess moisture and are growing like magic. There is much boxwood (buxus suffruticosa) about, but it is left to grow informally. Some of the box came from neglected old Dutch gardens; some of the border plants have been rooted right here.

Furthermore, we have tried to tie this garden to our beginnings: we have brought a millstone for the water jet in the center of the pool from the family homeplace of one of us, and we have incorporated in a wall Indian relics brought from the other homestead in the South. The features of the garden nearly all represent for us milestones or people-that especially good cedar means a birthday; this perennial came from a wise and delightful neighbor; that iris, from a colored laborer, a valued friend. The painter gave me this-the socialite gave me that; some day I should like to have a party and ask to it all those who are represented in my friendly little garden.


ANCHORS AWEIGH-A nice neutical theme is always jolly for the bath. Never too frivolous but that a man may like it and by dint of it be moved to shouting sea songs in the showerl Here, pattern has been taken from a hearty-looking mat in vibrant blue and white. The anchors and the stars have been cut from silver gummed paper and applied to cupboard doors and walls in orderly arrangement. From a Cannon towel design


# Take it 

Ideas by Adele Wyman

MArble baths may not be for all of us. Nor sunken tubs. Nor mirrored walls. Nor resplendent fish painted by experts. But, after all, what of it? For it takes only brains to do clever "fixing up" these days. Jolly baths-chic baths-neat baths are not a matter of money to burn, but of headwork.

The kind of headwork we mean is ingenuity. An ability to see ideas in things, and a flair for wittily adapting these ideas. Even towels have tips to give to the imaginative!
New towels suggest that you turn an old idea inside out. That you discard the humdrum plan of choosing towels to match your bathroom's color schemeand change the bath to suit your towels instead! Really, they are worth such emphatic featuring.
The motifs that new towels exploit are clean-cut and smart. They warrant repetition. And so we suggest echoing their piquance in paper cut-outs for bathroom walls, in stencilled designs or in fabric appliqués.

Interesting artistic effect in this repeating process is the point to work for; it matters little which method you select. However, the simplest system is that of cutting out paper appliqués. These should be wet with a sponge and quickly applied in positions marked in pencil beforehand. Charming color combinations can be achieved. If gummed papers are not available, plain colored papers may be used and applied with library paste.

You may be smart enough to copy a pattern free-hand. But if you doubt your reproducing talent, this is the procedure for acquiring a pattern of the motif you like: Spread a hand towel or piece of equally thick fabric on a table. Over this lay a sheet of tracing paper and pin the corners for holding firm. Then spread smoothly over the two, the bath towel you have selected. And finally, pin-prick around the motif you have chosen to reproduce. The pin-pricks, naturally, will appear on the tracing pa-per-and cutting from dot to dot with a scissors will produce the pattern you want to use. Stars and some other decorative motifs, like circles and half
[Continued on page 123]

## from a towel!

Illustrations by Catherine Martin

TROJAN HORSE-At right, a towel that moderns will adore exploits the wooden horse of Troy, in peppery condition, bent upon kicking stars across the sky! It comes in blue and jade and maize, and sets the pace for a zesty scheme for a new or an old-time bath! Repeating its lively motif seems all to the good, decoratively. This may be done with paper cut-outs or with paint. From a Cannon towel design


FLORAL RIBBON-Bows are in fashion, of course you know. Bows on clothes and bows in the boudoir and bath. In tune with the vogue is a delightfully dainty new towel with decided character to its design, appealing especially to feminine tastes

You may adopt the floral pattern for ornament on your bathroom walls. A border of bells on long thin stems and with decorative leaves can be pleasing in fancy and charming in fact. But there is another thought which this modern towel suggests and it is illustrated. It features the bowknots. A round mirror is bound with crisp transparent ribbon ending in loops at the bottom. And the base of an old-fashioned basin is girdled in sheet metal, painted and trimmed with the same ribbon and bowknot-distinctly original. Taken from a Cannon towel design

VEGETABLES-Kitchens, of all rooms, are most needful of ideas. Towels tell "what to do about it" if we'll only heed. Towels, that is, with imagination to them-such as those with gay, luscious vegetable patterns woven in

The designs may be "lifted" for stencils with which to paint the fronts of kitchen cupboards. Or here again, the paper cut-out idea may be put to purpose. Tomatoes, green peppers, pea pods, and squash-think how colorful and appetizing such adornments would be repeated on your kitchen cabinets and other kitchen furniture

The towels themselves may be had in green, blue, gold, rose, or burgundy red-a satisfactory line-up from which to select for whatever color combination suits your fancy or your decorative scheme. Towels from Maison de Linge



## An early start with annuals

THOUGH the seed catalogue may be "open sesame" to good gardens in experienced hands, the novice frequently finds the modern catalogue somewhat confusing. So many items seem indispensable; dozens of varieties sound too good to get along without and besides there are those which we absolutely must have. Some catalogues list many pages of specialties, novelties, or new and distinctive varieties. European novelties (probably grown in California) vie with Mrs. Jones' Improved Selected Strains.

What then is the amateur to do? If he is to become a real gardener he will have to solve the problem in his own way, but it might be well to make a few suggestions that have been found useful in the past, and get a formula as it were to measure your requirements. First analyze the needs of your garden, see where you can use the plants to be produced from seeds, see how much space is actually available, and then choose the kinds and quantities to fit. In these days of forced economy buy what will really give results. Small gardens are limited in the amount of plant material they can

ROMAINE B. WARE

use and consequently extreme care should be used in its selection. Large gardens can use a greater variety of material, but one should be equally careful in choosing it with a view to future results. Sweet Alyssum. The white flowered
dwarf, Little Gem, is most popular. Delightful as edging with one plant of Lilac Queen, every foot or eighteen inches. Good also in hanging baskets and rockery. Seed may be planted right where it is to bloom.
Asters. As cut flowers or for garden color Asters are almost indispensable.


Petunia


Different varieties range in height from a few inches to three feet and more. All varieties are good and personal taste only will dictate choice. Don't overlook the Anemone-flowered kind called Sunshine Asters. Seeds best started indoors.

Calendula. Pot Marigold. Vastly improved in recent years with numerous new varieties available in range of colors from creamy white through shades of yellow to rich orange-red. Excellent for mass color or cutting. Start early indoors or sow seed where wanted to bloom.

Centaurea. Bachelor's Buttons, Bluets, Blue Bottle, etc. Double varieties preferable, and while blue variety is best known, white, rose, maroon, and mauve kinds are useful. Old-fashioned but desirable. Plant where they are to bloom. Will self sow.

Cosmos. Has few equals for tall mass color in late summer. The Early Colossal or Early Giant-flowering bloom several weeks ahead of the Late-flowering or Lady Lenox. Semi-double and Crested varieties also interesting and all types are delightful as cut flowers. Seeds may be started indoors or planted where bloom is wanted. Always pinch back seedlings to secure bushy plants.

Eschscholtzia. California Poppy. Originally came in golden orange only, but now available in numerous shades including carmine-crimson, reddish purple, flesh-pink, wallflower-red, and others. Will not transplant easily, so plant seeds early where they are to flower.

Larkspur. Annual Delphinium. It is little like the "king of blue flowers," Perennial Delphinium, but for both cutting and garden display, few annuals are more useful. Wide range of color, good stems, and profusion of flowers together with long season of blooms make this one

of the "must have's." May be started either indoors or outside, as desired.

Marigold. Both Tall African and Dwarf French varieties useful. Former ideal where tall mass effects are desired and low-growing forms have many uses toward front of border. Like full sunlight and do well either started indoors or outside.

Nicotiana. Flowering Tobacco. Delightful flower, blooming till frost and especially valuable for marvelous fra*grance in evening. Few plants in garden will flood entire place with delicins scent. Started either indoors or outside.

Petunia. No garden of annuals complete without it. Blooms with greatest profusion in spite of neglect, therefore good on poor soils. Modern fringed and ruffled types extremely beautiful, but Bedding and Balcony varieties produce extraordinarily effective masses of brilliant color. Best started early indoors and pinched back at planting-out time and again during mid-season to prevent becoming leggy.

Phlox. This is not only among most brilliant, but blooms continually until frost; one of most satisfactory plants which can readily be grown from seed. May be sown in open or started indoors. Effective in masses, for edgings, and for boxes.

Salpiglossis. Its attractive, trumpetshaped Gloxinia-like blossoms among richest colored flowers in garden. For cutting they are preëminent, lasting well and combining beautifully with other things. Start indoors, bring on in pots, does not transplant readily and likes rich, moist soil. Give each plant at least twelve or fifteen inches space in border.

Zinnia. Old-fashioned and plebeian to some people [Continued on page 128]


Calendula (above)



## What size trees?



A Jap Cherry tree in The American Home gardens, Garden City, N. Y

Near our home is a garden on a lot soxi2s ft. that is spoiled by its fine large trees. That sounds dreadful, but the garden cannot be seen in its proper scale and proportions because the larger plants, the trees, overrun the place. This is not an isolated case.
Perhaps there is a right good reason for finding trees that are too big on the average small home grounds. Buyers of nursery stock are prone to purchase the biggest of everything their dollar will bring. When owners buy trees, the fact that a Willow or Poplar may be priced at two dollars while a Flowering Crab or Mountain Ash of the same size will cost fifteen dollars, at once decides the question in favor of the larger growing tree. If the buyer would think he would know without being told that the reason the Willow or Poplar can be sold for less is because they are weedy, rapid growing things. You can get a lot of such trees for your money, but they may not fit into your home landscape picture as they should, especially after a few years. This question of which trees to plant

## ARTHUR HAWTHORNE CARHART

on the small home grounds is largely a question of insuring proper scale when the trees are full grown.
There is one effect produced by large growing trees that you may like. If you wish to have the effect of the house huddled down, snuggled into the ground, it can be brought about by planting high arching trees. But unless you wish to have the house and other elements dwarfed for a specific effect, then pay attention to the ultimate size of the trees you plant, not to the amount of tree you get at the time you buy it.

Now let us turn to the smaller and medium-size trees that will never outgrow the small home grounds no matter how long they thrive in the soil where they are planted.

The Hawthorns certainly are typical of this group. They rarely reach twenty feet in height, have a fine textured twig pattern, have leaves that are sometimes individually fairly large but with soft, fine detail, and in others are deeply lobed
and lacey. These small trees offer distinctive shapes and masses. It is quite outside of the limits of this discussion to mention all of the Hawthorns. There are scores of species. The English Thorn (Crataegus oxyacantha) is a bushy headed, fine textured little tree that grows in a more columnar form than many American types. Paul's Scarlet Thorn is of this type but with brilliant double red flowers. The native Red Haw (C. mollis) and its close relations are said to grow to nearly forty feet, but I have never seen them, even in rich Mississippi Valley loam, grow more than twentyfive feet high. In addition to its abundant flowers of white and brilliant fruits, it is a great tree for small boys in the fall after the frost has touched the "apples." The Scarlet Haw (C. coccinea) is an ideal candidate for naturalistic plantings. So also are the Cockspur Thorn (C. crus-galli) and the yellowish fruited Dotted Thorn (C. punctata). There is a Western species that I should like to call to your attention because its bark is golden yellow in winter and it is
easily trained to a tree form of upright habit although it may never grow more than twelve feet high. That is the Western Hawthorn (C. rivularis).

With the exception of the English and the Western Hawthorns, these species have horizontal branchings. They can be used for high points in shrub borders, or may be planted as border or specimen trees in the lawn. In a formal garden they can be sheared to as exact forms as Privet.

The European Mountain Ash is typical also of this group of smaller growing trees for limited landscapes. One Willow or Elm in the front yard of a small home is more than enough. But it is possible to plant not only one Mountain Ash, but a Tree-of-Heaven (Alanthus) a tree form of Staghorn Sumac and an Alder (Alnus spicata or Alnus tenuifolia perhaps) in a limited yard without getting trees so crowded that nothing else will thrive.
If there is as much as a 75 -foot frontage on your place, the Cut-leaf Weeping Birch is a tree that will make a fine specimen. But you must move it with reasonable care and perhaps wrap its smooth bark the first and second winters. On the same frontage a Buckeye (Aesculus glabra) or Horse-chestnut will not be out of scale. Although they are reported to grow beyond forty feet, most trees I have seen are content with thirty feet of height.
The Flowering Dogwood is a standard flowering small tree for borders and for specimen planting where adapted to the climate; and the hardier Magnolias (soulangeana for example) produce striking bouquets of bloom. The American Holly will make a large tree when extremely old but will grow slowly, give winter greenery, and take its place as a middle-size tree for many years of its life. It is hardy from southern Missouri southward, and along the Atlantic states.

The Redbud and the American Plum are a team of striking flower bearers. When a clump composed of these two bloom simultaneously, which is more than half the time, they produce a gigantic bouquet of rare quality. The Redbud will stand almost any situation, even to northern Iowa, if it is given half shade in the winter; planted amid or under other trees. I have seen them thriving and blooming in Denver when they had been placed under over-arching Elms.

The Chokecherrys (Aronia) will grow to small tree height if so trained. It should be pointed out quite definitely here that this is a primary factor in de-
termining whether many of these take shrub forms or tree forms. Particularly this is true where you are seeking a small tree, with high head lifted above shrub borders, as high points of those borders. By training such a shrub as the pink Tartarian Honeysuckle to a single stem and forcing it up to lift a "head" above the shrub border, you can make it serve as a small tree. So also the Mid-West Dogwood (Cornus stolonifera) and the common Elder.

By all means do not overlook the Apples as members of this group. The Apple tree of the old orchard, grown to full maturity yet not over twenty feet in height is an outstanding example of what we may secure in the medium size tree range. Almost any sort of Apple tree may be trained to a medium head of good form.
Some Crabapples tend to grow into tight heads but may be forced out by pruning and shaping if wider spread heads are desired. More open headed Apples such as the Jonathan, Winesap, or Snow, will not be so stubborn in the shaping.

The advent of Bechtels Flowering Crab has shoved its parent, the Prairie Wild Crab, somewhat out of the picture. There is a proper place for both. The Prairie Crab will grow to a well-formed little tree if it is given a chance, while the Bechtel Crab generally is bush formed.

In Arizona and southern California Cactus and Yucca are used to give this middle height material. Around the Gulf Coast a typical middle-size tree is the Pepper tree. And in the picturesque Rio Grande Valley in New Mexico, Tamarix as old almost as the invasion of Europeans are trained to tree form; stout, grotesque trunks holding aloft a plumey bush-like head that blooms pinkish lavender.

I am reminded of two other tree types of medium size that should be available for the average home grounds. The first is the pink-flowered, lacey-leaved New Mexican Locust (Robinia neo-mexicana). It is extremely hardy, and the color of those flowers in great heavy panicles cannot be matched. The other is a group of Western Oaks (Quercus utahensis, leptophylla, novomexicana, and gambelli). These are all scrubby brush on dry hills but the moment they find fairly rich soil in stream bottoms and moisture they become extremely picturesque trees approximately twenty-five feet when fully grown. The essential point of this discussion is this: You do not need to select a tree that will over-grow its location. Small trees are often more suitable.


A "Weeping" Chinese Cherry in a small garden is a note of variety in spring and performs well while still quite young and small. It sizes up rather slowly


Quite apart from any other consideration, an emphasis of weight comes from the trunk of a tree obtruding into the scene in contrast with the detail of little things in the surrounding garden area


All photographs by Richard Averill Smith

## The editor goes to Boston




## -and visits some of our readers' homes




The home of
Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Linehan, Jr. Chestnut Hill, Mass.

James Charles Flaherty, architect

A low beamed ceiling, deep recessed alcoves on either side of the fireplace filled with brightly bound books and gay pottery, and a cheery little fire make this living room a homey place

First floor plan
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The home of
Mr. and Mrs. John M. Sweeney Newton, Mass.



Just as homey and charming as the exterior of this typical American home are the two rooms illustrated here. Furnished in maple, with soft greens and mulberry accents

# Why pay more? 

## The first in a new series for American Home buyers

How many times we have placed two pieces of glass, china, or furniture beside one another and wondered how there could be so great a difference in their price tags. True, there were some obvious differences, but still not enough in our opinion to warrant the extra amount asked for one of them. Our query usually brought forth a quick but vague and general statement that in the higher priced article we were paying for hidden qualities, workmanship, etc., which was well worth the difference in performance, length of service, etc.
Now, unless we are experts in each field of decoration and furnishings, we shall have to take the merchant's word for a great deal of these hidden qualities. We cannot all be experts nor seasoned buyers. On the other hand, it occurs to us that many American Home readers would prefer to be able to ask a few intelligent, leading questions as to these hidden qualities for which they pay. It is to aid you, as a buyer, that we begin this series on buying household furnishings and furniture. The author, Mr. Guild, has designed and stylized furniture and furnishings of every description and as one of America's foremost designers, has naturally acquired more than the ordinary knowledge of manufacturers' construction methods and workmanship. The series will cover furniture, china and glass, fabrics, rugs and floor coverings, etc. The articles will not in any sense be technical, but will list for you those questions on quality which you, as a buyer, have a right to know before paying more for those "hidden qualities." We feel that this series will be especially helpful at this time, for during the last two years the market has been flooded with "bargains" and, all too of ten, many of us have learned that we got just what we paid for. In wearing apparel or trinkets, "bargains" may be perfectly satisfactory, but home "bargains" are usually costly experiments, however cheap their first cost.-EdITOR's note

It is not humanly possible to set an infallible scale or table of rules with which you can unerringly judge all furniture. However, we can give you a few characteristics that conform to good

## LURELLE GUILD

quality and which, if used in combination with the good judgment and keen sense of value for which the American woman is famed, should be accurate in nearly every case.

In buying furniture quality is of primary importance for a great many reasons. Furniture is not purchased as is clothing to be discarded and replaced at the end of a season but to last over a long period of time. So it should be of a construction that will give the service which we expect of it, and cheaper buys will eat up all economy in repairs as well as in short time replacement.

There are a few simple tests which well-constructed furniture will always meet and there are many hidden constructions which are of vital importance and which we cannot judge except by looking for the good points which are obvious and taking for granted that excellent work on one part will pre-suppose the same quality throughout.

Let us consider chairs. You, no doubt, have had at some time experience with a poorly constructed piece that after a few months of use has weakened in vital points and soon sheds legs, arms, and stretchers about the house. A high price in any article of furniture does not presuppose the best construction. When you have selected a chair that pleases you in form and design put it to a simple test or so. If it is one of the many types where an apron is used, run your hand under the seat where the leg joins the frame and see if there is a corner bracket, screwed and glued, to structurally join end and side. If all four legs are so braced you may feel quite safe in offering the chair to your heaviest friends. If the back leg of the chair is raked and runs in a single curve from the top of the back to the floor, be certain that this entire strip of wood is in one piece and has not been glued together. Cutting such a leg from one piece naturally means more waste for the manufacturer, but good construction will not tolerate a joining of two planks by any method for this type of leg.

In large pieces, bureaus, sideboards and such, we must look for solid close-tex-
[Continued on page 134]


Cabriole or curved legs, regardless of size, where used should be in one piece. To economize on wood they are cheaply cut from a straight plank with blocks glued on to take care of the projection of knee and toe in the cabriole and to allow for the wide swing of a curved leg of any type. Look here for solid construction


In upholstered chairs and sofas we find the main construction completely hidden from inspection and we can but trust to the salesman to give us accurate answers to a few pertinent questions. What is the wood of the hidden frame? It should be close-textured and solid for strength. Is the construction of the fitted and screwed and glued dowel pin type? It makes for lifetime strength. Is the webbing good quality and are the springs well tied? In better pieces the springs are of tempered steel and tied nine and ten times to each spring. Cheaper makes are sometimes tied but two or three times. Is the hair in the padding of good quality and sterilized? Avoid fibre fills if you desire comfort and serviceability. Loose cushions are best in down. The outer upholstery we leave to your judgment

wants a room of her own

## A girl in her teens

ELLEN D. WANGNER

THERE is, perhaps, no room in the whole house of more importance to the young girl in her teens than her very own room, her sanctum to which she can flee in time of stress or joy. While every girl should be permitted to choose her own colors, her own type of room, whether it is to be of a pink and white fluffiness or in a staider, more tailored style, she should, at the same time, be guided in her choice of furniture, should be shown that it is wise to buy only what is durable, of good design to keep step with her growth and in keeping with the rest of her home surroundings. To be worth while, such furniture would not be a mere fad of the day but of a fashion that will endure, so that additional pieces may always be found in stock when needed.

Fulfilling these requirements, dainty enough for the very young girl and dignified enough for her older sister, is the quaint Continental furniture shown (on the opposite page) for the first time and especially decorated for The American Home. The simplicity of our own Early American home-life is found in these pieces that reproduce in such individual fashion the peasant art of provincial times.

Furniture of this unusual type offers a wide field for varying decorative effects. It will be found to blend pleasingly with other pieces-a chaise longue, a draped dressing table, slipper chairs, small tables, wall bookcases or cabinets. It will be found in harmony with all types of inexpensive floor coverings-hooked rugs, rag rugs, or any that are hand made and suggestive of handwork. A wide variety of hangings will be found to be at home with this style-chintzes, linens, crashes, or even calico or gingham and for any desired color scheme.

In the first room the walls were covered with a copy of an old wallpaper a faint gray-green in tone, with the deep 106
border of an older day again in use but with a new note as it forms the cornice (being pasted over a wood base) thus carrying the border in a restful, unbroken fashion around the room. The woodwork is a darker shade than the paper. The windows have white dotted Swiss glass curtains holding several vertical ruffles and over these hangs a pair of ruffled Celanese draperies in peach to match in color the chintz counterpane, with blue cording and chintz-covered vanity bench. The furniture is painted an antique turquoise blue with floral motifs picked out in dull gold. The dressing table is undraped (a popular vogue of the hour) but with its delicately scrolled apron, mirror frame, and bench, with small lamps having peach shades and bases and make-up box in old gold Celanese moiré embroidered in peach and green, it suggests youth and gaiety as well as freedom from dust-collecting hangings. The comfortable chair with two removable cushions is covered in chintz having pink roses and green-blue leaves on a pale yellow ground. The hooked rug at the foot of the bed is in turquoise blue with central rose design in pink matching the chair, while the drawer faces of the chiffonier have painted roses in the center so that the whole room is tied together. The cost complete, including furniture, counterpane, rug, lamps, curtains, inner spring mattress and box springs in harmonizing damask coverings is only $\$ 262.60$.

The second room is for the girl of the period who prefers sports, likes sports clothes, scorning anything fussy. For her we made the room definitely provincial and plain, with dark chestnut woodwork and the walls simply painted an old ivory. In this room is an alluring bow-window with deeply recessed casements. This asked for true peasant treatment with cimple glass curtains and plaid heavy cotten over drapes. For this we used écru theatrical gauze at 35 cents a yard and a gay plaid simulating homespun in dull rust and green and old ivory, this priced at $8 s$ cents a yard, four yards being used in each set.

The furniture is notable for its strict adherence to peasant style and is of cherry in a very dark tone. For this room a large dresser and mirror were chosen as well as a dressing table and bench while the counterpane is so simple and plain, yet warm in color as to make it equally desirable for a man's room. Of a rust and beige mixed loosely woven homespun, it is bound with green glazed chintz.

Underneath the window is a low barrel chair covered in dull red glazed chintz with a small floral pattern as seen in the quilted petticoats of Brittany.
This furniture is ornamented sparingly with incised carvings, with all its hardware of iron and bronze to suggest handwork so that there is an absence of all suggestion of unlived-with newness. Color and contrast are afforded by the large mirror with its dull black frame holding a delicate gold ornament at top while the central vanity mirror has a floral cluster in carved wood picked out in dull tones of red and green. On this dresser is milady's vanity box of wood simply painted an old ivory with green and gold swags and motif, this standing between two Italian peasant pottery flower vases a soft écru-pink in tone.
Completing this picture of a true provincial room are the peasant rugs woven in large square of black and yellow and green and rust with the lamps bringing the final touch of glowing warmth. The large lamp on the bed table has a gleaming copper base and paper parchment shade with copper-hued decoration. The lamps on the dressing table are in pleasing contrast, with metal bases in a blue luster finish and imitation birch bark shades with simulated Godey prints with blue and gold bands.
The cost of this provincial room is $\$ 273.20$ complete and this covers mattress, spring, curtains, rugs, lamps, furniture, and accessories. See the next page.


A young girl's room for $\$ 262.60$

| Bed | 44.75 | Chair | 19.75 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Chiffonier | 54.75 | Vanity | 34.75 |
| Mattress | 14.75 | Vanity mirror | 19.75 |
| Box springs | 14.75 | Vanity lamps, 2 at \$3 | 6.00 |
| Counterpane, chintz | 5.95 | Celanese curtains, per pair | 8.95 |
| Night table | 14.75 | Glass curtains, per pair | 6.95 |
| Night table lamp | 5.00 | Hooked rug | 10.75 |
|  |  | 1.00 |  |

A room for $\$ 273.20$

| Dressing table | 34.75 |
| :---: | :---: |
| Dressing table mirror | 19.75 |
| Dressing table bench | 9.75 |
| Barrel chair | 19.75 |
| 2 rugs at \$2.50 | . 00 |
| Bed | 39.75 |
| Inner spring mattress | 14.75 |
| Box springs | 14.75 |
| Night table | 12.75 |
| 2 vanity lamps at \$1.75 | . 50 |
| Copper lamp for table | 2.50 |
| Counterpane | 6.45 |
| Make-up box | 2.95 |
| Dresser | 54.75 |
| Dresser mirror | 24.75 |
| 2 vases at \$1.25 | 2.50 |
| Curtains, 4 yds. gauze | 1.40 |
| Curtains, 4 yds. plaid at |  |



# Prize muffins and hot breads 

## Winning recipes in The American Home's contest for favorite muffins and hot breads

## Berry tea cakes

4 tablespoonfuls butter
$11 / 2$ cupfuls sugar
2 eggs
5 cupfuls flour
5 teaspoonfuls baking powder
2 teaspoonfuls salt
I $1 / 2$ cupfuls milk
1 cupful blueberries
Mix in the order given and bake in a moderate oven. This makes about 4 dozen small muffins.

Mrs. Walter S. Hayford, Morristown, N. J.

## Georgia whole wheat biscuits

$2^{1 / 2}$ cupfuls whole wheat flour
3 teaspoonfuls baking powder
I teaspoonful salt
I teaspoonful sugar
I tablespoonful butter and lard
$2 / 3$ cupful sweet milk
Mix the dry ingredients, work in the fat, and add the milk. Bake in a hot oven is minutes.

These are particularly top notch with duck, guinea, and turkey instead of the proverbial hot rolls. They always bring a pleasant expression to both family and guests alike.

[^2]
## Butter horns

Dissolve 2 cakes Fleischmann's yeast in 2 tablespoonfuls warm water and add 2 tablespoonfuls sugar. In another vessel beat 3 eggs well, add $1 / 2$ cupful sugar, $1 / 2$ cupful melted Crisco, 1 cupful warm water, i tablespoonful salt, and flour to make a rather stiff batter-s or 6 cupfuls. Mix well and knead for $s$ minutes. Set to rise in a butter crock. When double in bulk, turn on board and divide into 3 equal parts. Roll each piece into a round $1 / 4$ inch thick, spread with melted butter; then cut into 16 wedge-shaped pieces and roll, beginning at wide end. Place on greased baking sheets, let double in size, and bake for 8 to 10 minutes at $375^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. Mrs. Walter L. Hamill, Salina, Kan.

## Date muffins

2 cupfuls flour
1 egg
${ }^{1}$ cupful sweet milk
3 teaspoonfuls baking powder
2 teaspoonfuls sugar
Pinch salt
2 tablespoonfuls melted butter
$3 / 4$ cupful dates (cut in small pieces)
Bake in a moderate oven for 20 min . Mrs. D. H. Waldrop, Powderly, Ala.

## Cereal tea muffins

Sift together $11 / 2$ cupfuls white flour, pinch of salt, 4 teaspoonfuls baking powder, and $1 / 2$ tablespoonful sugar. Add 1 cupful of left-over cooked cereal, preferably oatmeal or Pettijohns, and mix thoroughly. Add 2 tablespoonfuls melted butter, 1 egg, and a little sweet milk, and beat well. Then add more milk to form a rather stiff batter. Bake in muffin pans in a hot oven about 20 minutes.

This is an original recipe of the economic war days of 1918, when housewives made the best of left-overs.

> Mrs. Abbie C. Henkel,

Oshkosh, Wisc.

## An Illinois coffee cake

$1 / 2$ cupful sugar
2 tablespoonfuls butter
1 egg
$1 / 2$ cupful milk or water
$x^{1} / 2$ cupfuls flour
2 teaspoonfuls baking powder
$1 / 2$ teaspoonful cinnamon
$1 / 2$ cupful raisins chopped
Sift the dry ingredients, and mix in the order given, stirring well. I pour the mixture in a pie tin, then sprinkle
sugar and cinnamon over the top. Bake in a moderate oven about 25 minutes. Mrs. Forrest A. Doyle,
Galesburg, Ill.

## Bran muffins

Soak together 4 or 5 hours:
$1^{1 / 2}$ cupfuls oatmeal
$1^{1 / 2}$ cupfuls sour milk

Then add:

> I heaping cupful white flour
> I teaspoonful baking powder
> I teaspoonful soda
> I teaspoonful salt
> I egg
> 3 tablespoonfuls molasses
> 3 tablespoonfuls melted butter

Mrs. Tobias L. Roberts, Bar Harbor, Maine.

## Southern spoon bread

I teacupful cornmeal (preferably white)
$1 / 2$ teaspoonful salt
r teaspoonful lard or butter
${ }^{1} \mathrm{egg}$
2 teaspoonfuls baking powder
x teacupful milk
${ }^{1} 1 / 2$ teacupfuls boiling water
Put cornmeal, salt, and lard in a mixing bowl; pour the boiling water into this and beat until smooth. Next break the egg into this hot mixture and stir until smooth. Lastly add the milk into which the baking powder has been beaten. Mix all well, pour into a greased baking dish, and cook in a hot oven for 30 minutes, or until brown on top. Serve with a spoon as a pudding. Butter it freely.

> Mrs. L. C. Barret,
> West Hartford, Conn.

## A New York coffee cake

$1 / 2$ cupful (scant) sugar
I tablespoonful butter
$1 / 2$ cupful milk
${ }^{1}$ cupful flour
2 teaspoonfuls baking powder
${ }_{1}$ egg white beaten stiff
x teaspoonful vanilla
Mix in the order given, folding whites in last. Sprinkle top with three teaspoonfuls brown sugar and one of cinnamon, and some chopped nuts.

Mrs. Jessie Laurence, New York, N. Y.

## Orange tea biscuits

2 cupfuls flour
4 teaspoonfuls baking powder
I teaspoonful salt
2 tablespoonfuls fat
$2 / 3$ cupful liquid (either milk or water) Juice of $x$ orange
About to cubes of sugar
Sift the dry ingredients together, and work in the fat with the tip of the fingers or a fork. Mix in the liquid, stirring as little as possible. Add enough to make the dough just stiff enough to roll. Put the dough on a lightly floured board, pat or roll to one half inch thickness, and

|Drawing by the cook herself

AFter the Civil War, as history has mentioned, corn was one of the few foods available in adequate amouats in parts of the South, and of course innumerable variations were played upon it to keep it from being tiresome.

This recipe is one devised by the faithful old colored stand-by in my grandmother's kitchen. There have been modifications as it passed through my grandmother's culinary experiences when she moved to the Middle Western prairie while it was still sprinkled with more ratclesnakes than wheat-and materials were limited. Again by my mother who carried it to California with her and adapted it to Western materials. How much of it is the original and how much is the result of environments I am not sure. I give it as I learned it from my mother. Betty O. Moore, Cos Cob, Conn.

## Materials and method-

${ }^{1} 1 / 2$ cupfuls flour
I cupful cornmeal (I like the yellow)
s teaspoonfuls baking powder
I teaspoonful salt
I tablespoonful molasses (old-fashioned sorghum or Gold Label Brer Rabbit)
4 tablespoonfuls melted shortening (I use lard or butter, but any other will do)
I tablespoonful green pepper chopped very fine
I teaspoonful onion chopped very fine (The secret is to have the onion and pepper chopped so fine that they disappear and only a faint flavor remains.)
2 eggs beaten until fluffy
$1 / 2$ pound cheese (This may be a tart cheese chopped fine. I like Bluchill brand best.) Rich milk-enough to mix
The batter should be creamy, thick, and pour easily. Heat and grease muffin pans. Bake in a hot oven about 20 minutes. Brown lightly and serve at once on a hot platter.

## Another contest!

\$2 WILL BE PAID FOR THE BEST ICE-BOX RECIPES
THESE recipes must be family fav-orites-tested in your own home. They cannot be copied from other magazines or cookbooks. For each recipe accepted we shall pay $\$ 2$. Recipes that are not accepted will not be returned. We cannot enter into correspondence about the recipes. Send your recipes to The American Home Kitchen, 244 Madison Avenue, N. Y. C. Contest closes February 5th.
cut out the tea biscuits with a cutter. On top of each put a half a cube of sugar which has been soaked in orange juice just long enough to absorb some of the juice. Bake them at $450^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. on a greased tin for 12 to is minutes.

## Mrs. K. J. Nicholson, Cincinnati, Ohio.

## lce-box rolls

${ }_{1}$ cake compressed yeast
$1 / 2$ cupful lukewarm water
1 teaspoonful salt
$1 / 2$ cupful sugar
2 eggs
s tablespoonfuls fat
${ }^{1}$ cupful warm water
5 cupfuls flour
Crumble yeast and add lukewarm water. Add salt and sugar. Add eggs, fat, and warm water. Beat 2 minutes. Add half flour and beat 3 minutes. Add rest of ingredients. Mix well and cover with waxed paper. Chill. When rolls are desired break off bits of dough, shape as desired and arrange side by side on greased baking pan. Let rise until doubled in size. It will require between 3 and 4 hours. Bake 20 minutes in moderate oven.

It is not necessary to use all the dough at one time. After some of it is pinched off, the rest may be kept in the ice box until the next day.

Mrs. Lillian D. Mole,
Roosevelt, N. Y.

## Sally Lunn

1/2 cupful sugar
3 tablespoonfuls butter
2 eggs
2 cupfuls flour
$1 / 2$ teaspoonful salt
3 teaspoonfuls baking powder
x cupful milk
Mix sugar, butter, and eggs and stir until light. Sift flour, baking powder, and salt together and add them; then add the milk. Mix well. Turn into a buttered biscuit pan and bake in a quick oven. Recipe serves six.

Virginia S. Lambert, Norfolk, Virgina.

## Apple muffins

$1 / 4$ cupful sugar
${ }^{1} \mathrm{egg}$
$1 / 4$ cupful butter
2 cupfuls flour
I cupful milk
Pinch salt
3 level teaspoonfuls baking powder $1 / 2$ teaspoonful cinnamon
Mix these ingredients together, then add 1 cupful diced apples mixed with $1 / 4$ cupful sugar. Pour into greased muffin pans and bake for 25 minutes at $400^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$.

Mrs. Myron D. Textrum,
Knoxville, Iowa.


HOSpitalitry depends not so much upon the greatness of the heart as the variety of canned foods on the pantry shelf. To be a failure-proof hostess one must be ready for anything, especially dispensing food in an easy, friendly fashion at almost any hour. It isn't a knack -it is merely a plan!

My company store is no mere conglomeration of odd supplies. The various items chum together as congenially as ham and eggs. They were ordered with a purpose in mind. On the back of the cabinet door are ten pinch hitting menus for lunch, tea, dinner, and late evening snacks. Any one of the lot can be assembled on a moment's notice from the groceries waiting on the shelf. This one for instance-

## A pantry shelf lunch -and it's good!

> Tomato juice cocktail Asparagus en casserole Biscuits Currant jelly Apple crumble Hot tea with lemon sugar
Take off your surprise-company shelf the following items, then work your fastest for 30 minutes and the job is 110
done: $I$ can green asparagus, $I$ can of asparagus soup, I package of grated cheese, I can of clear tomato juice, I box of ready prepared biscuit flour, I glass of currant jelly, x box of graham crackers, I can of apple sauce, I can of milk, tea (with individual servings put up in cellophane) and loaf sugar lemon flavvored. Ready or not, here we go:

## Asparagus en casserole

> I can of green asparagus I can of asparagus soup I package of grated cheese Salt, pepper, and paprika

Drain the asparagus and place in a casserole, first seasoning to taste. Add a dash of some favorite sauce, if you like. Over this pour the can of asparagus soup. Now top with the grated cheese. Sprinkle with paprika, then into the oven. It is easy, easy, because sauce, gravy, and dressing are all combined in the soup.

With this off your mind, open up the biscuit flour, the kind that requires only water to mix and pop a pan of biscuits in to bake. The tomato juice does instead of salad and all it requires is seasoning. I like celery salt, onion salt,
and a few drops of French dressing. Everything is ready now except dessert.

## Apple crumble

18 graham crackers
I No. I can thick apple sauce (about I cupful)
Crumble the graham crackers, not too fine, and fold into the sauce. Pour into a pudding dish and set in the refrigerator. Well chilled, it will stand up like a soldier for quite some time. Serve with whipped cream, fresh cream if you have it, otherwise whip up one can of pantry cream and flavor with orange extract. Instead of graham crackers you may use fig newtons, malted milk crackers, jumble wafers, raisin crackers, or any of the filled or plain shortbreads.
There is that tragic moment when a husband who, with childlike faith in your kitchen abilities, brings all unannounced some bachelor cronie in for a homecooked meal. You just can't fail-but you will unless the company shelf is ready for this emergency. Now here's a lunch of canned nutrition which makes the husband proud he's a married man and the bachelor not so sure that single blessedness is the perfect state.

## Lunch for bachelor guests <br> Cranberry juice cocktail Scalloped rice and mushrooms Grilled asparagus tips <br> Biscuits Gooseberry jelly Gingerbread waffles with crushed apricots Coffee

Reach up to the emergency shelf and help yourself to a bottle of cranberry juice cocktail, I can of cooked rice, I No. 2 can condensed tomato soup, a 4 -ounce can of sliced mushrooms, I can of pimientoes, $x$ can of green asparagus tips, I box of ready prepared biscuit flour, a jar of gooseberry jelly, the box of ginger bread mix, and a can of apricots. Here are the recipes:

## Scalloped rice and mushrooms

[^3]
## and ready for anything!

Combine the rice, soup, pimientoes, mushrooms (with their juice), and the fat. Season to taste and arrange in a greased casserole. Bake in a moderate oven at $375^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. for 30 minutes.

## Gingerbread waffles

I can gingerbread flour
1 cupful warm water
4 tablespoonfuls melted butter
Turn contents of can into mixing bowl. Add water gradually, beating to a smooth batter. Add melted butter. Bake in hot waffle iron until well browned. Serve at once with butter and maple syrup or with apricots that have been pressed through a sieve and blended with whipped cream. Marshmallow whip will answer if the cream is out. For variations of this recipe add to the batter $1 / 2$ cupful finely chopped nuts or $1 / 2$ cupful chopped dates. Finely chopped preserved ginger, about $1 / 3$ cupful, gives a piquant flavor.

Single or married, there never was a man who has failed to put away his share of the next three emergency specials and he will relish them equally as lunch or dinner fare:

## Mackerel baked in cream

1 one-pound can mackerel
x cupful cream or evaporated milk
$1 / 2$ teaspoonful salt
$1 / 8$ teaspoonful pepper
2 tablespoonfuls flour
Drain liquor from mackerel, put fillets in baking dish, cover with cream, and dredge with a mixture of flour, salt, and pepper. Bake in a moderate oven about $375^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. for about is minutes or until fish is thoroughly heated and top is slightly browned.

## Forty winks corn fritters

[^4]Mix all ingredients together and drop by spoonfuls on a hot greased griddle and bake over a moderate flame. When brown on one side, turn and brown the other. This recipe serves four portions only.

## Scalloped deviled ham and corn

${ }_{1}$ No. 2 can of corn
${ }_{1}$ large can deviled ham
$1 / 2$ teaspoonful salt
2 tablespoonfuls of melted butter
Pepper to taste
$1 / 4$ cupful buttered crumbs
Add the melted butter to the corn and season. Grease a deep baking dish and arrange the corn and ham in alternate layers. Top with buttered crumbs and bake in a moderate oven for twenty minutes.

## Surprise dinner menu <br> Mock vegetable soup Cheese straws <br> Chutney ham slice Sweet potatoes <br> Hearts of artichoke served with mayonnaise <br> Bran muffins <br> Mince meat pies with brandy hard sauce

The groceries required include 1 can of vegetable soup, i box of cheese straw crackers (lined to split), I bottle of chutney, i small can of vacuum sealed ham, r can of sweet potatoes, I jar of artichoke hearts, i small jar of mayonnaise, I box of ready mixed bran muffin flour, I box of mince meat pies, I small jar of brandy hard sauce.

## Chutney ham slice

I small can of ham (vacuum sealed)
2 dozen whole cloves
$1 / 2$ cupful mild vinegar
$1 / 2$ cupful ham liquor
$1 / 2$ teaspoonful mustard
$1 / 3$ cupful brown sugar
Remove the ham from the container and wipe dry of jellied juices, but save these to use with the basting sauce. Cut ham in thin slices, then reassemble the pieces to their original shape. Tie a string around the sides and across the top and stick in the cloves. Place in a shallow uncovered baking pan with a mixture made of the ham liquor, mustard, brown sugar, and vinegar. Bake in an oven $450-500^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$. for 45 minutes or just long enough to heat through and brown the top. Baste frequently. Serve a jelly-oozing slice of good size to each guest, spreading it with a tablespoonful of chutney, heated smoking hot. Ham is

equally good cooked in a bottled pineapple sauce then garnished with canned spiced pineapple rings.
Heat the sweet potatoes in their tin and open the very last minute. Pour over melted butter and a brown sugar sprinkling. To the bran muffin flour add water, mix and bake. That's all, yet in goodness these muffins are hard to surpass. I like the artichokes served cold right on the dinner plate, with a mound of mayonnaise. They are delightful of course heated in their own juice and served with a Hollandaise sauce.
Mince meat pies require $I$ box of mince meat cookies and 1 jar of brandy flavored hard sauce. Simply heat the cookies through, using two for each guest. Serve sandwich fashion with one tablespoon of hard sauce between the pies and one tablespoonful on top.
For a fussy supper choose chicken à la king or lobster Newburg. It's not the slightest bother to heat and serve them with suitable shelf-to-table accompaniments. Tiny peas, diced carrots, and red currant jelly for the chicken; stuffed olives and Gruyère cheese for the lobster. Add biscuits and steaming coffee to any of these-and there you are. For a less
[Continued on page 122]

## -illustrating our January decorating lesson



Jessic Tarbox Beals

This living room is a perfect illustration of the things we have studied thus far in our Decorating Class. You will note that the rugs follow the structural lines of the room. The painting over the fireplace is hung with TWO wires. The tables on either side of the fireplace are not identical, yet with their lamps and accessories create an illusion of perfect balance. The fabric used at the window has a feeling of stur-

Home of Miss M. E. Preusser, Netw York
M. E. Hewitt

There are seven pieces used on this mantel yet, because of their interesting shapes and arrangement, there is no impression of being cluttered

diness that blends beautifully with the wall texture. The owners of this house (Mr. and Mrs. William A. French) both are decorators, so naturally they have incorporated these fundamentals of good decoration. Yet there is nothing in this small and simple room that cannot be carried out in any small home. (The complete story of this small house will appear in a forthcoming issue of The American Home)

R. A. Smith

As simple and as beautiful a balance as can be achieved. In the home of Mrs. William Ellery, Chestnut Hill, Mass.

In March we shall study textures in decorative motifs. If you have not already enrolled send $6 \boldsymbol{t}$ in stamps for a review of previous lessons

TURNing back to 427 B.C. we find that Plato, the famous Greek philosopher, disciple of Socrates and teacher of Aristotle, had numerous things to say about the education of children. So much of what he said is to-day being repeated and accredited to this marvelous day and generation that it portrays an amusing picture when we hear parents emphatically state that they have absolutely no use for the newer methods. Their words may change but their general theme remains the same: "Child Psychology? Well, of course it may have a place in civilization but as yet it is new, untried. Far better wait until the children on whom it is being practiced reach a mature age. Then, should they by some miraculous course of events turn out well, will be ample time to listen to our great teachers of the day." What folly!

How almost insurmountable appears the task of teaching these few remaining parents that the newer methods are the older methods, and that theories which have withstood the test of time must be commendable. Even the most modern of parents consider themselves progressive enough if they follow out the ideas of our present day psychologists. They neither have the time nor do they care to study the history of the psychology itself. Whatever skepticism we discern is, more often than not, a form of defense for lack of knowledge rather than a sincere disbelief.

Plato said, "Do we not observe that the first shoot of every living thing is by far the greatest and fullest?" How do we understand this statement other than that it is but a repetition of what our psychologists tell us to-day. We cannot over stress the importance of the child's early training. For is it not well-nigh impossible to take any living thing when it is half grown and then change the type of thing into which it shall grow? What matter whether we must have the foundation laid before the child is six or seven so long as we grasp the fact that it must be done early. The point is not that parents should memorize page after page of rules for the training of their offspring, but that they should learn to think things out in the same clearsighted, understanding way in which our great child trainers have done.
"During the first three years of a child's life every possible care should be taken that our children should have as little sorrow. and fear and, in general, pain as is possible, but, on the other hand, they should not be provided with too


> Child training 2000 years new

ELEANOR H. P. HAPGOOD

many pleasures. Rather should we help them to maintain the true life which should neither seek for pleasure nor, on the other hand, avoid pain but should embrace the middle state."-Plato, B. C. Listen to the echo resound to-day in the words of Josephine Jackson, M.D."What guarantees for health shall society furnish the growing child? Surely these: Nurture for both body and mind. The right measure of sunshine and shade. Restraint and freedom, each in the amount that will assure symmetrical and sturdy growth instead of puny dependence or ungainly self-assertion. There is need too for shelter from the rough winds of heaven; yet there must be no such hot-house development as would unfit the little human plant for life in the open. Just as we find that the glass on our win-
dows shuts out the life-giving ultra-violet rays of the sun, even so does the 'glass case' life of an over-protected child rob him of the precious elements that come only from social contacts."

We continue in Plato's own words: "At three, four, five, and six years of age children have certain natural modes of amusement which they find out for themselves when they meet, and all children between the ages of three and six ought to meet at one spot where they shall be under the superintendence of one whom the magistrate shall annually appoint." Do we not find ourselves in a state of utter astonishment as we try to visualize a nursery school in action some 2300 years ago? Even though Plato's idea of a Nursery School may not have included the elaborate equipment we have at our disposal to-day, the underlying principle was the same.

May I invite any parent to walk into one of our modern schools just after closing time, after the classes have been dismissed and but one pupil remains waiting for a reprimand for not having had his daily lesson properly prepared. What is our modern teacher going to say? One thing is certain: we know that she has graduated from the rapping of knuckles, the shaking by shoulders and the sending to coat rooms in disgrace. Grandparents may look horrified and parents may look on in amazement as she calls the child aside. Her words may vary from time to time but the gist of her story is the same, "Remember this, whatever class you are in, whatever school you attend, you may fool your teacher and you may fool your parents and friends, but there is one person you will never be able to fool and that is yourself. Now you may go and I am sure you will do better work to-morrow."

What authority has a teacher for not forcing a child to attend to his lessons? Why does she not punish him severely if he has dawdled away his time? Plato can tell us in his own words as follows, "The elements of instruction should be presented to the mind in childhood but not with any compulsion, for a freeman should be a freeman too in the acquisition of knowledge. Knowledge which is acquired under compulsion has no hold on the mind, therefore do not use compulsion but let early education be rather a sort of amusement. This will better enable you to find out the natural bent of the child."

In the time of Plato they may not have had the advantages of a visiting teacher or the free services of physicians, nurses,

## Brighten the corner where you are



Amusing and of sufficient weight are the horse book ends below. Finishes are same as for cat book ends. $6^{\prime \prime}$ high, $4^{\prime \prime}$ wide at base, cost about $\$ 4$ a pair. The compartment candy dish comes in various finishes all satin brass, all black nickel, all satin nickel, and combinations of satin and black nickel. The diameter is $7^{\prime \prime}$, and the price about \$1



The Taurex candle holders below come in either of two finishes: polished chromium and polished copper; even and uneven. Price about $\$ 3$


## 

Loreue LOREME
EulLD


## We all want success from the start

「N SPRING when the world outdoors is cool and inviting to repressed winter spirits no garden plot seems to present too great an undertaking. The heat and humidity of July, however, find us in different mood. Office work or house work saps the vitality, and then we demand from our gardens not invigoration but relaxation. The wise gardener, therefore, selects for his first garden a plot that at no time will exact more than half his spare time. The garden should be on the axis of a much used door or window of the house, so that its beauty may be constantly seen. The site, furthermore, needs limitation.

In marking out the beds or borders be sure they are wide enough to allow a three or four-deep system of planting (that is, a place for edging, center, and back-

HELEN VAN PELT WILSON

ground plants), that they can be easily cultivated from every angle. Six to ten feet is a good width allowance.

The plant material will divide generally into three great groups-perennials, biennials, and annuals. Perennials are the backbone of every flower garden, coming up every year from their roots, and they may be grown either from seeds or as bought plants. If seeds are started in the spring, there is rarely any flowering until the following year. While growing plants from seeds may be more economical it is slower in results, and for such plants as Iris, Peony, Eupatorium, Stachys lanata, Phlox, Hemerocallis, Chrysanthemums, and Gypsophila it is impractical.

Biennials, such as Foxgloves and Can-
terbury-bells, take two years to produce flowers from seed and then die. This group is best omitted from the first garden.

Annuals bloom the year they are sown. The first garden may well include some of the surest of these to fill up the spaces that have been left for the perennials to grow into later. White Sweet Alyssum and lavender Ageratum are good for edgings; yellow, white, and flesh (not pink) Zinnias may be scattered through the center; while white and pink Cosmos form a good back line. A few easily grown annuals soon give that look of success which new perennials are sometimes slow to provide.

The greater part of the plants should be perennials and selected from those true and tried varieties that flourished in our

grandmothers' gardens. Novelties are more costly and unwise for the first garden. You will attain to them later on. The common perennials that the neighbors grow easily and abundantly in the locality of a first garden probably will constitute the most fool-proof list. A few kinds for each season are enough, as, for example, Peonies, Iris, Columbines, and Hardy Candytuft for spring. If the charms of the seed catalogue prevail, a spotty, restless, "one-of-each" garden is the result which may be interesting as a collection of specimens but it will not supply that look of quiet beauty that signalizes the successful garden.
Four or five distinct kinds properly spaced in groups will make a strong garden. Order them in groups of three, five, or seven, and plant in irregular drifts or wedge-shaped groups, repeated
at fairly regular intervals through the garden plot. This gives a rhythm to the garden as pleasant to the eye as is a repeated refrain in music to the ear. Repeated groups of Iris and Peonies blooming in the foreground in spring, Phlox and Delphinium glorifying the center in summer, and long drifts of Chrysanthemums in alternating groups of color at the rear for fall are examples.
Just as the musical refrain is made more striking by occasional repeated chords, so this repetition of variety is made doubly effective by accent. The plant chosen to be an accent should be prominently and regularly placed, large enough to stand alone, and with foliage enduring enough to be attractive when the flowering season is past. White Peonies are, perhaps, the most suitable for this purpose. Planted at regular in-
tervals they give a kind of style that at once raises even a first garden into the realm of distinguished plantings.
Just five kinds of perennials, then, if carefully placed will make a fine garden, but, since the range of absolutely trustworthy types for practically any part of the United States is so much greater, a wider selection is usually made. Appended is a chart of twenty-four perennials that can be depended upon for general hardiness, good color effects that blend pleasantly together, and a long succession of bloom.
If, then, the principles of selection, repetition, and accent are applied to the distribution of suitable plant materials, as exemplified in this chart, even the first garden will fulfil the dreams of the beginner. What he most ardently desires in his garden will be his-Success.

## Suggestions for the first garden

## Low types for edge

| variety | COMMON NAME | bLoom | color | REMARKS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Alyssum saxatile compactum | Basket-of-gold | April | yellow | Necessary spring color |
| Cerastium tomentosum | Snow-in-summer | June | white | Silvery foliage |
| Dianthus plumarius | Scotch Pink | May-June |  | Spicy fragrance and evergreen foli- |
| Her Majesty |  |  | white |  |
| Heuchera sanguinea | Coralbells | May-July | coral-red | Excellent for bouquets, particularly with Roses |
| Iberis sempervirens | Evergreen Candytuft | Apr.-June | white | Foliage evergreen, best edging plant |
| Phlox subulata lilacina rosea | Moss Phlox | Apr.-May | pink lavender rose | Mossy evergreen foliage, compact for edging, very |
| Ceratostig ma plumbaginoides | Leadwort | July-Sept. | deep blue | A late garden true blue, foliage slow to appear in spring |
|  | Woolly Betony | July | light purple | Silvery white, woolly foliage, good for contrast |

Medium types for center
(Allow about 18 inches per plant)

| Aquilegia chrysantha, Hybrids | Long-spur Columbine | May-June | yellow, pink, lavender, white | Graceful, delicate flowers; good to cut |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Coreopsis grandi- flora | Tickseed | June-Oct. | yellow | Rank grower |
| Eupatorium coelestinum | Mistflower | Aug.-Oct. | lavender | Rank grower, fine for late boquets |
| Hemerocallis flava | Yellow Daylily | May-June | yellow | Fine lily for cutting, foliage good |
| H. thunbergi | Japanese Daylily | June-July |  |  |
| Iris germanica | Tall Bearded Iris | May-June |  | Excellent foliage, |
| Foster's Yellow |  |  |  | to grow, long |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jeanne D'Arc } \\ & \text { Pallida dal- } \end{aligned}$ |  |  | lavender |  |
| matica |  |  |  |  |
| Iris kaempferi | Japanese Iris | June-July |  | omparatively |
| Blue Danube |  |  | lavender | short blooming |
| Gold Bound |  |  | white | period, requires |
| Oriole |  |  |  | much water |



## Tall plants for rear and for drifting into center

(Allow about 24 inches per plant)

| Althea rosea: Single and Double | Hollyhock | July-Sept. | all colors but blue | Allow about 3 feet, good against fences or garages |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Anchusa italica | Sea Bugloss | May-June | blue | Rank growing true blue, effective but not for cutting |
| Chrysanthemum hortorum | Chrysanthemums in variety as chosen | Sept.-Nov. | all colors but blue | Late bloom allows use of all colors, use early varieties for far north garden, singles also good |
| Chrysanthemum maximum Alaska | Shasta Daisy | July-Aug. | white | Rank growing |
| Delphinium Belladonna <br> D. bellamosum | Larkspur | May-July again Sept. | blue <br> dark bl | Cut back first crop, allow 3 weeks rest, fertilize for a Sept. crop |
| Gypsophilia Bristol Fairy | Double Babysbreath | July-Aug. | white | A good blending note in garden, airy graceful panicles for boquets |
| Aster novi-belgi Capitaine Climax | Michaelmas Daisies | Sept.-Oct. | $\left\lvert\, \begin{aligned} & \text { lavender- } \\ & \text { blue } \\ & \text { white } \\ & \text { blan } \end{aligned}\right.$ | May be planted singly, allow 3 feet |
| Salvia azurea grandiflora | $\underset{\text { Sage }}{\text { Great Azure }}$ | Aug.-Sept. | blue | Blooms when true blues are rare |



## Roofing the American home



FROM amongst the many excellent roofing materials, choosing one to best accommodate the house is, after all, merely a matter of qualifying along three lines: How much will it cost? How will it wear? What will it look like? And, as with so many other commodities we purchase, these questions are of about equal weight.

As far as cost is concerned-that is simple enough. For, say what you will about this style and that manner, in the last analysis what influences home building more than any other consideration, from foundation footings to chimney caps, is how much money will be required. Durability of the roof is directly linked with the element of cost and varies with it though, of course, not in direct ratio. We must always deliberate on the length of life of a selected material and its upkeep expense. The importance of appearance will be easily realized in noting what a large percentage of the exterior of a house is roof. In many instances it is as prominent as the walls and in many others far more so.
Cost, durability, and appearance concern not only the comparatively thin roof coverings. They are intimately involved with the shape and form, and penetrate to the construction as well. One simple rule will cover these three elements. The roof should ever be as straightforward and ingenuous as the plan and the exterior aspects of the house will allow. The less roof form to cover, the fewer the small

## LLEWELLYN PRICE

details (such as dormers), then the less intricate is the framing of timbers and consequently, the more moderate will be the cost. Failures seldom occur on the uninterrupted roof surface but are not at all uncommon at valleys and ridges, around small gables, and where the roof abutts a wall surface. To be avoided then


Flat terra cotta tiles in a wide range of reds complete the picture of this charmingly faithful reproduction of a typical French farm cottage. Frank Forster, architect. Courtesy, Ludowici-Celadon Co.
are unnecessary gables, dormers, chimneys, and other details included for their effect alone as possible future annoyances.

Modern roofing materials have been de-
veloped to render a full dollar's worth of service and it seems that no efforts by the manufacturers have been thought too great to obtain as genuinely a good looking product as possible. Whether your final selection be of wood, slate, metal, tile, asbestos, or asphalt, the resulting roof can prove entirely satisfactory both practically and artistically.

The most characteristic roof of the American home of to-day is that laid with shingles sawed from red cedar of the Northwest, both Canadian and the United States. As with all building material there is variation in quality. The only grade worth putting down is that which has the edge of the grain uppermost. When the grain shows in wide bands, such a shingle is "flat-sawed" and after laying will curl up at the butt admitting the weather; soon the roof will not only leak but rot out. The properly sawed red cedar shingle is, however, an excellent product and those of uniform, high quality are in no way expensive. They may be permitted to weather to a natural color or may be dipped before applying in any of the many beautiful creosote stains. They are also obtainable with the stain applied at the factory in such a manner that the preservative enters deeply into the wood. The deep and rich colors of creosote are of a wide range so that the shingle roof may become completely a part of the color scheme of the house.
If one is not a stickler for archæologi-
cal purity, the sawed shingle may be safely applied to a home of any type, style, or manner. Proper laying taken for granted, the only concern is that the pitch of the roof be not too low, for in such case the moisture from rain and snow instead of spilling to the gutters has an opportunity to penetrate the wood. High winds, too, will have a tendency to raise the shingles at the butt.

Both predecessor and successor, to a certain extent, of the sawed shingle is the hand-split type. It is a practical improvement of much worth which harks back to the original old-time methods of producing shingles. One can readily see that by splitting the shingle block instead of sawing, the grain will be left intact and there will naturally be more resistance to the weather. The modern sawed undersurface renders these shingles more weatherproof against driving rains. Where a roof rich in texture is sought these shingles are particularly desirable, for the roughness of their surface has a pleasantly soft sparkle which contrasts effectively with the shadow line of the thick irregular butts. They are available in the same range of colors as are the sawed shingles and in the natural state weather to a beautiful shade. These shingles are, of course, more expensive than the others and the cost of the roof is still further increased by the necessity of sheathing and paper in place of merely lath as a foundation treatment.

To be really correct, speak of handsplit shingles as "rived shakes." These refer more particularly to the old-fashioned cypress shingles used since the Early American days. After centuries of the pitiless American climate many are still doing yeoman service, as witness for example those on "Home, Sweet Home," where John Howard Payne spent his childhood. Rived shingles are still readily available manufactured in much the same manner as they were years ago. Some are made from logs submerged for long periods in the waters of cypress swamps.

We have come to regard the modern slate roof as one particularly characterized by picturesque decorativeness with much diversity in color, size, and thickness of the units. We forget too of ten the old, yet not so very old, black slate. An abundance of material from which to select, and improved mechanical methods of production make possible a roof, uniform in both color and thickness of units. Unattractive to many people there is, nevertheless, a substantial and unaffected appearance to the roof which cannot be otherwise than in good taste. 118

The darker shades, deep blue and purpleblack, are of course the more desirable.

The importation of French and English rural sources of domestic design demanded harmonizing roofs. Slates quite opposed to our standardized variety seem necessary to complete the picture artistically. While the best materials at hand and the most skilful workmanship were employed in roofing the Old World dwellings, the results, because of primitive methods, were patterns of texture and color always characteristic of true handcraftsmanship. But the emulation of these roofs, so beautiful in their original surroundings, must be very carefully done or the result is one of bizarre tawdriness. Extremely sagging ridges, billowed roof surfaces (which are truly


George H. Van Anda
only the results of old age), can be easily overdone in new work. Slates, too irregularly finished, and size, thickness, and color too greatly varied, may often not only produce an unhappy roof but may mar the appearance of the entire structure. Many sad examples show what may happen with too much enthusiasm displayed, while many others demonstrate how a handsome job may be obtained with the same material.

Textured slate is expensive. Each roof requires a separate specification to describe adequately what is wanted. Two general divisions may, however, be made. The heavier and more costly will run up to two inches in thickness, though seldom there will be opportunity for greater than one inch in domestic work. Purples, reds, buffs, and blues of varied shades may be
blended to produce a richly colored tapestry of slate, especially effective.

A medium grade slate, much less in thickness but heavier than the standard commercial black, is obtainable in handworked shapes. The color when new is nearly uniform but, after exposure, weathers to deep shades of purple, blue, and buff. It is far cheaper than the heavier selected type and for the house of moderate cost it is worth investigating.

Roof tile manufacturers, as with the producers of other burnt clay products, seem to be endowed with an unusual amount of good taste. Of the many types available the greater majority are truly artistic. Flat tile with either a smooth unworked surface, or with variously molded texture, including one emulating the many years' growth of moss and lichens, readily lend themselves to homes deriving their inspiration from England, France, Italy, or Spain. Houses influenced by the latter two are, of course, commonly associated with the half round tile and these also may be readily obtained with the same variety of interesting surfaces. It should be understood that there are no architectural limitations in the employment of tile, except possibly in one instance. Natural colored tile does not seem to adapt itself to the clapboard Colonial. This natural color is red and the introduction of foreign color, though often successfully done, seems, somehow, to introduce a false note.

Metal roofs have for many, many years proven their great worth. Houses and public buildings in France and in England retain copper or lead roofings now centuries old; in this country we have used copper and tin for the same purpose. The flat decks of Independence Hall and many of the old churches in Philadelphia are covered with tin. This metal is especially well suited to smaller Colonial homes; and many of the old Pennsylvania farmhouses, as well as the more imposing Georgian manor houses, show how very desirable it can be. When covered with red deck paint, the roof soon mellows to a rich deep tone, which harmonizes splendidly with brick and stone and contrasts beautifully with pure white walls. The durability and freedom from upkeep, except in cases of tin which requires periodical painting, and the protection from fire are the obvious virtues of metal roofing. There is, of course, no limitation as to the flatness of the roof pitch. We can now, fortunately, amply insulate against the heat penetration so often associated with metal roofs. The joints or seams by which the sheets of the metal are fixed


# Let's get some good grapes this year 

LEONARD BARRON

THOUGH a multitude of arbors support a multitude of grape vines, in a multitude of gardens, it is unfortunately too true that a large proportion of the multitude does not yield good bunches of fruit. Part of this is because of ten the vine is planted in a darkened obscure corner of the place where rarely any sunshine falls, or maybe even none at all. To have good grapes, direct sunshine is a prerequisite. There is the possible answer for some failures. True there are other answers too.
The grape vine needs to be nursed into good behavior. It will grow more or less in almost any position, but if it is fruit you want and not mere shade, you may just as well have its fruit good; and good fruit is the product of a little attention, and only little. Chiefly it is one of training and pruning. Remember always this one cardinal fact. The grape
fraining, is to cut out each year the canes or wood that bore the fruiting laterals of the previous season, thus there is a constant renewal each year and potential fruit bearing cane is allowed to grow for the following year's harvesting of crops.

Though this may sound somewhat obscure, it is in fact not at all complicated and, indeed, it is not unlike the principle of pruning as is applied to the Climbing Rose. The various methods of training according to the style of trellis or support may be important from the commercial growers' point of view, but in the average home garden, the grape vine is used for draping on a trellis or about an arbor, just as much as it is for fruit. The Kniffin method of training which is illustrated below, is quite similar to the ordinary arbor system. The renewal canes of each year let the fruit laterals droop down and on them the bunches of fruit are formed. The training method is of no concern with us; merely the matter of pruning to get rid of the old fruit wood. Retain the new growth that was made last year to bear this crop from its drooping branches and arrange, at the
same time, to allow for space for the new renewal cane which will bear the burden of fruit in the year following.

Do the pruning as early as possible. The bleeding or weeping of early pruning is not as serious as it looks. But pruning after the sap begins to flow may be bad. On the other hand, do not prune when the wood is frozen, simply because it is too brittle and breaks too easily. Much can be accomplished by pruning later on, provided it is not overdone or else do it in the late days of spring. Pruning, thinning out of the encumbered masses of old wood in somewhat neglected arbors and trellises is our concern of the moment.

The grape needs good feeding. A wheelbarrow of rotted manure would be an adequate supply when newly planting vines. Afterwards use a good commercial prepared plant food liberally and water freely. In addition, if planting anew, select good reliable strong-growing varieties. Some are better than others. Salem, Lindley, Niagara, Portland, Diamond, Concord, Warden, Agawam, can hardly fail. Delaware is finicky, but Caco is certainly worth trying, although it would take intermediate rank when it comes to vigor. It is especially important in the garden of limited space to select varieties that are really dependable. Then give them the proper attention.


## How to select seeds

## for good vegetables



Why waste space in the small garden by growing poor types of vegetables? If space is quite limited, your list should be extremely selective

You can consider vegetables in three groups: I those that should be in every garden, 2 those that are desirable, 3 those that are superfluous. In the last group, before a garden club audience, I included parsnips. The host of the evening retorted: "But I like parsnips!" And there you are!
The quantity of seeds required to provide certain crops depends entirely upon individual likes or dislikes of certain vegetables plus the space you can devote to the food garden. The amount of work you are willing to do is also an important factor.
Supposing that you have a hotbed, meaning a frame $3 \times 6$ feet with a glass sash to cover and manure in the bottom to generate the heat. You can then sow seeds quite early. Such vegetables as Cabbage, Cauliflower, Brussels Sprouts, etc., should be sown in the hotbed about March first. But, in the small home garden it is more economical in the long run to spend a dollar for plants than to spend thirty cents for seeds and fuss with seedlings for two months or more.
The "made-to-order" vegetable gardens offered as "collections" in some catalogues are designed to make ordering easy for the beginner. But while affording certain advantages, including price savings, they also have limitations. Hardly two families are equally fond of the same vegetables. Again, there are space limitations.

A supply of seeds for a good sized vegetable garden in Ohio, Illinois, or Kansas may be bought for a dollar. Such a garden may hold Cucumbers, Melons, Squashes, and other spreading plants because the garden area permits. There is

## ADOLPH KRUHM

no room in the average Eastern food garden for such "space eaters." Plots of only $25 \times 40$ feet had best be devoted to growing several crops of really fine vegetables such as are seldom found on the market.

The essential vegetables for the average small vegetable garden, taking $25 \times 40$ feet as a basis, would include only nine kinds, ordering quantities as follows:
$1 / 2 \mathrm{lb}$. Bush Beans, stringless green or yellow podded
${ }_{1}$ pkt. Sweet Corn Golden Bantam
$1 / 2$ oz. Beet, early
1 pkt. Swiss Chard Lucullus, for greens
$1 / 2 \mathrm{oz}$. Radish White Icicle or Rapid Red
1 pkt. Parsley
I lb. White Onion sets
I doz. Late Cabbage plants
I doz. Early Tomato plants
This list will call for about a dollar investment in seeds and another dollar for the last three items. The late Cabbage plants can be planted where the green Onions grew in the spring from sets. Early Tomatoes are suggested because after the middle of August the market provides the general crop very cheaply.

If the garden dimensions can be stretched to $30 \times$ so feet, space also becomes available for the following additional list:
$1 / 2 \mathrm{lb}$. Lima Beans, Bush or Pole $1 / 2$ oz. Beet Early Model (midseason)
${ }_{1}$ pkt. Carrot Chantenay
r pkt. Onion Southport Yellow Globe
${ }^{1}$ pkt. Turnip Purple Top White Globe
$1 / 2 \mathrm{oz}$. Lettuce All Season
r pkt. Sweet Corn Howling Mob (midseason)
${ }^{1}$ pkt. Cucumber Davis Perfect
x pkt. Squash Cocozelle Bush
These items would call for an additional outlay of another dollar. The
combination of above two lists should provide a sufficient amount of vegetables for a family of four, between early June and the end of September, counting July a vacation month when the family is away.

Just what should be planted in a family garden of larger dimensions becomes purely a matter of personal preferences. A family very fond of greens and salads might set aside a good sized patch for such crops as Endive, New Zealand Spinach, Lettuce, Broccoli, Swiss Chard, Celery, and Cabbage. A package each of Cabbage and Celery seed and 1 ounce each of the balance will provide greens in abundance.

There is hardly room for Peas in any garden smaller than 75 feet square. To be able to pick a mess of pods to yield a quart of shelled peas, requires about 60 feet of row. That much space should be devoted to each of three varieties such as Market Surprise (early), Thomas Laxton (second), and Potlach (late). A pound of seed of the early and two pounds of each of the other two will prove sufficient.

I have already referred to Parsnips as superfluous. The same attitude may be taken toward Salsify, Peppers, Egg Plant, and other vegetables of kinds not eaten frequently. On the other hand, an extended Sweet Corn program might be worked out whereby this delightful delicacy might be enjoyed over a period of several months. This can be accomplished in two ways: You can make repeated sowings of an early variety between the middle of May and end of June or you can sow varieties maturing in succession. My choice of varieties for the latter pro-
[Continued on page 134]

## Don't let your house run down



## ROOF COATING

In this column, in the November issue, reference was made to a compound for closing leaks in a wood shingle roof. A number of readers have asked for further information-the name of the compound, and where it could be obtained.
This is asphalt in a paste form, mixed with asbestos fibers. In use, the asphalt sinks into holes and cracks where the asbestos fibers hold it and keep it from dripping. The compound has the general name of asphalt-asbestos roof coating; it is made by many manufacturers, each under his own trade name.
In this connection, it should also be said that there are compounds of asphalt without the asbestos for the rejuvenation of prepared shingles and roll roofing that through exposure have become dry and brittle.

## CLEANING A BOILER

"I have just been looking through the upper doors of my steam boiler, and saw a good deal of soot and black dust inside. Does this make any difference? Should it be cleaned out?"
That coating of dust is costing you money in wasted fuel; it is preventing the full heat of the fre from passing to the water. You should clear it away, and repeat the cleaning once or twice every month, working through the clean-out doors in the back as well as in the front. If you have not the necessary tools you hould get them-a hoe-like craper and a steel brush, both on ong handles. When the fire is ow, open the damper in the moke pipe and close the check lamper that is between the boiler and the chimney. Begin at the op, first with the wire brush to oosen the deposit and then with he scraper to push it to where it vill drop to the next level, firially etting it to the fire and the ash pit. Hard patches should be nocked off, just as carbon is renoved from the cylinder head of n automobile engine. With the poiler clean inside, heating will be uicker, fuel consumption less.

In the belief that many home owners are interested in the upkeep of their homes, Mr. Roger B. Whitman, expert and authority on home upkeep, is conducting a home owners' service for all readers of The American Home. Address inquiries to Mr. Roger B. Whitman, care of The American Home, 244 Madison Ave., New York. The following questions and answers have been culled from Mr. Whitman s correspondence with readers

## A SEWER BACKS UP

"In a heavy rain, the sewer sometimes backs up through our cellar drains. Can this be stopped ?"
Yes, with what is known as a check valve, which permits a flow in one direction but not in the other. It is installed in the house sewer pipe in the cellar.

## CLEARING SLUGGISH

## DRAINS

"What is the treatment for sluggish drain pipes? My kitchen drains are rather long and laid with little fall; they are inclined to clog. What will dissolve grease and lint without injuring the plumbing?"
There is no practical method of dissolving lint and similar obstructions, but they will be carried away through the removal of the grease. Make a solution of one pound of caustic potash in three quarts of water; pour liberal quantities into the drain pipe, boiling hot. If you have difficulty in getting it, use one of the commercial preparations. Do not make the mistake of using caustic soda, for this will convert the grease into an insoluble soap.

## MORE HEAT WITH PAINT

It is curious, but nonetheless true, that the heat thrown off by a radiator will depend on the kind of paint with which it is finished; that with an oil paint finish a radiator will be about one sixth more effective than if it is painted bronze or aluminum. Part of the heat of a radiator is picked up by the circulation of air through and between its sections; the rest is thrown off as invisible rays that are warming to anything that they strike. It is these waves that are affected by the finish; they are more plentiful with oil paint than with a paint that is metallic. In refinishing, metallic paint that is on firmly need not be removed; oil paint can go on top and have its full effect. The result in the production of heat will be much the same as replacing a six-section radiator with a seven.


Make your home look new with "Collopakes"

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The patented Collopaking Process gives these modern colors automatic freedom from brush marks and nonfading qualities that impress everyone who uses them. The gloss colors stay glossy out of doors. The greater covering power makes Collopakes go further and cost less. They will make your house look and stay like new.

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Made by the makers of the famous Cabot's Creosote Shingle and Wood Stains, which will restore the appearance of your shingles with their soft clear colors and add years to the life of the wood with their genuine refined creosote, "best wood preservative known".

## Name.

Address


HERE is noodle soup that you'll relish to the last delicious spoonful! In a savory broth that is rich with flavor, you'll find tender pieces of chicken meat, and plenty of delicious thin-cut noodles. No thin, diluted "canned soup" taste here! Heinz chefs "brew in" the nourishing goodness by slowly simmering the ingredients in small kettles-the good old-fashioned home way.
Nothing whatever has to be added Each variety comes to you fully pre pared - perfectly seasoned - ready to heat and serve. Save yourself expense and effort by serving Heinz soups frequently. On cold winter days no dish is more appetizing and nourishing-particularly for the
children. Your grocer has a whole shelfful of these tempting varieties of soup. Order an assortment now and keep them on hand. - Heinz gives you full value in quality and quantity for every cent you pay.
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SOME OF THE NEW 57 VARIETIES

## Vegetable - beef broth


cream of green pea
mock turtle - pepper pot cream of asparagus CREAM OF TOMATO - NOODLE cream of celery

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Cupboard stocked and ready for anything!
[Continued from page 1 II]
pretentious menu, but one with a definite masculine atmosphere, open canned frankfurters and sauerkraut, or one of those all-inone Italian meals with a macaroni or spaghetti base. Take your choice of spaghetti combined with mushrooms or macaroni shells mixed with chicken à la king. There is a ready to serve Boston corned beef hash and it is surely good. It has a moist delicacy and, dressed with poached eggs and a few curls of bacon it suits the men folks to a "T."

If your guests stay late, follow up the dinner hospitality by serving something around ten or eleven o'lock. Something that "just hits the spot" after a heavy dinner may be one of the sparkling beverages. Serve it from the bottle, men like to pour their own, and have enough variety on hand that you can give a choice. May I suggest for a mixed group grape juice and gingerale, half and half? Serve it with cookies, one or more of the snap family will do. Gingerale and beer are best accompanied by pretzels, potato chips, or crackers spread with cheese or one of the many fish pastes.
Men as a rule have a puckering yen for sardines. An easy little number combines smoked sardines mashed with just enough creamed butter to make the mixture spread. Season with paprika and lemon juice and serve sandwich style between soda crackers with a tangy relish. For a heartier combination, mash a cupful of canned beans with a tablespoonful of horse-radish. One tablespoonful of chopped sweet pickle will blend its goodness wonderfully with two tablespoonfuls of peanut butter. Horse-radish creamed with butter and spread on toasted whole wheat wafers is better than excellent. Two tablespoonfuls of butter to one tablespoonful of horse-radish gives the right blend.
It's a heart warming custom to have folks in for a snack after an evening out. It's a proud feeling to say without a worry or a thought, "Come to our house for a little bite," and to know in your heart it will be a little supper worth talking about. Suppose you serve shad roe, brown bread, canned figs, and coffee. Shad roe in tins is one of those delicacies that can scarcely be told from the fresh. Dipped in seasoned flour and well browned in bacon fat, it
is a palatable eyeful. The slices of bacon, be it said, are removed but carefully kept hot to garnish the roe. For a masterful touch serve lemon butter with this dish made by blending one tablespoonful of lemon juice, two of butter, and one of parsley chopped fine, fine, fine. Cut the brown bread in paper thin slices. This too, you know, comes from a tin. Canned figs, mellowed in their thick syrup, are a palate caressing dessert.
On a cold winter night, clam chowder richly thick with succulent soft clams is a brilliant period to end a happy day. A you open the can there rises from it the salty aroma of the sea Don't forget rarebit, that sure re lief to savage appetites. Thi comes ready without waiting for the cheese to melt.
Why bother with toast? Ther is a new pastry square ready to serve under all sorts of creamec dishes. It is composed of laye, upon layer of paper-thin crus

and comes in air-tight packages six for 15 cents. They keep in definitely. Each biscuit can b split with a sharp knife into a many layers as desired. Try sand wiching with a chopped canne fruit for a speedy shortcake.

A chop suey supper is a surpris to spring on the crowd. Open can of prepared chop suey an heat. With it serve bean sprout marinated in a French dressin and of course hot tea. A fev crunchy canned noodles to eat i the fingers like potato chips hav a nice way with this little repas though a Chinaman would snif serving good noodles in such fool manner. For a fine finis serve still more tea and pass pre served ginger or limes with tooth picks for handles.

Something sumptious is tun fish, with a few chopped mush rooms and pimientoes and serve in a ring of hot fragrant potat chips. Add to the menu a bow of well chilled brandied peach and some thinly sliced dark frui cake and you have food for th gods.

Afternoon callers are alway impressed when a hostess can pr

duce on the moment eye filling, palate clutching little tidbits with the fragrant cup of tea. This means cookies on the shelf, for the cookie jar has served the teapot through the centuries. The assorted package is sure to please with its varied choice. There are two special tea biscuits, English style, on the market, sweetened and very crisp, small and rectangular, whose size fits them for an active social career. The sugar wafer family answers the tea sweet question to perfection. One novelty is built sandwich fashion. A three-layer diamond cake put together with chocolate and almond cream. For a richer tea cookie try some of the sandwishes. These include fillings of cheese, sugar butter, figs, marshmallow, strawberry, peanut butter, and minceless mince meatany one of which spreads smiles of satisfaction.

Have on hand some cinnamon and sugar which comes ready mixed nowadays, a decided convenience. Cream with butter and spread on crackers then toast for a moment under the broiler flame. Maple cream spreads well on ribboss of bread and so does chopped ham spread. Blend confectioners sugar and any canned fruit juice, orange, let's say, for a tea time special, using it to frost little crackers or rings of bread. Tinned cranberry sauce and cream cheese is a palate caressing combination when spread on crisp salty crackers or wafers not too sweet.

Lady take heart, you don't have to be born a cook to be a clever hostess, not in this day. Cultivate the virtue of forehandedness and stock the emergency shelf to stand any company siege. For, after all, hospitality is merely the reflection of a peaceful state of mind.

## Take it from a towel!

[Continued from page 94]
moons, may be purchased cut and packaged, of course; if some of these attractively supplement your decorative idea, you may save yourself a great deal of labor.

Towel motifs that intrigue may not adapt themselves so well to reproduced paper patterns for wall decoration, but suit fabric appliqués much better. For instance, dainty floral patterns taken from towels may be used to trim the flounces of a bathroom dressing table or be applied to shower curtains. One who has had a little art training may find it not too difficult a matter to cut smart stencils for use in decorating bathroom or kitchen walls. And thus may a "commonplace" household necessity become the keynote from which a really fascinating scheme evolves!

But there is nothing commonplace about the new towels. As we have emphasized before, they are characterful, charming. They recognize new trends in decorating, even more than many other housefurnishings. This season they are featuring white externsively; Victorian suggestions, in bowknots and plumes; sporting motifs, fish, and flowers. Blues are brighter. Maize is lovely. Jade has smart spunk. Orchid and peach are for sweeter schemes. For the kitchen, towels that feature fruits and vegetables have something to suggest.

## Child training 2000 years new

[Continued from page 113]
psychiatrists, and psychologists but they accomplished the maximum with the minimum of assistance. Earnest thought was the master of their administration to their children. They realized the importance of the proper training of future citizens. They were not blindly jumping at conclusions when they adopted Plato's teachings of the training of the young. It was only after careful study and a thorough tryout of Platonian theories that they were willing to adopt many of the fundamental methods that we are employing today.

Child training, education, prychological care from crib to college-we are striving for perfection in all these lines. What do we mean by perfection? In the enjoyment and enthusiasm of our strivings will we lose sight of our purpose? Will the pendulum swing us so far by our goal that we will of necessity be forced to suffer a rebound? Time alone will tell. If history is to repeat itself the answer is yes. In the mean-
[Continued on page 128]


Here it was again! Drain pipes clogged-bathroom out of commission for hours-irritation, inconveni-ence-and another repair bill! "Why should this happen?" she complained. "Why-"
"But, Madam," he interrupted,"look at this sediment I've taken from the trap! It's the kind of cleanser you use on your sink and tub! Naturally, coarse gritty material will collect in and clog your drains and pipes. Have you ever tried Bon Ami?"
No, she had not. So he told her, "Bon Ami doesn't clog drains. It's a fine powder that removes the dirtand then washes away instantly!" He could have added that Bon Ami is best for bathtubs, sinks, tiling, etc. . . . that Bon Ami is odorless . . . and that it never reddens your hands or mars your fingernails.


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## New and handy things for American homemakers



## Vegetable

grater

Now you can grate vegetables without scraping your knuckles, for with his efficient new grater you may cut the vegetables as you wish without any contact between the hands and the food. Completely foolproof, just se-
lect the proper dise, and you may slice, shred, mince, or make uniformly perfect French fried potatoes with the jumbo disc. The vege-grater and the four discs, postpaid \$1.45, W. G. Lemmon \& Co., 820 Madison Ave., N. Y. C.

## Broil on top of your stove

With this Dandy Broiler, you can broil a whole mackerel or a steak, but its especial appeal to us was its convenience in broiling bacon when one does not want to scour the large stove broiler for a few pieces of bacon in the morning. Price $\$ 3.95$ postpaid, manufactured by the Dandy Broiler Co., 64 W. Randolph St., Chicago, III.


An efficient can opener
This can opener leaves no jagged edge and is easy to operate. It is made of aluminum with a Bakelite molded knob on the handle. A very efficient tool. The price is $\$ 2.75$, from the Aluminum Cooking Utensil Co., New Kensington, Penn.



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# Garden facts and fancies 

Whether the plant is made for the garden, or the garden for the plant may be a nice question for debate; but that a better garden is achieved when better plants are put into it seems self evident. And the world has made progress by leaps and

bounds of recent years. Now, what I want to know is just what among the newer introductions have really won out after a fair trial last season. What can you tell me about your plant experiences? And will you?

To certarn persons' minds certain special groups of plants make a peculiar appeal; and curiously enough there seems to be a wave of popular interest that spreads across the country at one time. We saw the Cactus wave rise and wane and rise again. Then the Sedums. For a while anybody with any pretense to "advancement" in garden craftsmanship grew Sedums and exhibited them at the local club show, and goodness knows there was enough confusion among them to cause no end of discussion. Then Dr. R. Lloyd Praeger came to the rescue with his monograph published by the Royal Horticultural Society of England. That stimulated a further activity so that there was more confusion than ever among the populace as to which was what. Now there is a similar group of plants, the Houseleeks, or Sempervivums, concerning which Dr. Praeger has issued through the same source a similar review in an effort to simplify what he describes as the most confused group of plants in cultivation. So for those of you who like to solve puzzles, the puzzle of the Houseleeks will offer constructive and consistent puzzlement. The answers will be found in Dr. Praeger's monograph.

That grand old horticultural society maintains its leadership in good works. Not only in publishing such studies as those of Dr. Praeger but in instituting "conferences" which means the gathering together of all the available thought on a given subject. This year (in July) Lilies will be the subject, which might be enough inducement for the Lilyminded gardeners of America to journey to London next summer.

Once dabble among the Lilies and you have as fascinating a subject as any one group of garden plants provides, with the added satisfaction of great glories in the flowers themselves. Recent available books on Lilies have been American. Mrs. Fox's Garden Cinderellas (who would suspect that of dealing with Lilies?); Marshall's Consider the Lilies, and Craig's Lily Culture, the classic predecessor of course being the English Wallace's Handbook and the famous and now rare monographs of Elwes and Redouté. But we are still gathering Lily experience and


Americans are fostering careful study into the causes of certain mystifying diseases to which the family seems heir. Some people seem to think it is merely a matter of raising our own bulbs from seed. There are likely to be other factors involved, however.

## A remarkable Lily

There have not been many hybrid Lilies, and so far they have been the crossing of two species which has kept the channels of study fairly open, but complications loom ahead. Trispecific origin is claimed for the one shown herewith, the photograph being kindly contributed by Mr. A. Simmonds, Secretary of the Lily Committee of the English Society. It is said to have been obtained by cross-


This is the new hybrid Lily combining for the first time three different species
ing Lilium willmottiae with a hybrid between croceum and davidi. The plant attains a height of over six feet and bears large orange-scarlet flowers freely marked with dark chocolate dots. The credit belongs to an amateur, Mr. J. E. H. Stooke, of Hereford, England. During the past year or two there has been a great extension of interest in Lilies, and already the first Year-book devoted to Lilies and the allied genera has been published.

## Another rock garden book

Yes, yet another, but something different. Mr. Ira D. Gabrielson has written what comes pretty near to being a classic, in Western American Alpines (Macmillan). Associated with the Biologic Survey which took him rambling over the crags and through the upland meadows of the Western country, he has made an intimate close hand study of the rich native alpine flora of that region. Its worthwhileness to the garden is only just beginning to dawn upon us, yet here is something really worth while, a chance to give a new expression to that ever increasingly popular fashion of rock gardening. The more the American garden can use the American plant, the better; then we will be creating something characteristic.

The greater part of Mr. Gabrielson's book is devoted to description of the plants, fascinatingly, even charmingly presented. The rest of the book is in two parts; one describing the Cascade country, the other deals with the making of a rock garden; and that itself is almost the best thing of its kind that I have read. Some flavor of Mr. Gabrielson's way of chatting about his plants and their use, will be found in the coming March issue of The American Home. In this article he develops very helpfully, the thought of getting later flower into the rock garden. Indeed, the complete collapse of color at the height of summer is the chief drawback to the rock garden. After a brilliant outburst of color in spring, what an emptiness! Perhaps it is this very thing that helps the association of the lily pool, for as rock garden color wanes, the water garden takes up the activity.

## The leallelewer and the Old Maid!

It may seem like an association of ideas, but it is really only a whimsical coincidence that they're found together on Page 107 of Dreer's 1933 Garden Book!

There are 210 pages of authoritative facts in this "Book of the Year" for amateur gardeners. And, of course, flower lovers who can read between the lines will find many delightful fancies, too.

The Garden Book is free on request to those interested in vegetable and flower seeds, roses, perennial plants, etc.

## HENRY A. DREER

Dept. D
1306 Spring Garden Street PHILADELPHIA, PA.

## DREER'S

That Garden of Yours

## Some Timely Considerations

IF YOU are saying to yourself I that more than likely this year you must cut down a bit on your garden expenditures, then here's a timely thought.
Cut down by all means if necessary. But at least add a few of the choice, newer things, of which our catalog shows so many. Not the flashy novelties, mind you, but the tried and proven
new developments that will bring so much to both you and your garden.
All of them are attractively priced for easy buying, as are all our hardy plants and rock plants.
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"Everything for the Garden" is the title of our 1933 catalogue. It is a beautifully illustrated book with 32 full-color plates and hundreds of illustrations direct from actual photographs of the results of Henderson's seeds. It offers many special collections of vegetable seeds arranged so as to give a continuous supply of fresh, crisp vegetables throughout the summer, and collections of flower seeds especially arranged for harmony of color and continuity of bloom.

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## Schlings Seeds

MAX SCHLING SEEDSMEN, Inc.

Child training 2000 years new
[Continued from page 123]
time let us consider the ideal life as we see it that we may better understand what knowledge it is that we are trying to impart to our children today. The loss of self-consciousness in group con-sciousness-the forfeiting of selfattainment for community wel-fare-in short, the living of a life as perfectly in harmony with one's surroundings as a flower is in harmony with the field in which it grows-these ambitions are simple yet worthy of the greatest expenditure of effort, for they bring not only happiness but a lasting satisfaction. If psychological training is a road to these attainments, let us accept it as such and realize that it is distinctly not a new and untried theory. It is old, how old we do not know, but at least 2,000 years old and thereby worthy of our attention, study, and serious thought.
"Education is a lifelong proc-ess."--Plato.

## Roofing the American home

[Continued from page 118]
together on the roof form a structurally decorative pattern and this may be emphasized by turning the edges up into a vertical fold called standing seams or working the sheets over wood strips which forms ribbed seams.
Two genuinely modern roof fabrics have earned just popularity. The asbestos shingle manufactured for the most part of asbestos fibre and cement; and the asphalt and felt products in the form of shingles, strips, or roofing paper, are both superior products There are, however, certain types of each which must be carefully avoided, totally lacking as they are in good looks or good workmanship or both.
Asbestos shingles have developed from material originally dull, off-color, and of unprepossessing shape into what now makes a truly beautiful roof. They are manufactured to resemble either hand-split shingles, slates of various types or tile in the flat and the round. So closely are these models followed that only on close examination can the true material be detected. These shingles are thus adaptable to any
manner or style of domestic architecture. Practically considered they have an extremely long life, are splendid insulation against heat and cold, and have a very high fire resistance.
Probably the most modest in cost of all roofing materials are the asphalt shingles into which have been pressed sharp gravel and pebbles making a tough and colorful surface. Extremely easy to lay, especially those made in long strips, they adapt themselves well to small bungalows and cottages. They have been used extensively for reroofing because the flexibility of material makes it possible to lay the shingles directly over old wooden ones.
Now that there is such an abundance and variety of excellent roofing material there is also the possibility that they may be greatly superseded. Should the manner "moderne" become well established, the roof will lose much of its importance, particulirly as a decorative feature. Shingles, slates, and roofing tiles will pass and in their place on flat decked roofs will come asphalt, canvas, metal, or paving tile, little seen in conjunction with the rest of the house. But, then again, maybe this does not appeal to you and therein lies the whole secret of what the future roofs will be.

## An early start with annuals

[Continued from page 97]
but few flowers are more colorful from midsummer until late fall. Thrives under all conditions. Of recent years, carefully selected strains have been produced in choice forms and bright colorings in rich variety. Those who enjoy large flowers may have Zinnias six inches or more in diameter by three or four inches in depth, truly colossal flowers. Then there is the other extreme in the Liliput strain, flowers an inch or so across. Most useful for table decoration. Some four feet tall and more. Start inside or outdoors.

This baker's dozen of "must have's," planted liberally will make gorgeous masses of brilliant color if used by the hundred, and massed wherever possible among perennials and shrubbery and all for a mere trifling cost of seed! Thriving with a minimum of care, blooming almost continuously until cut down by frost, these annuals have a place in
[Continued on page 134]


Special offer . . . seeds of prize-winning flowers

To acquaint American flower lovers with the superior quality of Sutton's Seeds, a packet each of four varieties - Schizan Sansy-flowered; Salpiglossis, Sutton's Chelsea Hybrids; Petunia, Sutton's New Blue-bedding, and Nemesia, Sutton's Large-flowering Bronze-pink shades, will be mailed postpaid for $\$ 1$. These varieties were among the latest prize-winning exhibit at the Royal Horticultural Society's great show at Chelsea, London, in which the Sutton display carried off the prize for the most
meritorious exhibit for the fourth time since 1921. All four packets for $\$ 1$ fourth time since 1921. All four packets for $\$ 1$, or, for $\$ 1.25$ Horticulture and General Garden Seed Cata Horticulture and General Garden Seed Cata-
logue for 1933 . The Catalogue alone costs 35 cents. Sutton quality is internationally recognized. Send $\$ 1$ for the seeds offered or $\$ 1.25$ (International Money Order) for or $\$ 1.25$ (International Money Order) for
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Ideas for clever fingers
OSMA PALMER COUCH

## Fireside flickers

THE dancing flames of an open fire-if you are lucky enough to have a piece of driftwoodshow flickers of bright blue and green amongst the yellow, giving the beauty of added color to the age-old charm of sprightly flame and ember glow. Who has not dreamed by such a fire?

To enliven the fireside jollity

one may prepare a basketful of unique bundles of kindling and treat them chemically to burn green and blue like sea-drift and combine with the familiar yellow in gorgeous effects of pink and lavender and purple-a vivid rainbow of leaping flames.

Commonplace and easily procured materials will serve the purpose: small bundles of dry twigs bound together with old wrapping paper or newspaper folded into narrow strips; knots made by tying strips of paper into various odd shapes-even shapes suggesting rag dolls; tips of evergreen boughs broken from the lower, often half-dead branches of hemlock or cedar, spruce or pine; chips, bits of thick bark, and, best of all because of their flower-like form, pine cones.

## Sweater-jacket and beret

WHEN it comes to the problem of finding a warm yet smart blouse for late winter and early spring, the sweater jacket, now used so often in place of a cloth blouse, is the most popular solution-expensive enough to buy outright but equally charming and more individual when made by hand. The very stunning pattern of this woolen crocheted jacket and beret is achieved solely by the stripes which are in navy and light gray-blue with a dash of white for relief. And because the stripes furnish plenty of style,


Designed by Eve Peri
the make-up of the jacket is exceedingly simple-just a square back and front and straight sleeves with daring side flares.

The tightly fitting beret is done in the two tones of blue, leaving the white accents solely to the blouse-which, however, does not in the least detract from the beret. A navy circle forms its center and narrow bands of light and dark blue alternate up to the edge.


## WATER LILIES

## No Garden is complete without a Water Lily Pool

The Water Lily Pool is rightly called the "Gem of the Garden". Without its colorful beauty, exquisite fragrance and fascinating interest, no garden can achieve its fullest charm and beauty.

There has never been a time when you could add a Water Garden at such a small cost. The new 1933 catalog of Wm. Tricker, Inc., oldest and largest growers of Water Lilies and other aquatic plants, contains every need of the Water Garden. And prices are the lowest in our 27 years' experience!
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recognized as the ideal grass for golf putting greens-is now producing Super-Lawns. Instead of sowing sced, have a luxuriant lawn like the deep pile of a Turkish carpet. Makes your home a beauty spot. With readily anywhere except in the extreme South. A Hanover, N. H., Customer writes: "All you wrote m about your Creeping Bent has proven true. Thave the finest
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Bent. It is remarkable how fast this lawn developed. From Huron, S. D.: "We have the most beautiful lawn in the city. People from FREE BOOKLET A valuable treatise a beautiful lawn-tells how to make a new lawn "Bent Lawns" is free to you. Write for copy.

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[^5]
## Here are the winners

of our photographic contest


This contest for boys and girls of sixteen years of age and under was originally announced in the June-July issue of The American Home. We asked Mr. John Kabel, an outstanding photographer of outdoor subjects, to act as judge. From the many entries Mr. Kabel has selected the three prize winners which we are showing here

First prize $\$ 25$

Harvey Olander Hutto, Texas

## Second prize - $\$ 10$

Albert Schayot, Phoenix, Louisiana


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# Springtime 

in the garden

## In the Southern garden

$\mathrm{A}^{5}$the old year laps over into the new the gardener in the far South is kept constantly busy and alert, for it is the real planting time over a large region. Winter it may be, but it's winter of a kind as compared to the winter of the gardener in the North.

As the year turns it's time to set out fruit trees. Spade up the beds and if soil is stiff, add ashes or sand; if too sandy, apply humus and decayed leaves.

Where Roses, Gladiolus, Tuberoses, and most of the annuals are to grow, soil may be sweetened with lime. Avoid lime where Lilies, Ferns, Azaleas, and Oxalis are to be planted, and use oak leaves, peat moss, or aluminum sulphate to secure an acid soil.

Prune evergreens, and if it is necessary to transplant them move with a ball of earth. Prune fruit trees and Grape vines if still dormant.
Spray the entire garden about the middle of February; and then also trim up shade trees to allow more sunlight to reach the plants beneath.

Trim summer blooming shrubs, such as Althea, Crepe-myrtle, and Oleander. But restrain yourself with the spring bloomers. Do not prune until they blossom.
Set out Peaches, Apricots, Pears, Plums, Japan Plums, Grapes, Persimmons, and all Citrus fruits. Do not prune nor fertilize trees nor shrubs until the end of the month of January in the Gulf region or even later, unless the season is one of steady cold.

And we mow the lawn every two or three weeks; get rid of weeds, and fertilize. Where the shade is too dense for grass, plant Snake's-beard or Turquoise Grass (Ophiopogon japonicus) or English Ivy, Ferns, or Ajuga reptans (Bugle-weed).

Make cuttings of Roses, Buddleia, Deutzia, Althea, Crepemyrtle, Cestrum, Hydrangea, etc., about the middle of January and set out Strawberries, if it has not been done earlier.

Prune Roses, and set out cuttings while the wood is dormant.

Buddleia, Crepe-myrtle, Duranta, Box, and other shrubs may be grown from cuttings taken in February.
Set out the hardy seedlings from the coldframe before the end of February, transplant early annuals and sow others. Tender annuals may be sown in the cold-frame, for setting out later. Lay Dahlia tubers in hotbed for propagating. Divide perennials.
It is not too late in February to put in the last of the springblooming Dutch bulbs, as well as Ranunculus and Anemone. These should, however, be set very shallow at that time.
If the February weather is mild enough, sow in the open ground any of the hardy annuals.
After preparing the ground by deep spading, fertilizing, and hoeing and raking, sow all hardy vegetables outdoors.
Most of the sweet and medicinal herbs may be sown. The fashion for the old herb garden is reviving. (See The American Home for January, page 65 .)

## In the Northern garden

Finish planning your garden and knowing what seeds and plants you will need, buy them.
Meantime continue winter pruning and spraying. Get rid of dead wood on trees. Prune grapes (see page 119).
Start the hotbed, piling manure about the 1sth. Sow some perennials in hotbed; they may bloom this year.
Prepare the soil in flats for indoor planting until the hotbed is ready for use. Seeds sown this month in flats indoors may be transplanted to the hotbed or coldframe later.
Every garden of any size at all should be equipped with a hotbed, the principle of which is heat generated beneath the soil by means of manure or by electric wires. This is a new way, quite easy and not costly. If you are anxious for more details send a letter to the Garden Editor at Garden City, N. Y.

Keep soil around evergreens moist-this is very important!
Take cuttings of Geraniums, Coleus, and Begonias. Give lawn top dressing.

## Burpee's Seeds Grow


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The vegetables and flowers you would like to see growing in your garden-read all about them in Burpee's 1933 Garden Book. It's free. Write for your copy today. It is a complete guide to all the best flowers and vegetables, with full descriptions of thousands of varieties including 152 varieties new this year. It contains hundreds of illustrations, many in natural colors. It is packed with an amazing amount of valuable information and expert advice on all matters of gardening. Luther Burbank wrote us: "Your catalog is a gem. I always refer anyone asking for seeds to your firm as I consider your house the most reliable seed house in the world and I think that would be the verdict of the public at large."

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Good ideas wanted-big or little! The sort of thing that will help other homemakers. $\$ 1.00$ will be paid for each idea accepted

## For your sewing machine

If your sewing machine has been neglected and does not work well, remove all the parts that you can and wipe them all carefully with kerosene. Then oil the machine with a good oil especially recommended for sewing machines, not a heavy type as this will form a gummy substance. mrs. roy e. Christoph, Erie, Pa.

## Galoshes and suede shoes

Galoshes may be safely worn over suede shoes without marking them if stockings cut off at the ankles are first pulled over the shoes. Mrs. R. E. STEELE, Valparaiso, Indiana.

## When cutting dried fruits

Dip your knife in cold water occasionally when cutting dates, figs, candied orange rind, citron, etc. It will help to eliminate the annoying stickiness. Mrs. OSCAR price, Leland Mich.

## Gift plants

At this season many plants that were received as gifts at the holiday season have ceased blooming and are beginning to die back. Do not discard them. Cut back the tops, and place the plants in the cellar. They may be transferred to the garden in the spring. anna L. gebhardt, Madison Wis.


## To identify your possessions

To identify your china or furniture loaned for a large party mark each piece on the under side with a piece of adhesive plaster and on it write your name or initials in indelible ink. This will simplify matters after the party is over. JEANNETTE FISH, Manchester, N. Y.

## To pluck a wild duck

To pluck a wild duck in just half the usual time hold the duck by the feet and dip it several times in a deep basin of boiling water to which has been added one half cupful of baking soda. The feathers fairly roll off. After the ducks have been singed rub well with soda, then wash thoroughly in many waters. mrs. james h. pride, Huntsville, Ala.

## For screw jar tops that stick

Keep a small piece of sandpaper in the drawer of your kitchen cabinet to help in loosening stubborn screw tops. I have found it very useful. Mrs. EDNA BANCROFT, Watertown, N. Y.

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A delicious aroma may be given to tea-any kind-by keeping a generous piece of dried orange peel in the top of the tea cannister. mrs. donald d. forbes, Robbinsdale, Minn.

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## Dollar ideas

## Marks on wallpaper

The little greasy finger prints, which sometimes appear on wallpaper, may be lightened and oftentimes eradicated by applying some powdered magnesium. Allow this to remain on the spots for several hours and then brush off with a clean brush. Mrs. IRMA TYLER, Kansas City, Mó.

## Protection against spattering

Use the large pieces of cellophane which come wrapped around so many packages now to protect the wall in back of a sink, washstand, or bathtub where water is apt to spatter and soil the wall covering. It may be attached with thumb tacks or, better still, photographer's cement which is easily removed. mRS. audley l. mabon, Indiana, Pa.

## For cutting butter

To cut individual pats of butter cover the blade of the knife with a piece of the waxed paper in which the butter is wrapped. Hold the ends of the paper with one hand and cut with the other. zoe hickney, Andover, Mass.

## A beauty hint

When going to the hairdresser's for a finger wave I slip a small tube of cleansing cream and two or three cleansing tissues in my purse. Before going under the dryer I apply a little cream to my face and thus protect my skin from the extreme heat. When my hair is dry I remove the excess cream with the tissues and apply fresh powder. EDITH christie, Cambridge, Mass.

## Nails and plaster

To drive a nail into plaster without breaking the plaster, put the nail in hot water for a few minutes or in melted paraffin. mrs. J. c. fjelstad, Mt. Horeb, Wis.


Stretching casement curtains
After the casement curtains have been washed and are still wet slip the rods through both top and bottom casings. Fasten the rods in place, adjust the fullness, and the curtains will dry straight and perfectly stretched. mrs. w. J. rhies, Dayton, O.

## Cook book covers

Covers of oil cloth for cook book and other reference books in the kitchen are very practical as they may be kept fresh and clean by wiping occasionally with a damp cloth. They also add a bright note to the room. RUTH bissett, Lachine, P. Que., Canada.

## Don't own a broom closet?

Then screw tiny cup hooks in the ends of the handles and hang each broom, mop, etc., on its own hook behind a convenient door. 'This raises them from the floor and prolongs the life of each article besides being a neater, cleaner way of storing them. mrs. l. geo. grupe, San Angelo, Texas.

Prevent canned fruit from fading
To protect your canned fruit from fading and dust, particularly if your store room is in the basement, save old window shades whose rollers are still intact and hang them above the open-faced shelves exactly as you would on a window, letting them overlap the wood margin on either side. They can be raised or lowered at will. may b. derragon, Pontiac, Mich.

## For waxed floors

When waxing floors, if you will wax the rockers and feet of your chairs they will not mar the floor when moved about. MISS LORETTA chapman, Paducab, Kentucky.

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An early start
with annuals
[Continued from page 128]
every garden. Don't plant in rows, but rather group by dozens, or twenty-five, or more, taller kinds at rear, dwarfer to the front. If viewed from distance, groups may be larger. Dwarf kinds can be used for edging purposes but rather than single narrow rows, irregular masses make more pleasing effect.

## Why pay more?

[Continued from page 105]
tured wood. The simplest test for this is to lift the piece at one end. The weight must be judged by the size and bulk of the article, but it will feel heavy and substantial, not flimsy. In thin end cases cheaply put together we get a warping and shifting of the frame that allows a side to side movement if you lean heavily on the top. In time such frail construction will cause drawers to stick and eventually the breaking up of the body. A body on high legs should be braced as'we have mentioned before and even the low bracket feet will have corner blocks for strength.
Drawer ends will be dovetailed, but this fact, along with a few others that we shall discuss, no longer stands as a mark of careful workmanship unless backed by other features. Mechanically made dovetails have made it possible for even the cheapest of furniture to boast this construction. It is quite worth while, however, to study the care that has been taken in the fitting of the dovetails.

The center runners on drawers and the dust partitions between were once supposed to be the earmarks of true craftsmanship but to-day appear on good and poor furniture alike and are not criteria of quality.

On veneered or laminated drawer fronts, around the edges, we often find a tiny bead known as a cock bead. Look carefully to see if this tiny bead is but a thin strip glued on the front face. If it is, its purpose is solely decorative and it will be very apt to snap off in a short time. However, if this bead is actually a one half inch, or greater, strip of wood with a bead face, its purpose is structural as well as decorative and you may be assured it will
stay on the drawer and also protect the edges of the inlay or marquetry.

Just a few generalizations in closing. Carving should be of the period, not flagrant and overpowering, and in the best furniture is always partially if not entirely handwork. Woods should be genuine and not substitutes. Gumwood or pine with a mahogany stain is never mahogany and cannot be passed as such. Finish is largely a matter of personal taste, but a good waterproof 1 -cquer is a necessity on a dining table top and a hand-rubbed and waxed finish on any piece whatsoever is worth seeking.

Be honest and sincere when you purchase your furniture and you will not be apt to stray. Establish carefully what you can afford to spend for a given piece or set, then ask your salesman for the best buy that he can give you from a point of structure, wood, and form. Do not sacrifice decent material and construction to prettiness and elaboration.

## How to select seeds for good vegetables [Continued from page 120 ]

gram are Golden Bantam, Howling Mob, Metropolitan, and Country Gentleman. One half pound of each of these would be enough to sow one hundred feet of row. However, in order to get full ears, you should plant four rows of 25 feet length each of any one variety. Long single rows are not properly pollenized.

There are several delicacies worthy of a place in every garden, but the owner's likes are the governing factor. Leek, a mild member of the Onion family, makes a delightful salad. Brussels Sprouts are considered by many as the most delicious of the Cabbage tribe. Chinese Cabbage (sown in midsummer) is a spicy Mustard, fine either cooked or as a raw salad. A packet of each of these will prove sufficient for the average home garden.

## A CORRECTION

We regret that the Remi Scout Typewriter priced at $\$ 19.75$, illustrated on page 39 of the December, 1932 , issue was erroneously described as writing both small and capital letters instead of only capital letters. Another Remi Scout priced at $\$ 34.50$ writes small as well as capital letters.

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