

ASTING "WOULD IT BE CORRECT?" SWEET HOME ON \$150 SHOESTRING YOURS ARE THE "SIDEWALK KIDS"

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October 1940

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"A woman's work never done? That's what I used to think!"

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This kitchen-office has been de-signed to cut down hard work, even to the walls and floor. Washable, durable Armstrong's Linowall, Coral Rose No. 774, hides the old plaster. And Marbelle No. 013, with stripes and border of midnight blue lino-leum hides the old, worn boards underfoot. List of furnishings sent free if you write.

"Now even the floors seem to take care of themselves!"

"I MAGINE me, having spare time for sewing! I still have to pinch myself to believe it. But maybe I've always been too fussy about my house. I wanted my floors to shine all the time. And most of the time I seemed to be scrubbing them, scraping them, polishing them. Not that they ever looked it!

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Get full details from your local G-E distributor (see Classified Telephone Directory under Air Conditioning, Oil Burners or Gas Furnaces) or send coupon. GENERAL ELECTRIC CO., Div. 190-712, Bloomfield, N. J.

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Home of Mrs. O. H. Gardner, Colorado Springs, Colorado

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SCHOOL DAYS An Old American Institution

I^F YOU LIVE to be a hundred, you'll never forget the excitement of the first day at school...your hair plastered down with cold water...squeaky new shoes...a shiny pencil box. Nothing, not even your name in gold on an office door, can equal the pride of writing 4B at the top of your paper—instead of 3A. You're *promoted*... to a new room, a new desk, a mysterious new arithmetic book full

THIS year twenty-three million young Americans in our public schools will be putting down roots into the deep riches of American culture and they will be learning, along with their three R's, the history and traditions, the stories and songs of our great land:

of the strange workings of long division.

"I love thy rocks and rills Thy woods and templed hills . . ."

Thy rocks—veiled by the fine, cool spray of waterfalls. Thy rills—the shallow brown riv-

ulets, edged with forget-me-nots, that crisscrossed the low fields, early in spring. *Thy woods*, where you gathered the first pale arbutus for the teacher's desk. *The hills*, templed with apple orchards and solemn evergreens....

SUCH are the memories that build up your love of the land—the truest form of patriotism . . . memories of homely sights and sounds, scents and *tastes*. And the *tastes* of childhood linger on the tongue, longer than remembrance of voices, longer than the look of a well-loved room. That's one reason the H. J. Heinz Company, maker of American foods for the past 70 years, has become so important a part of our national scene. Generations of Americans have been brought up with Heinz 57 Varieties—well know the satisfying flavor of Heinz good, old-fashioned cooking.

TIMES change—but good things stay the same.

For instance Heinz Tomato Ketchup, Chili Sauce, Oven-Baked Beans or Heinz new Strained Foods for babies. They are heartening to the soul as well as the body, for they make folks feel more at home in a changing world.

In a sense, the world-wide use of Heinz oldfashioned foods is a continuation of the neighborliness of other years. Nowadays Heinz helps out with the cooking in many a busy household. Every year more and more of America's favorite foods are added to the Heinz list to bring you modern convenience, along with that well-remembered savor that comes from the finest ingredients, careful cooking, old-time recipes—as dependable as old friends.

H. J. Heinz Company An Old American Institution

the smart new fall patterns in Bigelow Beauvais rugs

*CHECK THIS VALUE-LIST

BIGELOW BEAUVAIS RUGS OFFER YOU ...

≥ 59 CHOICES in Patterns and Colors UNLIMITED SIZES to fit any room LIVELY WOOL for longer life CLOSER WEAVE for greater wear MODERATE PRICES for extra value

No wonder BIGELOW BEAUVAIS rugs outsell any other rug in America in their price class!

America's favorite rugs now displayed in your local store

BEAUVAIS PATTERNS AND COLORS have been created to "go with" all popular styles of furniture and with smart colors in drapery and upholstery fabrics. You can walk into a rug department and find just the right Beauvais pattern and color, whether you want to freshen up a living room, dining room or bedroom, or to decorate completely "from the floor up."

Beauvais is woven in Tailor-Made rug sizes and in broadloom, so you can select the correct Tailor-Made size, or carpet your room wall-to-wall, or have a rug "off the roll," any length and up to 18 feet wide.

Beauvais patterns include 18th Century florals, hooked-rug, Persian, texture and self-color designs.

For 40 years Beauvais rugs have been famous for smart styling and for long, sturdy wear. Go see this season's new patterns tomorrow-or better yet, today!



This silk label identifies all rugs and carpets made by Bigelow Weavers. In addition to Beauvais, there are many other Bigelow grades, weaves and styles, in a wide range of prices. Woven of Lively Wool, and labeled with this symbol of quality and craftsmanship.

This charming room was created for Bigelow by Mrs. Christine Holbrook, editor of Better Homes & Gardens. The rug is the smart self-color "Cathedral Pines" pattern, Beauvais No. 1643.

FREE! "COLOR CLUES TO HOME BEAUTY." Popular book of advice on color and decorating. Rooms in color. Ask in stores that feature the Bigelow label, or write to Bigelow Weavers, Dept. 104A, 140 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y.



Copyright 1940, Bigelow-Sanford Carpet Co., Inc.

Are you pretty tired of-

"please turn to page ooo" just when you've gotten into a good story

O THOSE of you who read us and into whose homes we are invited each month we trust we shall have to send in no calling card asking for a welcome. However, we appear at your door this month in new dress and, quite honestly, we're anxious to know how you like it.

May we tell you why we changed our dress for you? Some folks there are who like playing detective. But most of us are merely irked when we get all steamed up over someth

we get all steamed up over something, want to know how to do it, where to buy it, how much it's going to cost . . . only to find that if we would have the mundane facts we must do our own detective work. We have always tried to save you a lot of irritation on that score, but with the old editorial "make-up" we did have to interrupt you mighty often with "Please turn to page 000." In this October issue there is not a single "Please turn to page 000" in the whole magazine! If you start a story, there's nothing to stop your finishing it—no more hopping about from front to back, page to page. If you see something you want to copy or make, it's all there, in one piece—with no detective work on your part. If we've got you all steamed up over making an outdoor stove and you want to know where you can buy a good grill for it and we have a manufacturer on our list who makes a good one, you'll find his story near by too. You can look up his wares or leave them, but we've done, from our point of view, a complete editorial job.

And right here, may we tell you our idea of working editorially for you in your home? The usual editorial idea you know as well as we. Editors in sanctums, living in ivory towers. Orating from lofty heights, they tell you how to run your home, your husband, your children—your very life is taken in hand. You may suspect that you can cook rings around them for all their impressive technical knowledge, and you have suspected more than once that the professor or grim bespectacled woman who tells you how to manage your children and husband never had one nor the other and is admirably dishing up strictly unworkable theory. Then there is still another type—very chi-chi, terribly smart, who wants everything prettied to the teeth, whose refined soul cannot bear to show you an oil burner that looks like an oil burner so has it all redrawn in fine old Spencerian, talks very gaily about it, but never, never reveals such vulgar things as price and maintenance costs!

Well, it takes all kinds of editors and don't mistake us. We love the highfaluting stuff, too, but we know its relative place in most people's lives. Pretty small. And so our aims must perforce be pretty much the same as yours—practical and down-to-earth most of the time. We

being talked down to..... of being told how to run your home, your husband, and your children..... of highfaluting ideas by somebody whose idea of American family life is "fun" in a remodeled Connecticut gristmill

> IN SHORT, are you pretty tired of most magazines' incomprehensible lack of consideration for your time, patience, and good common sense? Then you're ready for, and will like, this new American Home

Are you pretty tired of-

ad 8

want to know what's new in comfort, what's new and good to eat. We have a fanatical faith in the importance of the average American home. We believe in simplicity and holidays and fall house cleaning and all those other things that are not considered smart by our contemporaries but which we know are American living. We can't abide stodginess but neither can we abide snobbishness. And it is our firm conviction that our editorial job consists in bringing you news, facts, ideas-but only if they are sane, reasonable, and workable for the average American home. In presenting this October issue, we hope we have accomplished just that-in a new way that saves you time and effort in getting the things you want out of THE AMERICAN HOME. Will you tell us how you like it? It may not be quite as "pretty" as the old way of putting all the best things "up front" and the rest, with the advertising, in the back of the book. But this new dress we've now adopted gives you a continuous magazine from cover to cover. Everything in it has been boiled down to concentrated form. The pictures are stressed, for we believe pictures are easier to use or understand than words, that the modern householder is too busy to read verbose, if charming, articles. We've been able to give you many more ideas, doing it this new way, and if yours is the thrifty, practical soul ours is, you'll take ideas to fanciness any day. Tell us, won't you, how you like it? When you set a new dish before your family, it's easy enough to know whether or not they like it. But when we set this new idea in editing before our family of two million, we've no way of knowing how they like it unless they tell us. Do write!

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irritation various types of week-end guests cause their host and hostess. "Our friends know we do not like unexpected company for the reason that if we have friends for the weekend we have certain plans that folks running in unexpectedly would spoil.

"Friends that live within a twohour drive of our country home and have four or so in the family, we invite for the day—like a Saturday. That gives us Sunday in which to do and chores we may have and relay

and chores we may have and relax. "In the case of a couple or business friends that would demand a week end we invite them starting with Saturday luncheon, we ourselves, going up Friday night; or, in the case of intimate friends, fust a couple, we go up together Friday night, and find that they cooperate in anything that must be done, like preparing of meals and cleaning up in the mornings; and we all have a minimum of work and lots of fun."

A CITY week-end hostess speaks up too. Jane Doe of Chicago writes: "Being naturally hospitable we say, 'Come for the week end!' They come. They even bring the kids and leave them here for my mother to take care of—and oh! they do appreciate it. They shout 'Well—where to tonight,' when my poor hubby gets home from a hard day at his work. So out we go to Chez Paree or some equally 'inexpensive' little place.

"After an evening (ending at 4 A.M.) they are all tired out and manage to stagger to the car—leaving the check for hubby.

"At 4 P.M. Sunday after getting two meals and washing two sets of dishes I am ready to collapse into the lounge chair and really relax, when they start, 'Let's *do* something. I get so tired just playing bridge—what shall we do? We can rest at home—we came here to

see the city, etc.' So out again to some *cute* little cocktail bar. By seven or so they all want something to eat—club sandwiches all around, and at 9 or 10 p.m. they start for home cheerily yelling, 'I suppose you folks are just going to start out now—have a good time.' We look at each other and sink on the steps and then to bed—at 10:30. Oh well!"

ome

RS. P. OTIS ZWISSLER says: "It is my feeling that Jane Smith slightly overrates, and expects too much of, her weekend invitations. Not stopping to consider

.... THAT all city dwellers are not prostrated with the heat and waiting wishfully for a country week-end invitation.

.... THAT a small two and a half or three room apartment, cleaned once a week by a maid, is a week-end cinch compared with half the work in a six-room house allotted her by the hostess without domestic help of any kind.

.... THAT the average guest feels that she is being asked for the pleasure of companionship and strangely enough doesn't feel any undue obligation other than that of reciprocating by an invitation to her hostess to visit in town during the winter.

.... THAT the train fare (or gas), gift for the hostess, etc., is nearly equal to the amount a couple would spend for maintenance in town over the week end.

.... THAT surely most people would refuse week-end invitations if all hostesses felt as imposed upon as does our Jane Smith. Webster defined the word 'hospitality' as 'entertaining with generous kindness.'

"I have been a 'guest week-ender' for quite a few years and next season hope to change places and become in a very small way, a weekend hostess. And I know there are very few pleasures indeed that do not require recompense in some way. Having week-end guests is a pleasure (or why invite them) and therefore one must expect and accept gracefully additional duties OR just not have them at all.

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O COME FOR THE WEEK END, JANE SMITH! (Challenging Jane Smith's plan of entertaining house guests as she describes it in the August issue of THE AMERICAN HOME, page 16.)

Let me show you how we entertain our house guests at the cabin. It is, I am sure, simpler and really more fun than your method—at least for the hosts.

You see—it is this way: After our invitations have been sent out and guests have been met at the station, we are hosts no longer. Instead, our friends are made to feel that they are a part of our household corporation. When bags are unpacked and rooms assigned, each guest must then enter into the spirit of the camp. Hidden in bureau drawers, under bed pillows, in the bathrooms and other nooks and crannies are notes to our friends. They spread the news that today is Jane's day to empty the pan under the ice-chest or Bob's chore to wash dishes; Betty is to set the table and Jack to broil the steaks. There are fewer slips than guests, so those who are lucky-enough not to have found a note in their shoe or coffee cup have to watch out—the next day they may get one.

It is just a suggestion. We feel the guests get a kick out of doing a little of the work, as it is a change from the grind of their week-day routine. Or, maybe they are good bluffers. Whatever the case may beeveryone seems very happy when we say goodbye to them at the station and anxious to come again to put a "duty slip" in someone's pocket. Why don't you try it?—RUTH B. EVANS, Owatonna, Minnesota.

"T SEEMS to me these folks that are always complaining about week-end guests are making a mountain out of a mole hill and if it is such a bother, why invite folks at all?" writes Mrs. P. A. Foster, New York City. She continues: "Although not a week-end guest myself but a week-ender with a home in Connecticut susceptible to week-end guests, it is annoying to be constantly reading about the



"Ahem! I beq your pardon, madam!"

1.

Oh dear! I'm sorry. I just wanted to see if there's a price tag on those lovely percale sheets. I hoped that maybe I could afford to buy at least one pair. You see ... I'm going to be married.

3.

What? Why ... then I could have ALL Cannon Percale Sheets . . . for every single night. Imagine luxurious percale sheets in MY trousseau! How do they wear? Would you know about that?

5.

Well, I'm going to wash my own . . . so I'll be glad they're lighter, too. Thanks for the tip. I'd ask you to the wedding but it's at City Hall. Where's that Linen Department?



2

May I offer my congratulations, miss? Perhaps I can assist you. Those are Cannon Percale Sheets. And they're not as expensive as they look and feel. They cost just about the same as heavyduty muslin.

4

Yes, miss... er ... my wife is most enthusiastic about Cannon Percale Sheets. Says they wear for years (closer woven, you know). Lighter, too. We save \$3.25 a year for each bed in pound laundry bills.

6.

The Cannon Department is straight ahead and to the left, miss . . . For the love o' Pete . . . look at that girl go! Hope she slows down going through the China Department!



Cannon Muslin Sheets are another outstanding value at a low price. They sell for about a dollar. Both Cannon Muslin and Percale Sheets are available in six lovely decorator colors ... at slightly higher prices.

New! Cannon Hosiery now comes in the new NYLON as well as Silk. Ask for Cannon Stockings at your favorite store.



"You don't have to be rich to sleep on Cannon Percale"





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October, 1940

It is the definite policy of THE AMERICAN HOME to make its advertising pages trustworthy and reliable.

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And yet, tight as their budget

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and still cover the cost with-

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HOUSE EQUIPMENT

While every precaution is taken to insure accuracy, we cannot guarantee against the possibility of an occasional change or omission in the preparation of this index.

THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940



"THE ONE PLACE," says Lyle Wheeler, famous designer-decorator, "where the kitchen has made real strides in usefulness and beauty, is right here in the U. S. A." Mr. Wheeler, as Selznick-International's Art Director, recently won the coveted motion picture in-dustry's Academy Award. Here Mr. Wheeler shows you what marvelous kitchen decorative effects you can achieve with Pabco's "Whitest White" linoleums, accented with Pabco's colored linoleums. They are practical, enduring, clean and beautiful. Pabco is genuine Inlaid Linoleum with real burlap back.

"Pabeo's Whitest-White is your key to modern Kitchen Beauty"



THE COMPACT MODERN KITCHEN can sing with efficiency and beauty if the floor is Pabco's "Whitest White." Shown is Pabco's No. 2611 with red and black chevron built-in insets; cove base and feature strip of Pabco's black linoleum.



YOU CAN KEEP the cheery color of Spring in your kitchen the year round. See how Pabco's "Whitest White" heightens the delicate beauty of the color combinations—feature strips, cove base and working surfaces—all of Pabco's genuine Inlaid Linoleums.



THIS KITCHEN IS DESIGNED to stimulate efficiency and pride. In the room above, Mr. Wheeler uses Pabco's "Whitest White," No. 2003, with Pabco's red and blue feature strips and a cove base of Pabco's blue linoleum, No. 125. The working surfaces are Pabco's red linoleum, No. 124.

IF YOU ARE BUILDING, remodeling or refurnishing—or even thinking about it—see these Pabco "Whitest Whites" and other exciting new Pabco patterns and colors in "Luxury Floors" and Swirl Marbled Squares of Pabco's genuine Inlaid Linoleums. Note how the squares give Pabco Linoleum that distinctive "hand-blocked" appearance.



LUXURY FLOORS AT REGULAR LINOLEUM PRICES

The Paraffine Companies, Inc., New York Chicago, San Francisco, Makers, also, of Pabco "Stainless Sheen" Floor Coverings



Home of Mrs. G. C. Burroughs

HAROLD M. GRIEVE, Decorator

LILLIAN RICE Architect

Not according to Hoyle or any stereotyped decorating rules but blessed with fresh notions of color, furniture, and decoration. Subtle colors, elegant fabrics, and ornament are combined with French farmhouse style furniture in a rustic wood and stucco house in the sand dunes



Fred R. Dapprich, Photographer

WOULD



1

77 77 orrect! IT BE



Proving it's not what you do but the way you do it. Concrete walls enclose a tiny sun patio, garage juts out from house at angle for easier entrance, cacti-planted sand dunes form garden





The press which count, not pedigree. This small La Jolla, California, home;

fulness which count, not pedigree. This small La Jolla, California, home, which shows new ideas in plan and treatment, not worn-to-the-bone "correct" features, is our example. It has ample corner windows overlooking the ocean, handy little porches on three sides, brown shingled hip roof, off-white stucco walls, upper walls of wide boarding painted terra cotta, an open stair with pink geraniumed terra cotta pots.

2 THIS little dining alcove is an example of good decorating, not owner's particular manner of gracious living. It also fits into our campaign against mere "correctness." We say that comfortable chairs and original ideas are more fun anyway, that the colors to use are the ones you like, that all the rules in the world won't do a bit of good if the house still looks stiff as an old-fashioned schoolmarm instead of just plain





pleasant. Frankly, it bores us to death to have people blind and limp to everything but set rules. You must always make them work for you, and sometimes you may have to break one—with a self-confident smile, we hope!

One look at this house will show that it's simple and rustic. Now look again at the dining room, and you'll see that it is *not* simple and rustic! The draperies are of a handsome, magnolia-patterned chintz with blue-green ground. The Chinese rug, deep blue with bluegreen accents, is certainly on the luxury side. There are a fine Queen Anne dining table and a sofa flanked by a pair of tables. In front of the fireplace will be a pair of chairs with their identically matched tables and lamps, and on the mantel a pair of candlesticks. Balanced, correct and deadly dull! If you do some intelligent thinking you'll realize that balance is equal distribution of weight, as you learned on your first seesaw. In decoration it does *not* mean that everything must go in pairs. It simply means that your furniture should be distributed so one end of the room won't seem heavier than the other. And a love seat can be balanced just 4 ON PAGE 18 you see a grand piano comfortably at home in a sunroom. Don't wonder why it wasn't put in the living room—the point is that the owner, Mrs. Clarence E. Anderson of Greensboro, North Carolina, liked both sunshine and music, and decorator Otto Zenke of Morrison-Neese was not stopped by any foolish sunroom traditions. He made it an important, elegant room. It is neither stuffy nor pompous because there are unconventional ideas: pickled pine chairs in sharp, smart contrast to traditional mahogany





3

a delightful French Provincial corner cabinet. All of which proves that you can have a setting for quite formal dinner parties even if your house is rustic.

Two other questions that come in every morning's mail are, "Is it correct to use patterned draperies in a room with a patterned carpet?" and "Would it be correct to use blue and green in the same room?" Look at that dining alcove again!

Accessories and collections sometimes fall into the problem child class, too. Mrs. Burroughs didn't stop to ask if it would be correct to display her collection of porcelain birds in the dining room. She just went ahead and put them in the corner cabinet, adding color and interest to the room. What to put on the dining table between meals was not solved by the conventional, unimaginative bowl of flowers. Instead, a piece of Chinese bronze, aged to a soft blue-green, was used. It holds its share of attention in a room very much more interesting than the usual ivorywalled hideout for dining.

3 ANOTHER decorating rule you can hardly have missed hearing about is the rule of balance. If you follow it blindly, just to be correct, you may put a console piano flat against one wall, and at the opposite end of the room have as perfectly by a desk or lounge chair and table as by a matching love seat.

Mrs. Burroughs' living room proves this point charmingly and practically. Except for a pair of antique candle brackets on the wall above the sofa, there are no pairs to be seen. At one end of the sofa is a table, and beside it a comfortable chair. At the other end is a writing group. Here a graceful French Provincial table serves as desk, and a background of built-in bookshelves and cupboards completes the study corner. Isn't this more sensible than another chair and table would have been? And it's every bit as balanced!

There are some interesting details in the living room, too. For instance, the fireplace has terazzo facing, and above it hangs an old Chinese mirror painting. The Dutch door, opening onto the patio, is pleasant from an architectural point of view and also admits extra light for desk work. Inexpensive plywood panels make walls surprisingly suitable for a room with such good furniture. A color scheme of blue-green, brown, and white is natural and informal.

Throughout the house are all kinds of ideas and pleasant departures from staid rules, but our favorites are in the powder room. There lace curtains are *painted* on the window! There are also pink ribbons painted on the walls, from which hang the mirror shelves. pieces; white chintz draperies with bold red and green pattern to accent modern textured beige carpet; black urn lamp bases topped by white shades.

Our alternative suggestions are: floor carpeted in three-foot stripes of dark and light beige, or wide stripes of black, dark and light gray linoleum; gray striped wallpaper; beige rayon and cotton, scroll design, for sofa upholstery; gold mercerized cotton, and chartreuse and brown checked taffeta for other fabrics which would be effective.

A N ORIENTAL rug and a floral chintz used in the same room? Yes—and don't let anyone discourage you if you want to do the same thing! This dining

room in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Curran of Greensboro, North Carolina, proves that it can be done successfully if the patterns and colors are carefully chosen. Against white paneled walls the red, green, and white draperies with borders of red chintz ruffles are bright and cheery. The Oriental rug has the same red in its pattern. The fine antique mahogany furniture is dignified, but might have looked just a little too formal and traditional if it *weren't* for the gay draperies!

Here is another scheme we'd like to see in a room with a Sarouk rug: grayed green





painted walls and chintz draperies, a floral pattern on green ground. The kind of chintz we have in mind, shown at the top of page 19, comes in a lovely celadon green with pattern in yellow, white, green, and red. No need to stick to plain Jane ivory walls and gold draperies when you can do something like that! The other chintz has a colorful design on a putty background. We recommend this for a room with a Sarouk or Kirman, suggest painting walls the same putty-beige color.

6 EVEN this room might be considered technically "incorrect." We could take a ruler and an academic attitude and point out some of the rules that weren't followed, but instead we're just going to let you see why it is so



Congoleum, Armistrong, Pabco

Thibaut, Bigelow-Sanford



Louisville

Cobu-Hall-Mari

Karasheusian You have an Oriental, are afraid to use another pattern in the room? Don't let anot

very pleasant. Decorator Mildred Walter has used Early American maple, an 18th century English wing chair, a few pine pieces, a definitely modern textured carpet—all harmonious 1940 neighbors.

Schumacher

You can't have anything out of this room because it happens to belong in the Cleveland home of Dr. and Mrs. I. F. Weidlein, but we think you will like our alternative suggestions just as well. The floral and the stripe are sailcloth, companion fabrics with powder

Quaker Lace

blue grounds and patterns brightened by chartreuse, white, beige, and coral. For billowy curtains we chose a dainty white lace. You can take your choice of a tweedy effect, a square hooked design on a beige ground or a powder blue "carved" modern carpet. If you want a sturdy upholstery fabric get the blue and white textured check shown in circle.



Alexander Smith

6

olonial

Colonial

5



Ols

Holmes

Modern and Early American furnishings make good companions



These case histories have proved—or maybe disproved—some important decorating principles. You know now that the Oriental rug bugaboo is plain foolishness, that balance does not mean pairs like the animals in the Ark, that a sunroom can be elegant. The owners and decorators of these rooms understand the rules and therefore know how to make them work, or how to break them if necessary.

So the next time you have an original idea, go ahead with it! Good decorating, like good manners, is mainly thoughtfulness for ease, for comfort, for fun. It does not mean a timid acceptance of what some authority has said and what the neighbors might think. If your house is pleasant and inviting, you don't need to worry one little bit. Both neighbors *and* authorities will like it!

7 Now for our next object lesson we're taking pointer in hand to show you Mr. and Mrs. Paul Westernoff's home near Portland, Oregon, illustrated on this and the following two pages. That simple white doorway up top is the front entrance. Though the whole house has the rambling lines of a farmhouse, the doorway is almost modern in its severity while the adjoining shuttered windows are twice as large as those

in any traditional farmhouse. Yet they're all combined with exceptional success and the entrance has twice the charm

Home of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Westernoff HAROLD WADE DOTY, Architect

of those new farmhouse fronts which are prettied up with "correct" carriage lamps, lamp posts, settles, Dutch doors, hinges, and hardware till they look like a Christmas tree.

The plan of this house explains its rambling appearance. Living and dining space are in one section, a guest suite is an adjoining wing while service rooms, garage, and four bedrooms form the largest unit of the house. A covered porch facing the wide lawn on the south side unites all three sections. The service section in the middle separates living-dining quarters and the bedrooms and baths. Carefully placed doors in the front hall give very desirable privacy to service and bedroom hall.



20





1. HOW CAN I STRETCH OUT SUPPER FOR TWO EXTRA?

Six questions...



4. WHAT CAN I SERVE TONIGHT WHAT CAN I SERVE TONIGHT THAT RALPH WILL BE SURE TO LIKE?





... one answer! Campbells **Tomato Soup**

The soup people serve, enjoy, and talk about more than any other !

4 Men like Campbell's Tomato Soup, too, and have, from the time they were youngsters.

5 Campbell's Tomato Soup is a real aid when entertaining. It's quickly fixed, with a flavor everyone likes.

6 When served as a delicious sauce, Campbell's Tomato Soup puts new life into leftovers. Simply heat it without adding water.



Campbell's tomatoes, The pick of the patch, Make a soup that's so good It's a hard one to match !



2 Campbell's Tomato Soup offers a splendid way to give the children the extra nourishment of milk. Simply make it cream of tomato by adding milk instead of water.

3 Campbell's Tomato Soup helps dinners off to a bright, smooth start.





No cobbler's benches or hackneyed, heavy handed rustic pieces in this farmhouse type of home. It avoids the obvious with gracious, dignified, uncluttered formal furnishing



Combining the appeal of an easy going, rambling, wide porched old farmhouse with modern wide windows, simplified details, wide cedar siding, spacious open plan



9

NE of the handsomest features of the house is the long porch which goes around most of the back. When home owners all over the country are foolishly tearing comfortable porches off their homes because they don't think it's correct to have them any more it's most agreeable to see this long farmhouse porch on a new house. Brick paved, and right on the ground level, it provides an exceedingly pleasant link between the rooms and the rolling countryside. And it skips any fuss or folderol in its design, uses plain 6" x 6" wood posts painted white, and effectively frames the distinctive wide picture windows in the living and dining room, windows which weren't copied from the mean little windows of authentic Colonial farmhouse precedent but were designed to really light the interior and provide a view. The kitchen door opens on the living porch, too, a convenient arrangement for serving meals there and a handy means of overseeing the children's play from the kitchen quarters. Maybe that shatters another taboo of correctness, too, having the service section of the house on such equal terms with the social section, for there has been a hidebound rule that the kitchen should be in the most remote, undesirable part of the house-hidden by trellis. But since kitchen and living areas are both important parts of the house why shouldn't they be equally well treated?

9 Inside, the house receives just as clean-cut and straightforward treatment as on the outside. In the living-dining room there are plain plaster walls, painted a soft gray yellow, large paned, wide windows opening on three sides of the house. It's a large room and the furnishings are a suitable size and have a spacious arrangement; there are 18th century types of pieces in the dining area, a grand piano in a bright corner of the living room, comfortable fireside chairs, built-in bookshelves and, equally welcome, lots of floor space around the furniture and no clutter of petty ornament, no fussy details to detract from the

Photography by ROGER STURTEVANT

superlative views out of every window. Even though the house has farmhouse character there is no incongruity in such dignified furnishing because it really matches the easy, open graciousness of this informal house far better than the wagon wheel whimsies sponsored today as correct types of farmhouse furniture. These furnishings are suitable because they fit comfortably into their setting, while the newly made spinning wheels and cobbler's benches are just spurious, meaningless imitations of equipment of long ago.

 $F^{\rm IVE}$ acres of gently rolling ground surround the house which is in open country though only eight miles from town. To fit into the scenic background, to give cross ventilation to all bedrooms, and easy access outdoors, the house was spread out with all the rooms on one floor. And

to make up for the cost of extra walls and roofing on so widespread a house, a basement was omitted. That broke a well-established precedent, too, that houses always have to have fully excavated basements no matter how useless they are in certain localities. A solid 4" concrete slab resting on 3" of rock fill is the base for the whole house and has proved very successful. Composition board floors, set in mastic on the concrete and asphalt tile floors, are used in all rooms. The heating unit for the forced air system is in a utility room next the kitchen and includes laundry tubs.

The house walls are of 1" x 8" horizontal cedar siding in a natural finish and the roofs are light-toned shingles. White chimneys, louvered shutters, white trim on the cornices, door, window, and porch trim are a smart contrast to the warm wood color and no decorative detail is necessary on the outside of the house. The four main bedrooms, maid's room, three bathrooms are a comfortable number for the family of four and an occasional guest. From one bath you can step right out to the rear porch, a feature included because of the swimming pool that's going to be built in the large recreation area at the back of the house. This space is going to have a good-size tennis court, an orchard, barbecue and a special play area for the children, too. It already has a paddock and pasture for the three family horses housed in the little white shingled stable and feed room located at the end of the entrance drive. The stable was built before the house, which accounts for the difference in architectural style, but it will probably be changed to conform to the house. The garage is right smack in the front of the house, a location which is downright essential from every driver's view-point regardless of its "correctness." This house, completed in 1939, was built for \$9,000.



Auto yard and service quarters enclosed by vertical cedar boards. Dramatic long corridor links living quarters and sleeping quarters









Porches at back of house, simple hood entrance at front. Older stable, yard, paddock, off drive





pay for itself out of just savings." So, if you're planning to build or buy a new home, insist upon Johns-Manville



(See advertisement on page 25 in this magazine for information on J-M Rock Wool Insulation for existing homes.)



LERE'S a recent Southern home which has the quality and grace of the great Southern mansions of earlier days without being in any sense a boiled-down copy of one of them. It has character and individuality of its own, is scaled to actual living requirements in the South today and has a sensible regard for fireproof construction, adequate ventilation, and such practical matters as well as a regard for architectural effect. We think Southern people will appreciate it because it's a fine home which maintains high standards of design and is a solution of their special living needs. They may especially appreciate its taste and discrimination today when so much tasteless blather and hullabaloo about the South, which must be offensive to Southern people, is being served up—the barrage of Scarlett O'Hara this and that, the onslaught of new-old Southern furniture (General Grant period), and the miniature Taras springing up in real estate developments.

Though the house is only one story high, its tall columned portico is perfectly proportioned to the size of the house, not grotesquely out of scale with it like some new versions of "Southern Colonial charm" houses with forty-foot fronts and absurdly oversize two-story front porches running



away with the houses. The portico is the one feature reminiscent of the old plantation homes but it derives from classic Greek style, which incidentally was the origin of the finest old Southern Colonial homes, too. The house is also a good example of how well a formal house can be designed, a type of house which is lastingly satisfactory when it's well done but pretty awful when it's not. This one has excellent treatment, presenting a composed, gracious, orderly front to the world, with sufficient lightness to avoid any stodgy severity and, best of all, it isn't pompous or pretentious or self-consciously formal like some people in their best bib and tucker or Sunday suits. It has simple formality as an integral part of

Notable small formal house with spirit and character of fine, large old mansions



the house, not a formality applied like some ostentatious false front. The brick-paved entrance porch with four well-modeled lonic columns is only about eight feet deep, twenty-one feet wide and has a soft blue-gray ceiling. The white columns frame a wide doorway, handsome double doors with pleasantly patterned glass lights, and two adjoining narrow windows with modern white metal grills. The bedroom wing is to the right of the porch, the service and dining portion to the left. Each wing has one wide window at the front of the house with long Bermuda blue shutters and a white iron railing. At first glance they look alike against the white brick walls but the front

Photographs by Gerald Young









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Itself". . . This book tells how you can get new comfort right now . . . Save up to 30% on your fuel bills *this winter* ... These fuel savings can eventually pay the entire cost of the insulation job.



(See advertisement on page 24 in this magazine for information on J-M Insulation for new homos.)



10:00 P.M. Want your family to wake up with eyes that shine? Then spread each bed with beautiful, big, warm Kenwood Blankets.

11:00 P.M. Good night! They drift away to sleep. Some are weary from work; some are tired from play. But under the soothing softness of Kenwood Blankets, they relax and rest. (What is the secret of such sleeping comfort? It is in the blending of live, long-fibred wools; in the millions of tiny air cells in the deep, fleecy nap. That's how Kenwoods keep the warm air in, the cold air out. That's why they are so warm, yet seem so light.)

4:30 A.M. The family is safe under Kenwoods-through the coldest hours. For Kenwoods are big-their tuck-in holds securely. And their gently draping folds lie close to every curve.

bedroom window is a full length French one, while the kitchen window is at sink height.

The plan of the house is unusually open and spacious for a house with only five main rooms. Each room is accessible from the T-shaped center hall, so it isn't necessary to go through one room to get to another. There's additional privacy, too, because of the small passages between the two bedrooms and between kitchen and dining room; the bedroom wing can be closed off completely from the rest of the house with double doors. The sizable kitchen and dining room are compactly arranged in their own wing at the opposite side of the house while living quarters, entrance hall, and the small book room take up the center portion of the house. It's a formal arrangement with the interior divided up into three nearly equal sections, with all rooms centering around the axis lines of the generous, well-proportioned hall-a hall with dignified architectural character, papered in a handsome Southern pattern called "Monticello."

The living room is directly in line with the front door so that when you enter the house you see the view of distant hills and valleys through the great arched living room window. Sixteen feet of hall space give an impressive approach to this room, and the arched door leading into it and its high vaulted ceiling give an Imartness at the right price



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KENT-COFFEY MANUFACTURING COMPANY LENOIR . NORTH CAROLINA

classic Greek cornice and the white fireplace mantel is finely detailed and large in scale. Furnishings are good traditional pieces, comfortable in nature, suitable to the room in size and uncrowded in arrangement so the architectural quality of the room isn't lost.

The arched window at rear is unusually large, seven feet wide by twelve feet high, and it can be raised to provide an opening seven feet high which will be filled with a screen rolling up from the sill. All the main windows in the house afford exceptional ventilating facilities for this climate; they are large size French windows approximately four feet wide by eight feet high, extending from floor to cornice, and when they are opened at night it practically opens up whole sides of the rooms to cooling air. During the day, blinds controlled by shutter operators are kept closed. This window control, together with the insulation in the house and the fireproof concrete construction, has worked very well and with outside temperatures as high as 98 degrees, inside temperatures have never been higher than 82 degrees with the blinds closed. In winter, windows are tightly weather-stripped. A small stair in the living room

leads to interesting studio quar-





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impression of splendid size although the floor area is really only 18'-0" x 24'-0". It's painted a stippled blue gray tone, called "Tennessee haze" by the owner because it carefully matches the haze of Tennessee hills outside. On the two long sides of the room there's a heavy white ters and private bath located over the front hall. Next to this stair, double doors connect the living room with the dining room, an attractive, nearly square space. It has a figured rug in chocolate brown colors, a livable mixture of Colonial, Georgian, and Victorian furniture, draperies in yellow chintz and turquoise ruffles with cornice boards built out to receive them, a floral wallpaper in a combination of these colors, and a white dado of horizontal boarding. It's at the back of the house, too, and omits glass curtains for full enjoyment of the view. The kitchen is at the front of the house, with a small pantry between for service, and its color scheme is red, white, and black; the glass block wall at the side, with a ventilating window set in, lightens the room from floor to Red, white, and black color scheme in the modern kitchen with glass block panel lighting room from floor to ceiling



ceiling and has been smoothly fitted into the traditional design of the house. Below the kitchen and dining room are a laundry and a servant's room, and a two-car garage adjoins them beneath the side terrace. Furnace and storage are under the center of the house.

The master bedroom captures the rear view, too, and has a color scheme of gray, green, and yellow. The rug is green; curtains are chintz in a green, yellow, and dubonnet pattern; wallpaper is a pale figured design of gray and yellow on a white background. The adjoining bathroom has a dubonnet linoleum floor, white enameled walls, a dubonnet wallpaper border, a dubonnet colored shower curtain. The blue and white guest room has furniture of light curly maple, a midnight blue rug, white wallpaper with African daisy pattern in dark blue. Its bathroom is in emerald green and the same color accents the bedroom. In all rooms where loose rugs are used the concrete floors are covered with linoleum first. In other rooms the concrete was covered with linoleum



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felt and only a three-inch strip of linoleum was run around the edges of the room; the center space was then padded with additional felt and carpeting was laid down and tacked to the linoleum strip.

It's an economical scheme and also helps to keep down dust. The concrete floors and concrete framing for the roof are fireproof construction. Additional cost entailed

Proposed landscaping for finished house



is partially offset by lower maintenance cost and insurance rates. The exterior walls are cinder concrete blocks faced with bricks painted white with a 1" air space between.









MATILDA: Oh me, oh my—read this. I knew there'd be trouble if Ted didn't stop picking on Jane.

SUSAN: The poor creature! He raised such a fuss about his shirts—she got desperate and left. Come along, Matilda—we'll fetch her back and show her how to keep the brute happy. He wouldn't be always storming about tattle-tale gray—if you'd stop using lazy soaps that *can't* wash clean. MATILDA: Change to Fels-Naptha—

golden bar or golden chips. Either way, you get richer, golden soap and naptha! And does that team make dirt scat!



TED: Yep—the merry-go-round next! My shirts look so swell since you put that big, *golden* bar of Fels-Naptha to work, I'm going to treat the three of you to everything in the park! **SUSAN**: And take it from your auntie, Jane, nothing beats Fels-Naptha Soap Chips for washing machines. *Huskier*, *golden* chips—they're not puffed up with air like flimsy, *sneezy* powders.

Golden bar or golden chips-Fels-Naptha banishes "Tattle-Tale Gray"



P.S. Use the Fels-Naptha bar for bar-soap jobs. Use Fels-Naptha Soap Chips for boxsoap jobs. The crinkly flakes made of richer, *golden* soap and *naptha*. They're HUSKIER —not puffed up with air like flimsy, sneezy powders. Wonderfully sudsy, too—thanks to a new, added suds-builder!



Basement Hobby Room



HERE is plenty to be said for this really livable, useful hobby and play room. (You've heard us campaigning against those typical recreation rooms with nothing but a bar and a Ping-pong table to justify their existence—the ones that don't pay their way because they're seldom used after the housewarming party.) It is in an average basement and had to compete with air-conditioning

ducts, pipes and what not, but the final result is a room worth having. Both the owners and the architect deserve a lot of credit for seeing the possibilities and carrying them out to perfection.

It is a family room where the young son can work on his miniature stage settings or have the gang over for an afternoon of amateur chemistry, and where Mr. and Mrs. Olson can give parties complete with a buffet supper cooked in the pantry-bar. You couldn't ask more than that—all the comforts of home rolled into one small room!

Knotty pine paneling, shellacked and waxed to a mellow glow, makes the room warm, informal, and homey. The long fireplace unit. of rough red brick with a Dutch oven and wide mantel shelf, is reminiscent of a hospitable Colonial hearth. You'd never guess that the fireplace itself was cut out of the base of the main chimney. The floor is black and red asphalt tile, just as practical as it is decorative, and the rough plaster ceiling adds a nice rustic touch. What appears to be merely a cornice actually serves to conceal the steam pipes.

Windows facing the pleasant garden in back are flanked by large closets, forming a sunny bay more typical of a second floor than of a basement room. The closets are deeper than necessary for the shelves,



-and Pantry-Bar in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Olson







ell, g'by — I'm off to Timbuctoo!

Mercy sakes alive, Jacky-why Timbuctoo?

Well, I just heard Mother say that a telephone is such a joy she'd even live in Timbuctoo if you were there —

How nice! But we don't have to go to Timbuctoo to see how useful I am. Why, right here in town, I save Mother so many steps and so much time that she calls me her first aid to How to Enjoy Life!

Is that why Mother is so smiling and rested these days?

One reason, Jacky! I carry messages for her and do shopping and save her worry - oh, so many things!

My, we must have to break open my pig-bank to pay for it, don't we?

Heavens, no! I cost so little — and save so much — that Mother says she couldn't afford not to have me!

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*Idaho White Pine *Ponderosa Pine *Sugar Pine

THESE ARE THE WESTERN PINES

just exactly where last year's ice skates are, but it's not very often that you find such intelligently organized storage space in a home.

Party lovers are completely taken by the pantry-bar, which is in a niche opposite the stairway. There is a long serving shelf with four electrical outlets for plugging in the conveniences that brighten life for the maidless hostess-grill, waffle iron, toaster, and percolator. Beneath



The small illuminated "stage" with space for props

this counter is a large cupboard for food and supplies, making a real paradise for informal midnight snacks and serve-self parties. Mrs. Olson has given this "department" its due share of decorative effect by displaying cobalt blue pottery and shining copper against the honeycolored pine walls of this attractive, much-enjoyed room.







othe DOWN through the years, lovely, authentic Old Colony Furniture has always been "in style". When you furnish with Old Colony, you're sure that every room will be charming. livable. always in good decorative taste. At the better stores, ide of a Send a dime to Department A-10, Heywood Wakefield Co., Gardner, Mass. for this helpful book on Old Colony Furniture. MASSACHUSETTS GARDNER SINCE FINE FURNITURE 1826 MIRIAM W. HAYNIE HEN a friend told ners of the south wall, its cornices me my bedroom was so dainty extended up to the ceiling. To it reminded her of the inside of further the built-in effect, we exa sea shell, I decided I really had tended the baseboard around done something pretty special in them and painted all woodwork the way of budget decorating. We and the cabinets oyster white. were working against such terrific Under the window in the center of the wall went our crude 75¢ dressing table, which we then proceeded to really glorify. We covered the top with white oilcloth and made a full, white, dotted Swiss skirt. To fill in the spaces between mirror and window frame we used an old-fashioned Hamburg lace insertion, starched and run through with red grosgrain ribbon. Very perky and fetching! Draped behind it are dotted Swiss curtains fastened SAILOR'S PLAID" back with pieces of milk glass, makes showerers and on its top are a fat red satin glad! pincushion and a milk glass dish of hand and dove design. The Gladden the heart of the "home-decorator" with Fleecenap's stunheavy straight-hanging folds that dish is lined with red satin and NEVER cling or blow against him. odds and with such a monstrosity has red ribbon around the top, ning patterns, rich clear colors, and Guaranteed to be mildew resistof a Victorian wardrobe chest and on one finger of the hand is a heavenly soft texture. ant and not to crack or split. that a merely passable room was Gladden the heart of the "man- >

all I had dared hope for. That bulky wardrobe turned out to be two elegant corner cabinets! Originally it had two separate clothing compartments and came within six inches of the ceiling, just high enough to elude the dust cloth; now our Siamese contraption is cut in two, its halves fastened in opposite cor-



"Sailor's Plaid" No. 365 costs around \$4 at your favorite store.



ruby ring.

Renoir's "Girl in a White Bonnet" and Corot's "Girl in Red," two of my favorite pictures, are good color accents. A beautifully carved little Victorian chair (\$6 second hand) is perfect reupholstered in bright red satin. The spool beds, with white candlewick spreads in the famous hobnail pattern, are appropriately quaint.

T'S amazing what you can do if you have to. My daughter and I most certainly are not carpenters, and our sewing had been confined to straight seams and simple hems until we decided to redecorate her bedroom. She had fallen heir to nothing but castoffs, such as a clumsy wooden bed, and neither her allowance nor my bank account would cover much in the way of fine furnishings. The only solution was to think up some gay new ideas and do all the work ourselves.

ond neves

The greatest miracle we performed was rejuvenating the bed. Merely removing the foot posts and cutting down the headboard made it look much more in scale with a young girl's room, but finished perfection was achieved by slipcovering it in a floral. striped chintz. We padded the headboard with a disreputable old cotton blanket, and then proceeded to make the cover-which is easier than you'd think. (Just sew rtogether the necessary widths of chintz to fit front and back, cut to conform with the outline of the headboard, and run up the seams on your sewing machine.) A chintz ruffle hides the springs most effectively and looks very fetching below a white cotton bedspread.

By this time we were outrageously selfconfident and ready to tackle' anything, even an old kitchen table that we hoped to turn into a dressing table! We padded it with several thicknesses of sheeting, then topped it off with the pretty floral chintz. A pair of white ruffled curtains, cut in half to If you don't mind hard work you can perk up old furniture, make it look gay and charming—without going bankrupt. Here is how one woman and her daughter did it



make four widths, was sewed to white sateen, making a skirt as billowy as any debutante's. We finished it with a six inch band of scalloped chintz. The bench is a plain wooden one, painted white, and heavily padded and covered with chintz.

room non

Some of the other pieces came out of the relic class, too. The regulation chest of drawers, whose only virtue was uncompromising, straight lines, and the night tables looked very smart indeed after we had painted them oyster white, with deep coral drawers for accent. An old armchair was considerably perked up by a new brown denim slipcover trimmed with scalloped chintz. Shiny'new chintz window shades and crisp white tie-back curtains make delightfully feminine windows. These curtains are practical, too, because they can go in and out of the suds any number of times.

To fit in with all of this, the walls had to be painted—pink, of course. We also bought a brown wool and fibre rug. Dainty accessories and colorful prints from my daughter's own collection finish a really charming but also thoroughly budget-conscious room.

Of course it's nice to have such a pretty new room in place of the tired old one, but just as important to me is the fact that my daughter was head decorator. She thought up many ideas, planned the color scheme, shopped for gay fabrics we could afford, even had lots of practice in sewing, painting, and carpentry. That won't be wasted experience when she has to furnish her first home on a young man's proverbially small income! "NEW! IT WEARS LONGER" Here, for the first time, is a linoleum with a Built-in Rubber Cushion and a Waterproof Felt Backing. Cannot rot. And, laid direct to the underfloor with its exclusive Factory-Applied Adhesive, Nairn Treadlite Linoleum gives you an extra strong, long-wearing installation.



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M. M. MACGREGOR

ecnie

TARTING and maintaining a first-class peony garden is really simplicity itself and, thanks to the amiable characteristics of the plant, your efforts are almost certain to be crowned with success if a few fundamental rules are learned and followed. One of the first facts we run up against is that the peony is one of those flowers whose innate beauty and decorative value are never fully realized until the blossoms are tastefully congregated in their beds. Now that word "tastefully" is important, for when a beginner enters any specialized field or branch of horticulture, one of the most bewildering things he is likely to encounter is the long list of avail-

able species, types, and varieties of the plant in which he has become interested. As far as selecting kinds of peonies is concerned, the chart on the next page runs approximately 90 per cent varieties that cost \$1 or less for one good 3-eye or 5-eye root (or two-yearold division). Anything smaller is apt to require lots of nursing, and even then bloom poorly. The few varieties that go a trifle higher are well worth the extra cost. Le Cygne (not included in the list) is perhaps the finest thing yet developed in peonies, but it will cost around \$2.50 for a good root. The lovely flower is milk-white at maturity, with overtones of cream and pale pink; an artist



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THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940.

will probably be able to detect blues in the shadows cast between its delicate, translucent petals. If you want fragrance, I would put Gismonda, Sarah Bernhardt, Reine Hortense, Phillipe Revoir, and Mons. Jule Elie at the top. "Medium," as it refers to blooming time, covers from early to late midseason—a fairly long period.



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But if you put exact midseason about the third week in June (as it is around Boston, for instance), you can judge flowering times with sufficient accuracy for all practical purposes. The thirty-five varieties listed represent a wide choice of colors, seasons, and types (with few if any duplications), but no rare gems or costly oddities.

In planning the peony garden, a major aim is to keep reds and pinks apart by introducing whites

Ε

between them, unless you know just the shades you are working with. Even the different reds must be combined with discretion. Mons. Martin Cahusac, for example, clashes with Richard Carvel but is most effective massed in front of tall whites like Baroness Schroeder. Reds and pinks are especially good on the sunny side of white fences





A. B. Franklin (1939, bronze) above, and Dorothy J. (1940 silver). In next column, top to bottom, a Japanese single, Therese, and Mons. Jules Elie



and buildings, and stone walls; the whites want dark backgrounds —red brick walls, evergreens, stained shingle buildings. You must also have an eye to the type and form of the flower head. If you use the somewhat blowzy Edulis superba in the front row of a bed, it will give the whole planting a wind-blown, untidy appearance. This variety needs a loose background and, in front of it, some foot-high plant that will

	1. A. A. A.			PEONY	CHART		
Early	Medium	Late	Red	White	Pink	Tvpe	Name
	x		x			full cup	Auguste Dessert
		x		x		globe	Baroness Schroeder
	x		x			Japanese	Claire
		x			x	double	Claire Dubois
	x			1		Japanese	Clarisse
	x				x	Japanese	Distinction
x				x		crown	Duchesse de Nemours
x					2	loose flat	Edulis superba
	х		x			Japanese	Eva
	x		x			globe	Felix Crousse
x				3		globe	Festiva maxima
	x	an I			x	globe	Gismonda
		x	x			globe	Grover Cleveland
	x			x		Japanese	Jacqueline
		x	x			globe	Karl Rosenfield
	x				x	Japanese	l'Etincelante
• x			x			double	Lord Kitchener
	x	I- I			x	double	Nadame Ducel
	x				x	double	Mme. Emile Galle
	x			4	-	double	Mme. Jules Dessert
	x		x	- 1		double	Marquis C. Lager-
	x		x			Japanese	Mikado gren
x	-		^		5	double	Mons. Jules Elie
-		x	6			rose	" Mertin Cahuzac
	x	^	, v		x	Japanese	Nymphe
x	~		x		~	basic	Officinalis rubra
~	V		x		12 C	rose	
		x	x		-	rose	Philippe Rivoire President Taft
	x			7	x		
	x			1	-	bomb	Primevere
	x				x	double	Reine Hortense
		x	x		Ne li	globe	Richard Carvel
		x	x			double	Rubra superba
	1.	x			8	globe	Sarah Bernhardt
	x				x	crown	Therese
		x		- K	x	double	Walter Faxon

with light loam. If drainage conditions are all right, only a simple renovation is necessary. To make sure food is available when the plant needs it, I recommend preparing the plot twelve inches deep, working in bone meal and some quickeracting nitrogenous fertilizer. Then, each spring, I dig in superphosphate or a good plant food (about a 4-8-8 analysis), say two or three handfuls per plant. The spot should not have grown peonies for several years. In planting, allow three feet between plants and dig each hole deep

1--some pink 2--mauve 3--flecked with crimson 4--yellow 5--lilac

harmonize with it, such as the double pale pink cuckoo-flower (Lychnis floscuculi), the light blue

Amsonia tabernaemontana, or any white flower. And remember that

peonies won't grow in shade or close up around trees and shrubs. New roots should be planted as soon as received—not later than

mid-September in New York and

places of like latitude. If the soil

tends to stay wet for long periods,

it will be best to install a drain-

age system first. Dig the bed three

feet deep, put in a foot of stones

or gravel, and one of garden

humus (free of manure unless it

is thoroughly rotted); then fill in

6--deepest of reds 7--yellow 8--dark
enough to take an entire root, leaving two inches between the crown (or eyes) and the surface level. Sift in soil, spreading the roots naturally; pour on a pailful of water and let it soak in, then fill in soil until the mud comes just below the eyes. Finally cover the crown two inches deep, water gently, level off with dry soil and, for safety, mark the spot. After the ground freezes, mulch with straw or hay (free from seed) for the first winter; thereafter, mulching is unnecessary, but a



few handfuls of wood ashes sprinkled over the plants each winter are good. Well-rotted manure can be worked into the soil each spring, but don't put it less than a foot away from the crowns.

As in planting a tree, it pays to do a good job when planting peonies. They have been known to grow for a century in one spot untended; yet they respond to care in most gratifying fashion. If you want big show" blooms, disbud the strongest plants during the bud-forming. season. That is, pinch off the side or lateral buds along the stems, leaving only the end or "terminal" bud to develop. If you want show blooms from delicately colored varieties, remember that strong morning sunlight on dew-covered petals is going to discolor them. So either shade the plants in the garden or cut the flowers while in bud and let . them open indoors. In dry sites or seasons, water well in the evening and keep weeds down and the soil loose by deep but careful hoeing,

When it comes time to divide your plants (also around the middle of September) do a leisurely job. Dig the whole root system, taking care to get all of it; otherwise a stray fragment may grow, come up among other colors or other flowers and tangle up your whole scheme. Cut the tops off about two inches above the dirt line; hose away the







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soil and, with a sharp knife, cut the crown into pieces carrying at least three eyes each. You can also trim off an inch or so of each tap root, but take care not to remove or damage the hair or feeding roots. Then carefully work each division loose and upward until it comes free-and you are ready to replant in well-prepared soil.

Peonies are hardy and generally resistant to disease, but they have their pet hates and enemies. Botrytis bud blight, caused by a fungus whose spores are spread chiefly by insects and wind, can sometimes be controlled on valuable plants by spraying frequently with bordeaux mixture from the time the first shoots appear in April, or by sprinkling them with hydrated lime. Watch during the growing season and promptly cut away and burn any affected portions. Diseased plants of ordinary varieties are best destroyed as soon as discovered.

Then there is root gall, a swelling and rotting of the roots caused by minute eelworms or nematodes. Dig up infested plants, cut away bad spots, wash with soapy water, dip in a solution of nicotine sulphate and soap, and replant after treating the soil with that solution or with hydrated lime. For stem rot, another fungous disease, cut away affected parts and douse the rest with copper sulphate solution or bordeaux mixture before replanting.

Ants are often seen on peony plants, but the only harm they can possibly do is to disseminate the spores of the botrytis disease if present in your garden. They are attracted by the sweet sap that exudes from the flower buds so to get rid of them you need only wash off this sap from time to time with a spray of clear water. For leaf- or petalchewing pests that occasionally become troublesome, use one of the various combination sprays now on the market. Don't let this little discussion of some of the peony's vulnerable points tend to deter you from tasting the joys in store for the intelligent and conscientious gardener. For, as already intimated, the peony is altogether, one of the most foolproof of plants. If your plants fail to bloom, check over these suggestions and comments carefully, especially those relating to planting operations. Nine times out of ten, trouble in the peony garden can be blamed on improper depth of planting, or on an unfavorable location, either chemically, which means with respect to the fertility of the soil, or physically, which refers to its texture, type, or condition.





Not only rustic log cabins but houses o handsome architecture were built in west ern Pennsylvania between 1775 and 185

American Home Pilgrimages

ESTERN Pennsylvania has preserved intact much of its fine domestic architecture of the historic 75-year period between 1775 and 1850. It was probably just at the turn of the century that the most important phase of home building occurred, when sandstone was called into use for dwellings, of severe but distinguished design. "Mount Braddock," belonging to Isaac Meason, the James Miller house, and Alexander Johnston's "Kingston," illustrated here, are handsome houses with stone walls of variegated color and pattern.

1. Mount Braddock, an extraordinary house near Uniontown, was built in 1802 by one of the first craftsmanarchitects, Adam Wilson. The ironmaster, Meason, brought this expert carpenter, stone-mason, and landscape designer from England and he created a fine example of a gentleman's estate; of course the original entrance drive trees and the gardens within the stone walls have long since disappeared. The house itself has a formal facade with a stone pediment as its feature—its well-handled design and



execution of raised ornament are unique in this period of western Pennsylvania building. Carved exterior woodwork was largely confined to cornices and doorways. The use of balanced wings at the sides instead of the rude outbuildings customary at the time is notable, too.

2. Among several houses in Pittsburgh, "Picnic House," built for Wil-liam Croghan around 1835, can be singled out for its elaborate ballroom; the entrance end, illustrated here, has remarkable wood and plaster ornament. Mordecai van Horn came from Philadelphia to execute the carving, which is large in scale and consistently well done; the carving of the wooden Corinthian capitals is notable. Standing columns and full length mirrors along each wall, lighted by candles set in an oversize bronze and crystal chandelier, created an effect of dazzling splendor. Reputedly the chandelier was the work of William Eichbaum, glass cutter to Louis XVI before he came to Pittsburgh to work in James O'Hara's glass plant.

3. The dining room of the Albert Gallatin house, built in 1789 near

FAMOUS AMERICAN HOMES



I Richmond, Virginia, a tall, gaunt man frequently pitched quoits with a group of his friends. This was the man, John Marshall, who was born in the county of Fauquier, Virginia, on September 24, 1755, and in middle life became Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

He had served as Captain in the Continental Army and also as Deputy Judge-Advocate, and saw active service at Brandywine, Germantown, and Monmouth.

John Marshall's favorite sport was quoits and when in Richmond he seldom missed any of the famous Quoit Club

barbecues at Buchanan's Spring. At these gatherings he relaxed, and songs and story-telling were the pastimes into which he whole-heartedly entered. On one occasion he attended the meeting of a quoit club in a Philadelphia tavern, where members and guests were called



upon to speak in rhyme, extemporaneously. Noticing several Kentucky Colonels standing at the bar, John Marshall remarked:

"In the Blue Grass region, a 'paradox' was born, The corn was full of kernels and the 'Colonels' full of corn."

The garden mentioned above has long since vanished, but John Marshall's house still stands. It was built in 1795 and with its massive brick walls and lofty, spacious rooms, is a simple but commodious example of Colonial architecture.

In order to preserve it as a permanent memorial,

the General Assembly chartered the John Marshall Memorial Association, organized to keep it in its original form, as a depository for furniture, books, portraits, manuscripts, and other belongings connected with the life of the great jurist.

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... So I mind my P's and Q's and always buy **PEQUOTS**



FATHER FIGHTS 'EM! How that man thrashes around! Yanks his sheets-winds himself up like a cocoon. He used to growl about thin, flimsy sheets until his mother tipped me off to Pequots. No wonder he likes their grand, firm texture. I do myself. Pequots look so rich-and it's simply amazing the way they stay fresh-looking and smooth.



THE TWINS TUG 'EM! Our boys' sheets lead a hard life-I guess any Mother knows that. I don't know how sheets can hold out year after year with this kind of punishment, but Pequots do it! And they never get that fuzzy, cheap look. It keeps us busy replacing clothes for these young athletes of ours , , , thank goodness I've found sheets that can take it!



MAMMY MAULS 'EM! Our washings are big ... sheets don't get any favors from Mammy. But Pequots don't ask favors. They seem to be woven so close and firm that they keep their crisp, firm "feel" and beautiful whiteness after countless washings. If you like nice sheets mind your P's and Q's ... get Pequots! PEQUOT MILLS, SALEM, MASS.





New Geneva, Fayette County, by Jefferson's Secretary of the Treasury, exemplifies a typical interior of this post-Colonial era. Wood wainscoting, applied full height, was always confined to the fireplace end of the room. With this important position, the mantel grew more elaborate.

4. The Nicholas Way house in Sewickley, built in 1838, exemplifies another popular type of residence reflecting the Maryland and Virginia "Adam" influence just prior to 1800. It has an English basement with the first floor elevated from the ground, the kitchen and dining room located in the basement and lighted by large windows. The front portico is topped by a large gable simulating the classic pediment and ornamented with an oval window.

5. In northwestern Pennsylvania, settled by large colonies of Con-necticut "Yankees," there was a

whole-hearted acceptance of the Greek Revival style. The house of Dr. James White of Hartstown, Crawford County, built in 1835, has the typical facade adapted from Greek temple design. The



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gable is turned to the front and treated as a pediment with ornamental pilasters under it. Such houses often simulated stone by using flush boarding or painted brick to produce the effect of stone masonry.

6. In the second quarter of this century, Greek Revival characteristics dominated builders' designs, causing them to swerve from simple but expressive stone construction to the new and elegant Federal classicism. The William Lyon house, built in 1833 in Bedford, east of the Allegheny ridge, and now used as a hospital, is an excellent product

of this style. The one story portico has sturdy columns bearing a Doric entablature, while the square-headed entrance doorway, with sidelights and transom, is a notable Greek Revival feature.

The heavy entablature at the



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6 roof level was proportioned to suit a large free-standing colonnade or a surface treatment of pilasters and pediment.

7. When Alexander Johnston sought to replace his old homestead in County Tyrone, Ireland, by building "Kingston House" in 1813 near Latrobe in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, he used local stone-and built one of the best farmhouses around.

8. The James Miller house, South Park, near Pittsburgh, was built as a country residence in 1808, and represents an honest, direct use of stone, not connected with traditional formality.

Photographs courtesy, "The Early Architecture of Western Pennsylvania" by Charles Morse Stotz, published by William Helburn, Inc., for The Bubl Founda.ion, Pittsburgh,



RESTYLE YOUR HOME THE MODERN WAY-old houses can be given attractive new looks with modern paint styling that emphasizes best features, subdues bad angles. Do it the economical way with long lasting white lead paint.



This <u>lead</u> we're mining makes PAINT really tough

You don't have to be a miner to know that lead is one metal that isn't much affected by climate. That's why it's used so much in work that has to stand off weather.

Well, paint takes a steady beating from sun and rain, too. So it's easy to see why good painters use white lead made from lead—when they want to mix a tough, weather-fighting paint.

For white lead paint, like lead, can take a lot of punishment. It lasts for years—doesn't crack and scale—wears away slowly and evenly.

White lead makes smooth paint, tooone that brushes on like velvet in a solid coat that protects everything beneath. And white lead paint keeps its even surface as it gradually wears down. You can repaint right over it without the expense of burning and scraping off. That saves one

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of the biggest expenses in painting! If you want lasting satisfaction from

a paint job it's a good idea to find out

how much white lead the paint con-

tains. It's a pretty safe rule to follow:

the higher the lead content, the bet-

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get a more durable paint than one con-

taining one hundred per cent white

lead. This is the kind good painters

mix from lead-in-oil. In many places it is now being sold in prepared ready-

The fact is - and you can check

with any skilled painter-using white

lead paint is a case where the best

to-use form, in white and colors.

A GOOD PAINTER SAVES YOU MONEY - as an expert craftsman he knows the importance of doing little things right, such as sandpapering unevenly worn surfaces so the new paint goes on smoothly.



OME of my friends are very clever. For instance, Marie, who keeps bedding for overnight guests in a pistachiogreen leather chest trimmed in vivid colors and studded with brass nails. This is very decorative before tall old-fashioned windows which are squared with wooden strips and have a matching mirror set between them. Mrs. Hagerman, another smart woman, made lush cushions of blue oilcloth for her outdoor dining furniture,

making a charming, useful "room" out of what used to be waste space between garage and back porch. And Rafello, who has lived in China, saw great possibilities in an ordinary gravel-sifter. She painted the wooden frame black, the wire gold, and hung it on her living room wall. The two dragons are Chinese bronze and authentic; the plaque is only an old cast-iron pancake griddle or waffle iron, but it looks pretty fancy in its gilded cage. All of which proves that ideas are what really count, and that they definitely do not have to be

bedding concealed in pistachio



"cush" dining on oilcloth, waste space

million dollar ones to be clever! There are plenty of other things

you can do, too, if you're smart enough to capitalize on your financial limitations and take advantage of amusing novelties your more affluent friends ignore. Take, for example, the plaster candela-brum at the left, one of Marie's "finds." It's so dripping with elegance and atmosphere that no one would ever guess it was picked up for a song in a dusty secondhand shop. The same thing holds true for fat little Victorian chairs that make decorative history when you replace the taupe mohair upholstery with bright red satin. If you insist on having things new and clean to begin with, get a

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cheap unpainted chest of drawers, do it up in shiny black lacquer and see how smart it will look and how it will perk up a room.

You don't need to stop with furniture, either—there's lots of fun to be had on walls, ceilings, and floors. Mount flowered chintz on the bedroom doors, to match the window valance. Paint circus stripes on the walls and ceiling of your little boy's room. Put a scenic wallpaper on the wall above the living room fireplace. Paint the dining room walls shell pink and you'll be more than ever the glowingly pretty hostess against a really flattering background!—MARION HOLDEN BEMIS



F OLD roll top desks only knew their possibilities! We took one about 3' wide and turned it into the modern desk and cabinet combination which is shown in the photographs above.



en new, attractive linoleum to that old wood table-top—with Casco Glue. It's easy to use. No mess. Just add Casco Powdered Casein Glue to water—and mix. Makes a strong, permanent, water-resistant bond. It's the glue used by famous cabinetmakers—the standard glue for heavy-duty wood gluing.



AND FOR ODD JOBS IN HOME, SCHOOL, OFFICE Jse Casco Flexible Cement. Contains case in for strengthrubber for flexibility. Absorbs shocks. Sticks to everything but your fingers. CASEIN COMPANY OF AMERICA 350 Madison Ave. New York City

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THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940

The "roll" was removed and placed vertically on arc-shaped tracks; the original top made a front panel. This unit, backed with wallboard and fitted with rounded shelves, was placed 6" out from one wall and 18" from the adjoining wall. The 6" space between wall and cabinet is where we store card tables, projection screen, and game boards. The 18" unit is another storage compartment. Over all we fitted a top of smooth 3%" x 12" boards, surmounted by a step bookcase in the corner. It is finished in off-white enamel with chocolate brown pulls.

And we did not throw away the bottom half! After the holes left by the removed roll top were filled in with dowels and plastic wood, it made a very fine flat top writing desk. It certainly is a great satisfaction to see a "white elephant" turn into good looking, useful pieces of furniture—and at practically no cost!

This, however, is not the end of the story. All of our friends made such complimentary comments that my husband beamed with success, was practically ready to give up his law practice and go into the cabinet making business. In fact he did set up a kitchen work shop and built three new cabinets for me! I don't say that I'd want a carpenter for a husband, but it is nice to have a handyman around the house-especially when he had never before so much as tacked picture hooks into the wall. There's inspiration for you, even if you are a novice! -EDITH SCHMIDT



Shown above is the Louis XV Marquetry Musette in selected Butt Walnut, richly carved and inlaid with an exquisite design in which over 25 different woods are used. \$500 F.O.B., New York City. Other models from \$295 F.O.B., N. Y. C. Purchases on Deferred Payment Plan if desired.

HEN you become the proud owner of a WINTER-MUSETTE, you discover that this new-day piano lives up magnificently to the many claims prominent musicians, decorators and the public as a whole, have made for it. J This instrument's appealingly low, graceful lines and distinguished styling — each model is a charming adaptation of an authentic Period design — show, at a glance, why it has been hailed as "America's most talked about and copied piano." J And its rich, beautifully modulated voice and exquisitely responsive action are brilliant justification of the statement heard over and over again. "Only the WINTER-MUSETTE brings out the full tonal beauty of every note." J Furthermore, the WINTER-MUSETTE offers you value — exemplified both by low initial cost and long years of trouble-free service — such value, in fact, as could only be sponsored by America's largest piano manufacturer.



PICTURESQUE <u>AND</u> SPACIOUS -4 bedrooms in a little house

A LOT of room as well as a lot of charm was tucked into this fresh-faced home. It almost seems as if sleight of hand or a shoehorn had been used because it has a whopping good living room, well-spaced dining room, superlative kitchen, enclosed porch, basement playroom, two-car garage, *four* pleasant bedrooms, two and a half bathrooms; an agreeably generous number of comfortable, well-related rooms for a one and a half story Cape Cod type of house. Eye appeal is evident, too, in its snug low lines, the white shingled wings, the rough stone front, the high dormers, farmhouse rail fence,

Ship

white Colonial doorway, bottle green shutters, wide windows, wrought-iron name sign and ship's lanterns. The house is exceptional because its picturesque exterior hasn't been achieved at the cost of mean rooms.

BUILDING DATA: Location: 80'-0" x 135'-0" hilltop site suburban to Kansas City, Missouri. Rear garden borders golf course green. Foundations: Reinforced concrete, rubble stone. Walls:

Stone veneer front wall and chimney, 24" butt shingles on remaining walls. Interior. lath and plaster. *Roof*: Shingles stained black. *Insulation*: 4" wool fill. *Windows*: Wood frame and sash. *Flooring*: Red oak; linoleum in bath, kitchen. *Trim*: White pine stained honey color in living room, dining room; white elsewhere. *Color scheme*: Black roof, white side walls. green shutters. *Heating*: Gas fired furnace, forced air system.





Kansas City home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Carroll J-M Asbestos Roofing and Siding Shingles Give Lasting Beauty... WON'T ROT OR BURN-REQUIRE NO

PAINT TO PRESERVE THEM

LONG ISLAND HOMES SHOWERED BY INFERNO OF BLAZING GASOLINE



AND HERE'S THE INSIDE STORY behind the news as told by John Borchert of Bellerose, Long Island. "J-M Asbestos Siding Shingles," he says, "prevented my home from burning to the ground—saved a whole row of houses from almost certain destruction."

LAST June 17th, millions of newspaper readers were shocked by a double plane crash at Bellerose, L. I. During maneuvers, two big planes had locked wings at 2,500 feet... hurtled to earth ... burst into flame ... rained burning gasoline on suburban homes.

Those were the published facts, as far as they were reported.

THE STORY BEHIND THE NEWS

But behind this news is the story of Johns-Manville Asbestos Siding Shingles (as reproduced in the background of this page) and how they prevented an even greater fire, far greater property damage and loss of life. "One plane," says Mr. John Borchert, an eyewitness, "landed about 35 feet away from my house. Gasoline exploded—flames leaped 200 feet in the air. Gasoline burned all my awnings and shrubs.

"In a short time the gasoline on the houses burned itself out. The trim continued to burn but the asbestos shingles remained intact. I thought to myself if there was ever an endorsement of J-M Asbestos Siding Shingles—this is it!"

There's the unpublished story of this unfortunate accident—the story of the asbestos shingles similar to those shown on this page. And note that Johns-Manville Asbestos Shingles have in addition to their amazing fireproof qualities all the *beauty* of weathered wood, the permanence of stone and that they need no paint to preserve them.

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how these shingles will completely transform your home?—How little they cost?—How easy they are to apply over old sidewalls? Then send for "The Home Idea Book" now.

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The 1940 "Home Idea Book" tells the whole story of how science created J-M Shingles. In addition it is a storehouse of helpful information for home owners. Brings you 20 new Guildway Houses, with floor plans. Gives latest facts about modern FHA monthly finance plans for new homes and remodeling old ones... Latest ideas on building extra rooms in attic or basement with smartly colored Insulating Board... How to transform the outside of an old house... How to end the cracked-ceiling problem... How to make your home more comfortable the year around --save up to 30% in fuel bills with Rock Wool Home Insulation. This 1940 "Home Idea Book" is fully illustrated in color--is easily worth ten cents just to look through! Why not send for your copy today?



Here are the houses nearest the plane after the hre was under control... T can't stress enough the terrific intensity of the heat," says Mr. Borchert. "The sidewalk pavement 'cooked' and spat blisters. We all had to back away to a distance of 200 feet. There's no doubt in my mind that J-M Asbestos Siding Shingles saved these homes."



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READY for winter?

with theaters, the stores, and railroad trains. The basis of winter air conditioning equip ment is the actual heating system itself; the furnace, ducts and registers if it's warm of heating; the boiler, pipes, radiators, or convectors if it's hot water, vapor, or meam heating. Some one of these systems or a combination of them are what you probably have in your house now, or what you will choose from if you are installing new equip-ment. Which is the best, you may ask? That is a question which depends principally on your individual house, on its size, number of windows, amount of insulation, and the design and nature of the house, on its materials, whether it's one story high, long and low, or whether it's compactly built in two stories under one roof-the latter type is more easily heated. In any case, you'll get the best advice from a man engaged in heating equipment installation or an architect or heating engineer who can examine your house at first

1 Iron Fireman

HARRY M. HITCHCOCK

INCE you can't grow a heavy fur coat for the winter like some fur-bearing animals or hibernate like others, or fly South like our little feathered friends, it's high time you started thinking about keeping yourself and your house warm this winter if you live in the colder parts of this country. Whether you use your existing heating system for another winter, install a new system or have to decide on proper heating equipment for a new house, you

ought to know something of what can be done to heat and condition the air in your home comfortably. Today it isn't just a matter of getting the house hot; the air should be heated only to moderate, healthful temperatures, and in addition it should be kept sufficiently moist, it should be circulated adequately, and it should be filtered or cleaned. This combined process constitutes what is known as "winter air conditioning," an apt and proper term, although to many persons "air conditioning" still signifies summer cooling only, and is mentally associated only

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for smaller home; blower circulates warm air. 5. Especially for basementless house is this gas fired, forced air unit Majestic

hand. And he'll probably ten you that equal in importance with your choice of heating system is proper installation, for satisfactory functioning depends on it.

The other half of winter air conditioning covers the actual processes of heating, humidifying, circulating, filtering the air, and also the control of these functions. "Comfort" in the home is the goal in heating and conditioning the air. But it's a somewhat nebulous term. Just how much air conditioning affords "comfort" in your home and how do you get it? What would the heating engineers who have developed the heating, humidifying, circulating, and filtering processes consider comfort for you and your house? Assuming (as a great many of us yould have to)

that the equipment in your existing house falls considerably short of their standards, what can be done to improve what you've already got?

Encouraging news is the fact that the engineers are less highfalutin, less arbitrary in their ideas of what we actually need to keep comfortable in our homes during the winter than they were a year or so ago. They have learned more about what constitutes practical equipment for the

AIR



★ BEFORE CHRONOTHERM



Cold when you get up, if you save fuel by manually lowering the setting of the ordinary thermostat at night,



Always dependent upon human memory to change manual thermostat from night setting to day comfort level.



Fuel bill too bigh . . . beat is wasted through excessive temperatures during sleeping hours when heat is not needed.

THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940

from the thousands who have already installed the Minneapolis - Honeywell Chronotherm, come enthusiastic comments such as these: "It has revolutionized my heating system;" "Wouldn't know I had a heating plant;" "Chronotherm's automatic night shut-down and morning pick-up feature will soon pay for the instrument through fuel savings;" "It will give me over 150 hours extra sleep each heating season;" "Chronotherm with its handsome, modern appearance and clever numeral clock is very attractive and an accurate timepiece.' You are paying for the automatic economy, comfort and convenience of the new Chronotherm . . . why not order it installed by your heating dealer now?

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home, more about its application, and a lot more about human nature. They've learned that it's one thing to set up scientifically accurate temperatures and humidities and quite another thing to tell highly individualized groups of persons what is "correct comfort" for them-they now appreciate the fact that individual differences in physical make-up, differences in metabolism, skin characteristics, etc., as well as different clothing weights, make one fixed standard of comfort impractical. But they have been able to arrive at some helpful general standards.

1. TEMPERATURE—A little variation rather than a fixed standard is desirable in the amount of heat you supply to your rooms. If the temperature is kept between 69 and 73, or 68 and 72 degrees Fahrenheit, averaging perhaps 70 or 71, it should be comfortable for everybody.



6. Oil burning unit for hot water system includes controls, water heater. 7. Another unit for moderate-size homes is this warm air, gas burning equipment

2. HUMIDITY-There was a time when the main argument among heating engineers was whether the correct figure for relative humidity in the home was 40 per cent or 45 per cent. No one seemed to doubt that there was some one ideal point which should be rigidly maintained. Now we know that humidity doesn't need to be nearly so high as we believed, and we also know that considerable variation in humidity, provided it is properly co-ordinated INSTANT HOT WATER IS A GRAND COMFORT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY —AND IT COSTS ONLY A TRIFLE WITH A HOTPOINT WATER HEATER!



Hotpoint Electric Water Heater Takes Care Of Every Household Need

E NJOY HAVING an abundance of hot water always available for bathing, laundering, cleaning and every other household need! Today's Hotpoint Electric Water Heater gives you this luxury at a price you can afford! Electricity heats water safely, automatically, economically! Smartly styled models-suitable for kitchen or basement installation-are easy to buy on Hotpoint's Friendly Finance plan. Before you build, modernize or replace that old water heater-send the coupon for free booklet!

Hotpoint Water Heater Better In 6 Big Ways!

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FASTER - Calrod Unit - immersed in watertransfers heat instantly.
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THRIFTY - Heavy insulation reduces heat leakage - assures low operation cost.
AUTOMATIC - Hot water service 24 hours a day. Install it and forget it.
Investigate low electric water-heating rates in your locality!



Edison General Electric Appliance Co., Inc. 5607 W. Taylor Street, Chicago, Illinois Kindly send me free booklet describing Horpoint Electric Water Heaters. Name_________ Address_______ City_______State_____ MAIL COUPON NOW! with the temperature, makes little difference worth bothering about. It shouldn't fall below 25 per cent and the best range is probably between 30 and 35 per cent. You can figure roughly that a ten per cent difference in relative humid-



8. Steel tubular boiler for hot water residential heating: oil, gas or stoker. 9. Gray enameled furnace for steam, vapor systems; oil fired; hot water optional. 10. Water surrounds fire box in moderate-size, oil burning, hot water boiler equipment

ity is equivalent to one degree difference in temperature, as far as your comfort is concerned. You will feel equally comfortable at 69 degrees with 40 per cent humidity, or 70 degrees with 30 per cent humidity.

5. AIR CIRCULATION-Winter or summer the air in every room of your house should be in constant







14. Oil fired, warm air furnace conditions air all year round

gentle motion to avoid stagnant air. Air circulation is calculated in terms of the number of complete air changes in a room in an hour or in terms of the movement of air. There should be from four



Some home buyers and builders actually are accepting "1915model" heating today, unaware that heating also has been revolutionized. $\Rightarrow PAYNE$ Furnaces, like modern automobiles, are designed by skilled engineers, built in superbly equipped factories, tested in laboratory "proving grounds," distributed by nationwide sales and service outlets. \Rightarrow PAYNE asks only this: Before deciding on any heating equipment, see your PAYNE



to six complete air changes per hour and the rate of air movement should be not less than 25 or more than 50 cubic feet per second. Air movement need not be precisely measured by the householder—if it's as low as 25 cubic feet per second few persons would detect any air motion while a movement of 50 cubic feet per second would be a considerable, very evident draft.

4. AIR FILTERING-Finally, some specific means of purifying or filtering the air you breathe in your home should be provided. It should be effective enough to regularly remove nine-tenths of the dust carried in the air, and a considerable amount of bacteria.

If you are starting from scratch, selecting equipment for your new house, you'll find it in a wide range, built according to quality standards, designed for complete and efficient winter air conditioning, economical of space and fuel, and priced anywhere from approximately \$300 to \$500.

But if you have an existing heating system your problem is most likely one of converting it into a winter air conditioning unit; that is, if the age and efficiency of the furnace, the age and value of the house warrant it.

Coal stokers for automatic fueling of coal burning furnaces. 15. Neat hopper model holds coal supply. 16. Sketch shows screw conveyor type which carries coal from bin to furnace. 17. Stoker for hard coal is built in furnace case. 18. Ash removal screw takes ash out to the cans



"Iron Fireman-ize"

winter cold clutches Your Home



An IRON FIREMAN STOKER gives abundant automatic low cost heat

NOW AS LOW AS

complete with controls; plus freight and installation. Coal Flow 8226. Terms as low as 85.93 a month with small down payment. (Slightly higher in Canada).

Start the new heating season right. Let us install an Iron Fireman automatic coal stoker in your present furnace or boiler. Just set the thermostat for the day temperature and the night temperature you want in your home during the winter... and then relax! You

can *loaf*, while Iron Fireman tends the fire night and day, providing you with the steadiest heating obtainable at any price.

With an Iron Fireman at work in your home, you will get 30 minutes' extra sleep each morning, for there is no need for a morning trip to the basement to rebuild the fire, add fuel, or shake the grates . . . you will enjoy new freedom from furnace drudgery.

Don't wait longer for automatic heating. See the new Iron Fireman for small homes. Install Iron Fireman now—the product of the world's largest manufacturer of stokers for homes, buildings and industrial plants.





HOPPER MODEL. Feeds from closed hopper. Can be installed in your present solid-fuel boiler or furnace.



UNIT HEATMAKER. The modern roemfurnace, with built-in automatic coal stoker.



SELF-FIRING FURNACE. Complete Winter Airconditioner; feeds itself with coal from bin! Heats, humidifies, filters and circulates air.

le postal



QUAKER PRESCRIBES

Your windows will be the highspot of your home

with Quaker net—and how inexpensively! There are hundreds upon hundreds of Quaker net curtains to choose from...designed for your own rooms ... styles that reflect perfectly your taste in design, color, size, texture, and in spirit. Turn those plain-Jane windows of yours into beauty spots! Look for Quaker net curtains at your favorite store. From \$1 to \$8 a pair; from 75¢ to \$4 a panel. Above, No.2433. Below, No.2347



PRESCRIPTION

R Forty photographs showing the happy solutions to unusual window problems. Ask for booklet 10A. Send 10c (stamps or coin) to cover mailing costs. QUAKER LACE COMPANY

330 Fifth Avenue, New York





EA caddies did not start in the kitchen. They were once aristocrats, cherished by grande dame and noble, brought forth proudly from locked cabinets on occasions when the luxury of tea was to be indulged in. That was back in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries when tea was scarce, extremely costly, and the height of luxury.

To the indefatigable Dutch traders, in particular the Dutch East India Company, can be traced the importation of tea and caddies into Europe, thence into England. About 1650 England adopted tea drinking. Imported from the Orient along with the herb were exquisitely fashioned caddies of porcelain, in shape like scent bottles or ginger jars. They had stoppers of porcelain and were blue and white ware or decorated with such a wealth of color as to entice any beholder. The women loved them!

One of the first of the English potters to make and market tea caddies was Worcester. Others followed, all of them at first reproducing with fidelity the blue and white Chinese ware, gradually departing from the forms of scent bottle and ginger jar to other Every home should have a household inventory. It's the easiest way to see what your home is worth to you. It's

aluable Boo

for the Home

inventory. It's the easiest way to see what your home is worth to you. It's the best way to determine how much and what kind of insurance you should have. It's the surest way of getting your claims settled quickly and fairly.



You Can Have It FREE!

Simply send coupon below or write for our free household inventory — a new improved inventory with lots of room to record everything in your home—your furnishings, silverware, clothes — room by room, plus a complete section for tabulating all your insurance data.





designs. Holland offered competition with blue and white ware. Enameled delft. Chine e in character, was particularly beautiful, but scarce. Staffordshire made caddies typically English in type but influenced broadly by Chinese styles; these were sturdy and coarse, but had a certain crude charm. Plump bottles and scent bottle designs are to be found in Old Staffordshire, with the words "green tea" printed on the sides, surrounded by wreaths of bright flowers. Another popular Staffordshire design was the Abraham and Isaac decoration in black and flesh tints.

There were double bottles with two openings and tops of porcelain, highly decorated with bird and flower designs. Sometimes the caddy was oval, with lock and handles attached. Wedgwood caddies of black and highly glazed grass green were popular, while Bristol caddies of white opaque glass were lettered "green," "bodea," or "hyson" to designate the various kinds of tea then in use. Liverpool caddies were sometimes covered with ladies dressed à la Pompadour and gentlemen in knee breeches and jeweled garters. There were the Leeds caddies, painted with floral designs and often labeled "Herb Te."

S ILVERSMITHS and cabinetmakers began figuring what they might do, and got their hands on a profitable accessory business. Silver, Sheffield plate, pewter, and wood caddies began to supplant the earthenware caddies.

THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940



Paul Lamarie, a master metal craftsman, made tea vases and caddies, along with jugs for cream and bowls for sugar. Often his caddies were encased in exquisite cabinets of inlaid woods, with scroll, shell, and floral designs being used for decorations. These cabinets sometimes had a sliding lid surmounted by a knob. Dutch silver caddies were made to lock. Sometimes caddies of china, silver or pewter were made in sets and

enclosed in boxes of mahogany, hardwood, rosewood, tulipwood, East

and West Indian satinwood, or other fine woods. The two or three compartment boxes stood two and one half feet high and sometimes rested on a pedestal beside a tea table of matching wood. Or the box itself, lined with lead and fitted with lock and handle, was the caddy. They were made in all shapes and sizes, from large unwieldy cases to those no larger than a snuff box.

Chippendale's tea caddies or chests, like his furniture, are of heavy, dark mahogany, usually with heavy silver handles and velvet or brocade lining. He combined brass handles with harewood, while the caddies themselves often



Tea drinking was a fashionable luxury back in the days when caddies were elegant and decorative, displayed on a fine table or cabinet

were of zinc. Rosewood chests by this maker are sometimes inlaid with mother-of-pearl and brass, with small brass balls or lion's paws for feet. A place for the sugar bowl is not a rarity.

Inexpensive wooden caddies were lined with colored embossed paper, red being a favorite. Occasionally caddies were made of glass mounted on silver. Other materials used for fabricating caddies were iron, japanned and decorated with gilt floral designs, sometimes embellished with Wedgwood medallions, tin, and tortoise shell.

How many tea caddies went overboard on that famous December night in 1773 will never be known, but Early American caddies are reminiscent of America's first tea drinking days, of a chapter in our history when independence was being brewed along with tea.

> Photographs courtesy of Philadelphia Museum, Metropolitan Museum of New York, Ginsburg & Levy, Little Gallery of Minneapolis.

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... dark corners, high ceilings, small rooms ... and other decorating difficulties, solved in Jean McLain's book. (Send 10¢ to cover mailing costs.)

Use coupon for her free individual advice on decorating. She will also send you samples and tell you where to buy Imperial *Washable* Wallpapers. these requirements . . . Imperial! Beautiful—patterns and colors are famous! Livable—it's guaranteed washable and fast to light! Economical—you'll be surprised at how little it costs! For that important 2/3 of your home, have your decorator or paperhanger show you Imperial Washable Wallpapers, identified in sample books by the silver label.

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ROMANCE

THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940



Have you ever seen more charm per square foot than in this apartment? Mrs. Levy says it reminds her of a doll house, "small, neat, and just a trifle gaudy," but we have more flattering words than those to describe it! MOST young couples start out on a shoestring, but not many of them can take one amounting to \$150 and make it stretch far enough to cover complete and charming furnishings for a two room plus kitchenette and bath apartment. In this case the honors are divided. Mr. Levy, an industrial designer, has applied his talents to fireplace construction, Dutch doors, ingenious kitchen cupboards, a built-in bed with storage drawers. Mrs. Levy, head budgeteer at a local department store, took care of the finances.

As soon as you get over the pleasant effect of canary yellow walls, shining white woodwork, and gray painted floors that make the rooms look much larger than they are, you're taken by the ideas. A brick fireplace with a hood instead of the traditional mantel. Dining chair seats upholstered in pieces of blue plaid rug like the one under the table. Corner bookshelves to conceal a drainpipe from floor to ceiling. A drafting table distinguished by its size, typewriter compartment and shelf.

But it's the "inside story," direct from the owners, that's really exciting. For instance, the fireplace. Says Mrs. Levy: "It's our pride and joy, built with our own untried hands from secondhand brick donated by our doting landlord. A chimney running up the outside wall was our inspiration. We mixed our cement right in the living room and loved it."

The studio couch opposite the fireplace has a good story of its own, too. Pull back the automobile robe (wedding gift made at bride's suggestion) covering, and you'll be surprised to see what you're sitting on. It's

vas \$150 in cash!

A very smart young couple proves that hard work and bright ideas will make \$150 do a real decorating job. He is an industrial designer, she a budgeteer-which is an unbeatable combination!



Shelvon Hine

an innerspring mattress from a baby's bed-secondhand—price 75c. The base supporting it is recessed, thus saving wear and tear on toes. Leftover lumber cost next to nothing.

There are two more really good ideas in the living room. The bookshelves and magazine rack once belonged to a monstrosity of a bookcase with glass doors and gewgaws from top to bottom. Mr. and Mrs. Levy stripped it down to bare essentials, took out the back and reset the shelves, tipping one to make a reading table. If you don't think that's a bright idea, just try it and see how convenient it is to have a substantial slanted shelf to prop up your enormous Webster. The other inspiration is a little wall console near the entrance door. It started out as a \$1.25 end table. Mr. Levy explains the price: "We got it at a markdown as one leg was broken. We didn't use the legs anyway, so we're richer for the damage. After amputating the legs, we sawed the stretcher of the table in half to make the wall braces."

The bedroom is just as full of ideas, but the bed is the best one. The drawers beneath it, which came out of a wardrobe found in the landlord's basement, hold blankets, pillows and sheets. Both of the chests are cheap secondhand pieces, one painted gray and the other given an antique finish. The drapery material, blue with a silvery white stripe, was bought at the dress goods department of the local dime store—the best to be had at 39c per yard and looking much more!

This perfect setting for young American homemaking is in a house covered with ivy and surrounded by a garden—with a fullfledged swimming pool in the back yard!



CHOOSE

ovely **NEW TONES** from Color Planning Guide at Leading Stores

Color leaps to life in exciting new combinations in this authentic St. Marys "Color-Visualizer" for greater bedroom beauty.

Each charf shows enchanting new complementary, matching and highstyle color combinations with actual samples of blankets, rugs, draperies and wall papers to help make correct color selections. Exactly the right colors -- superb new shades

selected by Virginia Hamill, noted authority on home decoration.

Only St. Marys dealers display these new Color-Selector Charts. See them and examine the lovely new St. Marys patterns in these famed-forquality blankets of pure virgin wool. All mothproofed. \$9.95 to \$125.00. Write us for free booklet. St. Marys Woolen Mfg. Company, St. Marys, Ohio

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Thrilling NEW WAY to

SELECT BLANKET

COLORS



VER PAINT STEPS? Discover a satisfactory method? Usually it's a matter of having to stay downstairs until they dry-unless, of course, you don't mind a few footprints on your artistic

triumph. But there is a solution, so simple it's a wonder anyone ever thought of it! Just paint every other step, let dry, then paint the steps in between. Then you can go up and down, two steps at a time, during the whole process. My wife considers this quite a remarkable idea, is often to be found in the front hail with a can of paint and brush! RALPH LEWIS





IF you are seeking to give your home the rich touch and charm of time-endowed period masterpieces, surely you will enjoy owning the new 24page deluxe edition of Kindel's "18th Century Reproductions." Not a catalog-it is an authoritative handbook, profuse with pictures and background text to give you an even keener apprecia-tion for the styles of Chippendale,

Hepplewhite, Sheraton, Goddard and Phyfe. Mail coupon for complimentary copy. KINDEL FURNITURE CO. Grand Rapida, Mich. A-10 Please send copy of "18th Century Reproductions." I am enclosing toc to cover st of handling and mailing. Na Address State

CHOOLGIRL DESIGNS MODERN DESK-and her parents are pleased to admit it outshines all the ideas they had! Mary Ann, only fourteen, wanted a study corner in her room, so she drew up plans and explained them to the local carpenter. The result is in three attached, built-in units: a dropleaf desk with cupboards beneath for maps and big things; corner



bookshelves; the ugly old radiator, now boxed in with plywood, with neat grills set in over the top and down one side.

All this made the rest of the room look pretty stuffy, so we did some more modernizing. To make the room seem bigger we replaced Mary Ann's old fourposter with a bed without head or footboard, and put her chest of drawers in the closet. Patchwork quilts, samplers and silhouettes went into another room where they were more welcome. ELIZABETH LOW

THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940



VOLUTION OF A KITCHEN CHAIR-into a luxurious femi-nine bedroom chair! That's the story told by these photographs, and it's an inspiring one for those of us who love our elegance even if we can't afford to buy it ready-made.

First make a cushion to fit the seat. (Several thicknesses of an old blanket will do.) Then go shopping for chintz, and don't be timid about demanding something really colorful, even giddy if you like that sort of thing. At the same time get a plain chintz in the brightest



place that provides both the charm and beauty of the traditional fireplace, plus new comfort and economy that no old-fashioned fireplace can touch. It has been proved in thousands of homes and camps all over America. Architects and heating engineers recommend it. It cuts heating costs in homes . . . warms base-ment rooms quickly . . . makes camps usable weeks longer.

WILL NOT SMOKE

Concealed inside the masonry, the Heati-lator is a double-walled steel form around which any style of fireplace is correctly built. It eliminates usual causes of smoking. Saves materials and labor. SEND a postcard today for full details.



THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940

color of the patterned one. This is for the simple, gathered flounce which goes from chair seat to floor and should be very full. W. P. TYLER



ROTECT TULIPS! With bulbs scarce, gardeners should conserve those they have. Moles used to destroy most of mine, but since using small tin can protectors we have not lost a bulb. I cut slits in the bottom and down the sides, as sketched, set the bulb on a newspaper disk and half inch of soil, fill with soil, bend the top in slightly, plant six inches deep.

CARL G. HEIN

Here's Thrilling News

WALLPAPER GUESSWORK ENDED!



... Beauty and Satisfaction Guaranteed with New "Unitized-Process" Wallpaper

Now you can choose wallpaper without confusion, fears or worries about the finished result! By simply making sure that the papers you select are marked with the Unitized seal, you have the key to the creation of charming new beauty in your home-satisfaction guaranteed!

Old-time "hit or miss" methods of selecting wallpaper are absolutely ended by papers made by the "Unitized-process." These exclusive papers have been designed by the world's best wallpaper artists, pre-tested by experts and guaranteed to hang right, be right in style and pattern, meet special standards for sun-fastness and be genuinely washable if marked washable

Look for the Unitized Seal

New and finer patterns and lovelier coloring, coupled with this new, safe way of choosing wallpaper, have made such a decided "hit" with millions of housewives that "Unitized-process" wallpapers have become the largest selling papers in America!

So next time you decorate, capture the full measure of charm that fine wallpaper can bring to your home. Ask your decorator, dealer or paperhanger for Unitized paper.

Make sure that the samples you select are marked on the back with the Unitized seal-genuine Unitized papers are the only ones so marked. You'll find hundreds of glorious patterns and colorings that offer the remarkable Unitized Guarantee of Satisfaction. United WallpaperFactories, Inc., Chicago.

"Companion Papers" in photo: Laurel Stripe and French Medallion. Samples at bottom of picture: Galloon Stripe and Eugenie Rose.



NOW you can buy an overhead-type garage door for only









- A tested, approved garage door of durable Douglas Fir with extra strength hardware.
- Price includes free-spinning automobile trunk-type lock.
- Pre-fitted for 8'x7' openings. Only 2" headroom needed.
- Any carpenter can install in half a day in either old or new garage.
- Sold by progressive retail lumber dealers everywhere.

Don't envy owners of overhead-type garage doors. Have one, too! The Craw-Fir-Dor retails for as little as \$28 . . . and that price includes lock, packaged hardware, a quality door and complete instructions for installing. A Craw-Fir-Dor never ob-structs windows or other doors in a garage . . . never needs servicing. Four designs to harmonize with any architectural style. See them today. Your lumber dealer has Craw-Fir-Dors or can quickly get one for you. For more information, write Fir



Door Institute, Tacoma, Washington.

For special residential or industrial installations, write Crawford Door Co., Detroit, Mich., who make a complete line of sectional overhead-type doors.



Bermuda style home on

Left:8-panel design; retails for \$28 in any jobbing center.

Sunset Island Miami Beach

HERE are ideas galore in the Howard Kittels' home, ideas ideal for Southern living. Many of them came from the white, coral, and pistachio 'colored houses of Bermuda. The dazzling white roof, built up of painted cement tiles, copies the coral rock slab Bermuda roofs; in fact, the tiles were moulded from a coral rock pattern. The shutter-awnings, the sensible cement tile floors, the forecourt paved in white bricks, primly fenced with white pickets, are notable.



THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940



The luxurious tea-house with raised hearth, Bermuda type barbecue is just a hop, skip, and jump across the rear patio from the loggia



The all-white walls to reflect the heat are typically Bermudian and Bahamian. The formal entrance doorway, the quoins at windows and corners indicate the general British Colonial character. Other teatures are the dining room picture window, wide sliding doors which make living room and rear loggia into one room, the open tea house opposite

the loggia, the coral shutters. The dusty olive green walled living room with white ceilings and floors is the hub of the house. Lemonyellow, white, and champagne are the colors for living room and dining room fabrics and furnishings in this gay and lively Florida house. —NANCY PARK

Building Data:

Foundation: Concrete piling. Walls: Reinforced concrete frame, concrete block curtain walls. Roofing: Cement tiles painted white. Flooring: Bedrooms, oak; bathrooms, tile; kitchen and pantry, linoleum; remainder, cement tile. Cubage: 40,000 cubic feet.







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ESTERN Red Cedar is a miracle of nature for every cubic inch under the microscope shows millions of air-filled insulating cells and every fibre is impregnated with cedar's natural preservative oil. The publication, Agricultural Engineering, reports a test of all types of roofing material as follows: "Red Cedar Shingles on solid sheathing gave the best performance of any of the insulated roofs." This of course would apply to sidewalls covered

with Red Cedar Shingles. To sum up-no synthetic product has the basic exterior building qualities of Red Cedar Shingles, none have such beauty of shadow lines and texture and none are so durable.

> Ten cents in stamps will bring you a copy of the book, "Home Protection." Write Red Cedar Shingle Bureau, Seattle, Wash., U. S. A., or Vancouver, B. C., Canada.





JEAN HOLLOWAY

HE head of the family had grumbled about the scarcity of purely masculine rooms and concluded that a man didn't stand a chance in his own house. Finally he took over a 6 x 9' room and turned it into a fine setting for his sports and hobby paraphernalia.

It may be a man's world

One wall was divided into three equal sections. On the left are a rack for golf bags and notches for firearms. (Two battered felt hats, which no amount of persuasion could send to the junkman, were cheerfully sacrificed to provide padding.) The upper right section holds tennis rackets and fishing rods, and shelves below take care of boxing gloves and footballs. The middle section is a closet. On the highest shelf above the doorway is a row of loving cups, and the door is festooned with badges and numerals. Under the window is a carpenter's bench, and against the oppo-

VORK BENCH

DING DOORS

CABINET

HOBBY ROOM

6'-0"x 9'-0"

site wall a cabinet, divided into upper and lower sections and fitted with sliding doors.

192

1940

6

Our experiment inspired other families. One woman went so far as to relinquish her living room bookcases to the gun-minded members of her family, and used leather instead of floral chintz upholstery. When she redecorated her powder room, there was no complaint about the bills! Another couple found the dead-end of a small hall the ideal place for a golf bag rack. They lined it with glazed wallboard, and used white pine wedges to separate the bags. My best friend has turned a 4 x 6' linen closet into a darkroom for her camera fan husband. She finds it a great relief to have her dishpan untainted by developing fluids and suggests that similar hideouts might end other household problems.



Simmons' Common-sense Guide to Mattress-buying

1. "Plain comfort"... or "luxury comfort."



You can't tell how comfortable a mattress is by looking at it in a store. For comfort is a matter of construction—not looks. A mattress with

only fair-to-middling "insides" can give you only fair-to-middling comfort. Beautyrest features a different kind of mattress construction. It brings you blissful, heavenly comfort...lets you rest in supreme luxury...every muscle relaxed...on the *deepest* Beautyrest ever made!

2. Not all mattresses work alike.



In the "ordinary" mattress, springs are tied together by wire. As you press one down, the springs around it go down too – forming slopes and hollows.

In the radically different Beautyrest, each spring yields *independently* to the slightest pressure of your body. You get luxury comfort. Only Beautyrest can give it to you. *We know*. We make both kinds: the luxurious Beautyrest and the "ordinary action" mattress.

3. How to be sure the comfort will last.



A mattress that can't keep its original comfort is a questionable bargain. In tests made at the United States Testing Company, Inc. (Certified Test No. 11760), Beautyrest lasted *three times longer* than any of the 17 different makes of mattress tested. So we're conservative in guaranteeing Beautyrest for 10 years' service. However, based on these tests, we believe it will keep its luxury comfort even *longer!* 4. How to be sure a mattress keeps its shape.



Some mattresses look fine for a few years... then the edges collapselumps and hollows form. This can't happen to Beautyrest. For Beautyrest has a patented sag-proof edge that keeps edges resilient and erect for the entire life of the mattress. (P.S. Beautyrest never "lumps" up -so it needs less turning. After the first few months, 4 or 5 turnings a year are plenty.)

5. What makes a mattress stay "fresh" inside?



Some mattresses get musty and stale-smelling inside. That's because they aren't able to ventilate themselves. Beautyrest has 8 real ventilators—not "false" ones. They "breathe" in fresh, clean air, expel the stale air—keeping Beautyrest always sanitary and fresh, even in to the center of the mattress.

6. What's the right price to pay for a mattress?



Naturally, the right price is the one that gives you most for your money. We believe Beautyrest does this. It sells for \$39.50. Based on our 10-year guarantee, the price comes down to about a penny a night! Where else, we ask, can you get so much mattress at so low a price! Buy a Beautyrest today. And never accept a mattress "just as good." There isn't any!

Beautyrest Box Spring, for use with Beautyrest Mattress, \$39.50. Or get the Ace Coil Spring, \$19.75

Firth presents its eagerly awaited AMERICAN 18th CENTURY RUGS & CARPETS

recapturing for today's homes the gracious elegance and beauty of our priceless American heirlooms

PREVIEW BY THE EXPERTS. Twice each year, top flight editors, decorators, and other authorities meet with H. E. WADELY, (standing) president of Firth Carpet Company, to confer on trends in decoration, and to talk over new designs. Above, discussing Firth's 9:18th Century Designs" are (left) CHARLOTTE EATON, associate editor, The American Home...(right, front row) NANCY McCLELLAND, noted New York interior decorator; RICHARDSON WRIGHT, editor, House & Garden; CHRISTINE HOL-BROOK, associate editor, Better Homes & Gardens... (second row) MRS. JAMES RITCHIE, representative American homemaker and consumer; PAUL MacALISTER, well-known designer, founder of The Permanent Exhibition of Decoration, Architecture and Crafts, Rockefeller Center ... FRANCES HEARD, associate editor, House Beautiful.

Has THERE stirred in your heart, too, a surging pride in the glorious early days of America ... a love of its fine old houses ... a yearning to surround yourself, as our forefathers did in the 18th Century, with furniture and rugs of undying beauty?

For you, and for every one who appreciates such things, Firth has spent years in research, recreating classic examples of 18th Century

Firth Rugs and Carpets

rugs. With one ideal: to put this beautiful American heritage within the reach of every American, and at the most moderate cost.

You will find them completely adaptable to many furniture combinations. You will find deep satisfaction in their lovely colorings, their gracious livableness. And, as is true of all truly beautiful things, you will find them as good in years to come as in centuries gone by. You've seen their like in the Georgian homes of New England and Pennsylvania ... in stately Charleston houses and the early plantations along The James. Now, in all their lovely designs and subtle colorings ... and in far wider variety than is illustrated here... these heirloom rugs and carpets are at last available to modern homemakers at the most modest cost.





Two CREATIVE FORCES met and blended in New England . . . the strong traditions of the Old World, and the dynamic vigor of the New. And from them flowered a truly American craftsmanship, a charm and integrity peculiarly our own. One such New England heirloom, a lovely hooked rug softened by the years, mellow in tone and texture, served as the inspiration for Firth's "18th Century Boston" design. (No. S. J. 48)



HERE ALONG THE NATCHEZ TRACE the planters had the leisure and wealth to pattern their homes after the best abroad. They brought over furniture and glass from England, rugs from the great weavers of France. Firth's "18th Century Natchez" has the aristocratic charm of a great heirloom of the early Natchez period. It is peculiarly suited to the modern use of the 18th Century style. (No. 6209)



HERE WEALTH WAS CONSIDERABLE, taste sophisticated ... and to many a fashionable home came the splendor of rugs direct from the craftsmen of England. Firth's "18th Century Philadelphia," a bordered scroll and floral design on a Savonnerie blue ground, is characteristic of the refined elegance of the period. (No. 6203)

Firth Rugs and Carpets



WHEN THE FRENCH FOUNDED New Orleans in 1718 they sought to transplant in this new world the refinements of their native culture. Many of the oldest families still possess the precious rugs which their ancestors long ago brought from France—rugs with the same charming floral medallions, the same graceful acanthus borders, the same Aubusson pink ground, as in the carefully designed Louis XIV piece shown here. (No. 6210)



ONCE THE GLITTERING social center of a growing nation, Charleston yields from its stately houses countless treasures of long ago. On many a floor still blooms a magnificent carpet, sending its breathtaking beauty across the generations. Charleston has inspired no rug more glorious or more suited to our modern yearning for color than this chintz design with great blossoms coming off a dark ground. (No. 6215)



"WHEN WILLIAM BYRD OF WESTON founded Richmond village in 1737, what man could dream that in forty years it would become the Capital, knowing the step of America's most illustrious patriots? Today in Richmond still live the fine old homes and lovely furnishings of that day... the inspiration of Firth's gros point rug, notable both for its 18th Century charm and its rightness for 20th Century interiors. (No. 6216)



FREE: New decorating handbook, "How to Achieve the Charm of 18th Century in your Modern American Home"-helpful, interesting, entertaining.

Mail coupon to Firth Carpet Company, 295 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

NAME____

MY DEALER'S NAME.

AH-10





WHOLE FAMILIES help

MARTHA B. DARBYSHIRE





Staged by enthusiastic amateurs, this show is the re-Sult of months of work, fine cooperation, a definite plan, artistic skill, good taste, originality, and—far from least—a grand sense of humor. Exhibits range from real garden settings to miniatures and all manner of arrangements

Photographs by FRED R. DAPPRICH





make Bel-Air's Outdoor Flower Show Unique and Amusing



LOWER shows, notwithstanding their beauty, educational value, and other assets, are prone to fall into ruts. The reason may be that a self-perpetuating committee runs out of ideas; or it may be the limitations of a building or site, lack of cooperation between different groups in a community, or a combination of these and other circumstances. Conversely, it is easy to identify the factors that make flower shows successful and satisfying, and to realize that exceptional achievement usually results from a spark struck by some rare personality or an especially favorable set-up.

A good fairy godmother seems to have laid her blessings on each annual spring flower show of the Bel-Air (California) Garden Club. One of the coun-

try's few outdoor exhibitions, it usually enjoys the advantage of perfect weather. Held in the spacious grounds of the Bel-Air Administration Building, which include sheltered courts, lovely gardens, a barranca or steep-sided ravine traversed by a stream and crossed by interesting field-stone bridges, and stately sycamore, eucalyptus, and live oak trees, it enjoys a setting that is always charming, never the same. The members of the sponsoring club, mostly keen and able gardeners themselves, are reinforced by their expert professionals and not a few garden-minded husbands. Representative plant growers of the region and leading art and department stores in Los Angeles assist in creating the ensemble effect and special features of interest. And each year's classes lure gratifying numbers of enthusiastic, enterprising exhibitors-men and women, adults and juniors. The schedule is made available to prospective exhibitors months in advance so that sites for certain exhibits can be selected, work begun, and all may be at its best on opening day. Consequently, the Show abounds in real gardening demonstrations, practical suggestions for treating shady corners, sunny slopes, edges of paths or pools, front yard borders, kitchen or door gardens, cozy little homes, and large estates. Although every exhibitor is given full latitude in developing his or her entry, it must conform and contribute to the general scheme and design.

Consider some of the examples at the 1940 Show, staged April 4, 5, and 6, under the direction of Mrs. Lloyd F. Harris as chairman and Mrs. Myron Etienne, president of the club. One class for potted plants arranged as "Arcade Projects" had ten entries ranged along a gallery between two buildings. One was Mrs. George Hormel's garden pool, pic-



And garden lovers of all Southern California get ideas and inspiration from it



Club members' husbands made their arrangement class a "wow" by ignoring rules and principles, giving free rein to their imagination, creating entries dedicated to glorifying the ludicrous



Yet there were also many exquisite beauty spots, and helpful garden hints, such as this old-fashioned herb corner, the desert group in the next column, and the delightfully planted ravine banks tured on page 62 (lower left); another was Mrs. Mario Larrinaga's flower-laden Burmese barrow (page 63); a third, very popular, was Mrs. Thomas Ellsworth's "Old World kitchen garden" of herbs (below, left). Another class presented, instead of the usual shadow boxes, six miniature, growing gardens in regulation seed flats, such as Mrs. Malcolm Cameron's "Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe," shown in the upper left corner of page 62. In a class for "Garden Fancies" scattered over the grounds, the Manfred Meybergs struck an appropriate seasonal note with their huge scenic Easter egg in its flowery nest, illustrated at the top of pages 62 and 63. The outside was of crystallized sugar syrup mixed with ground glass to give a sparkle; inside, and seen through the little window by long



lines of visitors, was the miniature garden and waterfall shown at the right of the color picture. But the real sensation of the Show—perhaps as much to the surprise of those who staged it as to everyone else—was the class that called for "Husbands' Arrangements." At first it was given little thought; then, at the eleventh hour, it gained such momentum and attracted so many definitely different entries (several of which are illustrated here) that it was accorded a whole room to itself. And finally two guards had to be detailed to keep the crowds moving past the remarkable exhibits. The wilted callas in the hot-water bottle, hung above the realistic dog-and-tree conceit, was sent by a husband hospitalized by the flu as evidence that he had not forgotten the Show; three Mermaid roses and three strips of bark in a frying pan symbolized California's ill-fated "ham-and-eggs" campaign. "Horse Heaven" was a bowl of chopped alfalfa topped by a handful of loaf sugar, some carrots, and a sheaf of oats. Topsy, of the flirtatious eyes and toothpick lashes, was an eggplant with a cup-of-gold (Copa de Oro) blossom for a hat. The Dali influence was evident in the half of a watermelon, top hat, and other objects resting on a mat of leaves, but the blue ribbon went to the amazing "tobacco-plant (*Spittoonia cuspidora*)" shown in "a genuine antique container," with flowers of cork disks, pipe-cleaners, and cigarettes!

YOU /// \$1000000

... JUST BY WRITING A STATEMENT OF 25 WORDS OR LESS

\$3600 ⁰⁰ in cash prizes
\$1000 FIRST PRIZE \$500 Second Prize
\$100 THIRD PRIZE
and 1000 prizes of \$1 each TOTAL 1103 CASH PRIZES

HERE'S an easy way to win yourself some real cash money. All you have to do is write 25 words or less on "The most important use I've found for 'Lysol'". Follow the easy rules (at right).

You may win a prize of \$1000. Send as many entries as you like. You have an opportunity to win any one of 1103 prizes between now and November 30th, 1940. No literary ability is needed. Why not send in your entry this very day? You may win a substantial prize!

"Lysol" offers these prizes to focus nationwide attention upon the war against the dangers of germ infection and infectious disease.

furniture,



CLUE "A" "LYSOL" in the Bathroom. ing places for germs and ringworm fungi -"Athlete's Foot". Wherever your fam-ily steps barefoot—on floors, tiling, rubber shower mats—wash with "Lysol" solution. Add "Lysol" to the water when you wash towels, bath mats, wash cloths and personal linen. Disinfect wash bowls, bathtubs and toilet bowls and seats with "Lysol" regularly.

Some of the Many Uses of "LYSOL"

For cleaning: bathrooms, floors, woodwork, walls, furniture, kitchens, drainboards, drains, sinks, laundries, closets, cellars, attics, sickrooms, mops, brooms, garbage pails, cleaning cloths, rugs, toys, telephones, stair rails, door knobs, and other places where germs may lurk.

For disinfecting: toilets, laundry, diapers, instruments.

For combating: insects (lice, termites, flies, etc.), parasites on pets, odors.

Also many farm uses, in the care of poultry and livestock.

These are only the most common uses of "Lysol". You may have learned other important uses not listed here.

THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940



CLUE "B" "LYSOL" for Minor Injuries. Whenever the skin is broken there is danger of Infection. Germs may enter the most trivial cut, bruise or scratch. Always be sure to wash thoroughly any bruise or scratch with an antiseptic "Lysol" solution.



CLUE "D" "LYSOL" in your garbage CLUE "E" "LYSOL" for Housecleanpoil. The garbage can attracts germ-laden insects, provides ideal breeding conditions for bacteria. Empty it every day and rinse it with a "Lysol" solution. "Lysol" deodorizes, too.



CLUE "C" "LYSOL" in the Nursery.

thing-including baby's mouth. If toys

are washable, wash them often in "Lysol" solution . . . also all nursery

woodwork, door knobs, etc.

Baby's hands touch every-

and nursery walls, floors,

ing. Throughout the house, always disinfect as you clean-with "Lysol". Add "Lysol" to the water when you scrub floors, stairs, woodwork, walls, shelves, door knobs, furniture, etc.



RULES FOR "LYSOL" CONTEST

1. Write a statement of 25 words or less on: "The most important use I've found for "LYSOL'". Be sure to sign your name and address clearly and completely. Entries may be written on coupon below—or on "LYSOL" entry blanks supplied by druggists—or on plain name. entry blanks plain paper.

2. Attach your entry to a "LYSOL" carton front (or facsimile). Any size "LYSOL" car-ton. If the carton (or facsimile) you enclose is from a \$1.00 size bottle, any prize you win will be automatically doubled.

3. Mail your entry and carton to "Lysol" Contest, 480 Lexington Ave., New York City.

4. Submit as many entries as you wish as long as each entry is accompanied by a "LYSOL" carton front or facsimile; but no more than one prize will be awarded to an individual. In case of ties, duplicate prizes will be awarded.

5. Prizes will be awarded for the best state-ments of the most interesting and practical uses of "LYSOL". Fancy writing or elaborate entries will not count as much as simple real-life uses of the product.

6. The judging committee of Radio and Pub-6. The judging committee of Radio and Publication Contests, Inc., (an organization entirely separate from the makers of "LYSOL") will select the winners. The decision of the judges will be final. All entries become the property of Lehn & Fink Products Corporation, which may use them as it desires.

7. Entrance in the contest constitutes per-mission to publish the winner's name and statement.

8. Contest is open to everyone living within the continental United States, except em-ployees of Lehn & Fink, their advertising agency, and members of their families.

9. No entry will be considered which is post-marked after midnight Nov. 30, 1940. 10. Prizes will be awarded as follows:-

First prize \$1000.00 Second prize 500.00 Second prize Third prize 500.00

100 prizes of \$10 each 1000 prizes of \$1 each Total of 1103 cash prizes

You may win double the amount of any of these prizes. See Rule 2.

11. Winners will be notified by mail as soon as possible after contest closes. Every effort will be made to complete selection of winners and award prizes by Christmas, 1940.

12. A list of winners will be sent on request o anyone who sends a three-cent stamped, elf-addressed envelope.

LEHN & FINK PRODUCTS CORP. Bloomfield, New Jersey





You get these extra values for your money in a CONCRETE HOME

Peachtree Battle Avenue, Atlanta—charming concrete home of Mr. T. W. Branch. Carl E. Helfrich, designer. Hallman Bros., builder.

Extra Beauty-whatever the architectural style of your new home, concrete's wide choice of textures and colors will help give it fresh charm and individuality.

Extra Protection-because it costs so little to have non-burnable, termite-proof, decay-proof, storm-proof concrete, over 45,000 families have chosen this construction for their new homes in the past four years.

Extra Comfort-owners in all parts of the country are telling neighbors how warm and dry their concrete homes are in winter, how cool in summer.

Extra Freedom from Trouble-A strongly built concrete home can't sag down or warp out of shape. Floors remain level and free from creaks. Windows, doors shut perfectly. Repairs are low.

Extra Economy-moderate first cost plus low upkeep plus high resale value add up to exceptionally low annual cost for concrete. It's the saving as well as the satisfying way to build.

HOW TO GET A CONCRETE HOME

Ask a Concrete Products Manufacturer or Concrete Contractor (see phone book) for names of architects and builders experienced in concrete. Write for free booklet of concrete house design ideas.

PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION Dept. A9-5, 33 W. Grand Ave., Chicago, III.

A national organization to improve and extend the uses of concrete . . . through scientific research and engineering field work



Garage apartments offer many possibilities for attractive design as well as income-producing possibilities. Here's a fine example



LITTLE HOUSE

R^{EMODELING} the upper floor into a rentable garage apartment is a smart way to make a large garage on an older suburban property pay for its upkeep and a good share of the taxes. If you're building a new garage it might be a good idea to include one there too. You never can tell when it might be convenient to rent out your own home and move in the garage apartment as an economical step or just to have fewer rooms to care for if your family dwindles in size. It's



Just room enough between kitchen and living room for a dining alcove with pine walls

always surprising too how many young couples or single persons are looking for just such apartments, places which are small, inexpensive, but convenient. Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Davis of Newberry, South Carolina realized though that to be rentable the garage apartment had to be just as smart as the idea itself. When they built this new garage on their property, and decided to include an apartment in it, they designed it to match their own home, using native granite for the first story, half timber and plaster above. They used appropriate casement windows too and a neat railed stairway was built at one end; it leads up to the front door which opens into a generous size living room with knotty pine walls, wide pine board floors, and a beamed ceiling. The passageway leading to the bedroom was put to good use as a sort of Pullman dining alcove

with two settles and a table, while the kitchen is well arranged and equipped. The bedroom includes a cedar-lined closet and, like kitchen and bath, it has plaster walls, insulating board ceiling. The ground floor has room for three cars and a servant's toilet under the stair.



TOPS GARAGE!



THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940



He knows that when you buy a car on time-as most folks do -it's sensible to take the precaution of figuring the cost yourself. Then you know in advance just what you get for what you pay ... You see just how and where you can save money.

It's easy now to figure the cost of the car you want. Just send for the free GMAC Payment Chart that has helped thousands of other car buyers. It gives you the whole financing story in dollars and cents ... puts all the details of financing and insur-

GENERAL MOTORS Den Book Instalment PLAN

This plan is available only through dealers in CHEVROLET, PONTIAC, OLDSMOBILE, BUICK, LA SALLE and CADILLAC cars.

-no salesman will call.

Within a few minutes, in the privacy of your own home, you can figure your whole transaction-based on the amount of time you want, and the amount you wish to pay monthly. And you will plainly see that the General Motors Instalment Plan saves you money.

So, before you buy a car . . . Know What You Get, Know What You Pay ... send the coupon below and get your GMAC "Figuring Chart" ... first!

CHAR PATHON CHAR		NO
1		SALESMAN
11 2		WILL CALL
1775 Broadway		
Please sent Chart for car		GMAC Paym
Chart for car	checked below	7.

67



OTHER, let's stop a

few minutes and listen to the

carolers. They sound so pretty."

near through with my Christmas

today to see our Christmas program? All the mothers are in-

vited. I want you to be there."

haven't started dressing Mary's

"Wish I could, Dick, but I

Do you too have to say no to

your children's requests the week

before Christmas? Do you have to

refuse the things which really

mean Christmas because you've put off shopping and gift-making

until the last moment? Then these

suggestions are for you! Each month from now until December

buy one or two of the gifts for which usually you shop wildly the week before Christmas. In the

early fall get that table for Aunt

Fanny for which you might shop

yourself into a headache the week

before Christmas. The linens for

Aileen, who's buying her trous-

seau, can be selected earlier in the

season while you're replenishing

your own stock of sheets and pillowcases. They will be paid

shopping. I must hurry."

doll yet."

"Mums, can

you come to school

"I can't, Betsy. I'm nowhere

for, too, before December arrives. And that's something to consider. It's fun to spend a few hours in the toy department the week after Thanksgiving selecting just the right toy for Sammy, who has great skill with his fingers. The biography for Grandfather will cost the same in August as in December, and you might even find time to read it yourself if you buy it early enough.

If you are one of those fortunate individuals who can save systematically each month in the year, you probably have a Christmas savings account. But if you follow my plan of spreading your Christmas buying, you can spend that check for something the whole family wants—a Ping-pong table, a fine etching, a chair for the library, a motion picture camera. And you can spend with a free conscience, knowing your Christmas bills are paid—and almost painlessly, too.

And so you

MARGARET FENTON HEADLAND

If you make some or all of your gifts, it is important that you begin early. Are you perhaps who, about the middle of December, walk yard-goods department of a favorite store lovely chintz that would make Helen a or some stunning tie silk that would out of seventy-five cents' worth of ma

ti is even more one of us through the and, seeing some darling housecoat make a three-dollar tie of material, forget all the s which must be done behristmas and buy as en-

things which must be done before Christmas and buy as enthusiastically as though it were the first of September? And then later get cross and fidgety because you have to spend in sewing those hours in which you want to decorate the house, trim the tree, or make Christmas cookies?

Why not dress that doll for little Jane now, when it will be fun to make a skating outfit from some velvet scraps and a playsuit from some left-over chambray? Embroider those towels during the autumn months. Finish those cute aprons before the snow flies, and perhaps the friends who receive them will feel as calm and rested when they wear them as you were when you made them. You'll doubtless have to consult an oculist if you try to make a petit point pillow top in the three weeks before Christmas, but if you start it now and do it a bit at a time while you're listening to the radio or entertaining a caller, you'll really enjoy it.

When I spoke about the gifts you make I didn't mean only needlework. I was thinking, too, about the orange marmalade you make so successfully. I thought I did, too, until the year I put off its preparation until four days before Christmas (my recipe takes three days) and then overcooked it because I was trying to help Johnny wrap his gifts at the same time. And yet I know that if I had finished it four days before

THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940

Glorify Your Home with a Lester *Betsy Ross* Spinet

Musically and decoratively, one of these graceful little pianos will work wonders in your home. Lester quality and craftsmanship, already famous for over a half century, assures everything that you would expect of a fine piano.

LESTER PIANOS ARE SOLD BY LEADING DEALERS EVERY-WHERE, 20 BEAUTIFUL STYLES



HERE ARE ALL THE ANSWERS Our fully illustrated brochure 'Harmony at Home' completely covers the piano subject, even to interior decoration. Practical, informative and helpful. Mail the coupon below for your copy.

LESTER PIANO MFG. CO., Inc., LESTER, PENNA. Please send me your brochure, 'Harmony at Home'. (Enclose 10c for mailing.)

NAME _____

LESTER GRAND PIANOS AND BETSY ROSS SPINETS ARE GUARANTEED TEN YEARS Thanksgiving I should have enjoyed making it and those to whom I gave it would have been truly delighted with their gift

Perhaps everyone raves about your mustard pickles. They can't be made in December and if you neglect them in the fall you'll just have to start looking for a trick bottle opener for that bachelor who would much rather have a jar of your pickles.

Your best strawberry and raspberry jams can be made only when berries are ripe, so when you put up your own this year make a little extra (not too little, for home-made jam is a very popular gift) and put it carefully away on the shelf in your fruit closet which is labeled "Christmas."

In chili sauce time, when your house is pungent with the smell of spice, put a few jars away for the friend who no longer has time to



do any canning. Watermelon pickle, too, is a gift some cooks would rather receive than anything you could possibly buy for them.

Besides the presents you sew and knit and put into jars and glasses, there are those which require a different kind of skill. Beautiful gifts can be made from a ten-cent tray and an Audubon print which costs only a dime. Wastebaskets and scrapbooks and hat boxes and screens



can be made in the same way. But these, as well as many other gifts which take time and patience, will be more successful if they are made when your nerves and therefore your hands are normally steady.

"But I like to be busy at Christmas time," you may say. "I like the scurry and the bustle of Christmas preparations."

Don't worry! You'll still be busy but you'll no longer be the last person on the block to get vour Christmas wreaths up. You'll have the red ribbons all pressed in advance. You won't be too tired to serve tea and Christmas cookies to friends who drop in. You'll have time to go over the Christmas tree ornaments, put on new hangers and buy those new balls for which you usually have to run to the ten cent store on Christmas Eve. In fact, you'll find time for a lot of things you have ordinarily had to do in such a rush that you haven't been able to enjoy them. You'll have time to get the real spirit of Christmas and do some of those little, spontaneous things which you've often thought of but, in the last minute hustle and bustle, you've always before had to cross off your list.

You'll have time to help your daughter with her last minute gifts. You'll have time to go caroling Christmas Eve and you may find a moment to sit down with your family and, turning to the second chapter of Luke, read aloud the story of the first Christmas.



This price includes Vanity, Chest-onchest, and Wagon Wheel Bed (headboard is actually Covered Wagon Wheel, faithfully reproduced; footboard is true copy of oxen yoke.) Craftsmen from genuine hard Rock Mountain Maple grown in the storied Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia—"The Cumberland" recaptures all of the charm and romance of our adventurous frontier days. See it—and many other splendid Virginia House creations—at leading furniture and department stores. Your local dealer will gladly place a suite of this distinctive furniture in your home for a small down payment, plus easy terms.





This price includes Dresser. Chest and panel bed—as shown at left.

The above prices are F. O. B. Factory, Marion, Va. Your local dealer will add charges for freight. *Virginia House* Maple is available at these low prices today—but due to rapidly changing world economic conditions, *Virginia House* may be more costly soon.



This Trade Mark is Branded on Every Suite It is Your Guarantee of Quality

PLAN YOUR OWN ROOMS: Send 15c (coin preferred) for the big new Virginia House booklet—edited by a nationally known decorator showing the adaptability of Virginia House Maple to your own home.

Virginia House	Dept. AH-240
Marion, Vi	rginia
GENTLEMEN: I enclose your illustrated Virginia	15c. Please send me
your mustrated virginia	Touse Dookiet.
Name	nouse bookiet.
	House booklet.

©1940-Virginia-Lincoln Furniture Corporation, Marion, Virginia

THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940

DANIEL LOW

110 Essex St.,

Gifts

aift



"Tea is served. Mrs. Smith "

"Why, of course, it's time for tea. Daddy gave me a new Telechron electric clock for my room - that's how I know. And it's the same time in all the other rooms in the house, because we have Telechron clocks in them too.'



KNICKERBOCKER is an interesting new design in the early-American tradition. The brown wood case has an inlay of lighter wood and gold-colored top o



CAFE is designed for the kitchen, pantry or bathroom wall. The plastic case comes in lvory, green, white, black or red colors. Priced at \$4.95. Telechron clocks, priced from \$2.95 to \$17.50, are sold by leading dealers throughout the country.



GUEST is an attractive alarm clock cased in pigskin-grained Textileather. Priced at SG-95. Every Telechron clock is powered by the famous self-starting Telechron motor, sealed in oil for quietness and long life.

WARREN TELECHRON COMPANY Aahland IN CANADA: THE CANADIAN GENERAL ELECTRIC CO. IN CANADA: THE CANADIAN GENERAL ELECTRIC CO. A Telechron clock in every room pro-vides a synchronized timekeeping system — like the Telechron systems that keep time so efficiently for schools, hotels, hospitals, and public buildings.







You can smile graciously and mean it when a guest spills his cocktail or forgets a burning cigarette-if you have this table. It has an absolutely burn-proof top, is equally impervious to all drinks, hot or cold. Top is mahogany impregnated with Textolite resins, in a very handsome parquetry inlay design. Kittinger.

M designs have more than their share of color and spirit. This one, on oilcloth, will do a job for your kitchen if you know better than to stop

with the kitchen table. Why not, for instance, apply it to a cornice board or complete frame around the windows? Easy to keep bright, clean, and shiny. Columbus.

Not every gardener is a handy-man with time and ability to install shelves. Solution: these



adjustable standards and brackets, ready to support your window shelves. From Knape and Vogt.



"Less than a year ago, it was just a tiny plaster crack. So small that Jim re-marked, 'Nobody will ever notice it.' But look at it now! Getting wider and longer and goodness knows where it will stop. Something's got to be done about it!



"We'll soon be doing more entertaining, so our walls must look their charm-ing best. That's why we're redecorating this fall and using Wall-Tex. Its strong canvas base keeps refilled cracks from opening up and protects against new cracks, too.



"Winter's ahead all right! Winter heating ... and soot! So we're doubly glad we chose Wall-Tex for it is *honestly* washable. Non-absorbent finishes. that's the secret! They clean like magic and are so easy to keep looking fresh and new."



More charming rooms are made possible by Wall-Tex and its enduring beauty saves you money. Over 200 distinctive patterns are available in lovely colors for all rooms. Send for color portfolio and sample swatches - today !



Major and



I^F YOU want Venetian blinds at a price (about \$2 per window), here they are, ready for you to in-stall in about five minutes flat! They're made of durable, warpresistant chest-

nut fibre, can be pulled up or down, slats tilted at any angle. They have a washable oil-painted finish, come in ivory only. We are also pleased to report that the flapping caused by a good strong wind is about as close to noiseless as possible! Clopay.



REALLY good design in an inex-pensive lamp that can be used on a table or as a "pin-itup" is not easy to find. But look at this one! Solid brass base, white paper shade with white binding; right for any room. The converter trick is a pivot hinge that works at the touch of your hand. Never let it be said that this is not the age of double-duty efficiency! C. Bradford Carpenter.

VEN if you are running to catch E the 8:15, don't risk a fall! This cotton tufted rug with nonskid rubber backing comes in 1

dozen colors to fit in with any room's carefully worked out scheme. It is made in a good variety of sizes. too. Thermoid.



THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940

Major and

HERE'S no plating to wear off these new stainless steel kitchen sink fixtures (1) and they can't

rust or crack. Streamlined in design, they come in two finishes, highly polished and satin. One unit set includes a spray attachment for rinsing dishes, insulated so it can't get hot and with a device to prevent splashing water over the walls if the fixture is suddenly pushed away. Schaible Foundry & Brass Works.

2. A cellar drainer to meet the emergency of a flooded basement is always an important piece of household equipment. This new

> one is automatic in operation and it's able to work against a 25 foot head of water. It's equipped with a self cleaning vertical strainer placed above floor silt level, has lifetime lubrication facilities and an open



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type, non-clogging impellor. \$37.50 f.o.b. factory. Red Jacket. 3. An electrical outlet for a clock and one weatherproofed for outdoor installation. The clock outlet includes a hook to hang the clock and is recessed so clock will be flush with wall, cord and plug concealed. Outdoor outlet is



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heater nearer the wall. General Flectric

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THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940

Announcing the end of curtains with that drooping, limp "homemade" look

OU know how it is when, after hours of har work, the curtains *still* don't hang evenly. You'd done your best on measuring, used all the sewin machine attachments, nearly sprained an ank climbing up to adjust the rods—but the curtains look a homemade as ever. I finally took my troubles to Harr Gladstone's home furnishings store in Los Angeles, which is one place where you can actually see the kind of cu tains and draperies you dream about. His Mrs. Hallida, who supervises the workroom, gave me a step-by-step a count of her professional secrets. They'll work for you, to

Lie Curtain T

B. C.-1940

Unless you own a perfectly enormous table, the be cutting surface is the living room floor. Use a T-square get a perfect right angle between hem line and side edge To be sure of the all-important right angle and straigl line, it's a good idea to follow a tape measure pinned the rug. Repeat this procedure for cutting the lining ar interlining. Inexpensive outing flannel is a good interlining; important because it delays color fading, lengther the life of the fabric, makes the draperies hang better

The bottom hem of a drapery may be from 2" for straight hanging one up to 12" for a tie-back, and is py in with a button hole or feather stitch. The interlinin first hemmed by machine, extends only to the top of tl drapery's bottom hem. Turn the edge of the drapery 1½ back over the interlining and sew together by a long bu ton or loose overcasting stitch. The lining, also machin hemmed, is next applied. It should just cover the inter lining stitches. When the drapery, interlining and linin are all put together and hemmed at the top, stay-tac through all three layers of material near the botton Stay-tacking, invisible stitches about a foot apart, pr vents sagging and is a sure mark of the profession touch. For absolute perfection, sew covered 1½" dress maker weights- to the interlining at corners and seam

MARTHA B. DARBYSHIRE

(I) MUTTONU
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AMERICAN HOME

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THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940

The secret of draperies that hold their pleats indefinitely is in two simple steps-pressing and laying them aside for several days with the pleats "tied in." (Pleats may be 3 to 5 inches deep, 4 inches preferred.) First fold and then press in the pleats. Then, if you are using large rings on a large pole, attach the rings so that the rod will go through the exact center of each pleat. If you prefer concealed rings or hooks on a small rod or track, sew them to the center back of each pleat. Then tie the draperies with string-tape in three or four places-they look like long tubes. complete with pleats-and leave them that way for several days before hanging. Draperies made of heavy textured material may be left tied for an extra couple of days after they are hung at the windows.

Mrs. Halliday has another important rule, and it applies to all curtains and draperies: never, *never* skimp on material. They must be at least double the width of the window opening—which means, for example, that a window 4' wide is properly curtained with material 8' wide, 4' to a side. Whether your curtains and draperies are to be pulled or remain stationary, they must have double fullness. And if it's a budget problem, remember that you'll be better off with plenty of 20¢ a yard percale than with a skimpy allotment of the most shimmering satin.

Valances, as carefully interlined as draperies, are hung on a second rod which extends over the draperies. If you want a cornice, give your handy man a cardboard pattern. He will cut it out of three-ply wood, with top and ends of $\frac{1}{2}$ " pine board. The cornice should be $\frac{5}{2}$ " deep.

Crisscross tied-back curtains for windows wider than they are high are not recommended for amateur homework. (They must be shaped at the top-cut longer at the center edges and graduated back-and cause altogether too much trouble for the inexperienced.) However, you can have your fun at making very billowy, feminine, ruffled curtains. The main trick is to have both curtains and ruffles plenty full. Current fashion for the width of ruffles is about 6", but they'll be just that much flossier if you make them 8" or 9". Almost any sheer fabric, from dimity to point d'esprit, will give the desired effect.

Next time you need new curtains and draperies, try following this professional advice on what and what not to do. You might even tack it up on the sewing room bulletin board, right in plain sight where you can look at it



Ruffles and ribbons on a bed and dressing table, dainty enough for a fairy princess

> Photographs by E. D. Potter Fred R. Dapprich

Designed by Dorothie Ames, of Gladstone Shop, for daughters of Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Wyeth, of Pasadena Sprigged percale over organdy skirts makes very pretty spreads. Dressing table and stool repeat the idea. Notice perky organdy ruffles on pillows



It's ALL So EASY—your materials are picked up at your door at our expense by Freight or Express—and a week later you can have [at sensational savings] colorful, modern, deep-textured BROADLOOM RUGS, woven SEAMLESS, REVERSIBLE for double wear and luxury, in any width up to 16 feet by any length.

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between stitches. We're almost sure it will work, even for you! But that is not all I learned from Harry Gladstone's shop. You see, everyone in it is full of ideas, and they don't stop with curtains and draperies! If you want DuBarry atmosphere in your bedroom and can afford to have it run up by the experts, all well and good; if the budget calls for a little economizing, the home touch may be wisely applied to such things as bedspreads and dressing table skirts.

Certain basic bedspread rules still hold good. Never skimp on material even if it means getting along with unbleached muslin instead of pink satin. Spreads must be long enough to allow for a liberal tuck-under beneath the pillows. Take your extra yardage for ruffles seriously. The top panel of a sheer spread must be given body; for example, organdy should be backed by sateen with an interlining of outing flannel, backed by a lining. For a silk spread use only the interlining and lining.

A canopied four poster bed is a challenge to Mrs. Halliday, and not much wonder. They are delightful whether they are dressed elegantly or simply. She makes her tester drapery run either across or lengthwise of the frame, and makes it of double fullness. The tester ruffle, dropping down from eight to twelve inches, according to the height of the bed post, must also have double fullness. Nothing is so sad as a scanty, stingy tester ruffle that is supposed to be perky and saucy. A canopied bed has either a bedspread with a ruffle dropping to the floor, or a permanent, lined, ruffled skirt made on a sateen body that fits over the box springs under the mattress. With the permanent ruffled skirt, the spread is cut tailored and extends down over the sides to meet the ruffled underskirt.

A dressing table skirt may be attached to the table by snaptape. This is much more sensible than tacking the skirt on permanently. The skirt should be at least twice the actual measurement for proper fullness. It need not go across the back of the table but it is wise to run it around the back corners for a few inches. A thin, inexpensive mirror may be used over the top, or you may use regular picture glass instead. If you use the latter, the table top, under the glass, should be covered with the dressing table skirt material. To do this, cut a cardboard pattern to fit the table top exactly and cover it with the material. Then turn the cardboard over and glue the material down on the underside.

It all sounds simple enough, doesn't it? And once you master the rules you can do great things.



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Send, today, for your copy of Lurelle Guild's "The Inexpensive Way to Decorate." Only ten cents, to cover mailing costs.



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THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940

my copy of "The Inexpensive Way To Deco-

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State



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The American Home **New York City**

251 Fourth Avenue



Home of Margaret Speaks

APE COD houses don't have to look like peas in a pod, with the same long low front and shuttered windows on either side of a center door. By shifting the design around a bit a lot of variety and individuality is possible. On Miss Speaks' country home in Westchester County they built a trim little entrance vestibule on a gable end of the



house; they pushed out a ten foot wide bay window along the living room side; they built a brick garage at right angles to the front and connected it to the kitchen with a covered breezeway. The treatment gives the house its own special zest and it works out well inside, too; a 14 x 26 foot living room, a stair, two bedrooms, a bath, and kitchen are accommodated in





F. M. Demarest

Architects: VICTORINE and SAMUEL HOMSEY Associate: ALTON CRAFT

typical rectangular Cape Cod space with more room upstairs for the future bedrooms and a bath. It's a country house on twelve and a half acres, placed for enjoyment of a spectacular view and providing handy access to many outdoor features through five doorways: the gabled front entrance, the Dutch door next to the big story-book bay window on the east side, glazed and paneled double door leading from the living room to a new porch, west side doorway, and the kitchen entrance.



THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940





This house is sealed with Fir-Tex inside and out! It is the residence of W. W. McCready in Forest Grove, Oregon; D. W. Edmundson, architect. *Above*: Fir-Tex Sheathing is nailed to the walls and roof; notice the asphalt coating, which keeps out rain and moisture. *Below:* Plastering over Fir-Tex insulating lath in the McCready home. This solid base prevents lath marks, plaster cracks are minimized. Fir-Tex insulation drastically reduces heat bills.



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About the house are vegetable, perennial, cutting, and rock gardens while, farther out, there's an acre of orchard, four acres of woodland, an evergreen nursery, and six acres farmed with the help of a local man. Thirty varieties of trees include many crab apples, maples, and white birches, all of which were very carefully planted and appropriately placed in relation to the house itself. A small guest house or playhouse, apart from the house, is bordered by a cutting garden in

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WEBSTER'S NEW INTERNATIONAL DICTIONARY Second Edition



Bay window and fireplace on opposite living room walls

which are flagged walks and a bird bath. Tiny bird houses are placed in all the trees about the building, for Miss Speaks is particularly fond of birds and likes to have them around her. There's also a tool house on the grounds to take care of the ever-growing array of gardening paraphernalia, while a badminton court provides lots of fun and exercise for everyone.

The living room takes up a good part of the house and is the sort of comfortable, informal room which fits in with country living. Every wall has interesting treatment. Meals are served in the front part of the room, while the wide fireplace alcove with its pinepaneled wall, built-in settle, and six foot fireplace opening takes up the west wall. The rear wall is lined with bookshelves and the long bay window has a wide built-in seat for comfort, a magnificent wide valley view for inspiration. There's a playroom downstairs too for Ping-pong—and storage for preserves.

Since this cottage was primarily planned as a place to rest—and then rest some more in the great outdoors—the housework problem has been neatly solved by making the house so simple that it practically runs itself. Servants are quite unnecessary in this scheme of things. The kitchen linoleum simply refuses to show a speck of dirt and the rugs in the living room are the type that can be given the proverbial lick and promise and emerge looking as clean as a whistle. All of which leaves plenty of time for outdoor fun—long, lazy hikes in spring when everything is just beginning to wake up, brisk walks in the fall over the countryside with its riotously colorful changing foliage, cooling swims in the summertime, and grand skating and tobogganing on the many hills in the neighborhood when winter rolls around.—CHARMÉ SEEDS

Building Data:

Foundation: Concrete block. Basement under main house only. Concrete basement floor. Walls: Cedar clapboards on wood sheathing and framing. Garage and chimney, whitewashed brick. Interior: 3 coats of plaster on wood lath, knotty pine siding in living room. Roof: Wood shingles. Windows: Wood double hung windows. Large fixed sash in living room. Flooring: Oak. Kitchen and bath, linoleum. Equipment: Brass plumbing pipes, copper roof leaders, gutters; cooking, water heating, refrigeration with bottled gas. Heating: Hot air system, oil fired.

Promethea

ls Your Husband a Night Sheepherder?

• Doesn't he realize that the sheep he counts aren't sheep at all, but wolves in sheep's clothing? Doesn't *he* know that they devour his rest? Don't you *both* know that the aid to better sleep is a better mattress?

Sleep on OWEN hand-woven innersprings

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for free copy of this helpful book and name of nearest store where you can examine Owen qualities, as identified by this important label.





dots along back and sides, three coral-red tubercles just back of her neck, and one yellow one near her other extremity. Or she may be oftenest seen—but not recognized—during her hibernation, well hidden within a curled leaf that hangs until spring from an otherwise bare twig—as shown here, at the right.

Were I in time I might watch the amazing skill she is demonstrating in the other picture, as she literally "rolls up and ties on" for the winter. This involves pulling the leaf shelter together, spinning within it a tough, silken cocoon, and the prolongation of that cocoon into a silk cable that binds the leaf stem firmly to the twig. Note the preliminary leaf lashings; the first (outer) layers of cocoon, with a hole at the bottom for drainage during construction; Promethea's intent precautions that the silk band about the twig will be strong and lasting!



Try this new Insulation Quiz...



Q. Why do some insulations bring more comfort-save more money?

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Q. What is the easiest way to compare different insulations to find out which is the best buy?

A. Use check list of Comparative Insulation Values found on page 9 of new booklet, "It's Different." This list tells you what to insist on if you want maximum comfort from insulation the year around. Mail coupon today for free copy.



from the outside in,

OME day this fall, after

removing screens, hanging

the storm sash, interning

the garden furniture and

otherwise getting things ready for

winter, I'm going to take a walk

over the fields. I'll return marvel-

ing at nature's ingenious ways

and, I'm afraid, envious of my

neighbor, Promethea, after seeing

what a neat, simple, completely

efficient job she makes of going

More formally, she is Callo-

samia promethea, one of the well-

known giant silkworm family of

night-flying moths. Because her

reddish-brown and gray wing

colors are less spectacular than

those of some of her relatives,

she may be better known in her summer caterpillar phase. Then,

seen on the spice-bush, tulip-tree,

wild cherry, and other common

woody plants, she is a large, plump, bright bluish-green crea-

ture with rows of glossy black

She builds her house

into winter quarters.

THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940



are the real "sidewalk kids" of today!

OUNG people are naturally sociable and fun loving. Instinctively they crave outdoor activity and competitive sports which are aids to their health, happiness, and general well-being in every way. There has been a 40% decrease in street accidents and juvenile delinquency since New York City so generously equipped its 20,000 acres of parks with recreational facilities. Almost four hundred playgrounds are now filled with swings, ball fields, tennis courts, roller skating areas, and wading pools for children in crowded districts. But what of the opportunities for fun and play for your supposedly more privileged children of the suburbs? In established residential sections, vacant land formerly utilized for group play has gradually disappeared and near-by streets have become the community centers. Play-

ing ball in the road is a hazardous business, but school grounds are often inconveniently far away.

In our case the answer has been to provide a setting for the normal activities of growing children. Their repeated demands for more space and additional companionship made us realize that they could no longer be confined to a small back yard. Our front yard could well be adapted to their rightful needs and we were faced with the choice of giving it over to grass, which was usually stubborn, or to the children, who were eager. Since the main concern of a home is supposedly the raising of children, why, we wondered, should they not have the part of the yard they preferred?

So, we decided to let our peaceful green yard be transformed into a neighborhood playground. Its inherent



NEVER before in our history has the call for Amer-ican unity been so insistent, or the need so great.

But what is unity? Waving a flag may symbolize it; and building an airplane demonstrate it. But they do not define it. The true stuff of which unity is made lies deep in the heart of each American—in You, the People.

The American Way is created and maintained by you, in your own family circle. It grows outward to national greatness from that miracle of unity-your own home.

In these times, to build security around your loved for unity. That is why building new homes, and improving old ones, is so vital to national welfare today. In recognition of that truth six distinguished Americans have collaborated in writing this page.



The home is the pattern out of which a free society is made; there are no liberties which do not live in it. Europeans often criticize the American home because women have an equal voice in it, and because its children are not severely

Raymond Gram Swing suppressed. But they are criticizing a standard of home-democracy which is the foundation of the nation's democracy.

Not all American homes are free, not all Americans are yet free to own their own homes. But that is the criterion of freedom, and there can be nothing more worth striving for than universal home ownership, and responsible freedom of individuals within the home.

> Reymond gram Liong RAYMOND GRAM SWING-NEWS ANALYST

Only a high order of national unity can make the years of this decade The Up-surging Forties.

But national unity is not a result which -presto!—is pulled from the politicians' hats. It requires something definite to Dr. Stanley High unite on—something on the desirability of which all Americans can agree.

Our ideals and traditions being what they are, I doubt if unity—the solid, progress-making kind of unity that the times require—can be more quickly or more significantly achieved than through a homebuilding, home-owning movement.

An America under its own roofs is likely to be an America under way.

Stanley High -

DR. STANLEY HIGH-CHURCHMAN AND AUTHOR



Faith in America and her institutions will not easily be shaken by subversive influences since every citizen is or can be the owner of a bit of his native land. The home owner guarantees his citizenship; he gives hostage to his neighbors against everything that would harm his country. He is of the union.

Edgar A. Guest American unity is of the American family life and the American way. Nothing that alien *isms* have to offer the American home owner can tempt him to desert. He is a patriot, a strong defender of the prin-ciples of democracy and withal—a man of peace.

End Car EDGAR A. GUEST-AMERICAN POET

In these times two purposes rise above all others. One is to defend our Nation. The other is to preserve those basic institutions which make possible the American way of life.

Nowhere are these two purposes more deeply enshrined than in the American home. When a family owns its home, it Raymond Clapper owns not only the shelter for its hearth but holds in its own name some of the soil of America. The family which owns or is acquiring its home commands a stake in America, a living possession that it is ready to defend against enemies within or without. Home own-

ers take pride in the knowledge that they are good citi-zens, that they are anchors of their nation's security,

that they are contributing to the nation's welfare. Raymond Clappen

RAYMOND CLAPPER-COLUMNIST



This would seem to be an era when free men and women are making fresh appraisals of all the things they hold dear. What thing has value in times like these? What thing comes first? What is worth fighting for-or, more impor-tant, worth living and working for?

Stewart McDonald Rewart McDonald One's own home, certainly. And perhaps the American home needs a fresh examination. A home is not paid for so dearly and with such sacrifice as in former years, but today it is a better built home, better equipped, and more livable than ever before. Do we value our homes less because they are more easily achieved? I think not. The Ameri-can concept of home has taken on new meaning. Here is the center of American life, the inviolate family sanctuary of security, happiness, and freedom.

STEWART MODONALD-FEDERAL HOUSING

The most powerful platform in America is the American home. The American family which owns its own home knows what it means to say: This is my own, my native land.



In this way a people who live by a common heritage join hands in preserv- Gabriel Heatter ing it for their children. In that same home children feel best the meaning of all we call America. Thus national unity is born and preserved—first, inside one's family, then reaching out neighbor to neighbor, and

finally encompassing the entire community and nation. Give your children the deepest roots of all—a home they know is theirs-in a country of which they will forever feel a living part. This is the timeliest and most practical manifestation of true patriotism.

Saline Healt

LOOK HOMEWARD FOR SECURITY

This page itself is an example of the unity which typifies America. The space is provided by a building materials manufacturer, the Certain-teed Products Corporation. Six outstanding Americans graciously contributed their time and great talent to write it. All have united in a common purpose: to point out the importance of home ownership to American citizens. The money ordinarily paid to such writers was pre-

sented by Certain-teed to the American Red Cross.

CERTAIN-TEED PRODUCTS CORP. 100 EAST 42ND STREET, NEW YORK

ASPHALT ROOFING, SHINGLES & SIDING • STRUCTURAL INSULATION Wall Boards • Gypsum Lath and plaster products

advantage is an even expanse of turf parallel to the street. Here children can enjoy grou games in a somewhat protected area and, of primary importance, they can still see wh is going on and be seen by their contemporaries. Tall trees near the house furnish sufficie shade. A large maple offers ideal branches for climbing and for an old-fashioned ro swing, quite a novelty in itself, and a delight to all the youngsters.

As for the parents, a sheltered terrace at the back furnishes seclusion. The children wi ingly help to keep the lawn raked and in order if only we won't re-seed it just y Presented with entertaining alternatives at home, they are less interested in the mov and more appreciative of their parents' point of view. Participating with their childr in certain sports, the parents, too, become a great deal more understanding and salutary supervision is guaranteed.

Badminton, for instance, is a pleasant exercise which both mother and daughter c enjoy. Ring tennis is more popular with father and son, while both games devel precision, muscular control, and good sportsmanship. In the spring and fall the bo keep the lawn smooth by variations of soft ball, hit the bat, or soccer. Jump ro and hopscotch in all their ramifications are talkatively enjoyed by younger gi as is the elaborate bouncing of balls to rhythm. A friend, sympathetic to c experiment, contributed a clock golf set, which encompasses only a small ar and has been an absorbing hot-weather diversion for both boys and girls.

With so much equipment to keep track of, the boys found the excuse they h long wanted for building a hut. It is crude in construction but serves as storehouse and has cleared our garage of balls, bats, ropes, fish poles, ge sticks and rackets. Persistent parental reminders that things must be p away are no longer necessary. The boys willingly seek an excuse for manip lating the large shiny padlock which now insures the safety of the treasured possessions.

Not to be outdone by the boys, the girls started a Badminton Club. O Saturday they planned a tournament of ambitious proportions, whi to my surprise went off without a hitch and was applauded by enthusiastic audience of younger brothers and sisters.

Community-minded owners might well take turns offering their ad cent yards for the same purpose. In any case, as parents and as ci zens, let us make concerted efforts to give our suburban youngste the natural comradeship of group activities which their supposed less privileged neighbors take for granted.-FANNY SCANNELL

> URS is not a modern garden. I never quite dared s so before, but the other day I thought of what r husband and I have been trying to do during the three years that we have owned our own homerecreate for our children some of the treasured, well-lov features of our own childhood back yards; to give them, this neat and tidy suburban world of theirs, a place which they could run and play, unsupervised, unadmo ished. And I said firmly to the children, "Go on o in the back yard and play!"

Next door my neighbor was hoeing vigorously. "I out in the garden," he called to his wife, in answer a question as to his whereabouts. On the other sid another neighbor, in Mr. McGregor fashion, patient scritch-scratched at his grass. "I want you to kno I appreciate the fact that this year your Pet has learned not to run across my garden," he h told us only the night before. Across the street third neighbor mowed greensward and loving inspected his rock garden. As far as I could down the street on either side of us stretch garden after garden, formal, informal, p turesque-not a back yard in the place! We don't have a rock garden. There's a sto with a fossil print in it that Johnny dug in the woods one day and stuck into muddy bank, along with a few sad-looki ferns and some lilies that never bloo That was when he was studying W Life in New Jersey, Project No. 9,78 And we don't have much grass scritch-scratch, either. The first pa of our yard is the football field at

Photographs

WALTER B. WILDER

OFFER FOR SOLUTIONS THE SUBURBAN PLAYGROUND PROBLEM !

turned over their front yard for

Community

story starts on preceding page

The Browns

turn garden

into an old-

back yard

story starts on this page

Mr. Marsh's

"husband's

retreat"

becomes a

kids'

"paradise"

story starts on page 84

fashioned

Play!

Scannells

THREE

The



smooth and part grass, you're almost sure to find yourself in Peter's corn patch when you aim toward the middle wicket.

Peter's vegetable patch is much like my husband's and mine used to be-high hopes in the spring and figurings on how many bunches of carrots can be sold. Then come the radishes-the only thing the rabbits and squirrels spurn-which grace our table meal after meal. Later we transplant petunias to cover up the place where the vegetables should have been.

At the side of the croquet field are two cherry trees, one of which makes a marvelous shade-roof for the house and farm which the younger children have made. They painted one of the wild cherry saplings white so it would look like a birch tree, and planted corn, which surprisingly came up in three days. The spot looked so lush that they called it a jungle and had all the mothers in a panic while they became monkeys and climbed all the trees in the woods. The second cherry tree this year cracked under the combined weight of four largish boys who were in it

early in the spring the grass comes up in patches there. But then there's mumblety-peg under the birch tree, or archery, with the garage as the target, and even the toughest grass gets discouraged. Even if it didn't, the football season begins extremely early in our part of the world and it'd be dug up again, come late August. World

each base and one of them, later on, makes a marvelous place for the croquet pole and the first two wickets. With the croquet field part

he ended up with the Living Beyond the football field

doesn't really make much difference.

Down over the bank of the "rock garden" is a woods of birch and wild cherry and oak, place of many campings-out, with both winter fireplace sites. That in the and summer

southwest corner was built for summer so the smoke wouldn't hurt the trees; in the middle is the fireplace for winter use. Between

stree

Photographs by A. Clark

them is a neat pile of firewood culled from the hurricane's sweep. The ten-year-olds in the neighborhood, proud possessors of Boy Scout hatchets, diligently hacked and chopped the fallen trees.

Science Club!

is a small plot we call the "gar-One of the problems each spring is to decide on the best spot for the den" where we grow the flowers that most luxuriantly fill our sandy soil. But if a football or baseball gets tossed into this garden spot, it bird bath, out of the way of all the playing grounds, yet bird-handy, too. For a while we had it near one of the cherry trees, but we decided that was just too convenient for the birds. Many a time we watched The croquet and baseball field, beyond, ought to be smoothly rolled them fill themselves with cherries and then swoop down for a drink and lush with grass, but somehow it never is. There's a worn spot for

and a splash. They're cheery to have about, always fun to watch. Our yard ends in the village woods and on beyond the tall oaks that

83

"I can't help thinking *it was my fault!*"



"WE HAD A FIRE. And, of course, we had insurance. It took a loss to make me realize what a difference there is between a handful of insurance policies and real insurance protection. I didn't worry. But after we moved back in the house—I began to figure how much we really lost. It probably was my fault, but I *thought* we were protected!"

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The first step is the RISK DETECTOR. Here's a 12-page booklet that gives examples of wasteful coverage . . . incomplete protection . . . and haphazard insurance buying which does not deliver the most protection per premium dollar.



unusual 12-page booklet helps to point of where your own risks are. This booklet is free! Just send your name and address to The American Insurance Group, Department 200, Newark, N. J.



act as sentinels is the creek in which most optimistically each spring for a while the boys try their luck at fishing.

If our yard were a garden, it would be used only part of the year, but winters, it seems to me. it is more alive than at any other time. Small boys roll and tumble and shriek, taking long dives into the snow; the older boys shovel crooked paths and go skiing in the woods. The adults, out to show the children that they were practically born on skiis, take more tumbles than their offspring. Dignity is lost in the pale enchantment of our winter woodsyoung and old romp together and become fast friends.

Ours is no neat and tidy suburban garden. It is inhabited all year 'round in happy succession by Indians and pirates, Red Granges and Babe Ruths, Lindberghs and sea captains, witches and cowboys and Mickey Mouses. We have grass that can be walked on (what there is of it!), trees that can be climbed, bushes that make wonderful ambush, sun and shade and woods and water. And within the always elastic realm of reason, it doesn't make much difference what is stepped on or touched. Ours, you see, is a Back Yard!—KAY HENNING BROWN

FEW years ago, when thrift gardens were the Novered most of our back yard with flowers, shrubs, and trees, and had even appropriated my carefully sodded terraces for a wild flower rock garden. So home was out of the question. Besides, a bachelor friend had said im-pressively, "You ought to get an island somewhere and get away from your wife," without explaining whether he meant permanently or intermittently. The wife of my friend, the ex-councilman, also influenced me when she remarked, 'Jim ain't much of a gardener, but he certainly gets in an awful lot o' visitin'.

So I decided that a vacant lot opposite Jim's would serve in lieu of an island, and the possibility of some visiting was promising. I found that the city owned the lot, whereupon Jim helped me pull wires to get the use of it. When, jubilantly and hopefully, I began to spade, he advised plowing it, but no plow could have gone through the locust thicket that had been growing unchecked for years. Even where there weren't locusts, I could scarcely force my spade into the hard soil. A goodhearted neighbor who had dumped his coal ashes on the lot for years, continued to do so after I acquired it, stating that they were good for the ground. "Yes, if sifted," I replied, for I had begun to read magazines about garden-



"Gee, you don't blame me for being scared of germs, do you? They're EVERYWHERE, just waitin' to pounce on us babies. But, thank goodness, Mommy knows how to protect my skin! After my bath, she goes all over me with Mennen Antiseptic Oil. That's a baby's best BODYguard, yes Ma'am!"

Mother, to give your baby's skin the best care, to keep him more free of rashes, and safer from germs...do as practically all hospitals do, as most doctors recommend: oil your baby's skin with Mennen Antiseptic Oil every day. Do this until your baby is at least a year old. And use the oil also after every diaper change.

Then continue the protection with Mennen Antiseptic *Powder*. Made by a new process, *Hammerized*, it's smooth as air. And, because it's Antiseptic, it's recommended by more doctors than any other baby powder.

Note: To insure your baby's health, take him to your doctor, regularly.



ing and to follow their advice. The first year I got only a small

section under cultivation. So when some boys—members of the local Living World Science Club asked for space for small gardens, I gladly consented, for they would help clear the land. Today the whole lot is cleared, and fresh peas, corn, radishes, and tomatoes have become so much a matter of course that we scorn store produce. Besides the pleasure of gardening myself, I get even more from directing the children whose gardens extend all around the edge of the Husband's Retreat.

LSO I get in a "lot o' visitin'." A People stop to ask the way to streets beyond my busy corner, and often the conversation is prolonged, for they find the children an interesting topic, and our sign -"L. W. S. C. Gardens"-excites inquiries. Sometimes friends say, "Vegetables are so cheap it doesn't pay to raise them." But I always think they envy me my joyous freedom, and I see a covetous gleam in their eyes as they look at my roasting ears. Of course, money could not buy all I get in my Husband's Retreat. Outdoor air and exercise make for health and contentment as well as vegetables. Gardening stimulates the imagination. You think great thoughts and dream new dreams as you dig and hoe. You are a poet in a paradise shared with orioles. cardinals, catbirds, song sparrows, and sometimes rarer birds of great beauty.

As the years go by, I try new things, for here I am free to do as I please. I go in for flowers and devote a circle to annuals and another to perennials. Each April and October the Club plants a small tree on the edge of the lot; we now have a black ash, a weeping willow, a cutleaf maple, a catalpa, and a slippery elm, and on each tree we place a marker visible from the street so passersby may add a little to their knowledge of trees. Tiny maples, oaks, and ash trees are transplanted into our arboretum and later will be moved out to shade the streets of our growing city. I left some of the locusts along the border of the Retreat and keep them trimmed as a hedge. The grass along the street, formerly a wilderness of ragweed, the boys and I have turned into a satisfying rectangle of growing green. On the bank or terrace we have planted roses that particularly like a southern outlook.

Fall comes, and my birds say goodbye. But there will be another spring, more birds, more flowers, more vegetables, more children. Hopefully I spade. Grouches, disappointments, failures vanish under the soil. Yes, there is much more than vegetables in the Husband's Retreat.—L. ALDEN MARSH



and Liking It



IVING in California, we decided to take more advantage of our climate and surroundings, and we think we have done so. Shaded by three poplars, our back yard, with its pool and rock garden, seemed an ideal setting for a patio and grill. So my father, my brother (age 15), and I (age 18, for the record) made the 16-by-12 foot patio of flagstones set not too even to be pleasing and with a good cement mixture between them. Then, wanting privacy, we decided on walls of brick, 1000 of which we bought for a cent apiece. We had no experience or ideas about masonry, but, armed with a few points given us by a local contractor, we found it surprisingly easy. We made little use of the level and deliberately sought a kind of "rustic" effect; we made each end a double column for strength and to provide places for flower pots. For the barbecue (23 inches wide and 16 inches deep) we poured a foundation, built the walls of brick smeared inside with fire clay, and put a \$1.25 tin oven in the chimney. A blacksmith made us an angle-iron frame to hold a steel plate for frying and a heavy steel screen for grilling; a 9 inch wide steel sheet above and at the back holds hot pots and pans. We have seen larger, perhaps better, gardens, but we still prefer our own, and enjoy it the more because we made it ourselves at a cost of only about \$25-CHESTER PARKINSON, JR.

THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940

My bargain hunting led to love ...I've found my Man

Lucky day for romance when I discovered Pepsodent Antiseptic gave me <u>3 times</u> the confidence by curbing bad breath. Lucky, too, for my budget because it lasts 3 times as long.



I Didn't Seem to "Take" It happened again and again...even with HIM at first. They'd say "hello" and shortly disappear. I wondered whyl

Comes the Dawn! I'm a born bargain-hunter...Lucky I am! Because a bargain taught me what was wrong with my man-appeal! Bad breath is a horrid thought... even to me, now.

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\$335 IMMDSCAPING. OW cost and high value are combined with special success in this new little at Point of Pines, Revere, Massachusetts. It fills the bill for small house needs bouse at Point of Pines, Revere, Massachusetts. It fills the bill for small house needs today because it provides simplified but attractive architectural style, a space-saving nouse at Point of Pines, Revere, Massachusetts. It fills the bill for small house needs today because it provides simplified but attractive architectural style, a space-saving plan with an average number of comfortable rooms. up-to-date heating bathroom today because it provides simplified but attractive architectural style, a space-saving plan with an average number of comfortable rooms, up-to-date heating, bathroom, and kitchen equipment, some of the mechanical labor-saving devices on the market plan with an average number of comfortable rooms, up-to-date heating, bathroom, and kitchen equipment, some of the mechanical labor-saving devices on the market today—and all at bedrock cost. One of a number being built around the Boston area. and kitchen equipment, some of the mechanical labor-saving devices on the market today—and all at bedrock cost. One of a number being built around the Boston area, it has been developed by a firm which has given much study to the inexpensive house today—and all at bedrock cost. One of a number being built around the Boston area, it has been developed by a firm which has given much study to the inexpensive house problem and has learned how to provide these things by simplification of old-time building methods, by sound ways of cutting corners on time, costs, and details. problem and has learned how to provide these things by simplification of old building methods, by sound ways of cutting corners on time, costs, and details. Notable in the plan are the following: the entrance vestibule which gives

HOUSE

Notable in the plan are the following: the entrance vestibule which gives some activity out of the living room the dining alcove taking mealtime activity out of the Notable in the plan are the following: the entrance vestibule which gives some privacy to the living room, the dining alcove taking mealtime activity out of the living room while adding space to the whole room, the four windows in this room privacy to the living room, the dining alcove taking mealtime activity out of the living room while adding space to the whole room, the four windows in this room for three-way exposure, the simple back hall affording privacy to the bedroom doors so that they open in their own section of the house. Not onto the living room or front for three-way exposure, the simple back hall affording privacy to the bedroom doors so that they open in their own section of the house, not onto the living room or front entrance. The location of a trap door in the front hall closet is an excellent feature. so that they open in their own section of the house, not onto the living room or front entrance. The location of a trap door in the front hall closet is an excellent feature, too. because stairs to the attic space could be built here over the cellar stairs: the entrance. The location of a trap door in the front hall closet is an excellent feature, too, because stairs to the attic space could be built here over the cellar stairs; the attic space is good storage and could be turned into future bedroom quarters; the basement is fully excavated and uncluttered by heating and plumbing equipment. attic space is good storage and could be turned into future bedroom quarters; the basement is fully excavated and uncluttered by heating and plumbing equipment.



DINING

KITCHEN 7'0"x10'-0"

BED RM.

8'-0"x 10'-4

BED ROOM

11'-0"x13'-0

The biggest, busiest, building subject today is still the small, low cost house. For the newly married couple, the young couple with a small child, the older couple whose family has grown up and left home, this new kind of home is ideal. Constant improvement has raised standards so that today \$5,550 buys this personable little house with neatly shuttered windows, a jolly entrance doorway, a practical plan, sound building materials and construction



AKRON, OHIO FAMILY ECONOMIZES ON FUEL

HOW LOOF WINDOW CONDITIONING CUT FUEL COSTS IN THIS HOUSE 30.7

A bright and shiny new ironer actually cost nothing in the home of the Elijah Garretts, 146 Berwyck Drive, Akron, Ohio. "Saved the price of that ironer out of fuel economies we got from L·O·F Window Conditioning," says that good manager, Mrs. Garrett.

And when we talked to Mr. Garrett, we really had our eyes opened. "I feel just as proud as my boss would if he had saved over 30% in operating his business ... my wife and I are in business to get the most out of every dollar... show me another

> investment that will return such big dividends,

"But don't measure the value of storm windows on fuel savings alone," continued Mr. Garrett. "If storm windows did nothing but eliminate those messy, fogged and frosted windows, they'd still be worth more than they cost. And of course, the house is healthier and temperatures are more even throughout."

See your lumber dealer right now. Ask him for an estimate. Let him show you facts and figures on what L·O·F Window Conditioning with Storm Windows can save you this winter! Or, write for free book on Window Conditioning. Use the coupon below.

WHAT L·O·F WINDOW CONDITIONING IS:

It's Storm Windows, glazed with clear-vision L·O·F Quality Glass. Storm Windows hook on in winter as easily as screens in summer; are detached when the weather gets warm. Your lumber dealer will give you complete details of L·O·F Window Conditioning and will gladly recommend a good Attic Insulation to complete a 2-Point Insulation program that will effect even greater fuel savings for you.

When you order your Storm Windows, make sure you get L·O·F Quality Glass. It's flatter and clearer—affording better vision at all times. This is important when you look through two panes of glass instead of one! When you buy, get the best. It costs no more. Ask for L·O·F Quality Glass by name. Look for the label. The Garretts spend a quiet evening at home—more comfortable than ever before. Says Mr. Garrett, "Since we put up storm windows, home's a better place to live. We don't have to sit around all wrapped up like a couple of Indians."

COSTS

Getting ready for another winter of comfort and economy at the Garretts, "Dollars count in our bouse. I've figured that at the rate we're saving fuel now, our storm windows will pay for themselves in about two years."

HOME OWNERS! Send-Now-for Free Book on Window Conditioning, Storm Windows and 2-Point Insulation, or ask your Lumber Dealer for a copy. It explains these fuel-saving, comfort-assuring features in detail, including actual figures on detail, including actual figures on cold weather is not far away.

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LOOK FOR THIS IDENTIFYING SIGN It is the mark of the reliable lumber dealer who sells L-O-F Window Conditioning, plus a good brand of Attic Insulation.

SEE YOUR LUMBER DEALER — GET THIS BOOK FREE LIBBEY-OWENS-FORD GLASS COMPANY TOLEDO, OHIO Gentlemen: For my further information, places send free booklet on Window Con-

ditioning and have a representative call:

LIBBEY · OWENS · FORD QUALITY GLASS

"This year I've gone further in cutting down my fuel bills," says Mr. Garrett. "On the advice of my lumber dealer, we've installed Attic Insulation. This, together with my L. O: F Window Conditioning, is going to lower heating costs even more as much as 50%.1"



(knock it down and

ms \$1477

Rei 18% to

ion methodological lors, attractive red floor play house

AND U

or re



Bringing some of the outdoors indoors

in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ballantine Cambridge, Massachusetts

PAUL FROST, Architect

UILT against the side of a rear ell and at the end of a porch, this 8 by 17 foot conservatory has a soil floor two steps lower than that of the house and two steps above ground level outside. Deep foundations keep out the frost, and heat supplied through the door into the living room and four grills (two at floor level and two shoulder height) keeps the temperature above freezing even on the coldest nights. For ventilation there are the three outside doors (removed in summer) and three hinged roof openings. The southeast exposure provides so much sunlight that some large plants are grown for their shade; also, from April to late fall, a regulation greenhouse slat screen is spread from the ventilators to the eaves. It is then replaced by a chicken-wire screen fastened, at top and bottom, to light metal rods which are hooked just under the house eaves and, as the picture shows, along the front edge of the conservatory.

GWENDOLINE KEENE

Among the plants now thriving in these congenial quarters are three species of golden acacia, camellias, tender forms of azalea and rhododendron, cyclamen, primroses, cinerarias (bright with blossoms from midwinter until summer arrives), ivies, the climbing fig, jasmine, and a fruitful fig tree. The soil floor, divided



WATCH YOUR Popcorn Popper POP!

You don't have to shake or stir the corn in this Itm. automatic electric popper. The clear glass top lets you see each kernel burst into huge fluffs of tender, flaky goodness-deliciously buttered while it's being popped. Ask your dealer to show you the

KM- TEL-A-MATIC CORN POPPER See its many features.

Genuine walnut handles. Base will not mar or scratch furniture. Have delicious pop corn whenever you want it. You and your whole family will have a barrel of fun, so why not get \$495 one now? It's only ... \$495



KNAPP-MONARCH CO., Saint Louis



• You'll get more pleasure from your fireplace with a pair of Canton Malleable Fire Dogs. They mod-ernize appearance-protect andirons-make fireplace asier to clean-keep logs from rolling-and insure a better draft that not only makes a more enjoyable fire but frequently corrects a smoky fireplace. Are ideal as gifta-weddings, Christmas, etc. Three lengths-15", 18" and 24". Leg height-4%". Special 6" legs, at slightly higher *cost. Fire Dogs straddling bar. Unbreak-able. Guaranteed forever, 18"-Select... \$4,50

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PRICES Per Pair, Delivered 15"-Select...\$4.50 24"-Standard \$4.50 24"-Super..\$10.00 # \$1 estra for 6" legs) West of Mississippi River-add \$1.00 for himping...\$ Money Prompt delivery on all orders. Send check or money order now to: Box 14. THE CANTON MALLEABLE IRON CO. ESTABLISHED 1892 CANTON, OHIO

into four sections by paths made of stepping-stones - which are both attractive and convenientis pretty well hidden by a profuse growth of helxine (familiarly known as Paddy's wig), mosses, and a variety of small ferns.

Thus, in contrast to the usual conservatory, which is in reality just a glass-walled room more or less adapted to the needs of the tubbed and potted plants kept in it, this delightful and entirely practical feature of the Ballantines' home is actually a bit of their garden, enclosed and gently heated for winter and abundantly ventilated in summer, so that tender plants can grow happily and the owners can enjoy them comfortably the whole year around. Isn't there a welcome idea here for homes of plant enthusiasts all through the northern sections of the country, comparable to the suggestion that more southern homes have slat-houses as a part of their garden spaces?

Vou-the



mended only by an expert



2. This chair must go to be repaired. Two bad breaks

EFORE you know it, the little antique rosewood chairs may be bulging at the wrong places. And there won't be much bounce left in the matching sofa, whose springs and webbing are just plain old. When that time comes you will check upholstering and refinishing prices, then wonder if you could do some



I started my vacation when we got Sergeant's SKIP-FLEA POWDER - it really kills fleas! Up till then, I was convention headquarters — for fleas. I looked like something the cat dragged in. My skin itches were serious. The Master got wise — and got SKIP-FLEA.



up my skin too — SKIP-FLEA POWDER is borated. Now I bathe with SKIP-FLEA SOAP (it kills 'em too), and take to the Powder between times. Get them — and the free Sergeant's DOG BOOK — at a drug or pet Or mail this coupon store.

ergear DOG MEDICINES Polk Miller Products Corp. Dept. 13-J, Richmond, Va. Please send a free Sergeant's DOG BOOK to: Name. Address. City, State

of the work yourself. After all, the price of a couple of hats or a new end table is not to be lightly tossed aside! The answer is that you can be your own furniture repair man if you follow the directions, don't mind hard work and are sure to start on the smaller, less formidable pieces. (Sofas, handsomely carved arm chairs, and secretaries are well worth the price asked by experts.)

You will want hammer, tacks, pliers (a stretcher is best but unless you plan to repair several pieces the pliers will do), scissors, a half-circle needle for sewing the springs to webbing, a roll of three-inch webbing, two or three yards of black cambric for lining, a ball of heavy jute twine for retying springs, screw driver, furniture cement, and glue. Gather together the materials, pull a table into the light, turn the ageing side chair wrong side up on it, and you're ready to start. Just be sure the back of the chair is well up off the floor so that pressure won't mar the top edge.

With a hammer and a screw driver remove the tacks that hold the old lining. Don't throw away the old lining; instead, use it as a pattern for the new one. If the webbing seems in fair condition (most wear is on the edges where it is held to the frame) you can fit the new webbing over the old, and thus give the seat added support; but if it is in bad condition remove it entirely and replace with new material. You will see how the old webbing was put on and you should follow exactly the placing of the strips, cutting your

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furniture man.



3. This needs springs retied, new webbing, recovering

material after you have tacked it to both sides of the chair. Start at the back and bring a strip forward, using pliers, or stretcher, to pull it taut; tack in place, fold and bring it back an inch or a half-inch and tack again; then cut. Tacking twice on each edge provides added strength. Weave your material in and out, working from back to front and from side to side—the kind of thing



4. Turn chair wrong side up on a table. remove lining

you used to do at kindergarten with colored papers. Cut the lining, fold under, and tack into place. This fold should be at least two inches all around the chair.

Suppose you are going to retie the springs of this chair: First remove the top covering and the linings, noting particularly how everything was put on. Next remove the stuffing, taking plenty of time for tearing down the insides so you will remember the ar-

THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940

Do the easy jobs yourself and save about the price of two new hats!

EDNA DEU PREE NELSON



*Trademark Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. The original

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WEBSTER ELECTRIC COMPANY, Racine, Wis., U. S. A. Established 1909. Export Dept.: 100 Varick St., New York City. Cable Address: "ARLAB", New York City



rangement of everything. Then retie the springs with heavy cord, doing a thorough job—in larger pieces springs are tied eight times at least. You may need fresh "stuffing," or you may be able to use the old

after it is cleaned. Then replace it, packing around the springs and along the frame of the seat. Cut a new lining and a fresh top cover, using the old ones for patterns; finally tack them in place.

If the old chest that belonged to Aunt Augusta has a broken back, don't be discouraged. For





while it is fastened down

about three dollars a lumber company will send over half-inch pine boards the correct length, which you can nail on. Go over the new boards with dark stain. If the chest has an accumulation





floor space than any other full scale piano. Yet the "Minipiano"* develops the tone of a big instru-ment because of its amplifying sides and patented ment because of its amplifying sides and patented features. Guaranteed by Hardman, Peck & Co., Master Piano Craftsmen for 99 Years. Above model only \$275. Many other styles and models. Budget payments if desired. E.O.B. New York

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Hardman, Peck & Co. *T. M. Reg. Eavestaff Pianette Hardman, Peck & Co., 33 West 57th St., New York City Please send me free booklet by Charlotte Eaton, Associate Editor of the American Home, showing where to place a 'Minipiano' so it will do the most for my living-room.

......

of many coats of varnish, badly applied, attack the surface with denatured alcohol and plenty of cheesecloth. Occasionally you may want to resort to steel wool for

Address



rough or bad spots. It is not so much of a job as it sounds. When the chest is clean, wipe off the surface with turpentine. If you want a dark finish, buy dark mahogany oil stain, applying it with a brush or a cloth swab. In doing this use very little of the liquid at a time, pulling the brush or swab slowly over the surface, allowing the stain to become



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The next time you need curtains, let the Victoria Double Life model be your buy-word. You'll appreciate the unusual daintiness of their crisp all-around ruffle, and you'll positively revel in the savings resulting from their long wear. It's all on account of the patented feature which permits complete reversing and eliminates sun-faded, breeze-frayed ends. They come in all kinds of intriguing materials, as do regular Double Life Curtains which do not have the extra ruffle on the back edge. Send for descriptive folders today.

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thoroughly worked into the wood. Let it dry for twenty-four hours or longer and then go over it with French polish. When this is dry, wax the surface and polish with soft cloths. You will have a piece of furniture that you will be proud of possessing, and it will have saved you from twenty to thirty dollars on a refinishing and repair job.

In exactly the same way you put a new face on your console table and washstand, except you



8. Loose casters split the wood. Remove casters and fill the openings with plas-tic wood, then insert rubber-cushioned pin gliders

may want a light mahogany stain for one and dark walnut for the other-whichever is best suited. When you roll up your sleeves and get right down to business, you will see that you can save a lot on your furniture repair bills. Refinishing that old mahogany chest, for example, would be easy



and save you a pretty penny. There are chair rungs that need to be reglued and tops of tables and chests to be restored. And you may want to do a major

operation on all the old casters, filling in the holes with plastic wood (allow substance to dry, then fill again and again until the hole is solidly packed with



10. It was repaired pine boards ½-inch with 1/2-inch thick and stained. Good as new!

plastic), and substituting metal gliders for the casters on chairs, sofas, and tables.

There will be moments when the whole thing gets in your hair, just as when you tried to make the tailored slipcover for your husband's studio couch-remem-



You save money when you stain with low-priced Cabot's Stainsand you save property as well. For the vehicle of these stains is pure creosote-best wood preservative known. Their lovely colors and soft, texture-revealing beauty make them a favorite with architects and homeowners from coast to coast.



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ber, you measured it three times and still had to rip it out and sew it back together again twice before it was anything like a perfect fit? But, when all is over but the shouting and showing it to the neighbors, you will be so pleased with what you have accomplished that you will wonder why you didn't have the nerve to take a fling at Aunt Augusta's sofa. Next time you will. That's



11. Face and sides of the chest were cleaned with denatured alcohol, restained, waxed. Saving of about \$20

a reward you earn by working hard on the first few easy-to-repair pieces. Then you will be in the expert class, able to save the price of four hats instead of two!

ATCHALL ROOMS, where everything except the baby's bank lands, are usually in disrepute in all well-ordered households. But maybe that's just because they haven't been well organized. After all they do serve as space savers for other rooms and they do take those varied assortments of miscellaneous objects such as cameras, car robes, ice skates, footballs, rubbers, galoshes, tennis rackets, games, baseball bats, canes, umbrellas, velocipedes, etc., etc., out of a number of places where you fall over them constantly. And they also reserve your clothes and hall closets for their proper contents. One place can usually be found in most medium size houses which can be used as a general place to stow such things-a back hall area, space under a stairway and similar spots. But it does have to be equipped with some arrangement of convenient shelving if the family is to get the idea and use it properly. Our picture shows the shelving provided in a Caldwell, New Jersey, home and reserved for the whole family. It is conveniently located in a small hall space on the first floor, saving endless trips to the attic and avoiding a jammed hall closet as well. And it illustrates too the idea of providing a particular place for everything-which is the only way to keep everything in its place. A tall cubbyhole for golf bags, camera cases, fishing rods, and other tall objects, low shelves for skates and the like, shallow shelves for small things, a narrow shelf for tennis rackets, a cupboard with a lock and key for valuable cameras.

DANIEL REYNOLDS MERRILL





THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940

THE PERFECT STATE



1. Cover good soil with well-washed sand



2. Make holes in it and set rooted plants



3. Growing tips of some kinds can be used



5. A glass lid conserves water, excludes dust



4. Add water gently, a sheet of paper helps

Of course you've heard of it. . . Well, you can watch it at work in a small, home-made balanced aquarium

DR. E. BADE



Rept fish and other aquatic animals on their laboratory tables where they could be under constant observation. At first, kept in bowls of water, the creatures soon died. Then it was gradually discovered that if aquatic plants were put in the containers and allowed or assisted to grow there along with the fish, both kinds of life survived longer and in better condition than either kind kept

by itself. Thus, through many decades, was developed what we know today as the balanced aquarium. Its success, as both a scientific observatory and a hobby for home study or enjoyment, rests upon the fact that the well-being of the aquatic animal depends upon the presence of the submerged plant growth, and vice versa. The tiny world within the aquarium is, happily—one might almost say enviably—at peace and biologically stable; its two groups of inhabitants are mutually beneficial and cooperative to a degree that might well be emulated by men.

The underlying, scientific reason for this hinges on an interchange, in the water, of two gases. Carbon dioxide, exhaled by the animals (just as on land), is taken up by the plants and (with the help of the energy in sunlight) is used in the manufacture of their tissues. Meanwhile, the plants give off oxygen which is needed, taken up, and used by the animals. Then, too, the fish-and such other aquarium inhabitants as frogs, snails, etc .- help fertilize the soil in the aquarium so that the plants can make more growth and provide an increased supply of oxygen, and so on around the cycle. Some oxygen is absorbed by the water directly from the air, but this is not enough to keep even one goldfish alive in a small tank or bowl unless the water is frequently changed or continually aerated. Even in a satisfactorily balanced aquarium, the minimum allowance of water for fish welfare is one quart for each inch of living fish.

To give aquarium plants a governad it on some fertile garden soil and spread it on the bottom of the tank, sloping it diagonally upward from one front corner to the opposite back corner. Then cover it with an inch or more of well-washed sand. Make holes with your finger through the sand and into the soil for the roots of the plants you buy already started, such as Vallisneria spiralis, Sagittaria natans, and others; or insert in these holes growing tips, an inch or two in length, of other kinds, such as Cabomba, Myriophyllum, and Elodea, which will soon form new root systems. When the planting is done, fill the tank with water, but before starting to pour it gently in, spread a sheet of paper over the sand and plants so as to avoid disturbing them and making the water muddy.

Within a couple of weeks the plants should be established and growing. Then-but not until then-put the fish in their new home. Don't overstock the aquarium, and find out from the dealer or the fellow enthusiast from whom you get your stock just what temperature the water should be kept at for the welfare of the kind of fish you are going to raise. A sheet of glass on top of the tank will exclude dust and dirt and also help to retard evaporation. But, of course, it cannot be used if, in addition to the submerged vegetation, swamp or bog plants that grow above the surface of the water are to be grown for their decorative effect. They have no oxygenating value, but are attractive and easy to grow if planted where the soil in the aquarium is

deepest. Some of the best are the umbrella-plant (*Cyperus alterni-folius*), the well known calla of the florists (Zantedeschia) in both its white and yellow forms, pickerel-weed (*Pontedaria cordata*), and some of the arrow-heads, as the larger species of Sagittaria are called. If the specimens of umbrella-plant, calla, and the like that are to be used have been growing, either in the home or the florist shop, as pot plants, they will have to be accustomed gradually to their new aquatic environment. To do this, stand them, in their pots, in a tub or pail and add water, a little every day over a period of several weeks, until finally its depth is equal to that in which the plants are going to grow in the aquarium. They can then be planted with minimum shock.

The best location for an aquarium is a northern exposure where it will receive plenty of light but not the direct rays of the sun. This enables the plants to function but does not promote the growth of minute algae that make the water green and cloudy and are therefore undesirable, even though not injurious. Under artificial light, the fish will be all right but the plants will have to be renewed occasionally.

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bitof

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ALSO RESTAL-KNIGHT, SMOOTHREST, TINY SLEEPER. COILUX, GOLD COAST. BOX SPRINGS TO MATCH, AND SOFA BEDS. UST because you're young and living on a budget and your husband doesn't bring you orchids any more is no reason to settle down and be contented with an acceptable but dull house. There are giddy, amusing decorations to be had for the price of a can of paint and the courage to carry out a wild idea. Then lure your husband into the spirit of it all, sit back, and watch your friends look questioning shocked—completely taken in!

Surprise—lush decalcomania roses!

Some of my most cherished ideas grew out of plain financial necessity. We had to live in an old-fashioned house with an ugly center ceiling fixture. Or we couldn't afford a new chair so we bought a dusty secondhand one and I invented a really fancy slipcover. And since

furniture was scarce, I dared to fill up the "holes" with exciting colors. This may prove that the darkest clouds have silver linings or something, but that isn't the point at all. I'm just trying to prove that *anyone* with imagination and a sense of humor can do a fancy, whimsical decorating job.

Take, for instance, the bathroom. Aren't you just as tired of regulation green tiles, shining white basins and chromium fixtures as you are disgusted with the claw and ball footed tubs and ancient plumbing Grandmother had? Whatever kind of bathroom you have, I'll bet it's not very original. My favorite idea for this problem is to put lush decalcomania roses on the seat-decorative and such a surprise to the unsuspecting. Just try it out and see!

The Victorian touch adds atmosphere to any living room, modern or old-fashioned, and is cheap because it usually comes from a secondhand shop. One example of what I mean is shown directly above: Victorian framed flowers made into a coffee table, painted black. Use it in front of a modern sofa if you like for very dramatic contrast.

Flawers-under-glass coffee table

paint, a little thought, and with the caue-with the caue-with the thou beside me ... 99

S

Unce a garbage

D

A

Dail, but now

No matter how far removed you are from the pampered type, a little gilding won't do your living room any harm. Try, for instance, a fancy gilded bird cage full of flowers hanging from the center of the ceiling. This is a very good trick if you've been blessed (?) with a center ceiling fixture, but even if you don't have that problem, the cage is a wonderfully silly idea-certainly a very "different" one, you must admit.

I find, too, that just a little of the "trompe l'oeil" business goes a long way in all nice, boring, conventional living rooms. If you're fundamentally conservative, restrain yourself to perhaps a drapery painted on one side of a small Victorian chest. If you take readily to dizzy ideas and tricks, try vague draperies-or, for even more fun-a door, painted on one wall, and see how many people you'll fool.

Wastebaskets always seemed a little prosaic to me, too. Most of the ones I could afford (and some of the ones I couldn't) were functional and practical and everything, but so dull. It was a small, step-on garbage pail from the five and dime store that came to my rescue! I painted it shiny black and decorated it with red rosespretty fetching to look at and very practical because the neat cover hid all the torn envelopes,



Do this daily: Add a little Polident powder to 1/2 glass water. Stir. Then put in plate or bridge for 10 to 15 minutes. Rinse- and it's ready to use.

THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940

the pen and brush of Hope Hendler

Dizzy ideas

from

burnt matches and other discarded things that you'd much rather not see again.

And have you ever thought of the hundreds of unimaginative slipcovers there are in the world? It's all right to stop at a colorful fabric perfectly tailored and fitted, but you can do something really or-

iginal. I got my best inspiration from real slips. Applied to a fat, armless little chair, it looked like the sketch at the bottom of this page. It is of batiste with broderie anglaise and beading, laced up the middle of the back with vermilion laces tied in a bow at the top. You'll be surprised at how much this bit of whimsy will do for an otherwise ordinary, conventional bedroom.

It's nice to know, too, that some of your down-toearth, practical problems can be solved simply, smartly, and economically with nothing but a can of paint and a capacity for work. One friend of mine who couldn't afford a living room carpet for at least a year did a good job of painting herself one-a dark green floor with a border of red roses. If you're not that much of an artist, paint your floor in big green and white squares. Or maybe the old-time bathroom in your flat has no window: paint one, complete with vista! If it's wallpaper you want and

Real slip for a cover-complete with lace

can't afford, try painting one wall in bright pink and white stripes. And if you run out of money before the bedroom is completely furnished, remember that an unfinished chest will look very smart in a fresh coat of paint.

From now on it's up to you. Don't be afraid of your ideas-the dizzier the better, and it doesn't matter whether it's flowered wallpaper on the ceiling or caricatures on bathroom walls!

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THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940

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Robinson, III.-Fair Furniture Co. Rochester, N. Y.-J. Rauer Furn. Co. Rochester, N. Y.-J. Rauer Furn. Co. Rochester, N. Y.-J. Rauer Furn. Co. Rochester, Pa.-Hartzeil Furn. Co. Rochester, Pa.-Hartzeil Furn. Co. Rochester, Pa.-Hartzeil Furn. Co. Rochester, Pa.-Hartzeil Furn. Co. Rochester, Pa.-Hartseil Furn. Co. Rochester, Pa.-Hartseil Furn. Co. Rote, N. J.-Ruthelord, N. J.-Saginaw, N.-J. E. Bird & Son Rushville, Ind.-Mausy Co. Ruthelord, N. J.-Saginaw, Mich.-Art Sample Furn. M. A. McMullen Murphy & O'Hara Saginaw, Mich.-Art Sample Furn. M. A. McMullen Murphy & O'Hara S. Anthony, Ida.-Louiser Fur. Co. St. Joseph, Mo.-Trowneend, Wyatt & Wall St. Louis, Mo.-Kennard Cpt. Co. Hale Boos. Inc. Townsend, Wyatt & Wall St. Joseph, Mich.-Art Stample Furn. St. Joseph, Mich.-Strong St. Joseph, Mich.-Strong St. Joseph, Mich.-Trowneend, Wyatt & Wall St. Louis, Mo.-Kennard Cpt. Co. Harmert Furniture Co. Scruge, Vandervoort, Barney Stiz, Baer & Fuller G. J. Seested & Co. Weyand Furniture Co. Salta, Kan.-The Stiefel Stores Co. San Piero, Cal.-H. L. Benbough Burnett Furniture Co. San Piero, Cal.-Alther Van Opstal San Paer, Cal.-Breuner's Lachick Newman Furn. Co. San Francisco, Cal.-Breuner's Lachick Newman Furn. Co. San Francisco, Cal.-Breuner's Lachick Newman Furn. Co. San Piero, Cal.-Andre Van Opstal San Marino, Cal.-Breuner's Lachana Bros. Redlick Newman Furn. Co. San Mateo, Cal.-Andre Van Opstal San Marino, Cal.-Breuner's Lachana Bros. Barda Char, Cal.-Sans Santa Ana, Cal.-Don L. Andrews Ira Chandler & Son Santa Ana, Cal.-Dist. Furn. Co. Santa Ana, Cal.-Dist. Core Santa Ana, Cal.-Dist. Sans Santa Barbara, Cal.-Pierce Bros. Herry Levy, Inc. Santa Marino, Cal.-Barbary, N. Y.-E. Stambuck Co. Santa Marino, Cal.-Bardiek Want.-Del Teet Furn. Co. Santa Ana, Cal.-Del Teet Furn. Co. Santa Ana, Cal.-Del Teet Furn. Co. Santa

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Select Holmes Fine Wiltons for Years More Wear

The Wilton Weave is noted for its closely woven all-wool luxuriant Pile. This sturdy construction gives years and years of satisfactory wear. Even in Doorways and Entrances where wear is toughest, Wilton Colors hold their freshness longer.

Holmes TUXEDO Wilton The New Style Trend . . . Stronger, Brighter. Contrasting Accent Colors, Closely woven all-wool pile in the medium price range.

My Clever Wife ...

Selecting Rug Shades and Patterns as You do your Most Flattering Costumes.

"Rugs Cut from Rolls" **To Fit Floors Perfectly** . . . No Extra Cost per Yard 9' wide 12' wide 15' wide In Any Desired Length Also 27" Widths for Wall-to-Wall Carpeting and for Stairs and Halls

CLEVER WIFE Reveals All... There, now you've discovered my Home Beauty Secret. It's really simple. I just use Shades that Complement my own Natural Colorings . . . Shades that I find are most flattering in Clothes. Literally thousands of women are learning to make each room a charming setting to enhance their own Personalities. . .

Today's New Rugs have more than Color . . . the Trend shows strength-Color . . . the Trend shows strength-ening and brightening of pattern (away from plain tones). The New Styles are easier to keep fresh looking, too. Cuts hours of Homework, as foot markings, shadings, even spills and spots, are less noticeable.

You'll see Samples of Holmes Styled Broadloom Wilton in just the shades and patterns you're looking for at all the Stores Listed on the Opposite Page. Plan to Visit your Dealer Now.

HOLMES

Broadloom

WILTON

Holmes TUXCRAFT Wilton Feathery Tone-on-Tone Design at Surprisingly low cost for full room sizes. Sturdy all-wool pile for long wear.

Holmes LOOMTEX Wilton Luxurious under foot . . . thick pile of Superb Quality. Choose from Ten Colorings in this Subtle Pattern of Frieze Yarns.

"Sugar and Spice

and

Everything

Nice"

Planned by Edgar Wyatt

This month it's

HAT'S the story of this candy town centerpiece for a travel party. The white station is made of cubes of sugar; the roof top is sprinkled with sugar, dyed with fruit dye; and the walls are butterscotch squares. Windows are small squares of gum and signs are large squares of gum. The impressive train of cars runs on gum rails. The cars themselves are made of fudge with gumdrop wheels. A huge peppermint stick is a boiler on the engine and a bright red candy winks like a headlight. The coal car is full of licorice.

Geyer

The garden boasts luxuriant cocoanut grass, a green that defies nature. The flower beds are blooming with caraway candy planted in green gumdrops. Formal walks are thin layers of fudge, and fudge automobiles line the curbstones. Near the station, with its powdered sugar plaster walls, is the oil company, with peppermint stick tanks. FOR THE SUB-DEB: To compete with Sloppy Joe and win hands down with the sub-deb

Alexander

crowd, serve food galore and fun, nonsense fun with no silly business of crepe paper favors or flubbididdles. Go smooth and sophisticated in your parties for sub-debs; the casual simplicity, the studied carelessness of the revered college crowd are the chief aims of high schoolers. Ask the youngsters to your home, which like Sloppy Joe's stays open after midnight, for supper. You can serve "Joe's" specialties and improve on his

Shall it be HOME or Sloppy Joe's?

Planned by Doris Hudson Moss

recipes: lots of butter, mustard, chili sauce, and chopped onions added to sizzling hot hamburgers and hot dogs. You attend to the running of things, but everyone serves himself to hamburgers, rolls, chocolate, cake, and lots of it, all to the tune of a radio dance program.

They're a smart father and mother who really can share the fun of sub-debs without a critical eye or a gossiping tongue, and who are willing to disappear at the right time.

Vhich Bacon do MEN like best?

Swift's Premium gets



"Izaak Waltons" and Home Economists have at least one thing in common—in nation-wide polls, both groups voled over-whelmingly for Swift's Premium Bacon!



utdoors or in, that "sweet smoke taste" tre hits the spot! In poll after poll, wift's Premium Bacon wins decisively.

Returns from the poll, which was conducted by an independent organization, showed Swift's Premium Bacon got far more votes than the next 8 brands combined; it led the runner-up over 2 to 1.

landslide vote!



Polls almost as many votes as all other mentioned brands combined!

Housewives and Home Economists had already registered their preference. Swift's Premium Bacon led the runner-up over two to one in a poll of Chicago women . . . got more votes from Home Economics teachers than the next eight brands combined.

But how about the men, men with hearty outdoor appetites? Which bacon do they prefer? To find out, an independent organization made a poll of the nation's fishermen. They

mailed out hundreds upon hundreds of Business Reply Cards, asked simply "What brand of bacon do you think is best?

Once more Swift's Premium won overwhelmingly! It actually got almost as many votes as all other mentioned brands added together!

"Sweet smoke taste"-that's the reason why Swift's Premium always wins. Delicious mildness, from Swift's secret Sugar Cure . . . a special zest, from Swift's exclusive way of Smoking in Ovens. No other bacon has this marvelous flavor, and no other got anywhere near as many votes.

For meals at home or meals in the open, Swift's Premium is the bacon you'll like best!

THE REASON.."Sweet Smoke Taste" from Swift's secret Sugar Cure and special Smoking in Ovens!



the and the ages, and the name SWIFT the biece.



Say Swift's Premium for the finest meats BEEF . LAMB . VEAL . BACON . HAM FRANKFURTS . POULTRY . TABLE-READY MEATS REMEMBER, THE MEAT MAKES THE MEAL!

BUDGETEER'S SPECIAL (A Martha Logan recipe!) BUDGETEER'S SPECIAL (A Matha Logan recipe!) Here's a thrifty main dish your family will thoroughly en-joy. Arrange Swift's Premium Bacon on a rack in a shal-low pan and bake in a moderately hot oven (400° F.) 12-15 minutes or until brown. No turning is necessary. Serve on a hot platter with fried eggs and O'Brien Pota-toes. To prepare potatoes, cook chopped onion and green pepper until tender in a small amount of hot fat. Add diced, cooked potato, pimiento, salt and pepper, and brown lightly.



Viennese pastries may be reminiscent of Strauss waltzes and sunshine in the Wiener Wald, but they are just as good to eat after a swing session or a turn at the local movie

NCE, in Vienna, a coffee shop was more than a restaurant, a place to eat and run. It was an added living room, a salon for your personal benefit, which was yours the morning or afternoon or evening long for the price of a cup of coffee. There you could entertain your friends, discuss business, politics, intrigue, and love.

It was the Viennese habit to stop in before lunch, at one of the fashionable shops for a small glass of vermouth or cognac and pastry, or vermouth and Russian eggs and salted biscuits. It might ruin your lunch, but it was well worth it. Between five and six-thirty you might stop in for a cup of tea mixed with milk and rum and accompanied by a platter of cakes. The dignified white-haired proprietress, with all the manner of a grand duchess, would welcome you.

Surrounded by old-fashioned elegance of red velvet and white and gold, you could sit on a little sofa or stand at the long buffet rubbing elbows with aristocrats of the court or theater folk. Waitresses in long black dresses, brightened with crisp white headbands and aprons, brought something to drink and you could serve yourself at the long buffet with an endless assortment of tempting pastries and cakes. And you were amazed at the prodigious appetites of the Viennese and wondered why they did not roll along the streets like butter balls. New York boasts of its variety of European restaurants, but none

has been more successfully transplanted than a little Viennese candy and pastry shop in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. At one time the owner of a number of famous shops in Austria, Mr. Danziger now happily fashions marzipan flowers and vegetables, apfelstrudel and leb-



FRAU SACHER

LA VERNE RAASCH MOWRY kuchen, gugelhupf, and candies and pastries in a shop that is very gay and looks as if it were actually made of peppermint stick candy.

Mr. Danziger has an artist's scrupulousness about the quality of his materials and love of perfection and form in the least of his candies. When he is beating a bowl of fondant no catastrophe could stop him. In his tall picturesque chef's cap he laments his arguments with salesmen who shrug their shoulders at his specific demands and try to convince him that one thing is as good as another. He realizes, of course, ... the importance of knowing the subtle differences in



Lisi

Rich and flaky and crumbly, strewn with almonds and hazelnuts, dusted with powdered sugar, filled with preserves and marmalade or rum and nuts, the pastries are fashioned in all shapes—little horns, triangles, sticks, stars, crescents, twists and curlicues. Some are spiced and dry—in the sense that good wine is "dry"—and harmless enough to feed to little children; others are so rich that they verge on candy.

Try serving them in proper Viennese fashion with chocolate or whipped cream coffee, obviously not a daily diet for Americans but delicious for a tea or special occasion. To prepare the chocolate, use one square of chocolate to every cup of milk. Break or cut the chocolate into little pieces, stir with a little milk until melted over low flame. Add the remaining milk and stir until it boils up. Pour into a high pitcher or bowl and whip until foamy. Dip off the foam into cups and pour the hot chocolate over it. If you prefer it thicker, before serving add the yolk of an egg and a little sugar mixed in a little milk. Top with whipped cream.

Viennese coffee is somewhat like the French *café au lait*, hot coffee in one pot, hot milk in another, poured simultaneously into the cup. Whipped cream is stirred in at the finish.

Or, if you like contrast, serve hot tea with a teaspoonful of rum to the cup. Wines or liqueurs are happy accompaniments, too. Whatever you choose to do with the pastries—serve them for afternoon tea or



Before lunch, as the Viennese like them, or for tea or dessert, as we do, these cakes are irresistibly good. A grand "something new" for parties!

for family dessert—is right. They are their own excuse for being. Torten are glamor cakes. They are as different from the conventional layer cake as cake is from bread. And a Viennese torte is particularly different and decidedly glamorous. Because these cakes are essentially rich, the ingredients that you will most often encounter are butter, eggs, sugar, and ground almonds. That is almost the basic recipe. Flour is seldom used, if at all; bread or hard roll crumbs are sometimes substituted. The torten are divinely light and rich like a Strauss waltz—or the Viennese character. Perhaps that is why a torte is so characteristically Viennese. These are the torten which have come across the water and may find their way happily into American kitchens.

They come in great variety—almond, chocolate, chestnut, apple, cherry, farina, potato, marmalade, rum, rye bread, pumpernickel, lemon, orange, poppyseed, cheese, carrot, coffee, marzipan, macaroon —as well as those with names made famous by places or people

-as well as those with names made famous by places or people. From Linz on the Danube comes the famous Linzertorte, almost cooky-like, lightly spiced, made piquant with a tart preserve or marmalade, and decorated with crisscross strips. When cut, it exudes an aromatic fragrance suggestive of old-fashioned pomander balls.

Another fine torte commemorates a woman who left her mark on Austrian society under the old regime. At the time of the Emperor Franz Joseph, Frau Sacher, a charming eccentric who cherished a collection of toy bull dogs and smoked long black cigars, owned the famous hotel opposite the Opera. History, as well as the exquisite Sachertorte, was made in this hotel.

The Prince Eugene torte, rich with whipped cream and almonds, and dashingly flavored with rum and chocolate, is admirably suited to its connoisseur namesake. Be it ever so humble, you can turn your table into a truly royal board with this delicious torte.

Like all things of beauty, torten are not whipped together at a





potato hazelnut torte

 ${
m B}_{
m EAT}$ egg yolks until light, add sugar and beat well. Add hazelnuts, then mashed potatoes, rum, vanilla sugar, and lemon peel. Fold in stiffly beaten egg whites. Turn into buttered and floured 8inch spring form. Bake in very moderate oven (325°F.) about 11/2 hours. When cool, dust with powdered sugar. Serves 8, generously.

Submitted by LA VERNE RAASCH MOWRY



4 eggs 5 oz. (5/8 cup) sugar 3 oz. (2/3 cup) roasted hazelnuts, ground 2 tablespoons rum

10 oz. mashed potatoes

I tablespoon vanilla sugar (See

recipe for vanilla kipferln) Grated peel of 1/4 lemon

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

7 oz. (1¹/₃ cups) almonds .4 oz. (1³/₄ tablespoons) bitter almonds 1 oz. candied lemon or orange peel

7¹/₃ oz. (1 cup slightly scanted) sugar 1 teaspoon lemon juice 3 egg whites

B LANCH both kinds of almonds and grind on fine knife of meat chopper. Combine nuts, candied peel, and sugar.

Beat egg whites stiff with lemon juice and fold in nut and sugar mixture. Drop little lumps on paper-covered cooky sheet. Bake in very moderate oven (325°F.) about 20 minutes or until lightly browned. When done, turn over and dampen paper, turn back so that they stand awhile on dampened paper, and loosen. Makes about 3 dozen

Submitted by LA VERNE RAASCH MOWRY

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

sachertorte (original)

and cream together 15 minutes. Add egg yolks one at a time, creaming thoroughly. Stir in ground almonds and melted chocolate and cocoa. Beat until light and foamy. Fold in flour very slowly. Beat egg whites until stiff, add the 3 tablespoons sugar. Fold into batter. Turn into buttered and floured 8-inch spring

form and bake in very moderate oven (325°F.) I hour 10 minutes. When cold, spread with thin layer apricot jam, cover thinly with chocolate icing. Mixture should be stirred in one direction only. Chocolate icing: Heat in saucepan 31/2 oz. semi-sweet chocolate with a little of 1/2 cup powdered sugar, until melted, stirring constantly. Then add rest of sugar and 1/4 cup water. Cook until mixture forms a soft ball when a little is dropped in cold water. Remove from heat and beat until cool. Pour immediately over cake. If it hardens too quickly, reheat slightly.

Submitted by LA VERNE RAASCH MOWRY

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

> 23/4 cups cake flour l cup (1/2 lb.) butter 31/2 oz. (2/3 cup) almonds

1/4 cup granulated sugar

l teaspoon vanilla

• vanilla kipferln (crescents)

BLANCH almonds and grind on fine knife of meat chopper. Combine all ingredients and mix lightly together, as for pie crust, with fingers or pastry blender, into a light pastry dough. Let stand 1/2 to 1 hour in refrigerator.

Cut off pieces about size of walnut and form into little crescents as long as the index finger. Bake on ungreased cooky sheet in moderate oven (350°F.) 10 to 15 minutes until lightly browned. While warm roll in vanilla sugar. Makes 50-60 crescents.

Vanilla sugar may be purchased already prepared

or to make: break or cut I vanilla bean into pieces and scrape out inside into I cup powdered sugar. (Sugar will have little black specks.) Place in covered jar, shake well and let stand at least 24 hours. (Any drug store has vanilla beans.)

Submitted by Edward G. DANZIGER Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

6 oz. $(\frac{3}{4} \text{ cup})$ sweet butter $2\frac{1}{2}$ oz. $(\frac{1}{2} \text{ cup})$ powdered sugar

- 8 egg yolks
- .7 oz. ground sweet almonds
- 5 oz. semi-sweet chocolate, melted
- 2.8 oz. cocoa

- 21/2 oz. cake flour
- 21/2 oz. rice flour
- 10 egg whites, stiffly beaten
- 3 tablespoons powdered sugar

on long beating, not ten minutes or fifteen, but half an hour to an hour! One must honor the good right arms of the Viennese women! However, lest the frailer ones are frightened, it is wise to say that a new school has arisen which brands an hour's beating as not only barbaric but unnecessary, and feels that the



it is extremely light and full of air bubbles. It is not enough to beat; you must beat only in one direction. The point is to beat in the air because it replaces baking powder. Everything, in fact, depends on the beating. Lucky she with an electric mixer. You will find that a wooden fork is a better instrument than a spoon if you do it by hand.

When sugar is added to the eggs, never beat less than a quarter of an hour before adding other ingredients. Butter or shortening 15 creamed in a round bowl and beaten fully a quarter of an hour before any additions are made-"until foamy" say the recipes, and they mean it. Egg yolks are added to the creamed butter separately,

one at a time, being beaten butter before adding eggs of the ingredients. is to beat whole eggs double boiler set in careful that it is not lukewarm. When the

all the while. Add sugar to to prevent any separating Another suggestion with sugar in a

warm water, being much more than mass rises, remove it

and let cool before adding flour. Never let beaten egg whites stand, but use them at once or they will lose their "life.

Rather than bake torten in layer pans when two layers are required, use a spring form in which the bottom may be loosened and cut the cake in two. It will not dry out so much this way.

Now here are the recipes and we hope you won't let the fact that some of the ingredients are given in ounces instead of the more usual cups and spoonfuls frighten you away from trying them. For although these pastries are not the easiest things in the world to make, they're certainly not beyond your powers. The glamour they'll add to your reputation as a hostess and the furore they'll cause when you serve them at your next tea or bridge party make them well worth the extra effort it may be for you to make them.



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Twin Qualities that make ScotTissue popular... SOFTNESS and TOUGHNESS

JUST try to choose between the charming softness of one of these ScotTissue twins and the other's sturdy toughness.

You'll find you can't. And you don't need to. Because softness and toughness are important *twin qualities* in toilet tissue. And softness and toughness, combined, make Luxury Texture ScotTissue an ideally balanced toilet tissue.

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scales to prove this extra value. There are 1000 fullsize, usable sheets in each roll of ScotTissue, yet it costs no more because it lasts longer.



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Ultra-refined Clorox has intensified germicidal action ... deodorizes, disinfects, removes numerous stains from tile, enamel, porcelain, linoleum, wood surfaces. It assures greater home health security, not only in Fall house cleaning but in everyday cleansing and in laundering. And Clorox is effective yet gentle for its many personal uses. Simply follow directions on the label. Always order by name... be sure you get Clorox.



Problem Children of the Jamily Wash

HELEN B. AMES



F ONLY someone had been more constructive and diversified about that dreaded daily order— "Go and wash now—" just think what a lot you could have learned. A satin blouse would hold no more terrors for you than the back of your hand; you could tackle lace collars or velvet pillow covers or anything else if you had had experience in something beside "behind the ears."

However, we are going to give you all the answers right now to the problem children of the family wash. All the little tricks about cooler water, or warmer water, which for what kind of fabrics and when. How to make velvet and corduroy stand right up in meeting, and how to make satin and rayon lie down and shine. Maybe what you need is a livelier and deeper suds because the type of material calls for a quick bath but a thorough one. Maybe, again, you are rushing the drying or dilly-dallying too long. Lots and lots of things can be washed successfully and at home if you will just humor them in their little likes and dislikes and cater to their whims.

Remember that, important as the temperature and amounts of water are, they cannot do a job for you alone. The quantity of soap and the method of drying make a simply tremendous difference in the success and ease of operations.

People who have a whole lot of excuses about why they cannot wash woolens—who say that they simply ruin them and it is better economy not to try—are usually just plain old-fashioned lazy, so silly always. The most backward and awkward child can really wash almost any kind of wool; it is as simple as not scalding your hands just because you are in a hurry. And as for not "letting" things run, if they do it is sheer ab-surdity. Test a little piece; if the colors stay put, well and good. If not, don't be absurd enough to try the impossible. You can't "let" colors run, nor in all probability make them run. If they are fast they are and that, conveniently, is that. If they are the galloping kind by nature, there is one safe way out of the predicament; leave them severely alone or send them off to the cleaner. We don't for a minute pretend that everything under the sun can be washed, but we do insist that with a little care and sense and regulation a whole lot more things can be laundered than you may think at first glance. Perhaps the sense and regulation should be stressed a lot, but certainly one of the most common mistakes people make in doing a little laundry job is in thinking that one suds alone can always do a perfect job. If the thing you're washing is really good and dirty there is no sense at all in trying to be economical with the soap. If you have to use two or even three suds, it is not going to throw you into bankruptcy, and meanwhile it will save your garment, getting it sweet and clean again, the gentle way.

AND another thing, don't try to hurry the drying of anything unless it is much too big and you really want it to shrink up well, and don't let any very decidedly crepey fabric get thoroughly dry before you iron it, if you expect it to retain its well-worn shape. Don't forget about letting out a really badly soiled hem so that the whole edge gets a good scrubbing. There is no one trick to laundering well, but a lot of them. They are all easy to remember and to do, and they all work.

white satin blouse

For a white satin blouse use lukewarm water (95° to 100° F.) and whip up a rich suds, first with hot water and then cool. Hotter water may turn silk yellow. Use a mild soap-beads, flakes, or bar-and dissolve thoroughly. Launder without soaking, squeezing suds through the blouse. If tiny balls of dirt cling to the material, put through the second suds. After three lukewarm rinses, squeeze without wringing and roll the blouse in a Turkish towel. Before it gets too dry, press on the wrong side with a warm iron.

sweaters

T's easy to reshape your knitted dresses or sweaters after washing, if you first trace the outline of the garment on a piece of white cloth or use a tape measure and jot down measurements. By either method, you have a sure guide and can pull the clean garment back into shape while damp. To guard against stretching, any knitted garment should be lifted from the water in a mass, never dragged out by a sleeve. Drying on a flat surface is also essential.

lace collars

FIRST measure your lace collar carefully, making an accurate tracing of it on heavy white paper. Then in lukewarm light suds wash in a preserving jar. Rinse three or four times. No matter how soiled, if you use several light soapings, lace will come white under gentle treatment. Rinse thoroughly and dry on the white paper. If you prefer a creamy color give a final rinse in weak tea or, for a warmer color, use weak coffee. Leave the lace in the rinse three minutes.

> woolen jackets, chenille robes

WHEN washing wool use an extra quan-tity of soap, as wool "eats up" soap. A four-inch suds is recommended. Wool

demands tepid water with first rinse of same temperature. With these precautions, wool articles come from their bath soft and clean. If the dirt gets ground in, the fabric may be injured, so wash wool often.

Use drip drying for chenille bathrobes and bedspreads. Pile fabrics do not need ironing; smooth with a brush while damp.

HUNDREDS of One-Hand Tests prove Lux Milder NEW QUICK LUX

MRS. HUGH RENNIE'S HANDS AFTER MAKING TEST OF DISHWASHING SOAPS After 28 days in new, quick Lux suds (3 times a day under conditions similar to home dishwashing), Mrs. Rennie's right hand was soft and smooth, as this actual photograph shows. She used no creams or lotions.

> SOAP"A") LEFT ME RED AND ROUGH

LEFT ME

SOFT AND

SMOOTH

LEFT HAND IN SOAP "A" For exactly the same time and under the same conditions, Mrs. Rennie placed her *left* hand in suds from Soap "A." At the end of the 28 days this hand was red, rough, as you can see.

Here's how Mrs. Hugh Rennie (like hundreds of other women) made the one-hand test under conditions similar to home dishwashing



For 20 minutes, 3 times a day, under conditions similar to home dishwashing, ilar to home dishwashing, Mrs. Rennie placed her right hand in suds from new, quick Lux—her left hand in a dishpanful of suds from Soap "A." Sci-entists examined her hands regularly, kept careful records.

> MRS. H. R. THOMPSON, New York City

New Quick LUX saves you from housework hands

Hundreds of women made these tests of 5 soaps widely used for dishes. The tests proved new, quick Lux milder than any other soap tested!

So thrifty, too ! New, quick Lux goes further ... gives more suds (ounce for ounce) even in hard water than any of the other leading soaps tested.

So gentle! Has no harmful alkali! Use new, quick Lux for your dishes and other soap-and-water tasks to help your hands stay lovely. Get the generous BIG box!

LIKE MRS. RENNIE, I MADE THE ONE-HAND TEST. NEW QUICK LUX WAS SO MUCH GENTLER I'LL ALWAYS USE IT FOR DISHES TO HELP KEEP MY HANDS NICE!

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Full depth beaters are guarded and in one unit -quickly detached for easy cleaning.



Own this modern electric mixer... and like thousands of women ... you'll find it your most prized kitchen possession. You're free from all the tiring arm-work of mixing, beating, and whipping. You can prepare delicious foods easier, faster... and with better results.

With Bowl Control, a wide range of speeds, and full steady power... the Hamilton Beach does every mixing task with equal ease. Whether mixing batter, whipping cream, mashing vegetables, or blending salad dressings...you get the finest results. A slight pressure on the handy control lever shifts the revolving bowl... without stopping the motor. All ingredients are brought into the beaters, insuring a perfect mix.

Ask your dealer to show you the many other fine features that make Hamilton Beach the quality mixer.

Choice of white or ivory finish. Complete with juicer and two bowls, \$23.75. (Slightly higher, West.) Many practical, labor-saving attachments at small extra cost.

HAMILTON BEACH COMPANY, RACINE, WISCONSIN Division of Scovill Manufacturing Company





printed silk or rayon dress

LAUNDER a printed silk or rayon dress with care. Some rayons have to be dry cleaned and are usually tagged. Colors can be tried by washing a belt. If they do not "bleed," the washing procedure is the use of plenty of lukewarm suds, thorough rinsing, gentle handling. When rolling in a towel put an extra one between the front and back to prevent crocking. Knead the roll and hang the dress in a shady spot. No clothespins.

corduray

Do YOU know how to manage corduroy frocks and dressing gowns so the nap won't be matted or show deep furrows? Avoid rubbing, wringing, and creasing when washing by hand. Spread out the article and douse it up and down in lukewarm suds. After rinsing, hang it sopping wet across two clotheslines, to eliminate the need of folding. Brushing the nap occasionally while it is drying will restore it to upright position.

gloves

You'll find a brush helpful for gloves. Don't wash chamois gloves on the hands. Drop them into the suds, and you'll have better luck. Other washable gloves should be slipped on. Make a lather and run in cold water until it is cool. Massage your gloved hands gently, use a soft brush on the very soiled spots. Slip off the gloves without pulling, rinse twice and leave slightly soapy. Squeeze, roll in a towel to dry as much as possible. Blow into the gloves and hang. Rub lightly to soften, while still damp.

velvet cushions, velour covers

E ven velvet ribbon, pillow covers or velour and water if you follow the rules laid down for other articles. The only variation is the method of bringing up the nap. Holding the wrong side of the material over a steaming kettle is the right procedure for these fabrics. An even simpler treatment is to hang velvet clothes in a steamy bathroom for a few minutes after they are thoroughly dry.


• This picture introduced Sani-Flush -28 years ago. It marked the end of a nasty job. Because Sani-Flush cleans toilet bowls without scrubbing and scouring. The same scene—brought up to date—appears on the Sani-Flush can today. Here is the easiest and best known way to keep toilets clean and sanitary.

Just sprinkle a little Sani-Flush in the bowl twice a week. It's as easy as that! Sani-Flush even cleans the hidden trap—cannot injure the plumbing connections. (Also effective for cleaning out automobile radiators.) See directions on can. Sold by grocery. drug, hardware, and 5-and-10c stores. 10c and 25c sizes. . . The Hygienic Products Company, Canton, Ohio.



Delicious appetizer. At fine food stores. Norm Pacific Nur GROWERS COOPRATIVE Dundee, Oregon. Payment enclosed as checked: 2 (80z.) tins \$1.25; 5 tins \$3.00; 24 tins \$12.95. Send postpaid to: Name_

Address

THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940



A CHWAY: BREAKFAST NOOK. Archways may be decorative, but the four-foot one between my kitchen and living room was just so much waste space. I did not like the exposed kitchen, and I did need an "eating corner." Result: this built-in breakfast nook.

The trick is a part-way-up partition. On the kitchen side is a shelf: part of it is stationary and holds the toaster and percolator tile; the other half is a drop-leaf breakfast table which can be put up flush with the partition. Below it is a small storage cupboard, and above a shelf. On the living room side there is a bookshelf about 8" from the top. I drew up plans and a carpenter did the job for \$21.90 including materials.

MADGE E. DILTS

3,3(56)

Look what SCOTTOWELS do

Drain breakfast bacon Wipe grease out of pan Scrape dishes before washing Take scraps out of sink Clean top of stove Wipe out ashtrays Wipe hands after cleaning car Catch baby's orange juice Flour your fish and cutlets Wipe up spilled grease Pick up broken glass

IF you've ever used ScotTowels, you know you get your money's worth. ScotTowels do a dozen jobs for a penny, and do them cleaner and faster.

for

A strong, absorbent ScotTowel is grand for wiping off your stove, for wiping up greasy spills. And there's nothing to scrub out afterward. Put ScotTowels in the bathroom and save your good towels from smudgy little fingers. 150 clean, fresh ScotTowels to a roll. At grocery, drug, department stores.







Trade Mark "Tear-Easy" Reg. App. for. Copr., 1940, Scott Paper Co.



NO WONDER Dot felt foolish! The night Jim came to supper her cake a failure!

What happened? Dot didn't realize how important baking powder is to consistently good cake results. That many experienced cooks rely on Royal

for fine cakes every time. You see, Royal, made with Cream of Tartar, has a *special* "steady action" that is different from most baking powders. Royal begins its work the moment it is stirred in the batter. Thus the expansion of the batter is continuous and even. That is why Royal cakes are fine-grained...light...fluffy. Why they keep their delicious moistness and flavor longer.

Many ordinary baking powders seem to have an explosive, uneven action. A greater part of the expansion is delayed until the cake is in the oven. Rising is often over-rapid. It may blow the bat-ter full of large holes. Then the cake

will be coarse...dry...crumbly. See these actual photographs of cake, magnified, and the difference in results:



The greater assurance that Royal gives costs only about 1¢ per baking. The rest of your ingredients cost 30 to 40 times that much. Pure Cream of Tartar makes Royal cost more per can-but the differ-ence *per baking* between Royal and ordi-nary baking powders is only a *fraction* of a cent!

Remember, Royal is the only nationally distributed baking powder made with wholesome Cream of Tartar-a product of fresh, luscious grapes. Cream of Tartar leaves no bitter "baking powder taste." So ask your grocer for ROYAL. Use it whenever you bake. You'll agree it's well worth the dif-

ference in price.

ROYAL COOK

BOOK FREE

If you bake at home, you should have a copy of the Royal Cook Book which tells you how to make delicious cakes, biscuits, muffins, pies, puddings and main dishes. Send your name and address to Royal Baking Powder, 691 Washington St., New York City. Dept. 910.



MARION BALDERSTON

OR several years now, since we came to California, we've been very definitely out of the red-but I do

my own housework. This has caused a lot of astonishment among our old friends, who come out here expecting to find us living on a large estate full of swimming pools and private projection rooms and with at least three footmen in knee breeches and powdered wigs. Back East, they

remark, you showed no gift for domestic. work, in fact, you were pretty moronic on the whole subject. So why on earth do it now?

Well, for one reason, I've found it the only real solution of the servant problem. For another, there are now enough electrical and mechanical gadgets

so that housework is no longer a mussy, back-breaking, grim affair; in fact, it's actually fun!

It was only when I started to do my own work that I found myself really free, and my house the tranquil sort of place that one can really call home. No injured looks if I sleep late and upset the domestic routine, since I'm the routine! No sullen temperament if I want an unusual dish for dinner, since I cook the dinner. No echoes from the kitchen radio moaning a sentimental song at me while I have my coffee. No sounds of domestic nagging and back biting from the service end of the house. Life is pure contentment since I learned the few sleight-of-hand tricks that are called modern house work.

However, before I become unbearably smug, I'd better say that running a house out here is probably easier than anywhere else in the United States. It's mostly done by the push-button method. The real joy of Southern California is not its climate (those bathing beauties on the beach, photographed in August for February releases!), but its endless supply of cheap natural gas. To heat the house, you press a button; thermostats and air conditioning machinery go into action to keep you as warm or as cool, as dry or as humid, as you like. You turn a faucet and unlimited gallons of scalding water pour out, you pull a lever and hot water begins to temper the chill of your pool (standard FERMONIO

injured looks if I sleep late"

Kenwood

equipment in our houses), until it is comfortable for a swim. You pile eucalyptus logs unscientifically in the fireplace, light the gas gadget under them, and they

blaze away at once. And the month-end bills are never high as compared to other parts of the country.

Since we use no coal, we take an impersonally sympathetic view of coal strikes; we are really selfishly glad there is no soot to float in on our furniture, no fumes to



THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940



tarnish our silver. Curtains and windows stay clean for ages and sweeping and dusting are child's play. It is very hard for us to imagine anyone putting up with the old-time coal dust Even in such a paradise, say my Eastern friends, there just are a

lot of things-beds, pans, marketing. my routine. After left and I've finished fee and the rest of and the mail, takwant over these

"Thermostats

tions, I stack the washing machine. yesterday's lunch, things in it. I snap



my husband has another cup of cofthe morning paper ing all the time I pleasant occupa-

dishes, pots and All right, here's

phonograph"

dishes in the dish-This already has tea, and dinner over three buttons.

Liberty Music Shop

and while the dishes wash themselves, I make out my shopping list and tidy the dining room with duster and sweeper. Generally one of the big pieces of silver goes into the top of the washer; if I remember to do this, the silver never needs polishing.

Another re-adjustment of buttons, and the dishes give themselves a scalding rinse; they are hot enough to dry themselves bright and clean when the top of the machine is raised. In the bottom of the adjoining sink is a lovely mechanical arrangement that impartially chews up everything in the way of garbage, bones, wet paper towels, cigarette ends and faded flowers, and spits it all down the drain. While the breakfast grapefruit and coffee grounds are thus disposing of themselves, the washer is doing the pots and pans, and I'm off to the other rooms for the routine dusting and straightening.

As we prefer showers, bathtubs stay clean, and bed-making, I've read, makes the arms beautiful. Anyhow, few maids make beds with the sheets drawn to a hospital tautness. I've a complex about it; a wrinkled sheet will keep me awake and ruin my tomorrow's temper. I'd rather do it myself and be satisfied.

Before I start work, I generally load up the phonograph, and while I am going peacefully about these domestic occupations, I can hear all the symphonies and

operas I want. It turns and changes its go into action"

remarkable ageand with the extra upstairs speaker

records-we really

do live in a most



REMEMBER ME? I'M THE GIRL WHO HATED COOKING!



"Will you ever forget how I used to detest cooking? Well honestly, John, I really enjoy it now that I have my new Hotpoint Electric Range. That old-fashioned range of mine made hard work of cooking-but with my Hotpoint, it's a different story!"



1."It's surprisingly simple to cook even the most difficult dishes—and the re-sults are far better! Why, baking is a cinch now—because the Horpoint oven auto-matically puts the right amount of heat where you want it. And it's easy to ...



2.... keep my kitchen immaculate now! The air is fresh and free from fumes—and there's no soot because there is no flame. Why, once over with a damp cloth cleans the whole range like new. Even the Calrod cook-ing coils are self-cleaning! And really, John...



3.... Calrod saves us money! It provides five Measured Heats—so I don't have to waste any current. Cooking with Hotpoint is certainly modern, easy and dependable. And you'll agree we've never had such grand-tasting food!"

Hotpoint Presents The PRESIDENT-**Greatest Electric Range Value In Hotpoint History!**



Range Features At An Amazing Low Price! • All-Porcelain finish, inside and 2 Large Utility Drawers for pots, pans and dishes. Oversize Oven with automatic time and heat control. 3 Calrod Surface Cooking Units (each with 5 Measured Heats). • 6-Quart Thrift Cooker. Cooks a whole meal on low heat.



5607 W. Taylor Street, Chicago, III.



STAYS HOTTER . IBONS FASTER



No waiting for the Sunbeam to heat upit's ready to go in a split minute. Reaches Rayon Heat in 30 seconds, high heat for heavy, damp linens in 2¹/₂ minutes. And what's more—it not only heats fast but never over-heats—gives you the correct heat right from the first plug-in. And women know it's quick heat, steady heat, correct. beat that makes ironing fast and easygets them through in less time, feeling fresher.

Only the Sunbeam Has Double-Automatic Heat Control

This great invention, found only in Sunbeam, is the reason behind Ironmaster's outstanding performance. It has made the Sunbeam the iron women recognize as the easiest-iron-ing, fastest automatic iron. But to really appreciate the freedom from tired arms and shoulders the Ironmaster brings, you must try it. Then you'll realize how *different* it ishow much easier it irons-how much time it saves. \$8.95 wherever good electric appliances are sold.

Made and guaranteed by CHICAGO FLEXIBLE SHAFT COM-PANY, 5607 Roosevelt Rd., Chicago, III. Canada factory: 321 Weston Rd. So., Toronto. 52 Years Making Quality Products.

Famous for Sunbeam TOASTER, MIXMASTER, COFFEEMASTER, SHAVEMASTER, etc.

Automatic Heat Control RIGHT UNDER YOUR THUMB Dial the cool, thumb-tip regulator for any fabric to be ironed-Rayons • Silks • Woolens • Cottons • Linens.



Set the thumb-tip regulator for RAYONS and get the perfect, safe, steady, *low* heat that will not scorch your finest lingerie.



get a st

at LINEN

as well while someone else made the beds. But somehow I didn't; I frittered. I re-organized myself when I re-organized my house.

But what about meals? Cooking takes time and there's no way around that problem. True-but most peo-

ple eat too much and

"I stack the dishes,

good cooking needn't take hours and hours, not these days. We'd rather eat less and keep our figures. Fruit and toast and coffee for breakfast; the last two make themselves electrically on the

table. When I don't lunch out, I generally have a salad or a bowl of soup, and carry it on a tray into my study, or out in the patio by the pool. As for dinner-have you ever got as thoroughly bored

as we have at the meat and potato and a vegetable, salad and dessert. night after night after night? That is the standard evening meal of the American cook; she prefers to serve it at six, of all hours, but will, with some persuasion, hold it off until seven. We like to have tea at five and dine at eight when we don't go out, an incomprehensible idea to every cook I've had, or else a plot to prevent her giving undivided attention to the late afternoon and early evening radio serials.



It occurred to me one day some years ago that the more servants we had, the more adjustments we were making to their likes and dislikes. We tried a large house with a large staff, a small house with one maid, and a middle-size house with the usual arrangement here-a couple, a man and his wife. But every Thursday the staff has its day off-and it is a day, too; they're gone right after breakfast and you can shift for vourself the rest of the day, lunching and dining at the usual group of restaurants, packed beyond capacity at these times. The ideal is to get away at half past eight; it's an unusually obliging couple that will stay around cheerfully to clear up the dishes and do the

beds should you feel like sleeping late. Every other Sunday, and in many cases, every Sunday, you have the same firm domestic exodus into Los Angeles.

It was on a "Thursday" that

Hotpoint

I began experimenting at the kitchen range-one of those streamlined affairs where you press buttons and it lights itself. twist knobs and



"One of those streamlined affairs" the oven remains at the appointed temperature. I tried to remember: all the dishes we had liked best: in other parts of the world, sighing for the domestic bliss of the old days in Europe. Why, we spent three months once at St. Tropez because we liked the food.

> We used to drive miles along the Riviera to Le Lavandou,



distinctive design and the same high quality construction as the famous Napanee Kitchen Cabinets. Its graceful lines and gleaming chrome finish make any room gay and stimulating. Has patented floating rail, safety extension leaf, four chairs. Seats four or six. Moderately priced at furniture and departmentistores.

> WRITE TODAY FOR FREE FOLDER name of your local dealer. NAPANEE quality is always worth the difference.

COPPES, INC. • Dept. A-10 • Nappanee, Ind.

Leading Manufacturers Since 1876. Kitchen cabinets, tables, bases, breakfast sets, chinas and buffets. *NAPANEE is our trademark. Be sure cabinets referred to as NAPANEE bear the Coppes name.





MIDLAND CO., South Milwaukee, Wisconsin



General Electri

where Henri made the most delectable bouillabaisse and served it to us in a wee restaurant clinging to a cliff above the Mediterranean. We couldn't of course get rouget and langouste fresh out of the sea here but, after all, bouillabaisse is fish soup and I could but try to make it! And it's good if you make it in the morning and let it have the rest of the day to develop its subtlety of flavor. White fish that comes out to us from the East, frozen, fresh or canned oysters, lobster, shrimps, clam broth, some vegetables, saffron, and above all, olive oil. In

soufflé is an easy meal, add a bowl of salad and it is perfection. Bicycling along the roads through the Midi we always had it, and if in France, why not in California? A Spanish omelet is an ideal meal as well-the former King of Spain always ordered this with cotton. Try-the "blindfold

that impartially everything"

at the Spanish Restaurant in London, and I tried to remember the vegetables and sauce with which they smothered its golden goodness. Lots of onion, lots of fresh tomato, herbs for piquancy, not much butter, but plenty of olive oil, a meat cube sometimes for richness-these are the essentials of half the "foreign" dishes that are world famous.

I concentrated on learning sauces-and how badly California foods need them! In our productive climate we have grown greedy; we try to force three and



CX

four crops out of the earth instead of one. Patiently the earth produces an abundance of fruits and vegetables, but with no more flavor than if they were stuffed

and Motor-Driven-Brush Models

6630 S. NARRAGANSETT AVE., CHICAGO

WHEN YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS otify the Subscription Department of THE AMERICAN HOME at 251 Fourth Ave., lying the old as well as the new address, and do this at least four weeks in advance. Direc Department does not forward magazines unless you pay additional postage, and ilicate copies mailed to the old address. York, giving the Post Office D The "Now We Women Can Enjoy Cleaning." MODEL 300 ylinder Type - 2 SPEED CONTROL CILIM CLEANE CLEAN DUSI Ask your local CADILLAC dealer for a FREE home demonstration. Send for your FREE copy "IT'S A WOMAN'S DEODORIZE SPRAY BUSINESS"

Popularly Priced Cylinder CLEMENTS MFG. CO.

THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940

BUSY AS A BEE!

MORNING

It's true! Hurrying husbands and scurrying schoolboys actually take time for breakfast when this ever-busy Toastmaster Toast 'n Jam Set makes the morning meal a feast. And what a difference a leisurely breakfast makes -in good work, good grades, and good tempers!



More work for Mother's willing helper! There's no better fare for youngsters than crisp, crunchy toast, bread in its most digestible form. . . . Children find it's fun to watch this magic toaster popping up the toast. And-where there's fun, there's appetite, health, and happiness!



And still no rest for this obliging toast-butler! For Sunday supper or a bite before bed, after movies or bridge, page the Toastmaster Toast 'n Jam Set! Perfect toastevery time . . . and there ought to be something in those trim little jars to make everybody happy.

Clever and Complete

There's the handiest of trays, in beautifully grained walnut; a toast plate and jars for jam or marmalade, in colorful Franciscan Ware; and the fully automatic toaster that you've always wanted. Together they form the Toastmaster* De Luxe Toast 'n Jam Set-for only \$17.95.

*"TOASTMASTER" is a registered trademark of McGraw Electric Company, Toastmaster Products Division, Elgin, Ill. • Copyright 1940, McGraw Electric Co.

TOASTMASTER Toast in Jam Set

Thousands Of Women Have STOPPED Washing Dishes! STOPPED Handling Garbage!





IN THOUSANDS of homes from coast to coast the old-fashioned sink has been replaced by this great time and laborsaver. Easily, quickly installed in old or new kitchens-it costs only a few pennies a week to operate.

YOUR DISHES ARE HYGIENICALLY CLEAN, FOR THEY'RE WASHED IN WATER HOTTER THAN HANDS CAN STAND

• The G-E Electric Sink combines the time-tested General Electric Dishwasher and G-E Disposall in one unit that gives equally satis-factory service in both small and large households. Send for illustrated descriptive literature without obligation.





"It's Easy To Stay Young Electrically"

GENERAL 🛞 ELECTRIC

test" and tell me whether it is fresh asparagus or the well-known boiled cabbage!

We'd lived in Italy for six months-couldn't I make spaghetti Bolognese the way Luigina made it for us? It wasn't too bad an imitation, after I'd gone downtown to an Italian grocery for the herbs. An apple, some sharp cheese and a glass of Chianti are nicer after this than a pudding. Then there was jambalaya; we used to eat that in New Orleans. It's almost anything you feel like add-ing to boiled rice, with a goodsize onion for luck.

Definitely Thursdays and Sundays had become our gastronomic



high spots. So when our latest "couple" developed too great a fondness for my husband's pet brandy, I

sent them

off, used what would have been several months' wages for that excellent device which cleans up mussy dishes and messy garbage -and purchased my invaluable domestic freedom.

Many times I've been askedwhat about your entertaining?

I call in a couple whose sole business is to cater; they arrive with the fish and the meat and the fresh vegetables, they are full of ideas for things to serve with the cocktails, they're grand cooks, they charge not much more per guest than it would cost me if I

went out and bought the stuff myself. I'm left with nothing to do but the flowers and some overseeing about the



As for heavy cleaning, the



For better coffee every cup, switch to Silex! Silex sends water up at just the right heat, brings coffee down at flavor peak . . perfectly brewed, perfectly filtered, perfectly delicious! Kitches. models \$2.45 up. Table model electrics from \$4.45, with Self-Timing Stoves. 4- to 12-cup sizes. Pyrex brand glass. Narrow neck for better pouring, or wide neck for easy cleaning.



gardener hoses off porches and patio, and on Saturdays a cleaning woman arrives in a car twice the size of mine. By the time I'm through breakfast she has ironed the silks and fine things I've swished through soap flakes the day before.

I've nothing to do but the marketing, which is fun out here, where the circus idea has extended to the food markets. You push a sort of perambulator past groceries, meats, and vegetables.

And after that, I've nothing to do but set the tea table for those who come to lie around the pool.



Hoover

BEATRICE COOK GRAY

OUNG mothers with small children and smaller budgets often need help in their homes. Where can dependable maids be found? Whose fault is it, really, this dearth of good domestic employees? The real reason lies in the false attitude the girls acquire toward domestic work.

What kind of maids do we want? For today's simplified living, brains, not brawn, are needed. What a dangerous premise it is to assume that any kind of person is suitable for domestic employment. Mothers require resourcefulness in their helpers. Dishwashing and scrubbing require a minimum of intelligence, but what about the care of our children? Suppose Jimmy breaks his arm or runs a lollipop stick down his throat in our absence? Such an emergency calls for a girl with some degree of sound judgment.

To get such girls we must create a new order—the household employee. I mean new in the United States. In Europe, for generations girls have made housework a dignified apprenticeship to their careers as wives.

but whose fault

is it, really?

Realizing that this was the solution, a group of fifteen mothers in our community put domestic service upon a dignified, sensible plane We knew that to get the efficient, alert help we needed, country girls were our best bet. Through high school teachers in near-by small towns, we found fine, intelligent girls who were anxious to come to the city. As maids? Oh, dear no! But they were willing to take housework until jobs could be found. As employers, we set out to vie with the "allure" of the bargain basement.

By previous arrangement among us, our stipulations were identical. We explained that

Some thirty million homes employ domestic help. Are these girls

smart enough to bring dignity to their really important jobs?

our homes needed no servants, but efficient employees. All the girls were well enough educated to appreciate our need of family privacy and they no more expected to eat with us than a file clerk or any other office worker expects to dine with her boss.

Like other girls in industry, they had specified hours with extra pay for any extraordinary amount of extra time. We pointed out to them that caring for our children and preparing our simple meals was just as dignified as working in a dime store. Any job is as dignified as the attitude of the employee toward it.

For our first step in giving these girls normal lives, we found them small furnished apartments. These were usually the unused upper floors of near-by houses whose owners welcomed the nominal rent. Four girls, work-



ROY ROGERS, Republic Pictures Star, who heads up Magic Chef's 3rd Annual Old Range Round-up says:

"THIS ISN'T A HOLD-UP...IT'S A ROUND-UP!"

"They're tellin' me Magic Chef dealers are offerin' bang-up bargains in Magic Chef ranges. Better see your dealer quick. Have him round-up that old range you've been strugglin' with all these years. He's really got somethin' new to show you!"



American" Magic Chef gas range! All the famous Magic Chef features, plus twelve brand-new ideas that 615 cooking experts got from housewives. Extra big oven...larger swing-out broiler, warming space underneath. Self-lighting top burners spaced for four big pans at once. See it at your gas company or Magic Chef dealer's today!



PRICES BEGIN AS LOW AS 10¢ A DAY

- 7. Burner grates level with working surface.
- 8. Coveralls fit flush with cooking top.
- 9. Singlestreamlined drawer for utensils.
- 10. Chrome plated lamp. New Minute Minder.
- 11. Easy-to-clean-under open front base.
- 12. Extra high back-guard, to protect wall.

Completely automatic! All regular Magic Chef features besides those above!

JOIN THE SWING TO GAS. More than 16,000,000 women cook with gas, the Magic Flame. New CP (Certified Performnnee) Magic Chefs save time, ave food, save money.

VRIGHT 1940, AMERICAN STOVE CO.

If you live beyond the gas mains, Magic Chef and Pyrofax Tank Gas Service are available east of the Rockies. American Stove Co., Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo. ing in the same neighborhood, shared the expense—and the fun. (This arrangement was a blessing to those who did not have extra bedrooms available.) Living as their friends who worked down town did, they had their own dinner parties and friends to see them. They enjoyed it and we employers reaped the benefit. Any woman who has had a discontented maid can appreciate the joy of a willing and interested household employee.

The girls came to work in the mornings like their friends who were employed in industry. They left after the dinner dishes were done except on those evenings when we employers wished to go out. Then they remained for a small compensation. Extra work —extra pay!

A^S EMPLOYERS, we tried in every way to make the work more interesting. A card index for recipes was given to each girl to stimulate her interest in cooking. On nights when we were out, we permitted them to have some of the other girls as guests for waffle suppers after the children were tucked in. We could safely do this as we were sure of their good background. The girls were still young enough to take an interest in receiving gold stars on their monthly charts whenever they cooked any dish perfectly for the first time. When one had accumulated a set number of stars, a tiny reward of a compact or toilet goods was very thrilling.

To encourage thrift, we housewives budgeted our gas and electric bills, telling the girls what they *should* average. Any saving on the estimated bills was given to the girls as a bonus. This money was not wasted, for experience shows that a girl's carelessness makes the bills run *over* the estimated budget if some such system is not used and it is far wiser to give this money to the maids rather than to the gas company! It stimulates thrift in food and household supplies.

The girls responded readily to the feeling of working with and not for their employers. A detailed outline of work to be done each day in the week and suggestions for the use and care of equipment were appreciated by the maids, who, naturally, dislike constant "bossing." Estimated time limits were set for each task. All time saved was their own (if the work was up to standard).

Those of us who had pre-school children paid a small sum if we wished to be gone during the girls' leisure time, for we were careful to see that each girl worked only the agreed upon number of hours a day. Does this sound extravagant? It is not only fair but we also found it far cheaper than replacing the damage done by slovenly, discontented, and ever-changing maids. Repairing an electric coffee pot which a former careless maid soaked in dish water cost more than the additional fees which I gave to my conscientious maid in an entire month!

It is queer that civic-minded women, who spend hours organizing activities for young people, don't begin their charity at home. Surely the girls who care for our own children so that we may enjoy our hobbies are entitled to a great deal of consideration. We urged our employees to join tapdancing, drawing, and singing classes. We helped them take out library cards and Y.W.C.A. memberships. Girls entering cooking and child-care courses were given double the entrance fee upon completion of that training. It was well worth it to us.

As soon as the girls met increasingly difficult qualifications, their initial wages were raised accordingly. For instance, they all received a \$2.50 a month raise when they could cook and serve very simple meals nicely and on time. The next raise came when they could prepare and serve a "company" meal, and so on until really formal dinners were included. (Any of these meals by the way, rated ten gold stars!)

Because these girls are happy and self-respecting, they return our consideration in many ways that would never occur to a typical servant. Fine, intelligent girls, our children are safe with them. We can leave them for long week ends since we know that these girls take a genuine interest in their welfare and will know what to do in emergencies.

The small son of one of the employers fell from the porch onto the cement sidewalk below one day while his mother was out shopping. The mother was finally located but the maid already had the child in the hospital, X-rays taken and the films read by the family doctor, whose name was listed in the front of the telephone book. The mother herself could not have been more efficient. Such a feeling of security is worth ten times the trouble we take.

D^{URING} the four years' experiment, only three of the fifteen girls have left their employers, and those to be married.

This plan will work for anyone willing to take the trouble. Women must be willing to pay with courtesy and fairness for safe and efficient help in the home. They must consider themselves teachers who are instructing their employees in practical home economics. They must take the time and thought to work out a routine and schedule that are constructive and function easily on a practical partnership basis.



It cleans windows as nothing else does

Most people who try Bon Ami Cake are surprised to find it does much more than remove dirt, thoroughly and quickly. It goes two steps beyond this: First, it leaves your windows with a crystal - clear polish. Second, it leaves no oily, dustcatching film on the glass. Next time you clean your windows, be sure to try the economical, long-lasting Bon Ami Cake?



WHEN YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS—Be sure to notify the Subscription Department of THE AMERICAN HOME at 251 Fourth Ave., New York City, giving the old as well as the new address, and do this at least four weeks in advance. The Post Office Department does not forward magazines unless you pay additional postage, and we cannot duplicate copies mailed to the old address.





CAPTAIN PETER J. McKENZIE.



When you bake for a living, there must be no failures Every cake and cooky must turn out good enough to sell. And that's why better bakeries use Wear-Ever Alumi num. It helps assure an even, golden brown, fine, uniform texture, generous size Because, in Aluminum, heat spreads quickly and evenly so that all parts bake at the same rate

For better baking results, take a tip from the man whose business is baking. Use Wear-Ever Aluminum. He will tell you, too, that it is easy to clean, will last for years.

If you wish to know where to buy Wear-Ever, write The Aluminum Cooking Utensil Company, 1610 Wear-Ever Building, New Kensington, Pennsylvania.



THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940

Luncheon à la Anna Suggs

Spaghetti con Vongoli Hot French Bread Sweet Butter Fruit Salad with Boston Lettuce and French Dressing or Chilled Persimmons, Lettuce and Sour Cream

Gamboling Lamb Polenta Hot Bran Muffins Sweet Butter Sherry Jelly with Sauce of Fresh Fruits

Filet of Flounder with Butter and Parsley Sauce Potato Chips Mixed Green Salad Wait and See Pudding or Coeur à la Crême* Hot Salted Crackers *From The American Home Basic File



à la Anna Suggs

Maybe you haven't a genius like Anna who can whip up divine luncheons, but these notions of hers on the subject can give you quite a substantial start in the right direction

MARION LOWNDES

OOD cooks are always beloved by animals. And usually, too, by the human beings fortunate enough to be around them. It's not only their cooking that endears them, but also the virtues that always seem to go with it.

Culinary geniuses are famous for their terrible tempers. Some are known to keep a bottle of ardent spirits handy and to resort to it freely when their natural ones aren't equal to the task. Out of the kitchen they may be burglars or bigamists, but in their sphere they're integrity itself. They have to be. You can't cheat a hollandaise of eggs or give a white sauce one minute less than its appointed time. Other ance, and a sense of style. By that time, as all animals instinctively perceive, you have the makings of a pretty good character. Certainly an interesting one. I never knew a good cook to be a bore. Anna Suggs, who has perfected the recipes to follow, is a good cook full of grace, beloved by animal and man. Among her admirers she

virtues indispensable to good cooking are imagination, industry, assur-

full of grace, beloved by animal and man. Among her admirers she can count a famous abstractionist, who is thoroughly concrete in his admiration of her and her gamboling lamb. An explorer who has lived so long on quinine and bully beef that he's lost his palate for most things, but not for Anna's polenta. A real metropolitan (meaning Man



About Town, not Bishop), who would just as soon give you champagne and porsciutto at midnight as look at you, and who considers her "one of the most remarkable women in New York." A sportsman who wouldn't trust his bag to any other hands. A leauty of Tennessee descent who understands all the good things in life. A choleric, pink-faced baritone who's like a thunderclap at most tables, but a turtledove at Anna's. And many another with his hand on his heart. *His* heart, as a rule, because it's the men who are first to recognize and value good cooking and the character which is behind it.

The recipes given here are intended for luncheons, which are Anna's specialties. For that pleasant time of day when everybody's wide awake and nobody's dull or tired, for those daylight parties that can't last long enough to lose their bloom, Anna contrives meals full of sustenance and cheer, but simple and light-hearted with it all. Here are some of her menus, composed, in each case, on one main theme, with harmonious accompaniment.

Anna says that the secret of every good sauce is plenty of butter and plenty of parsley. When a menu calls for grated Parmesan, remember that for this nobly Roman dish, the roughest, toughest old piece of Parmesan grated at home will be stronger and better than the prepared kind in a Cellophane envelope. When you are having a fruit salad, such as chilled persimmons, peeled and halved, don't overlook the merits of sour cream. Must be tried to be believed, but worth the risk. Bartlett pears do very well treated in the same way.

These menus are simple enough for lunch in the bosom of the family. But executed with love and care and served on the best china, they're equally suitable for parties. Elaborate food and too much of it have a fatal effect on social intercourse. It's hardly possible, on the other hand, to be too simple as long as you're sure of your own talents and the particular tastes of your guests.



Add gradually and stir well..... 1¼ cups corn meal Cook over direct heat 5 minutes, then place over boiling water and cook covered 30 minutes longer.

While still hot, drop by tablespoonfuls onto platter or cooky sheets and let get cold. When cold these spoonfuls will stiffen and may be fried into brown cakes on a slightly greased frying pan. Or the mixture may be turned into a baking dish, dotted with butter and browned in a moderately hot oven $(375^{\circ}F.)$. Makes about 20 cakes or fills an 8-inch baking dish.

Submitted by ANNA SUGGS

Tested in The American Home Kitchen





of sipping cider through a straw-you'll like our bright red apple cups, filled with apple cider, and served on a bed of sparkling crushed ice. A novel idea for a fall party that's fun! The apples are hollowed out with a small spoon or one of those handy melon ball gadgets. The opening is neatly carved out with a paring knife or a fruit and vegetable corer (page 121). If you want to be really fancy you can scallop the edge just as you please. 119

FYOU approve

F. M. Demarest



wait and see pudding

LINE a glass dish on bottom and sides with thin slices of white bread and butter. Add a layer of canned, frozen, or sliced and sweetened fresh strawberries. (Other berries may be used.) Repeat layers until dish is full, having berries on top. Let stand in refrigerator all day. Serve with plain or whipped cream.

Submitted by ANNA SUGGS Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

gamboling lamb

by combining 1 cup sour cream

1/2 cup mayonnaise

- I tablespoon grated onion
- I tablespoon parsley, chopped fine
- I tablespoon chives, cut fine

Take cold left-over lamb and slice thin. Spread each slice generously with the sauce. Serve cold. Makes 11/2 cups sauce.

934

Submitted by ANNA SUGGS

Tested in The AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

spaghetti con vongoli

STEAM until their shells open 1 dozen clams
Remove clams and reserve broth.
Chop clams very fine with 1 clove garlic (If fresh clams are not available, use I cup minced clams)
Add 2 tablespoons parsley chopped fine
Blend in saucepan
Gradually add and cook until thickens I cup clam broth (May use canned clam broth)
Stir in chopped clams, garlic, parsley and heat thoroughly. Serve in a small bowl or tureen with a platter of plain spaghetti. Pass grated Parmesan cheese.

Makes 6 servings. Submitted by ANNA SUGGS Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

Photograph printed on back of each recipe

Major and



No MORE mangled fingers or cans if you use the Smooth Cut Can Opener. By the

simple process of turning a crank you open any shaped can, including the usually impenetrable sardine. The Regina Corporation.

RAND new household gloves, G Nu-Gluvs with a special Turn Cuff that catches the drip and spares you that horrid feeling of water oozing up your arm when cleaning. Surety Rubber Co.





The way to make it safe to arve. A coast carving holder that grapples firmly on

well-spaced prongs anything short of a whole bullock, so that all you have to do is carve and smile. The rub-



ber suction cup secures the roast. Roast Holding Device Company.

Ever try this ready-to-serve grapefruit?

• The first thing you'll like about Florida canned grapefruit is its natural, tangy taste.

But you'll also be quick to realize its convenience-fine, firm, plump sections, always ready for all manner of desserts, fruit cups, salads. And awfully good all by themselves, too, with perhaps just a cookie or piece of cake!

Those big, plump, fresh Florida grapefruit are grand for "on-the-halfshell" eating. But keep the canned sections always on hand for making tasty

grapefruit dishes in no time at all. Your grocer has both fresh and canned fruit for you now.

CAN IF YOU WANT REAL QUALITY

FLORIDA CANNED GRAPEFRUIT



THIS Perfect Fruit and Vegetable Corer is just that, and handles that dreadfully tough bundle of fiber in the middle of grapefruit with neatness and dispatch. That is only a starter. We like it also for apples and peppers. A & P Engineering Co., Inc.



The perfect way to store your frozen food and also keep ice cream for the party! The extra cold locker that augments your refrigerator so you can take advantage of all the real bargains



in the way of meat, etc. The Deep Freeze is the answer to a big family's prayer, and the way for a small one to live economically.



At last somebody has done something effective about the lengths of white damask that hang over an ironing board, and the ends of sheet and the other side of a skirt. It is called the Kleenway Clothes Katcher and is simply grand. It attaches to your ironing board and folds up into a compact unit when you don't want it. L. S. Gershon Company.



THE marvelous fancy pastries and cakes that look like Europe's best can be made at home because you can get the shaped and fluted pans now, either six or twelve cup. Grand for parties! Continental Shaped Pastry Pans, Edward Katzinger Company.



Velvety! Chocolate! EASY-AS-PIE!



WHEN WILL MOM LEARN? DELSEY IS SOFT, LIKE KLEENEX!

Soft like Kleenex

3 ROLLS FOR 25.... DOUBLE-PLY FOR EXTRA STRENGTH

* TRADE MARKS REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

COOKING JUST FOR 2.

OOKING for two may sound romantic but—if readers' letters are any indication of what goes on in this troubled world—cooking for two is one of the problems of this generation! For just as soon as you find yourself in the mood for a juicy brown prime rib roast or a magnificent ham glazed with apricots, you suddenly remember, oh no. not for our table . . . there are only two of us, you know . . . what would we ever do with the left-overs?

Because we don't want any of our readers to be faced with the left-over problem, unnecessarily, we took it right into our kitchen, pondered over it at great length and emerged with some recipes and menus for you—the two of you, we mean. So don't ever say you've been neglected! We've really been thinking about you.

We hope you don't mind being catalogued, for we've found that there are two main groups with cooking-for-two problems: those who are always in a hurry—women with all-day jobs, bridge fiends and people who madly follow various hobbies every afternoon until five; and then those domestic souls who are in no particular hurry, but with a budget that's "conservative," to put it mildly. Wherever you fit into this picture, we've ideas to help solve your problems.

into this picture, we've ideas to help solve your problems. If you're one of those always-in-a-hurry gals, we have some broiler meal suggestions for you—both quick and interesting! We haven't in-

	l whole ops and e chops 30 min- JTCHEN	
 cooking for two (oven dinner) 	Onion Salad (.H.) ced onions and cown pork cho rown. Sprinkl er 30 minutes ler 30 minutes fer 30 s.	
• C00	Pork Chop-Vegetable Casserole Pork Chop-Vegetable Casserole Pork Chop-Vegetable Casserole Sliced Cucumber and Onion Salad Sliced Cucumber and Onions and whole Sliced Cucumbers *Scalloped Potatoes Sliced Cucumbers *Minute's Apple Dumplings Sliced onions and whole *Minute's Apple Dumplings Strinkle chops and *N A covered dish make a bed of sliced carrots, sliced onions and whole Apple Sumplings * N A covered dish make a bed of sliced carrots, sliced onions and whole At the * N A covered dish make a bed of sliced carrots, sliced onions and whole At the * N A cover with thickly sliced fresh tomatoes. Brown pork chops and At the * String beans. Cover with thickly sliced fresh tomatoes. Brown pork chops and At the * N A covered dish of scalloped potatoes. 30 minutes covered and 30 minutes with curry powder, salt and poper, turn and bake another 30 minutes with curry powder, salt and poper, turn and bake another 30 minutes with curry powder, salt and poper potatoes. 30 minutes covered and 30 minutes uncovered. After 30 minutes put in apple dumplings. * Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN	
	Pork Chop-Vegetable Casserole Pork Chop-Vegetable Casserole shines Shiced Cucumber an Sliced Cucumber an splittings Apple Dumplings in a moder with thickly sliced fresh tomatoes. with thickly sliced fresh tomatoes with thickly sliced fresh tomatoes and bake an getables Bake 30 minutes in a moder dish of scalloped potatoes. 30 minu- dish of scalloped potatoes. 30 minu- dish of scalloped potatoes. 30 minu- dish of scalloped potatoes. 30 minu- fter 30 minutes put in apple dump fter 30 minutes put in apple dump	
<u>ند</u>	Pork Chop *Scalloped Potatoes *Minnie Minnie Minnie Minnie * * * * * * * * * * * * *	can Home
Temp. 350° F., Time 1 hr.	Pork Portatoes *Scalloped Potatoes *M *M *M *M *M *M *M *M *M *M	in an the America
Temp.	ts d v e .	-



F. M. Demare THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940

we'll come to later in our story.

Another advantage of a broiler meal is that it peps up droopy left-over vegetables. Suppose you had boiled potatoes or parsnips for last night's dinner. Tonight, cut the potatoes—or parsnips into delicate thin slices, dip in melted butter, broil along with your meat and then wait for the compliments to come forth.

Now just as it is a smart idea to broil several foods at the same time, it is equally smart to plan oven meals so that you can cook everything at the same temperature and for the same length of time. One of our oven menus, for instance, is planned so that all the food (the liver, squash, string beans and rice) is put into a moderate oven and cooked one hour! The prune whip is popped in thirty-five minutes before the rest is done, and presto-at the end of the hour they're all done to a tee and ready to place on the table.

For amateurs one of the most difficult things about cooking is to plan and prepare a dinner so that everything will be simultaneously hot and ready to appear on the festive board. Most girls learn to cook by easy stages —only one thing at a time, which



do with your kitchen — with modern, matched pieces like these. Jot down all those clever little arrangements you've dreamed of and let

you've dreamed of and let our FREE Kitchen Planning Service show you how they can be worked out in Whitehead-Monel stock units. Just to give you an idea of the possibilities, consider the inexpensive

sibilities, consider the inexpensive combination pictured here (just one of many!) See how the roomy Whitehead enameled steel cabinets frame the window – throwing the daylight on the gleaming surfaces of the famous Monel UNACRAT, with its 5-foot double drainboard, Monel sink, and handy steel cabinets. Remember – many other combinations, all easy to buy. Or the Monel UNACRAT can be purchased separately for \$89.90.

be purchased separately for \$89.90. For full information on the Monel UNACRAT or complete Whitehead-Monel Kitchens, see your plumber. And for FREE kitchen planning service write to Excel Metal Cabinet Co., Inc., 101 Park Ave., New York. THE INTERNATIONAL NICKEL CO., INC. 73 Wall Street New York, N.Y. is fairly easy—but when it comes to running your own five-ring kitchen circus, that is something else. Making the coffee, setting the table, preparing the salad, stirring the white sauce, watching the roast in the oven—it's a hectic business 'til you begin to know the ropes.

But with our oven meals you simply can't go wrong! You start in plenty of time, prepare each food separately, have the oven regulated for the proper temperature, and put the food in all at the same time as we've suggested in our menus. While the food is cooking in the oven you have plenty of time to set the table, fix the flowers, powder your nose, or chit-chat with your husband.

The kind of food you cook in oven dinners can be exciting, for as you know, long, slow cooking is a wonderful doctor for even the most stubbornly "untender" cuts of meat. And such ordinary food as liver, which comes to the table nine times out of ten as the proverbial liver with onions, takes on a new twist in one of our oven meal menus. Baked with inserted pieces of mushrooms, lemon, and onions, it's one of the best recipes we've come across recently, and we'll be very unhappy if you don't like it as much as we do.

And don't forget the wonderful things you can do with a shiny green pepper. We've suggested more ideas in our basic file

stuffing it with corned beef hash . . . more ideas in our basic file of recipes. If your oven is very small, your best answer is a casserole dish, such as our porkchop-vegetable casserole (directions,



THE MAN WHO

JOHN was late for breakfast and cross as a bear! "Cheese glasses!" he exploded tasting his fruit juice, "for heaven's sake are we paupers?" "Why don't we ever use our good glassware? It doesn't wear out!" Right then and there I made up my mind we'd use our Rock Sharpe Crystal every meal. It costs so little, and it dresses the table up like a party! Hurry to your favorite store. See *Chantilly* (shown here) and other handcut designs in the Rock Sharpe Crystal collection. Priced as low as \$1.25 to \$1.50, depending on pattern and locality. For illustrated booklet, write Sharpe, Inc., Dept. A-7, 622; Northumberland Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.









Major and *Minn*r



IF you have had trouble getting a good slice of cheese, look! Even the softest cheese can be sliced

any thickness you like with the new Kleen Kut Cheese Slicer. Wonderful for sandwiches and cold buffets. D. Corrado, Inc.

NE single gadget that shreds, slices and grates, the Tri-Grater. Simply amazing for all the meaner types of slicing and grating jobs such as onions and almonds. No tears, no skinned fingers, and it will do shredded



potatoes and carrots for frying. or for soup and salads with one hand tied behind it. Detroit Metal Products, Inc.

HE new Carlton Steam Cooker Twill cook all or any separate part of your dinner for you, alone and unattended. It brings out hidden flavors in long familiar food and tenderly saves every single vitamin and sundry other food values that are sometimes lost in the old, lots of water, method of cooking. In this steam cooker, nothing but live steam gets into the food inset pan and all the lovely colors of vegetables remain pristine and pleasant. All the nice juices of meats are re-tained. Practi-

cally indispensable for delicate flavored vegetables and soups. Carrollton Metal Products Company.



THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940



A PRETTY nifty new item is the In-the-Bag Sanitainer, that comes with seven bags. You can buy extra packages of thirty moisture-proof bags for only fifty cents. It is as neat as wax, and fool-proof besides. Edwards Manufacturing Co.



)RDER and room in the pantry, by the simple method of hanging your stemware by its feet and

giving yourself just about double the space you had. Screw the Parker Cup and Stemware Holder to the top of your shelves and the problem is solved. Parker Manufacturing Company.



 $J^{\mbox{ust}}_{\mbox{space}}$ suddenly dropped in your lap means. That is what these two small, rubber-covered racks give you. All by themselves they can store a service for eight. Plate rack is 101/2" by 6", cup and saucer rack is 1134" by 45%" by 9" and the colors are nice, too. Artwire Creations, Inc.



HE new Mirro all-purpose molds have all kinds of uses. For individual shortcakes, or gelatin desserts, or molded salads with mayonnaise in the middle. Aluminum Goods Manufacturing Co.

STUDENTS: WHAT'S SWELL TO DRINK AND COMES FROM HAWAII ?

> EDIN IS AWFUL GOOD WHEN YOU ARE THIRSTY /

> > MARY: Mother, I gave my school recess so I can have some Dole Pineapple Juice ... I get so thirsty teaching school.

MOTHER: I'm thirsty for a glass, too. And did you tell your class about Dole Pineapple Juice having vitamins A, B and C? Did you teach them that it's high in quickly-available food energy? That's why Dole Pineapple Juice is so good for you!

PINEAPPLE JUICE

Would it be

Mh El



Early American Sandwich Pattern



See it in your Department Store, Jewelry or Gift Shop

The Duncan & Miller Glass Company On the Old National Turnpike at Washington in Pennsylvania Send me a free copy of the folder on Sandwich Pattern. Your name



OULD it be correct to use artificial flowers for your house, for your table, for your party? It would probably be eminently correct-for what that is worth to you or anybody else. But that is not the point. The real point is that here's a new something or other that you can have fun with, that is really

amusing and exciting. The real point is that, correct or no, it is fun and sometimes smart, too, to use artificial flowers, as long as you don't try to fool yourself or anybody else into thinking that they are anything but what they are. You can just go ahead and make the most of them when real flowers are hard to get or are expensive.

Don't treat artificial flowers as imitations of anything. Give them a character of their very own and you will suddenly see their enormous possibilities. Don't just relegate them to a small place in the attic of your esteem as mere substitutions. They are really much more than that, even if you have always loathed them and thought them pretty poor fodder. Just as soon as you can stop wondering about whether or not it would be correct (as though anybody would care) to put a bunch of artificial flowers on a breakfast tray, you will find out for yourself, if you have one tiny spark of enterprise, that the mere existence of all kinds of artificial flowers is justified because they are pretty and gay and because you can have fun with them.

Sometimes artificial flowers really have a great advantage over their more fragile friends, as, for instance, on a buffet table set for a rarebit supper after a football game, or after the movies or skating, or any time when you want to set the table well in advance and then go off and leave it to its own devices for quite some time. You can "do" the flowers any old time at all, put them down on your bare table or cloth, and there they will sit tight till you return. Another thing about artificial flowers; play them for all they are worth, and don't forget that you don't have to treat sixteen inches of wire stem as though it were holy. There is no law against bending it to suit your whim and need-even though the thought is probably

hincar



Artificial flowers have a place-but not in the same old vase day after day!

F. M. Demarest

heresy of some sort-to cutting it off right down to two inches if you like. Lots of times wangling a stem into some other position than the one it was made in or yanking off leaves is the very ticket. But don't for mercy's sake go arty or attempt Japanesey effects just for the sake of manipulation.

Why not admit frankly that many artificial flowers have charming color, are extremely well made, and have pleasant form, and then just use them openly as you would flowers from your garden, always recognizing the difference, never pretending that they are in any way the same thing? Why not just use them as another means of decoration, as different from real flowers as can be, but just as nice in their own way?

Give a little thought to the containers you put them in and the use you want to make of them, too. And please don't ever, ever, ever



Neither. Fostoria is easy to buy on the Start-a-Set plan





CRYSTAL

NOT EXPENSIVE

Figured in years of use and pleasure, good crystal is really the most economical.

START-A-SET PLAN

Ask your local dealer about this special plan for budgeteers. For Colony and other leaflets, write Fostoria Glass Company, Desk 424, Moundsville, West Virginia.

Colony-with accent on charm and stress on economy

Lucky is the bride who received a complete Fostoria ensemble! But if you were not so fortunate, don't feel let down. Start now on a Start-a-Set Plan. It's an easy way for budgeteers to accumulate a complete set of crystal. For informal occasions, you'll find open stock Colony is luxurious but inexpensive. It's Fostoria's newest pattern; a modern crystal with lovely, lucent, colonial swirls. On display at better stores everywhere.







just fix them once and then leave them lone and lorn forever, collecting dust and grime till they just look like something nasty left by the former tenants. Keep them clean and fresh, and put them away out of sight once in a while, just as you change real flowers.

As a matter of fact, people don't really use artificial flowers at all as they should be used. Mostly you just see one or two lonely brethren pinned firmly and forever to a lapel, there to linger until they look like the ragtag and bobtail of a spring bargain table. Now that doesn't show any imagination at all, and if that is correct, well, I don't know.

Why not on some morose November night when you are, through no fault of your own, of course, having a more or less uninteresting dinner, put a great "whoosh" of gay and fantastic looking pink roses right plunk in the middle of your dinner table? Without a thought as to whether or not it is correct, just for no other earthly reason than that they are silly fun and you like them. Of course you can gather up a huge collection of garden flowers, all your summer favorites, with a lavish hand and right in the midst of the melancholy business of putting the real garden to bed for the long winter, you can set your house ablaze with that same garden's summer glory. Particularly if you are willing just to pay the artificial counterparts the simple courtesy of a decent arrangement and a frank treatment in their own right, not simply because they make you yearn in a fine sentimental frenzy for the genuine article, but because they are real paper flowers and as such have a definite place in your decorative scheme.

For a buffet luncheon, for example, put mixed garden bouquets that complement your color scheme into a pair of lovely cornucopias. And after luncheon, put them away in their tissue and boxes and don't bring them out again until you really want just those very flowers. Or take a large square glass vase and stuff it full to overflowing with pink and red dianthus and carnations in straight rows of color with not a wisp of green showing anywhere. Now *there* is an idea for a modern room, or for a nice open table that may or may not be correct but is as pretty as you please and has the added value of being enough of a surprise to amuse your guests, even if their ultimate reaction is that you are completely nuts. Going just as far the other way as you can imagine, in the middle of the winter when you feel that you cannot wait another instant for spring to come and



amhrida

HAND MADE

the garden to get active again, there is no good reason why you should not fill that wonderful big copper bowl full to bursting with marigolds. Perhaps that is the best example of what we mean by not trying to trick anyone when you use artificial flowers; you are not pretending that they are real even if you use them in a similar way, if you are carefully flaunting their off-season-ness





price.

... crystal beauty ... you'll discover in Caprice, America's most in-vogue glassware pattern. Brilliance, charman exquisite, graceful design that bespeaks your infinite good taste for truly gracious living. Yet Caprice is one of the most inexpensive and practical of patterns-unusually easy to clean and safe to handle. Select from more than 150 open-stock pieces-in Crystal, Moonlight Blue or LaRosa Pink. Ask your store to show you Cambridge Etched and Cut Rock Crystal, also.

The Cambridge Glass Co. Cambridge, Obio

THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940



right before every one. It is not going to cross your mind whether it is correct or not, once you start experimenting with artificial flowers, and that will be all right, too. What possible difference can it make to you if some old dodo has at some time or

other said so and so and so was correct and the thing to do-under a given set of circumstances? The chances are ten to one that the same circumstances won't ever obtain again and for ordinary runof-the-mill occasions which everybody meets as regularly as he brushes his teeth, you'll get along all right and not be jailed for offensive behavior if you just think about people's comfort and entertainment. Whether or not your guests are really having a good time is the important thing, not, dear knows, whether or not you can do some nice, simple, little thing like using paper flowers instead of real ones, when maybe Mrs. Tewillie has not yet done it. Maybe we just hate the beastly word, "correct"; certainly we hate its being given sufficient importance to determine whether or not you can use great smashing bouquets of flowers that never were on land or sea, just for fun, at a Sunday night buffet when it has been raining forever.

If you absolutely have to have a reason for pitching all rules and regulations into the nearest ash can, if there has to be a little text of some sort or other to lead you into these charming meadows of trifling with your own taste and pouff to minor conventions, just think how very nice and thoughtful you can be if you have any friends who are driven nearly insane by various allergies. When you have rung all the changes there are on arrangements of fruit and shells and figurines, try these paper flowers as a relief for wheezes and sneezes from the pollen of otherwise delightful garden flowers.

All of which sums up some good reasons for using artificial flowers, none of which includes any excuses for being like the lazy woman who simply bought a bunch and left it on the coffee table practically forever. What an unimaginative dullard she must have been!



Just as we're great ones for adding a little imagination and seasoning to excellent time and money saving canned foods, so we're in favor of doing something dashing and unusual with artificial flowers. That buffet supper table at the beginning of this article is one good example: you couldn't put real flowers flat along the center of the table, leaving them dry and forgotten during a football game and return to find them effective as ever! Suppose you want to give a luncheon, complete with favors, and it's the end of March when you have neither garden flowers nor money for fancy florists' bills: make nosegays of artificial flowers, put one at each guest's place. You'll find, too, that container problems almost disappear when you use artificial flowers. If you have one that doesn't hold enough water or something, hardy artificials to the rescue! In other words, there are plenty of times and places for flowers that blossom without benefit of gardener!

THE AMERICAN HOME, OCTOBER, 1940

Have you Adequate Silver for every Occasion?

So much loveliness for so little

King Edward Silverplate

How much easier to entertain graciously when you know your silver is complete-adequate for formal dinners...buffet suppers ... those unexpected guests for lunch! And now exquisite KING EDWARD SILVERPLATE puts a superb and fully complete set of silver within reach of the most modest budget!

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LOS ANGELES



hookworm

S. HAY REX

WIFE has a strange malady. While true hookworm has long been controlled by sanitary measures, a synthetic, yet virulent, form of the disease is now rapidly sweeping the country. Peculiarly enough, the victim of the disease suffers no pain and lives a thoroughly happy and sufficient life with her phobia. After the period of incubation has passed, the patient gathers about her all the material she has begged, salvaged. and stolen, parks herself in front of stenciled burlap stretched on a wooden frame, and with small steel hook in hand, enjoys an acute attack of hookworm.

When I married Samantha there was nothing to indicate any deviation from the normal.

Five years ago I first noticed queer happenings. All at once I began to miss my oldest and most treasured garments. I remember one day I was especially irritated. "Where in ----- are my fish pants!" I howled.

But the issue was lost in my wife's consternation over our youngest, who immedi-ately relayed my query, "Warinell's fader's sish pants, mum?"

On another occasion, planning to wear my evening clothes to a lodge installation, I could locate only the coat and vest. When I asked the whereabouts of the trousers, my wife twittered delightedly, "Oh the moths got into them; wear your tuxedo trousers."

While all this seemed a little out of the ordinary to me, the first real suspicion of something radically wrong with my wife did not dawn upon me until one day when, in cleaning up the cellar, I discovered an old trunk, crammed with various garments I had missed and many that I hadn't. "Hi, Samantha," I called, "how did these things of mine get down cellar? Here's the fish pants I've been looking for and lots of good clothes.

"Oh there's nothing there of any value," she called back. "Besides, I have use for them." Thinking she was planning to give them to the needy-for Samantha was extremely generous to the poor-I said nothing. Yet my wife must have trembled for the

safety of her cache, because the next day I surprised her in guilty conversation with the carpenter. A few days later there appeared in the house a rectangular frame on a stand, looking for all the world like an ironing board, minus the board.

"What in tarnation is that?"

"Oh," she answered with the airy nonchalance I have since learned is one of the outstanding symptoms of a deep-seated case of hookworm, "it's a frame for hooking rugs."

"Hooking rugs! Good heavens, rug-hooking went out with my grandmother's tea cozy!

"Yes, but it came back with her grandson's cocktail shaker," she countered. "I'm saving up material to join a class at the Woman's Club. It takes an awful lot of rags to hook a rug.'

Even then I saw no cause for real concern. This, I reasoned, is only a fad. It will go the way of mah-jongg. It did seem strange how my clothing suddenly deteriorated. Never had I worn out woolen socks so fast. A fairly decent topcoat I put away in the spring was missing in the fall. It was altogether too shabby to wear again, my wife told me, so she had spent the summer cutting it into quarter-inch strips in preparation for her first rug, which was to be a souvenir of a southern cruise we had taken.

SUPPOSE I should have expected a similar I fate for the suit I'd put away with the topcoat, since that, too, was a memento of our trip south. But while the confiscated coat might have been a trifle shabby, the suit really was in excellent condition. My wife was too thrifty, I reasoned, to cut it up.

Nevertheless, the suit was nowhere to be found. Finally, looking into the basket where Samantha had shown me my coat, reduced to tightly rolled balls of narrow woolen strips, I found ball after ball of my missing suit. My inquiry as to why my decent suit should be reduced to rug rags was met with an airy "Oh, the moths got it."

Now Samantha is essentially honest, and when she declared that the moths had ravaged the garment, I believed her. Yet in her abnormal state of mind, I strongly suspected her of spattering the suit with grease as a deliberate invitation to the moths.

These are not the only indignities I have suffered. No longer am I permitted to select my own clothes-Samantha goes along so that she can choose suits which will make the best backgrounds for her rugs; she insists on two pairs of trousers, of course. And there is the time when I, a loyal Yale man, was forced to wear crimson wool underwear to the Yale-Harvard football game because she had dyed it for one of her projects.

Samantha's affliction is not confined to the family. Unfortunately, when guests call, my wife takes their coats and instead of commenting, as a normal woman would, upon the beauty or becomingness of any garment, she remarks, with an avid gleam in her eye, "My, what a lovely rug that would make!" And all the while her expression conveys her unspoken thought-"It's ready for the ragbag now; how long is she going to wear it?

Naturally, there has been a conspicuous falling off in the number of visitors at our house the last few years. Those who really feel obliged to come clutch their coats about them, protesting they can't stay long.

I had hoped and expected that when our home was well supplied with scatter rugs, Samantha would become normal again. But I thoughtlessly remarked one day that we would soon have to buy a new rug for our dining room. All the old symptoms then returned. "I'll hook one," promised my wife. "That's ridiculous; if it takes a two-pants

suit for background for a small rug, where are you going to get enough material all alike for a big one?" I argued. "Letter-carrier suits," she answered.

N ow look here, Samantha," I shouted, "I've shivered without clothes I needed, I've writhed within clothes I detested, but I'll be switched if I'll dress like a bloody postman just to furnish rug material."

"Well, hardly that," smiled Samantha with soothing sweetness, "It's simply that I wish we didn't live so far out-they always assign the younger carriers to the suburbs. Now if only we lived in the city-I'm sure the older letter carriers must have plenty of discarded suits in their attics. Can't you get me about half a dozen old uniforms from the postman who calls at your office?"

I agreed to try. Just as my postman was leaving one day, I mentioned-as casually as if the idea had only then popped into my head-that he must have worn out a lot of uniforms in his many years of service. I also inquired what he did with them.

'My wife says those uniforms make fine hooked rugs," I ventured, and added, with feigned indifference, "I don't suppose your wife hooks rugs?"

"Nope," he answered. Then my heart stopped dead in its joyful dance as the gleam of the hookworm appeared in his eye and he continued with avidity, "Nope, she don't, but I do; I'm making a nine by twelve art square out of all them old suits.'

After building up Samantha's hopes, day by day, I feared for her reason if I let her down. So I went to the postmaster and bought half a dozen secondhand uniforms.

The dining room rug has been completed. and it is a thing of beauty. Gradually our old friends are returning to admire it, and I proudly tell them how my influence with the Government made it possible.

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