On Guard ... HOME

The

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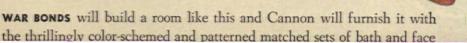


December, 1944 ...

How to keep the old-time Christmas traditions alive with wartime means...gay Christmas fixings, good food, jolly parties and good holiday reading . . . Dirich Title Look ahead ... to the room you've always wished for ... a gay carnival of color from flo to walls to cabinets bright with sparkling towels that delight the touch. For, of course, upon their crystal shelves will be a wonderful new towel wardrobe designed by Cannon for perfect use and beauty and priced to suit your own post-war pocketbook. Meanwhile, we know you're appreciating the long-lived color and quality your present Cannon towels. And that you'll draw sparingly upon the limited store selections now available. Because Cannon is the world's leading towel maker, we can promise you our new colors and patterns, as they come, will far exceed your rosiest expectations both in style

and traditional Cannon value no matter what you pay. So plan that room — and put by War Bonds to make your plan come true.

Pia





towels, wash cloths, finger-tip towels, bath mats and rugs you will s

4,300,000 JOBS TO DO TODAY

These are busy days for everybody in the telephone business. About 4,300,000 Toll and Long Distance messages go over the lines in the average business day. (That's in addition to more than 100,000,000 daily local conversations.)

Most of these millions of messages go through all right but sometimes the Long Distance lines to war-busy centers get crowded. Then the Long Distance operator may ask your help by saying — "Please limit your call to 5 minutes."

BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM



Rain Your floor or Shine Stays Bright



This Modern Wax Resists Water Spots

Socony-Vacuum Laboratories Developed Tavern Home Products -

One of fifteen time-saving household products... Tavern Non-Rub Floor Wax gives linoleum, wood, rubber and asphalt tile floors a long-lasting gleam that brightens with use. It's economical because damp mopping won't wash it off. A cinch to spread on —and in twenty minutes it dries to a hard, durable lustre. Ask for this popular-priced wax at your department. grocery or hardware store.



Crown Tavern, Crowder, England—symbol of old-world hospitality.

Try all these time and trouble-saving Tavern Home Products

Tavern Paint Cleaner gives painted, varnished and lacquered surfaces a lively gleam. Ditto for porcelain and tile. Removes smudges and grease fast — with no harm to paint, hands or clothing.

Tovern Window Cleaner brightens all glass surfaces. Easy to use, works fast, leaves no streaks. So mild, it won't chap pretty hands.



Mail 10c for "BETTER HOMEMAK-ING"—profusely illustrated handbook of 33 decorating ideas by Effa Brown, famous interior decorator —to Socony-Vacuum, Dept. E., 26 Broadway, New York 4. N. Y.



Also: Tavern Paste or Liquid Wax, Tavern Furniture Gloss, Tavern Rug Cleaner, Tavern Lustre Cloth, Tavern Parowax or Paraseal Wax, Tavern Leather Preserver

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BUY MORE WAR BONDS!

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THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 194



... This is the house that Gas

TODAY, in the laboratories of the Gas industry—the knowledge and experience of skilled technicians are working to bring you new miracles of better living...All of them made possible through the magic of Gas...the tiny blue flame that cools as well as heats.

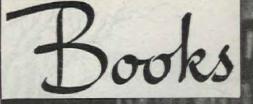
RIGHT now, Gas speeds war production. Use it wisely. But tomorrow, it will transform your home from attic to cellar . . . make it a happier, healthier, more comfortable place to live. Isn't that worth saving for . . . with every War Bond you can buy? AMERICAN GAS ASSOCIATION

runs!



The daily use on the delicate skins of **millions** of babies proves that Mennen Antiseptic Baby Oil helps keep skin **healthiest**—is best aid in preventing diaper rash, scalded buttocks, itching, smarting, impetigo, many other skin troubles. Let the preference of medical authorities be your guide in protecting **your** baby.

*According to recent surveys



BARBARA BRONSON ELINOR SCOVILLE

for a Child's Christmas

TUDIES have proved that children read what is available to themthat their tastes are dictated more by what is at hand than by any other measuring gauge. So why not start your child's home library this Christmas. Make certain that he is coming in contact with those stories which have both delighted and sustained children of many generations. Give him, this Christmas, an inexhaustible source of entertainment, valuable information about his favorite hobby if, like most boys in this war, he has become technical minded. He will teach himself the joys and advantages of reading! Believe us, nothing can take the place of a home library. Having books of one's own is an ever-present incentive to reading, and a child may read at his own pace with no feeling of compulsion or duty. Make good books easy to reach, easy to read, and so an integral part of your child's daily life.

Never buy a book for a "sevenyear-old girl" or a "thirteen-year-old boy". This is no indication of the child's mental age, or the particular trend his interests are taking at the moment. Perhaps the timely gift of a book about a particular interest will definitely encourage that interest. If it is along the scientific line, be sure to check the authority of the work by the qualifications of the author, illustrator, and its recency of printing. There is much change in scientific material, thus it must be current. The style, while simple, must not "talk down" to the child, who recognizes and resents such an approach. In his own private library the child should have the standard books, ones like "Tom Sawyer", the Greek Myths, and books of poetry. He should have books that are suited to his present needs, and ones that are geared to later tastes. You never know when his needs will change, and books should be awaiting him for such an event. The child's old books must be included in this shelf, for they are old familiar friends.

Include in your child's library a children's dictionary, a "must" item for every child's booklist. There are several dictionaries compiled from scientific studies of children's vocabularies; two of the fine ones are Webster's "Elementary Dictionary" and the "Thorndike-Century Junior Dictionary." The new "Winston Simplified Dictionary for Young People" is also highly recommended.

Children not only love looking up words but locating places, names seen on maps or heard over the radio, and a good atlas is a worthwhile addition to the child's bookshelf. If he is an older child, add a "World Almanac."

If possible a child's bookshelf should contain a children's encyclopedia. Not only is this a valuable source of information for him, worded to his comprehension, but it will develop within him the ability to use this implement of knowledge. There are several fine ones, and two that are especially recommended are "Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia" and the "World Book Encyclopedia."

In buying books, the format is important—its size, the print, and the paper on which it is printed. Buy durable editions since too much adult

You will enjoy comfort in your home beyond anything you have ever known, when it is equipped with the new "Moduflow" Heating Control System - developed by Minneapolis-Honeywell . . . "Moduflow" is available now for installation in a limited number of homes having any type of automatic heating plant . . . The cost is surprisingly reasonable.

For More Information ... Send for the Free Booklet Heating and Hir Conditioning the Postwar Home or See your Heating Dealer AT ONCE



Addre

MINNEAPOLIS-HONEYWELL REGULATOR CO. 2737 Fourth Avenue South, Minneapolis 8, Minn. Please send my free copy of ''Heating and Air Conditioning the Postwar Home'



supervision of children while they are handling their books is not desirable, Children who are allowed to examine and read their books by themselves usually become independent readers.

Illustrations are most important in choosing books, and the younger the child, the bigger, bolder and brighter the illustrations should be. Promote pride of ownership in books within your child by making birthdays and Christmas book-giving events. When his respect for books

warrants it, give him personal bookplates. At Christmas take your child to the bookstores and let him browse around and formulate his own tastes. There are two big book events

with which parents and children should be acquainted. In November there is the nationwide celebration of Book Week, and in May the Spring Festival of Children's books.

The following list contains a few of the books which might be considered basic titles for a home library.

Little Black Sambo, Helen Bannerman The Golden Goose Book, L. L. Brooke The Tale of Peter Rabbit, Potter The Fables of Aesop, edited by Jacobs Winnie the Pooh, A. A. Milne When We Were Very Young, Milne Christ Child, Petershams The A Child's Garden of Verse, Stevenson Treasure Island, R. L. Stevenson Adventures of Pinocchio, Charles Collodi Just So Stories, Rudyard Kipling The Jungle Book, Rudyard Kipling The Little Lame Prince, M. Mulock

He Little Lame Prince, M. Hubck Heidi, Johanna Spyri East O' The Sun and West O' The Moon, Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen Fairy Tales, H. C. Andersen Fairy Tales, J. L. and W. K. Grimm Little Women, Louisa M. Alcott The Advectures of Odyssens and Tale

The Adventures of Odysseus and Tale of Troy, edited by Padraic Colum Arabian Nights, edited by Colum Peter and Wendy, J. M. Barrie Alice's Adventure in Wonderland, Carroll Through the Loching Class Concern Through the Looking Glass, Carroll Uncle Remus, Songs and Sayings, Harris Sons of the Volsungs, adapted by Dorothy Hosford

Merry Adventures of Robin Hood, Howard Pyle The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, Twain

Robinson Crusoe, Daniel Defoe Hans Brinker; or the Silver Skates, M. M. Dodge

The Wind in the Willows, Grahame The Wind in the Willows, Graname Tales from Shakespeare, Lamb The King of the Golden River, Ruskin Gulliver's Travels, Jonathan Swift Swiss Family Robinson, Johann Wyss David Copperfield, Charles Dickens The Boy's King Arthur, Sir Thomas Malory, edited by Sidney Lanier Ivanhoe, Sir Walter Scott First Bible Helen Sevell illustrations Ivanhoe, Sir Walter Scou First Bible, Helen Sewell illustrations

NEW BOOKS

FOR YOUR CHILD'S CHRISTMAS Briefed by Jean Austin

THE THREE BEST, in my opinion, are the following: Animal Stories, Simon and Schuster. 46 original stories by Georges Duplaix and 200 color pictures by Rojankovsky. Like the Tall Mother Goose which I reviewed so enthusiastically last year, it has everything a child's picture book should have, ranks with the exquisite (and expensive) foreign books we knew as children. Only \$1.50 and worth five times that!

The Magic Bed-Knob. Distributed for the Hyperion Press by G. P. Putnam's Sons. By Mary Norton, illustrated by Waldo Pierce. Here too is a book that is sheer delight, in spite of unfortunate text type. It's a "must," \$1.75.



TELESCOPE PRECISION realizes new pen perfection The Wearever Zenith writes like a

charm, effortlessly. From blueprint stage to finished pen, precision marks

every step in its making . . . yes, pre-

cision comparable to that lavished on

a fine telescope. Telescope Precision!

With its 14-carat gold point, its exclusive "C-Flow" feed, its rich color

selections, Wearever Zenith sets new

fountain pen standards. Made by David Kahn, Inc. (Established 1896)

Wearever Zenith Pen and \$275

Pencil Set in fine gift box

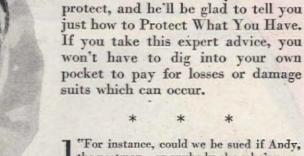






DON'T FEEL BAD

if YOU can't answer these questions about insurance



The postman-or anybody else who's passing by-falls on the ice in front of our house and hurts himself badly?"

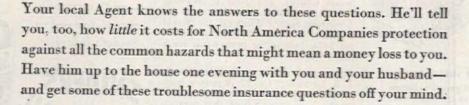
Most people can't! But the wise ones let their insurance Agent or Broker do all the worrying for them. Just let him know what you have to



"Suppose my fur coat were stolen from my home? Have we that kind of insurance? Equally important, are we also protected if I lose something away from home?



"If fire ruined our furniture, would our insurance take care of buying new furnishings? We bought those things years ago-have we enough insurance to replace them today?"







"Have we the kind of insurance that 4 would pay heavy damages or medical expenses if we accidentally hit someone with the car and injured him seriously?"

INSURANCE COMPANY OF

COMPANIES, Philadelphia

RTH AMERICA

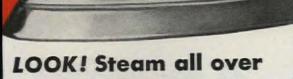
Insurance Company of North America, founded in 1792, oldest stock fire and marine insurance company in the country, heads the group of North America Companies which write practically all types of Fire, Marine, Automobile and Casualty insurance through your own Agent or Broker. North America Agents are listed in local Classified Telephone Directories.

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA . INDEMNITY INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA . CENTRAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF BALTIMORE THE ALLIANCE INSURANCE COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA . NATIONAL SECURITY INSURANCE COMPANY . PHILADELPHIA FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY

No other Iron like it!

Does everything the finest Automatic Electric Iron will do . . .

Does MORE than any other steam iron will do!



Complete heel-to-tip sheath of steam protects the fabric from sticking, scorching, melting Draw iron backward, forward, sideways . . . only Silex has 3-way grooves that put protective steam over entire ironing surface!



Sally Silex says: Insist on Silex . . : it's

the only automatic electric steam iron

with the features you see on this page! PLUS all the advantages you'd expect in a fine automatic electric iron. You're entitled to every one of them in the iron you buy. Accept no less! If your dealer has not yet received his stock of Silex Automatic Electric Steam Irons, he will shortly. Have him promise to save one for you! See him today.

@ 1944

IRON WITH DRY HEAT IRON WITH STEAM

LOOK! STEAM FLIPS ON OR OFF INSTANTLY

Flip the handy lever on the handle and you can change from dry heat to steam while you're ironing! Yes, the wonderful Silex is really two grand irons in one!



Cinderella. Coward McCann. By Alice Duer Miller, drawings by Constat n Alajálov. One would have thought that the beloved story of Cinderella could not possibly be better told, but Mrs. Miller has put the story into delightful verse that makes it even more enchanting. Its cost, \$2.50.

PICTURE BOOK AGE

Yonie Wondernose. Doubleday Doran & Co. S2. By Marguerite De Angeli. A colorful, delightful picture book about the Amish reople by a woman who knows her Pennsylvania Dutch.

First Steps. Howell Soskin. \$1. By Marion V. Ridgway, pictures by Hildegard L. Hopkins. In my opinion, the best of the "animated" books.

The Horse Who Lived Upstairs. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.25. By Phyllis Mc-Ginley. Illustrated by Helen Stone. A sophisticated p'cture book, both in its writing and illustrations.

Gordon the Goat. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.00. By Munro Leaf—and the best one he has done, in my opinion.

JUST BEYOND THE PICTURE BOOK STAGE

A Ring and a Riddle. J. B. Lippincott Co. \$2. By M. Ilin and E. Segal, Trans-lated from the Russian by Beatrice Kinkead. Designed and illustrated by Vera Bock. Essentially the timeless fairy story of the youngest son who sets out to seek his fortune and meets a beautiful maiden. There is more than ordinary magic in this "riddle" story. Strong and beauti-ful illustrations and type, a completely satisfactory book for modern, inquisitive children.

Sing for Christmas. Books, Inc. Distrib-uted by E. P. Dutton & Co. \$3. By Opal Wheeler, illustrated by Gustaf Tenggren. Though inevitably it will become a "family" song book for the Christmas holidays, this lovely story-telling song book will be a cherished gift.

Told on the King's Highway. The Viking Press. \$2.50. By Eleanore Myers Jewett. Illustrated by Marie A. Lawson. Not as new as the other books herein reviewed, it is one of the superior books for boys and girls at or just ahead of the fairy-tale age.

FOR JUNIOR GIRLS

Love's Enchantment. Doubleday Doran & Co. \$2.50. Story Poems and Ballads. Collected by Helen Ferris. Illustrated by Vera Bock. There is no gamble involved in the selection of this exquisite little book for some sensitive teen-age miss.

Those Smith Kids. E. P. Dutton & Co. \$2. By Margaret Cabell Self, illustrated by Gertrude Howe. A lively strenuous tale that juniors will enjoy.

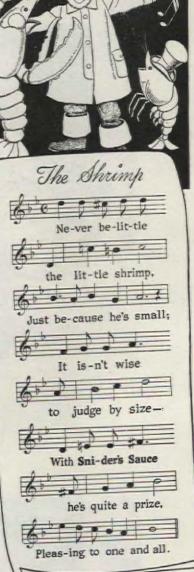
Whoa, Matilda! E. P. Dutton & Co. \$2. By Janet Lambert. The scene is laid in Washington, there is enough action and plot to engage the attention of any teen-ager.

FOR JUNIOR BOYS

Storm Canvas. The John C. Winston Co. \$2.50. Written and illustrated by Armstrong Sperry. Winner of the Herald Tribune Spring Book Festival Award for 1944, here is the perfect gift for a junior boy.

Everybody's Weather. A Stokes book, J. B. Lippincott Co. \$2. A picture book by Joseph Gaer, illustrated from photographs. Now here's a book that parallels Junior's toy train—for Dad will enjoy it fully as much as Junior himself.

The Great Pathfinder. Robert M. Mc-Bride & Co. \$2. By May Forth Weston. "Boy readers looking for a new American hero will find him in this book" say the publishers and I think so too.

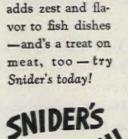


SNIDER'S

SEA CHANTI

OLD SALT SNIDER can't help singin' about Snider's Cocktail Sauce ... the sea-food sauce that's fit for a king! It combines ripe tomatoes, crisp celery, young onions, fresh cabbage, horseradish, and tasty spices!

If you want a super-sauce that



DON'T WASTE A SCRAP OF YOUR HOLIDAY HAM!

Now, at the Holiday Season, our hearts urge us more strongly than ever to do everything we possibly can to shorten the war. One way we all can help is by making Food Fight for Freedom . . . by conserving every morsel of precious food. So make the most of *all* your holiday ham, even the bone! Martha Logan, Swift's Chief Home Economist, has prepared these recipes to help you.

Holiday Feast—half a Swift's Premium Ham (save shrinkage by baking in a 325° oven!) decorated with "holly". Cut leaves from green pepper; use pieces of maraschino cherry for berries. To make the "snow balls": Force cooked potato through a ricer (or mash it); form balls lightly with two spoons.



Use the nicest leftover slices for Ham Roly-Poly. Fold thin slices cornucopia fashion around cooked sweet potato. Fasten with toothpicks. Place in shallow pan; add raisin sauce; bake in mod. oven (375°F.) about 20 min. or till heated through. Raisin Sauce for 6: Combine 1 c. water, ½ c. seedless raisins, ¼ c. sugar, ½ tsp. cinnamon, 2 tsp. cornstarch, 1 tbsp. lemonjuice. Boil 3 min., stirring constantly.



Just 3 eggs for this delicious Soufflé. Make white sauce with 2 tbsp. fat, 3 tbsp. flour, 1 c. milk and 1 tsp. salt. When thickened and smooth, remove from heat and add beaten yolks of 3 eggs and 1 c. ground baked ham. Cool. Fold in stiffly beaten whites and bake in mod. slow oven (325°) for about 1 hour. (Serves 3 hungry people.)



Main-Dish Soup. Cover ham bone with water. Simmer slowly 2 hours. Remove bits of ham from bone and add to broth. Add 1.1b. split peas, 2 carrots, diced, and ½ onion, minced. Cover and simmer 1 hour. Season to taste. (Serves 6) Noted America's favorite - this ham that's Brown Sugar Cured !

In a nation-wide poll on "What's the best ham?" Swift's Premium actually got more votes than the next eight brands combined!

SWIFT

WIFT

Blue label-for easy cooking; red labelready to eat. In buying a slice, look for the word SWIFT down the side.

Welcome gifts in ANY home



Here's something that will win a heartfelt "thank you" every time. A lovely, unframed Plate Glass mirror for that important spot over the mantel. Makes the room look twice its size. Reflects light and color. Builds room personality.



Sure to score a bull's-eye, whether you give it to a cousin, or a friend, or inveigle your husband into giving you one! Convex glass, decorative frame. (And don't overlook Plate Glass table tops when searching for nice gifts.) PLATE GLASS TOP

A wonderful gift for any member of your family is a handsome Plate Glass top for a personal piece of furniture, such as a knee-hole desk, a vanity or a chest. Protects the finish from stains, scars, cigarette burns.

You can get these items at your favorite department or furniture store.



The majority of mirror manufacturers use Pittsburgh Plate Glass because of its beauty and accurate reflections. So the Pittsburgh Label on a mirror or top is your assurance of good plate glass, no matter who makes the product. Remember, if you want the best, be sure your mirror or top is made of *plate glass*.

Free Booklet	Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company 2035-4 Grant Bldg., Pittsburgh 19, Pa.
ractical suggestions on beau-	Please send me, without obligation, your new, free book- let, entitled "Decorating your Home with Class."
fying your home with mirrors nd plate glass! Send the cou-	Name
on for our free book. Crammed ith ideas. Dozens of full color	Address
lustrations.	CityState



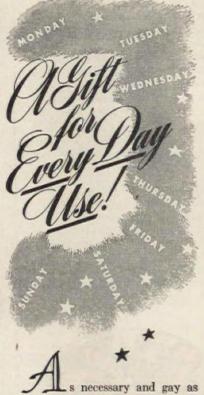
• • • HELEN KENDALL, whose doll family Parsons and their unique Victorian manse are the subject of some rather special spellbinding by Maybelle Manning a few pages over, is the fourteen-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry P. Kendall, of Moose Hill Farm, Sharon, Mass. She owes this most prized possession to her mother who has made several other extensive and rare collections. Enchanting as the dollhouse is, Helen finds time for more strenuous pursuits. Summers, she swims, sails, and plays a rousing game of tennis.



• • • HELEN E. WEBSTER. Half New Englander and half Californian, and by profession a librarian, Miss Webster is now in Arkansas serving in a veterans' hospital as librarian and recreational aide. Her hobbies, besides the little house which she built and left behind in California, are music, photography, and everything out-of-doors, especially animals and most especially Jolly Roger, an accomplished member of dogdom.



• • LAURA A. DRAPER, a Wellesley graduate who went into nursing in the other world war, she has enjoyed a brilliant career in this field. For the past nine years she has been Director of the Community Health Service of Minneapolis. She feels sincerely that nursing offers excellent and diversified opportunity for women of all temperaments, for a nurse may be useful as an administrator, instructor in a school of nursing, or as a public health nurse anywhere in our land.



bath towels, a Whitney Hamper will be a welcome gift for that bride on your Christmas list. She'll be ever so grateful for such a thoughtful, practical gift. It will never be retired to the back of a closet to be hastily brought to light when you come a-calling. For a Whitney hamper is a "must" in every well dressed bathroom.

You have your choice of color in choosing a Whitney hamper, but the highest quality of material and workmanship is found in every size and color.

Whitney Hampers are built for

long service...stop hinges to prevent the cover from snapping off... inside finish smooth as satin to protect



delicate fabrics ..., strong construction throughout ... fabric tightly shrunken to the frame to prevent wrinkles and blisters ... all parts built to stay firm through years of daily wear.

Yes, when you select a Whitney Hamper for your own use, or as a gift, you are buying good looks and long service. Whitney Hampers are easily identified by the label inside the cover and the Whitney fact tag attached to every hamper.

How to plan your post-war kitchen !..



MAKING your dream-kitchen come true is far easier now than ever before. Hotpoint is prepared to help you plan for the kitchen you want to build or remodel after the war! For ten cents you can get the new 24-page booklet, "Your Next Kitchen by Hotpoint", which brings you the expert advice of our skilled architects, engineers and home economists. You'll find six full-color model kitchens, basic rules for placing appliances and storing utensils, *bundreds* of other practical hints and suggestions. The booklet also tells how you can get free blueprints of kitchens—or our special *personalized planning service*.

Fill in coupon below and send for this booklet today! You'll agree that it's a lot of help and guidance (and a lot of *book*) for only ten cents!

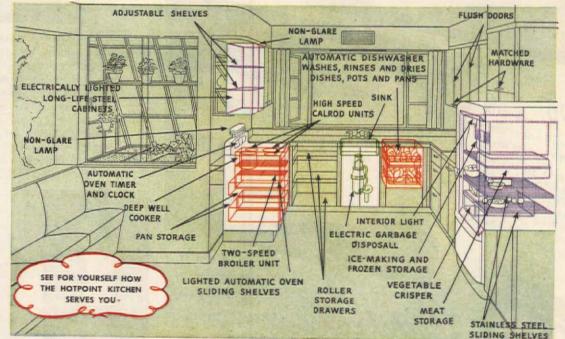


The cost of a Hotpoint Electric Kitchen averages about 10% of home-building costs.

and Hotpoint will save you time on All these tasks!

WORK CENTERS MAKE MINUTES COUNT IN THE HOTPOINT ELECTRIC KITCHEN

- Refrigeration Center Hotpoint Electric Refrigerator keeps foods fresh – provides fast, thrifty freezing and better arrangement of storage space.
- Cooking Center Hotpoint Electric Range, with utensils stored within arm's length, cooks fast and thriftily. Since there's no combustion dirt, pans and walls stay clean. Automatic controls end cause of many cooking failures.
- Dishwashing Center-Hotpoint Electric Dishwasher-Sink washes and dries dishes, pots and pans cleaner without your hands touching water. Hotpoint Garbage Disposall whisks food waste away electrically. Space in cabinet below sink for soap, towels, etc.
- Equipment Storage-Electrically lighted Hotpoint Steel Cabinets afford abundant space for dishes, utensils and dry foods.





Edison General Electric Appliance Co., Inc. 5688 West Taylor Street, Chicago 44, Illinois	4. h
• Enclosed please find ten cents in coin or war stamp for which send me your new kitchen planning guide entitled, "Your Next Kitchen by Hotpoint." (This offer available in conti- nental U.S. only.)	Your Next Kitchen
Name	
Address	
City	- for the
 State	- A margant

"I hurt Bob's pride

by my dishpan hands"



pan redness away

Changing to Lux soon made Mrs. Hereford's hands soft and smooth again, as this unretouched photograph (right) shows. She used no creams or lotions.

SOAP USES

VITAL WAR

MATERIALS

Don't waste it!

Thrifty! LUX does up to twice as many dishes!

> Ocores of women made tests under conditions similar to home dishwashing. Simply changing from strong soaps to gentle Lux took away dishpan redness!

> Lux is not only kind to hands—it's thrifty, too! Recent tests prove that, ounce for ounce, Lux does up to twice as many dishes as any of 10 other leading soaps tested. Lux suds are so rich they last longer—do more work! Get the thrifty big box for dishes.



• • • DOROTHY MELLICK is the decorator who can take a tiny apartment and furnish it so that it seems absolutely spacious! Color is her particular forte and she is an advocate of the unusual combination, although her collector's instincts seem to be perfectly satisfied with blue—the blue in ribbons for first prizes at decorators' exhibits. She is both a color stylist and an interior designer of rugs, furniture, textiles, lamps—and she is a member of The American Home Staff.



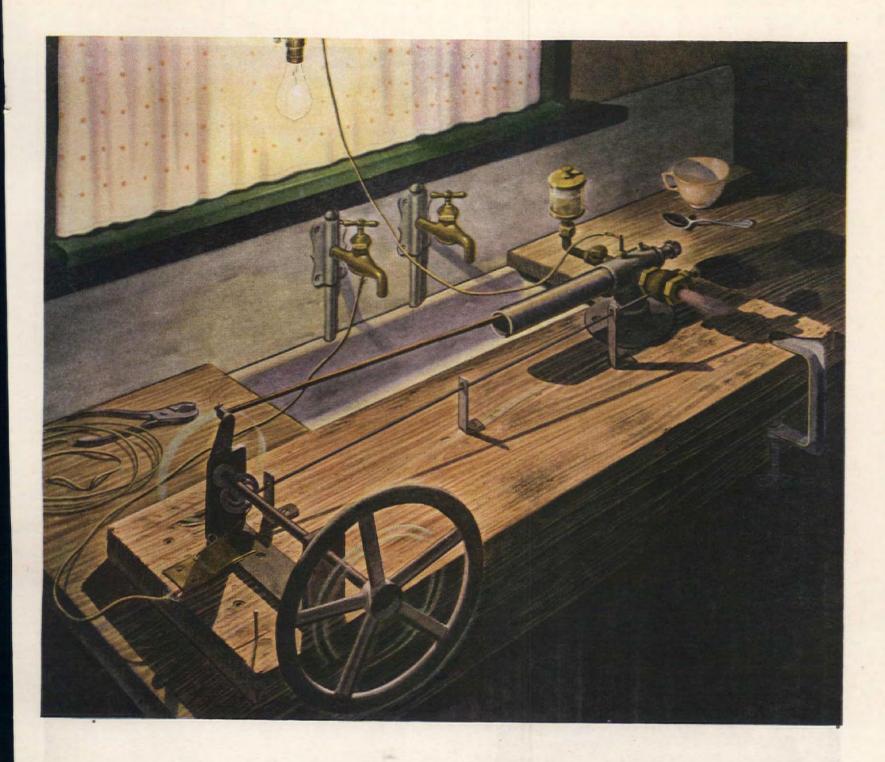
••• ROBERT SPARKS WALKER is a true author-naturalist. He writes from experience and observation and his subjects include birds, flowers, animals, and, in fact, every phase of outdoor life. Editor of the Southern Fruit Grower for 21 years, he has authored various books, articles and poems on the Southern Appalachian country. He is past president of the Tennessee Horticultural Society.



• • • ANABEL M. WYATT tells how to spatter-print common wrapping paper to make the most gorgeous Christmas gift wrapping you could possibly imagine. Fun to do, too. She became interested in crafts in a purely accidental way and decided the activity was worthy of exploration. Her greatest delight is in working with indigenous and salvage materials and she has arrived at the conclusion that beauty is everywhere-if we can but "see." To help others find the deep satisfaction that comes from creating something beautiful with one's hands is her greatest ambition.



THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1944



In the Ford kitchen . . . this little trial engine sputtered into life

I HAPPENED in the very early 1890's. In the kitchen of his Detroit home, a young engineer, named Henry Ford, was testing a principle of the internal combustion engine.

His apparatus, clamped to the kitchen sink, was a piece of one-inch gas pipe, reamed out for a cylinder—the flywheel, a handwheel from a lathe. Gasoline was fed from an oil cup. A wire connected to the kitchen light furnished the spark.

He spun the flywheel. Flame came from the exhaust, the sink shook and the trial engine was running under its own power. Mr. Ford was satisfied. He put the engine aside. His idea was proved.

But he did not stop to applaud himself. "The man who thinks he has done something," Mr. Ford once said, "hasn't even started." His mind was already stirring with thoughts of a new and larger engine for transportation use.

Just ahead lay the pioneering which was to produce the Ford automobile of world-wide use. Ahead lay the creation of the first industrial assembly line, hundreds of inventions and improvements, the building of 30,000,000 motor cars and trucks to serve economically the transportation needs of all the people.

Today, at Ford Motor Company the pioneering still goes forward. New methods, materials and devices are continually being developed. Outsiders don't hear about many of them—Ford assignments are military.

But one day the story of this modern pioneering *can* be told. It will be told, you may be sure, through the medium of Ford, Mercury and Lincoln cars so advanced in both style and engineering that new millions will seek to own them—for comfort, for smartness, for reliability, and for economy.



ah. the good old days!

REIGN

Remember? When Christmas gifts spilled lavishly from under the tree, and many a lady purred with delight over her new set of Martex towels. Those were good days—and they'll be with us again. Maybe not this Christmas, but soon. In the meantime, cherish the Martex bath towels you now own. Their luscious colors and sturdy plied-yarn underweave will keep them looking fresh and new until the day when you can buy all you want. For that extra-special Christmas gift, you will find a limited selection of lovely Martex bath towels at your favorite linen or department store. Wellington Sears Company,

65 Worth Street, New York 13, N.Y.

RESS

BUY MORE WAR BONDS



BATH TOWELS . CHENILLE MATS . DISH TOWELS

FIRECRACKERS and Christmas !

MAYBELLE MANNING

... down Texas way it was rough and ready !

HEN A TEXAN wants a gun, he wants it mighty bad. There was no better excuse for exercising up a six-shooter than to scare the daylights out of a low-down skunk who was mean enough to tell a child that there was no Santa Claus.

Down in Texas any holiday worth its celebration from the Fourth of July to San Jacinto Day was worth a little shooting-off about—and Christmas was no exception. It mattered not to a Texan that Christmas was a religious holiday—he likes his religion as well as his holidays full of brightness and noise. Come along getting near "Christmas time" and any Texan would tell you that he felt "as lighthearted as a firecracker and cheerful as a parade." And that's par for high spirits.

Scarcely had the gold-and-scarlet circus wagons lumbered out of town on a last fall day until Christmas started coming down in Temple, Texas. On the exact date of December 1st, children started being heroically good and remained so until they had collected all their presents. No stage curtain could have been raised with more breathless expectancy than that of the Mississippi Dry Goods Store when after weeks of shrouded mystery the long store-length window revealed a bedazzlement never to be forgotten by children whose hearts, hopes, and faith were enshrined in the warm, generous love of Santa Claus.

There, with face like a wishbone and button-nose glued tightly to the pane, tense breathing making cloudy moisture rings on the glass, with little-girl stars blinding the eyes, one drank in all the actual miracle of Santa Claus and his toyland. There was the inspiring sight of old Santa himself with his frostbitten nose, his bright little blue, blue eyes, his jolly pot-tummy, seated in a gaudy sleigh bulging with sacks of toys urging his prancing reindeers over a perilous roof-top glittering with crusty silver-white snow, wonderful almost beyond belief.

A sea of doll faces looked with blank prettiness and remote unresponsiveness out into a reality world. There were bisque dolls in ball gowns of tarleton and satin, everyday dolls in sprigged muslins and sashes, middle-class dolls in practical dress, poor china dolls in calico, black dolls for the Negro children dressed in bright, brash colors. There were baby dolls in long swaddling clothes. There were dolls in boxes with no clothes. There were exquisite "lady" dolls with grown-up clothes, rich satins and delicate laces and plumed hats—and "gentlemen" dolls in gray and white striped trousers and elegant velvet waistcoats.

ERUIS

Dappled-gray hobby horses with real manes and tails awaited with fiery-eyed impatience the equestrian ability of some young rider. There were handsome doll carriages with silk umbrellas, doll beds and cradles, china tea sets, trunks, stoves, dressers, all the wonderful paraphernalia with which to set up real dollhouse keeping. I wonder if the children of nowadays so accustomed to the everyday lavish display of toy departments have not been cheated and imagination lessened by being so sated with wonder that they miss the thrilling realization, as in my long-ago day, that Christmas came only once a year.

Although miracles had been known to happen, mother would suggest, with ba'd diplomacy, we were to remember that old Santa Claus appreciated children who did not wish for things outside their parents' circumstances. Thus before dreams had gone too far afield you relinquished the hope of getting the life-sized doll in the center of the window with the "real" golden hair and big go-to-sleep eyes.

I can recall with almost a physical recollection of abandoned happiness with what joy in our hearts we planned our gifts-of how all we grandchildren saved our most shining dimes, depositing them with the postmaster, who would send them off to far-away New York to buy Grandmother her favorite gift, a big box of marizpan, a delectable perfume-tasting almond paste made into rich, realistic colored fruits and vegetables. Mother much preferred as her favorite present something we had made ourselves. Many weeks before Christmas, like furtive, scuttling



mice we snipped, gilded, and glued when her back was turned to us. "In order to be happy," Grandmother would curtail our over-expectant exuberance, "you must make another little girl very happy." The old playroom, a kitchen ell where the rain gushed down a big tin spout, was a lather of paper dolls and equipment out of which numberless homely remembrances were lovingly fashioned for 'newly come' lonely renters' children who had not lived long enough in snobby little Temple, Texas, to have been accepted as friends by the best children of the town, and myriads of colored children who had been named for your own Grandmother, your mother, your cousins, aunts, and even yourself-and there were the big-eyed, shy Mexican children who lived in shacks down by the cindery railroad tracks. All gifts were gaudily tagged with home-art cards reading with the deep sincerity of "Merry Christmas, from your friend, Maybelle."

MANY of us have forgotten and numerous children are still uninformed that the exchange of Christmas gifts symbolizes the Wise Men's presents to the Christ Child, whose birth brought Good Will Toward Men to all the world. "What if we can't afford Christmas?" Grandmother would challenge indulgent-eyed Grandfather, "everyone does-and they feel better for it afterward. People who can afford to buy Christmas presents have bought them-and people who can't afford it have done the same thing," she ended, dispensing with the subject of

Christmas extravagance that needed no rationalization anyway.

"When the parlor moved into the kitchen," as Grandmother would say, we knew there was no doubt but what Christmas had really started coming. The large, square kitchen, spacious and sunlit, with red geraniums blooming window-height against the warm panes, was dramatized by the focal point, a veritable "black beauty" of a wood stove, shining, gleaming, kept speckles: and dustless by a great full-spread turkey-wing duster. There were pienty of rocking chairs and, best of all, a long extra table where Grandmother believed in letting children watch what was going on. Armed with flatirons and hammers we cracked black walnuts, beat eggs, and creamed sugar-and-butter to an unbelievable lightness. Here jokes, as well as nuts, were cracked. Sometimes Grandfather took his fiddle down to swing out a tune or twirled Grandmother around by her apron strings much to her embarrassment.

HERE in the big, warm-hearted kitchen came the joy and laughter of friends and family who were getting that lovely feeling of "Christmas in their bones"- we kids at the children's table were popeyed at the gaiety of it all, the good stories told and the sage conundrums propounded. It was an exciting moment when Grandmother passed around under our inquisitive noses for us to smell the big huge fruitcakes seasoning and ripening in their big lard cans surrounded by apples and emitting a sharp heady aroma that was not vanilla!

The last mad week before Christmas was known as the big "cake fuss." The cake-baking limit for a Christmas-respecting family was never less than ten-and a great many pantries boasted of twelve, fifteen, and even twenty! All cakes were "big," with six to eight layers, while ten inches was a goodly thickness for fat, solid fruitcakes and pound cakes-all of them festively decorated for the occasion. Grandmother seasoned all holiday baking from her "special Christmas" spice chest. This muchly prized reserve was used only on this occasion in commemoration of the Infant Jesus, she would tell us, to whom the Wise Men brought gifts of fine spice. The air of the kitchen was sweet enough for swooning when Grandmother opened her small glass flavoring bottles that smelled of magnolias and roses. Heady and pungent was the aroma of cinnamon, coriander, clove, fresh nutmeg, and fresh ground black pepper. With a lavish hand Grandmother literally made cookies out of pure condiment contents-these cooky recipes were reserved for Christmas. There were her "pepper-nut" cookies, actually seasoned with pure pepper-and the pure honey-andbutter cookies which were supposed to symbolize a child's resolution always to choose the good and refuse the bad. Surrounding the Opera House Square, a rusty-red, flamboyant edifice, was a hitching ring where prosperous farmers from the famed Black Belt of Texas tethered their teams and bargained their produce. The ground floor of the Opera House

was divisioned into meat stalls where fat, paunchy butchers brandished glittering, curve-bladed knives. On abundant display was the Christmas produce, giant dressed turkeys, sausage, home lye-hominy, fresh water-ground cornmeal, suckling pigs and guinea hens, masses of fresh green cedar trees, mistletoe and holly-while popeyed, awaiting in the wagons, were bevies of tow-headed country children gluttonouscheeked with red-striped candy, Christmas bulging from their eyes.

T LAST Christmas actually arrived when one could settle down to the real business of trimming the tree. There was the miracle of the tree itself, so pungent, so green-fresh in spite of icy Texas Northers and bitter cold weather. When the Christmas star, the last ornament to be hung above the shining baubles had caught the light andshone silver-white in the dim old room-Christmas had really begun.

When the midnight Christmas bells rang out free and clear, it was the signal for all bedlam to break loose, a bedlam of fine, exciting noises. The whine of the jew's harp floated in from "Colored Town," followed by the ki-yipping of cowboys racing fast calico ponies through the streets. Alert young hoodlums rushed forth with shovels filled with glowing red coals from which they lighted firecrackers worn cartridgefashion around their waists. Like bursting bombs the Roman candles silhouetted in sparkling glitter the shabby old Opera House, making it as excitingly romantic as the sight of an Aladdin's fabulous palace. In licking flames bonfires leaped high into a Texas sky, giving a valid



excuse for the fire department to rush forth in full-dress, show-off regalia. It was a sight any old day to see "Old Pocahontas," the fire engine with her metal parts of real silver and gold, embellished with pictures of Vesuvius in eruption and Hercules with the lion, her tank of rosewood, flower garlanded, the fire chief with his silver trumpet, his carved leather helmet, the wind parting widely and fiercely his walrus mustache.

VER at the "mighty" Methodist church, as Grandmother called her special brand of Methodism, the Sunday-school Christmas tree services were over—boys who had entered with cowlicks neatly plastered down now resembled young cockatoos as they sailed spit-balls with rowdy good aim at butterfly hair bows. Wild and high young voices resounded with "Jingle bells! Jingle bells, jingle all the way," while the fiddlemusic flared into unchurchlike tempo—it was Christmas in Temple, Texas! It was Christmas! At last!

Long after you were tucked in bed came the long siren screams of whistles, the toot of old freight rattlers, their box cars bringing Temple its quota of Christmas tramps, a hobo's paradise, known as a good "hand out" town, especially generous to Christmas strangers. Shrieks of ecstasy greeted Christmas morning—there under the glim-

Shrieks of ecstasy greeted Christmas morning—there under the glimmering tree sat Glycerine-Rose, your long-loved old doll, dressed in as bewilderingly beautiful a fashion as the new doll—the old doll-bed had been repainted and was fresh with new sheets and a pretty comforter. Mother had been a great help to Santa Claus you observed as you recognized familiar patterns from the family scrap bag made into new doll clothes for Glycerine-Rose and for the new doll, yet unnamed!

Nowhere could social exhibitionism be more fully demonstrated than in the Christmas morning parade of a small town such as Temple. Arrogant little rich girls who took the right of way wheeling their extravagant dolls in parasoled carriages past the poor little girl, equally shy and proud of her poor dolly in a mere scrap of a doll buggy. There was the boy curvetting on a new pony past the yearning-eyed boy who didn't get a pony. Important little girls in all-new clothes, pretty muffs, and fancy bonnets tilted over proud noses at the child who still wore her skimpy coat, ragged mittens and old stocking cap.

The heart of Christmas day was dinner at Grandmother's. The long, extended table was spread with three damask covers. The first was removed after the turkey dinner, leaving a fresh cover for the desserts, which were ambrosia long seasoned in a deep stone crock, buttermilk, glasses of custard, and Christmas "Duff," a molasses pudding steamed in a floured pudding cloth and served with hot fruit juice.

No family could consume the number of cakes baked. Women were prideful in having other women taste their brand of cake baking. On Grandmother's "cake table," kept set up throughout the holidays, was a chocolate layer, the chocolate marble layer, the freshgrated coconut, the bitter chocolate cake, the ribbon cake with its yellow, pink and white layers with filling to match, the Lady Baltimore always flavored with hickory nuts, the lemon-cheese, the caramel, the snow-white layer cake which smelled like jasmine, the black-walnut cake, the orange-pineapple-custard, the spice cake, the pound cakes and fruit cakes, both black and white. Cake baking approxi-

mated art—approximated? It was a fine art and as such was displayed. By the merest sniff Grandmother could detect whether or not a shortening substitute had been used instead of rich, yellow cow butter. Equally suspicious was she of flour, baking powder, the cream of tartar as being of a superior brand or not—or whether the maker had skimped on eggs. A merciless judge was Grandmother and no gossip of the town was going to judge her as "being too stingy to make a decent cake!"

ITH generous slices of every kind of Grandmother's special Christmas cakes, overlapping and piled high on a cake standard covered with a white damask napkin, we children undertook Grandmother's "cake swapping" project, ringing doorbells with the message "Grandmother thought you might like to try some of her cake."

Christmas came early and lasted long with us Texans. By the time New Year's came we were whipped to a "nubbin" and here enters another old Texas custom—as Texas as mesquite and tumble-weeds our New Year's supper of black-eyed peas, rice and smoked pork for the grownups and hot corn meal mush and milk for the small fry and mighty good this New Year's supper was, too.

We Texans, famed as wild enthusiasts who never rest until everybody is as possessed as ourselves, also like a good live "whopper" next to almost anything. We know our reindeers, and young or old we'll tell you that we've actually seen the eight famous little reindeers, Dasher and Dancer, Prancer and Vixen, Cupid and Comet, and Donner and Blitzen —we'll tell you believing it for the fast truth that we've actually heard old St. Nick himself say as he scuttled up the chimney "Happy Christmas to all, and to all a goodnight." We Texans believe hard.

A gay Christmas parade of Victorian skeptics who thoroughly believed in angels and Santa and who as thoroughly believed that little girls were made of sugar and spice and everything nice, while little boys were made of snips and snails and puppy dog tails



Plants Plus!

THERE ARE WAYS TO GET DOUBLE DUTY FROM THEM AND THEIR HOLIDAY TRIMMINGS -NOT ONLY ALL WINTER, BUT LONG AFTERWARD

Cacti and other succulents do well in tough situations and are good for groups (like this "Peace garden"), or singly as specimens such as this aptly named "monstrosus" Here, right to left, Begonia, Saintpaulia, and Peperomia

If the recently increased interest in gardening means anything, house plants will be more popular as gifts this Christmas than ever before—more gratifying to get and more satisfying to give, especially if giver and recipient know how to make the most of their possibilities. At the giving end, one way to make a plant's appeal even stronger, and its enjoyment more lasting, is to provide it with something unusual in the form of container or trimming. Oh, not a fancy, crêpe-paper pot cover, or a big tulle bow such as the average florist will doll it up with—unless you ask him not to (or unless the WPB has ruled such things out for the duration). But something like a jolly old brown bean pot, or one of more modern color and design, which makes a splendid receptacle for a plant—and, later, for many a succulent baked bean. Or an antique soup tureen, copper kettle, shaving mug or other heirloom that you are willing to part with (or that someone else did), and which would truly glamorize anything it contained, especially in the eyes of a

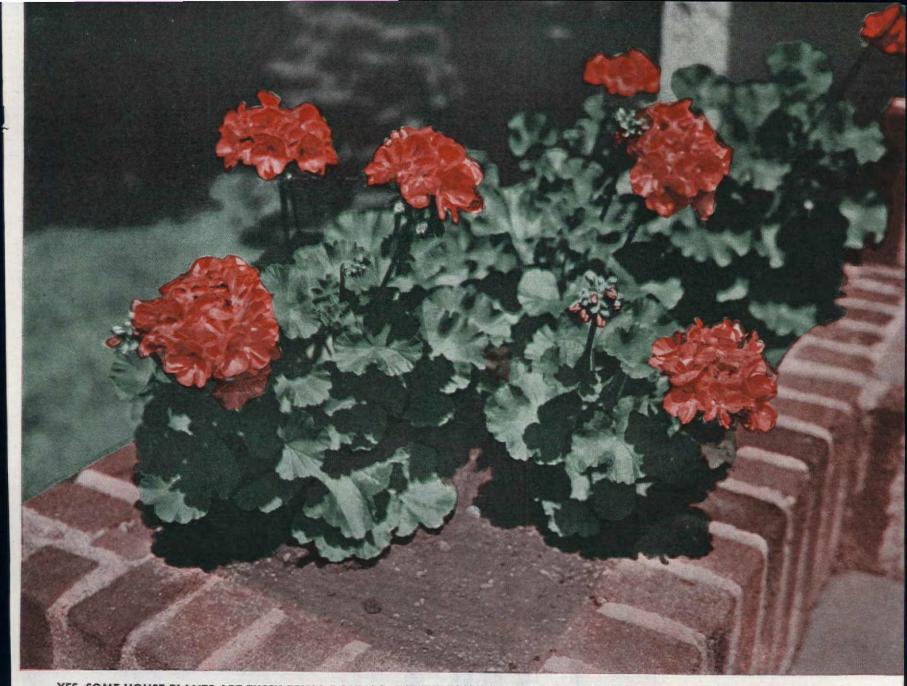


The strawberry-geranium (botanically a saxifrage) is another possibility for indoor and outdoor culture person with leanings toward flower arranging. A basket so shaped that it could later be hung on or beside the front door, to receive mail or other small deliveries (as per the pleasant Cape Cod custom), would add to fern or geranium the touch

Contributors to this article: MRS. R. J. DUNCOMB HELEN C. MOORE F. G. COOVER

"PICK-A-BACK" PLANTS ARE FUN IN THE HOUSE, GROW AND MULTIPLY WELL OUTDOORS, TOO

Photographs by McFarland; New York Botanical Gardens, F. G. Coover; J. Julius Fanta



YES, SOME HOUSE PLANTS ARE FUSSY PRIMA DONNAS-BUT THINK HOW MANY ARE, LIKE THE GERANIUM, DOCILE AND RELIABLE!

that makes the difference between a mere remembrance and a REAL PRESENT. Assuming that you have no scruples against lily-gilding, you could put a lot of holiday spirit into any plant by decking its branches with gold or silver, red, blue, or green bells, balls, or other glittery objects. Or perhaps you have, or could make, some bright red socks or Santa Claus boots to take the place of more prosaic pot wrappings. In many such ways you can quickly transform an ordinary horticultural specimen into a doubly appreciated and treasured holiday remembrance.

On the receiving end, the so-called knack of succeeding with house plants is actually just the ability to provide the conditions they require, or to select the right kind of plants for existing conditions that cannot be changed. The average home is *not* the place one would choose to garden in. Yet, since the basic requirements are simply: plenty of light, a temperature range not greater than from 45 degrees F. at night to 80 degrees at midday, as humid an atmosphere as can conveniently be maintained, soil kept moderately

fertile, and water given in sufficient quantity and often enough to keep the soil from drying out, it is possible to list a generous number of plants that will give weeks, months, or in some cases even years, of pleasure indoors. They can be roughly classified into (a) flowering plants, needing considerable sunlight and the most care; (b) many foliage plants, which are happy if given fair light and attention, and (c) cacti and other succulents (plus a



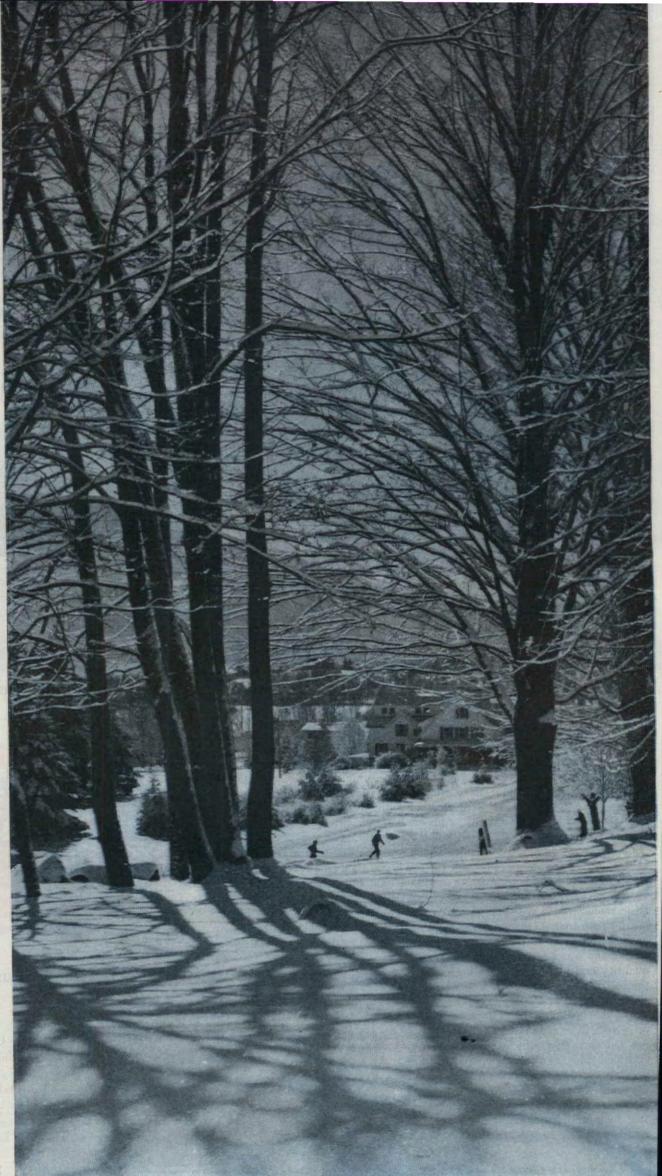
WHY JUST A PLANT IN A FLOWER POT!

June Cochrane Ortgies suggests bright red bobby socks with toes stuffed as timely pot covers for an amusing ornamental decoration and she ties little bells on her plants for some surprise

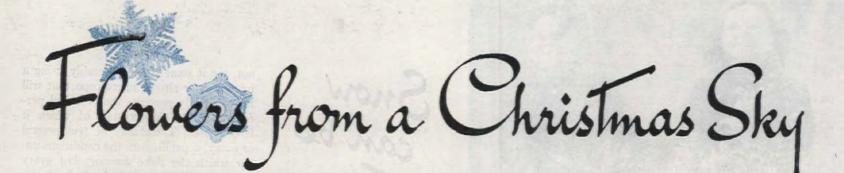
blossoms. A large bean pot or a set of small ones will serve a double purpose. The door basket is charming indoors or out few "cast iron" foliage sorts) which will survive heat, dry air, and quite a degree of dimness.

Some plants, as Mrs. R. J. Duncomb reminds us, can be kept in the house all winter and planted out in a sheltered, half shady spot for the summer, there to serve as an attractive ground cover and meanwhile give rise to numerous progeny that can be potted up and added to your own collection or passed along to appreciative friends. She mentions the strawberry-geranium, whose right name is Saxifraga sarmentosa; young plants appear like rosettes at the end of dangling runners and take root, like those of the true strawberry, around the mother plant. Also the pick-a-back plant (Tolmeia menziesi) whose leaves sprout little plants right where they join their stems. Given a moist spot in half shade, such as a northern exposure at the base of low shrubs, it soon starts a colony as the leaves bend down and enable the tiny plants to take root. The odd rosaryvine (Ceropegia woodi) also likes semi-shade and a somewhat sandy soil; new plants grow from little corky balls that develop at the base of the flowers that appear along the long, thick, leathery leaves. And one of the most easily handled of the so-called air-plants is the anthericum which develops a true, tuberlike root system, but whose grasslike foliage is interspersed with slender wands bearing at their tips young plants that take root on making contact with the soil. They should be potted and brought indoors before the first frost.

From Helen C. Moore comes this suggestion: "Taking a tip from espaliered fruit trees, I tailored a pink geranium to fit a tall sunny hall window. Four years ago, I rooted a slip, and when it had two sturdy shoots, I set it in a bright blue pot with a firmly anchored trellis behind it. Guiding the two shoots horizontally, I tied them to the trellis with green bias tape until they reached the edges when I pinched off their ends and let the new shoots that started along the branches grow upward and outward, nipping them back, too. Now, the trellis has been discarded, but my venerable geranium still fills the space with bloom each year almost continuously from September to June. Then I set the pot in a corner of my terrace, water it sparingly and remove all buds. In fall, I put it back in the window, water it regularly, and give it a monthly dose of complete plant food. Last Christmas, it had 17 flowers open."



Lionel Green From Frederic Lewis



H. Armstrong Roberts

- OR NATURE'S COLD, WET, WINTER BLANKET --- WHICH IS IT?

As we sat around the cheerful fire, big, soft, white flakes began to drift slowly down past the window. "Thank goodness for those first flowers from the Christmas sky," said the man in the easy chair facing that way. We all turned to look, but with different reactions. . . . "Snow! I hate it," growled the oldest of the group, with a frown and a shiver. "How anyone can compare snowflakes with flowers I cannot see and never could." . . . "Oh, but I can," replied a third. "I have always been thrilled by the sight of snow. It makes veritable gardens and fairylands out of the most prosaic scenes, blotting out much of the ugliness around us and replacing it with beauty." . . "But it makes everything so dreadfully monotonous," complained the woman in the corner. "And, after all, it doesn't do any good. It's just a nuisance, slowing up traffic, stalling trains, making a lot of extra work for everybody, and soon turning into masses of dirty, wet slush. No, I can't say that I see anything about snow to enthuse over."

Well, how about you? How do you react to a snowy landscape? How does it affect your philosophy? How far can you see into a snowdrift, and what do you find there? First, let's break it down, as the statisticians say. Did you ever let a fluffy snowflake alight on a woolen mitten or other soft surface and study it carefully before it melted? If

ROBERT SPARKS WALKER

Snow can be Beautifu





Photographs by Frederic Lewis, H. Armstrong Roberts, F.P.G., and the author

ONE OF NATURE'S MANY SIDED MIRACLES, SNOW CAN BE BOTH A BOON AND A BURDEN; EITHER A SOURCE OF JOYOUS, HEALTHFUL RECREATION, OR THE CAUSE OF INCONVENIENCE AND DISTRESS

> In gardens, it may protect certain plants and damage others; shelter wildlife, or trap it; replenish the essential water supply, or cause costly soil erosion



not, try it some time, preferably using a hand lens or simple microscope that will let you really perceive the beautiful perfection of the ice crystals of which it is composed. These may be few, several or many, depending on the conditions under which the flake formed; but every one, you will discover, is basically threeor six-pointed. And usually the points or lobes are elaborated into branchlets in amazingly complex, symmetrical designs,

suggesting the patterns that used to delight and mystify us when, as children, we peered through the revolving tube of a kaleidoscope. Make a snowball and you crush together thousands of these little crystal stars; even the tiny fraction of a blizzard that you may personally come in contact with will contain millions or even billions of them. Yet, because each crystal is formed independently and under different conditions from every other, no two are identical! That doesn't sound possible, does it? But this is what the scientists tell us, and who are we to doubt or contradict them?

Under other circumstances, snow may fall in the form of tiny pellets, or as tiny needles of ice. If moisture in the sky starts to fall as rain but hits a layer of freezing cold air, hail instead of snow is formed; and if this freezing occurs after the rain hits twigs, wires, etc., the result is sleet, which can be sadly destructive as anyone knows who has seen the broken trees and power lines in the wake of an ice storm. It is when we begin to appraise snow on the basis of what it does—either for or against us—that we discover its versatile character. "A snowdrift," says Professor E. Laurence Palmer, "may be a



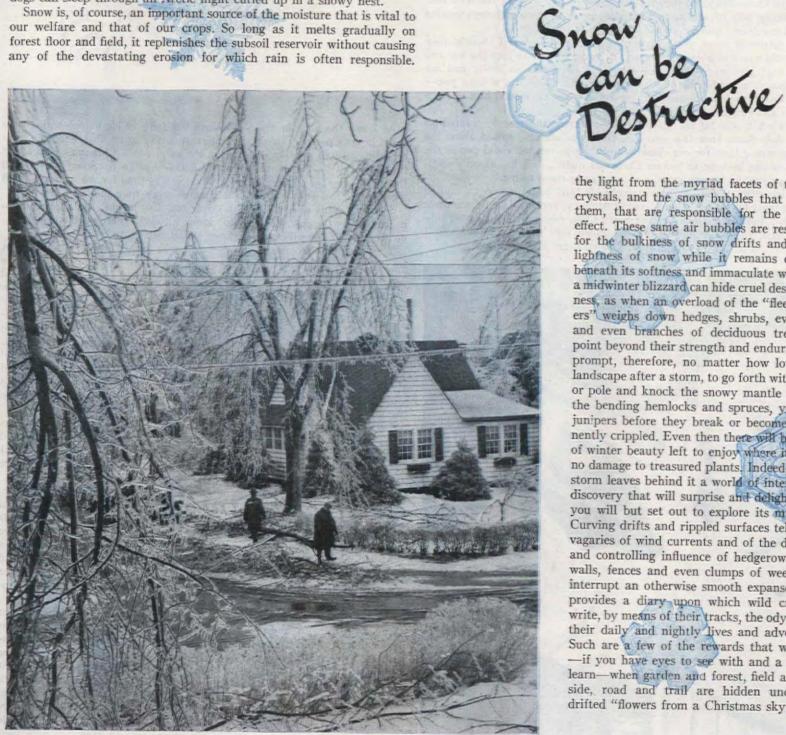
welcome haven or an icy prison, a splendid highway or a deadly barrier, a menace or a blessing, a thing of beauty or an unsightly mass."

In our gardens, for instance, a thick blanket of snow is the finest. softest, most efficient mulch our plants can ask for. Perfect protection against extreme cold and the drying effect of winter winds, it still permits enough air to pass through to keep them in good conditions-for plants in winter, though dormant, are still living, breathing things. You may have noticed, after especially severe winters, how spring-flowering shrubs blossomed well on the lower branches that were under the snow, whereas many of the buds on upper branches exposed to the air were killed; also the strong, healthy condition of lilies, delphiniums and other perennials that have been protected by several inches of loose, undisturbed snow. On the other hand, snow that has been packed down, or that has been soaked by rain and then frozen into a hard mass, no longer possesses its original insulating quality. So don't expect to benefit your flower beds and hedges by piling more and more snow on them when you shovel your paths. It might interest and surprise you to borrow the household thermometer and take the temperatures on top, in the middle, and at the bottom of a deep drift of loose snow some bitter winter day. At least it would explain why it is that rabbits, squirrels, mice, grouse, and other wildlife are able to survive the rigors of the outdoors even without benefit of burrows or other shelters, and how eskimo dogs can sleep through an Arctic night curled up in a snowy nest.

Snow is, of course, an important source of the moisture that is vital to our welfare and that of our crops. So long as it melts gradually on forest floor and field, it replenishes the subsoil reservoir without causing any of the devastating erosion for which rain is often responsible.

Sometimes, however, the ground freezes before the snow falls and remains impervious even after the sun and winds of late winter have started a wholesale thaw. Then follows a spring freshet, and more evidence of the immensely destructive force of snow when it gets out of control. Moreover, even if the melting rate could be controlled, it would be pretty inconvenient to get an entire year's supply of rain in the form of snow. With one inch of rain equal to about a foot of snow, an average annual precipitation would amount to an alarming total of forty feetand who wants that much snow even for the sake of the skiing, coasting, sleighing and snowballing it would afford? On the other hand, such a prospect may hold no terrors for anyone accustomed to life in parts of the Rocky Mountains where, according to Weather Bureau records, the average annual snowfall reaches 200 inches!

We casually speak of things as being "white as the driven snow" (though why "driven" snow is any whiter than any other kind only the poet who coined the phrase knows). But do we realize how white that actually is? . . . Gather some newly fallen snow one fine day and (before you succumb to the temptation to make "snow ice cream" of it) put it beside some granulated sugar and some freshly popped pop corn. What price their "snowy" whiteness? It is, of course, the refraction of



the light from the myriad facets of the snow crystals, and the snow bubbles that separate them, that are responsible for the dazzling effect. These same air bubbles are responsible for the bulkiness of snow drifts and for the lightness of snow while it remains dry. Yet beneath its softness and immaculate whiteness, a midwinter blizzard can hide cruel destructiveness, as when an overload of the "fleecy flowers' weighs down hedges, shrubs, evergreens and even branches of deciduous trees to a point beyond their strength and endurance. Be prompt, therefore, no matter how lovely the landscape after a storm, to go forth with broom or pole and knock the snowy mantle from off the bending hemlocks and spruces, yews and junipers before they break or become permanently crippled. Even then there will be plenty of winter beauty left to enjoy where it can do no damage to treasured plants. Indeed, a snow storm leaves behind it a world of interest and discovery that will surprise and delight you if you will but set out to explore its mysteries. Curving drifts and rippled surfaces tell of the vagaries of wind currents and of the directing and controlling influence of hedgerows, stone walls, fences and even clumps of weeds that interrupt an otherwise smooth expanse. Snow provides a diary upon which wild creatures write, by means of their tracks, the odysseys of their daily and nightly lives and adventures. Such are a few of the rewards that wait you -if you have eyes to see with and a wish to learn-when garden and forest, field and hillside, road and trail are hidden under the drifted "flowers from a Christmas sky."

VIRGINIA HERROD

UHRISTMAS is almost over. The house is quiet—except for the comforting tick-tock of the big clock in the hall. Jack Frost has painted dazzling pictures—fairyland pictures—on the windows . . . and the trees outside are heavy with ice and snow. I am alone now . . . alone with my thoughts of Christmas spent without you.

Our First Christmas ...Without You

When you went away, you took my heart with you. And I thought then that I would never be able to carry on . . . never be able to face the joy and gladness that goes with Christmas—when my heart was so lonely and my soul so heavy; never be able to make Sonny's first Christmas without you one of glad remembrances and happy events—when all around him was unhappiness and struggle, grief and strife.

Even when I was buying his presents—selecting the tree he wanted so much to help Santa trim this year . . . yes, even when we talked about the turkey we would have for our dinner—and the popcorn we would pop in the fireplace before he went to bed on Christmas night . . . I had those doubts. And I kept waiting for the miracle of courage to come to me.

Then last night it did—as he whispered his tiny, baby prayers . . . when he ended them by saying "God bless my Mommy, and my Daddy, wherever he may be. And please God, don't let Santa Claus forget that bugle, and submachine gun, and those boxing gloves I asked for. 'Cause my Dad said I could have 'em before he went to war. And what my Dad says goes".



Photograph by Mary B. Hopkin

Drawing by Edith Kurtz

As I saw the hope in his eyes—heard the faith in his voice—realized his belief in your power "to do" ... I knew that no matter what I felt, no matter how confused my own emotions might be ... that Christmas with all its traditions, all its merriment, all its gladness—had to be Sonny's day. And that it was my job to make it so ... that it was time for me to think of all the things I had—not what had been taken away from me.

So if the spirit of Christmas this year was less joyous, less carefree than it has been in the past, Sonny didn't know it today. There were no tears . . . no mention of the other Christmases we all had shared together.

The Christmas tree was smaller—and we decorated it by ourselves—but we didn't talk about that. We talked instead of how lucky we were to have a tree to trim . . . how good it was to hear carolers singing joyfuliy instead of bombs screaming with agony in their descent from the sky . . . how grand it was to have things to give away and not taken away from us.

There wasn't quite as much holly on the mantel and over the doorways but we put the candle in the window and the spray of pine branch on the door. We couldn't make it stay the way you always did—but we didn't talk about that. We talked instead of how lucky we were to be born in a land where people are free . . . how good it was to be able to see the snow and the stars instead of starvation and death . . . how grand it was to be able to wonder at the growth of trees and the return of harvests—and not have to be afraid that with each new moon we might never see them again.

Do you think those are funny things to talk about to a child on Christmas Eve? I didn't. Sonny knows there is a war . . . and that you are supposed to kill enemies, and they—you. He knows that some people must die so that others can live, that we must know evil to appreciate good. Yes, I have taught him the sad things to help him know better—the glad things.

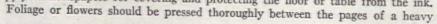
There weren't quite as many toys as last year. Just the bugle, the gun, the boxing gloves, some games and nick-nacks. And the train doesn't run around the tree as it always did. We couldn't put it together without your help—but we didn't talk about that. We talked instead of how lucky we were to still be free to sleep and laugh and play . . . how good it was to be able to hear steeple bells ringing in our church and still sing hymns to God—instead of having shots ring in our ears and having to sing the praises of a despot . . . how grand it was to believe in Something greater than ourselves, in tomorrow, and happier Christmases to come.

That was our Christmas without you, my dear. That was the way we went through the day—each of us playing the game as we thought you would want us to play it, remembering yet carrying on just as though you were here.

Was it right? Was it good? Was it what I should have done? Only time can tell me. But if I can go on making Sonny believe in the gold beyond the rainbow—the dawn beyond the sea—the light beyond the dark—the spirit of peace on earth, goodwill toward men—that is found only in Christmas and what it stands for . . . if I can only make him go on believing in believing all of these things—only then can I know I did what you would have done, that we spent our first Christmas without you . . . with you!

Photographs by F. M. Demarest ristmas Fixin's

IFTS unadorned with the customary splashily colored and spangled wrapping U paper would be like a Christmas tree without the trimming. But there's no reason to try to get by completely without it . . . you still have a few resources: plain kraft wrapping paper and precious tissue which can still be had in "limited" quantity or "second hand" sheets of both of these which you may have foresightedly saved. With these papers and a little five-finger exercise in the art of spatter printing, you can make the most gorgeous wrappings imaginable for your wartime Christmas gifts. You can print around a sprig of holly, a spray of leaves from a landmark tree, a feathery spike of wheat from the field Bill plowed just before he went away, or you can print from stencils which you make. The crude, simple drawings children make lend themselves perfectly to this purpose. Your tools are a tooth brush with bristles trimmed flat and even, a small slender stick of the lollipop variety, a single edged razor for cutting the stencils, a ruler, and pair of scissors. Ordinary writing ink or show card or poster paint, sold in nearly all stationery or art supply stores, can be used successfully. The paint is soluble in water and easily washed from brush and hands. For a nice assortment of colors, have red, green, blue, black and white, with gold and silver for the starshine effects. Lettering can be done with a stencil, easily cut into straight-lined block letters, or with electrical wire bent to form the words "Merry Christmas" and arranged flat against the paper for the spatter printing process. Besides your working tools, you need a supply of newspapers for covering and protecting the floor or table from the ink.





Snip gift tags from last year's Christmas cards says Mrs. Benj. Nielsen





Forest cullings, such as oak leaves, acorns, pine cones, holly twigs, can be cold water painted and tied to your packages for color effect. Or, leaves can be pasted to lid and sides of the box



Personalize your packages. Seed catalogue decoupage on box would please Victory gardeners



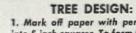
Wallpaper your utilitarian boxes in some lovely or amus-ing pattern. Look for these among the store's odd rolls

Or do the same stunt with newspaper-comics for the chil-dren, of course!--and go sur-realistic with the paste-ons



For the Victorian antique lover, you might mount dark colored silhouettes in a group of three





1. Mark off paper with pencil dots into 5-inch squares. To form the lines place two folded newspapers, weighted down, ¼" apart. Dip brush into ink, shake well, hold inverted close to paper and draw stick toward you over bristles in quick strokes

book to dry so they will lie flat while being used. To see whether the specimen is graceful enough for your purpose, hold it up between the light and the wall and note the shadow it casts. That should tell you. Stencil paper may be purchased or instead one may use non-absorbent or waxed cardboard such as that formerly used for butter and other cartons and if a large cut-out is desired. several of these can be pieced together with adhesive tape. The paper on which the stenciling is done should be kept perfectly flat and a small collection of weighty stones helps with this trick. Be careful, however, that they do not extend beyond the edges of the spatter subject. Where necessary, thrust a pin perpendicularly through a stem or leaf to hold it flat. Such a small perforation will not be noticed. In working with a stencil, lift it carefully from the paper to prevent blurring of the outline, wipe dry, and proceed to reprint. The stencil can be spattered or brushed with a comparatively dry brush. With a specimen, spatter around the subject and up over the edges to develop the contour; with a stencil, spatter the cut-out part. Either way, work well along the edges. Otherwise, the print will not be clearly defined. Writing ink is used just as it comes from the bottle but show card or poster paint should be kept thinned to a thin cream consistency and the brush rinsed occasionally to keep the paint from drying in the bristles. Pour just enough ink or paint into a saucer or other shallow receptacle so that in dipping the brush only the bristle tips are wet. It is a good idea to have the saucer over at one side where it isn't in danger of being upset. This is your spatter print technique: Dip brush, shake well over saucer to shed surplus which might fall in blotty drops, and, with brush held firmly in one hand and tilted at an angle of about 45 degrees, lower end three to four inches from paper, draw stick back across the bristles and toward you in a series of quick movements. This will spatter the paper in a fine spray. Continue to dip, shake and spatter; dip, shake, spatter. Soon the movement will become almost rhythmic, your designs better and better.

There's stardust in your inkpo?. Use it to make workaday paper into glamorous Christmas gift wrappings

For the sunset and star effect just above, a folded newspaper was laid diagonally across white tissue paper and the spatter printing done with red ink close to the fold, which was moved at intervals. When dry, stars were stenciled on. At right, garden leaves may convey nostalgic memories to one far away





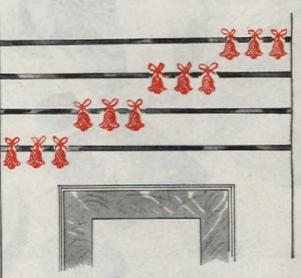
Christmas hurricane lamps—tin cups, peppermint candy-striped with paint and topped with oil lamp shades their candles give a lovely light



Cover a hatbox with greenery and ornaments, turn it upside down for the lamp shade. Then stand base of lamp in the box lid, fill with greens

heisel photograph. from Monkmeyer hristonas House

> MUCH ado about Christmas from practically nothing! Candy-cane stands like those shown above can be made of broom handles, wound with yarn and tape, funnel bases, and strong cardboard boxes destined for salvage. We suggested these ideas once before but think they are worthy of a repeat performance. Similar odds and ends can be utilized for mantel decoration and tree ornaments. All sketches and photographs are intended as springboards for your imagination, rather than exact patterns. From such simple materials as lace paper doilies, mirrors, coarse white cloth, and the like, effective Christmas trimmings can be evolved. If candy canes are not available, paint cardboard ones.



As the Santa Claus chute, the fireplace is worthy of something special in its decorations. Above, peppermint candy canes, mounted on cardboard disk spangled with gum drops, or the Christmas bells strung on bars of ribbon

It's the little touches that count!

Snow-painted branches combined

with bright flowers in a bowl; red

bells tied on or strung on a ribbon

to tack on salad bowl and shade



Dip bare branch in thick starch, then in artificial snow and let dry. Arrange with small figure-perhaps the Madonna-or flowers-or both



KITTEN BOOKMARKS for little girls to make as gifts. Felt is used with gay yarn stitching



finery, spray tree with paint, trim anew with party favors and noisemakers





NEEDLE CASE for more skilful little fingers. Double felt, outing flannel inside for needles

LAPEL PIN of bright felt and yarn stitching. Small safety pin attached on back for fastening

Ideas contributed by: Virginia Hartman, H. Cobbett Williams, Mrs. Benj. Nielsen, June Cochrane Ortgies, Kay Konzelman, Mrs. Chas. E. Malone, Florence C. Drake

An absorbent cotton beard, red cone paper hat, blue gummed star eyes and signal dot nose turn damaged round ornaments into Santa Claus heads

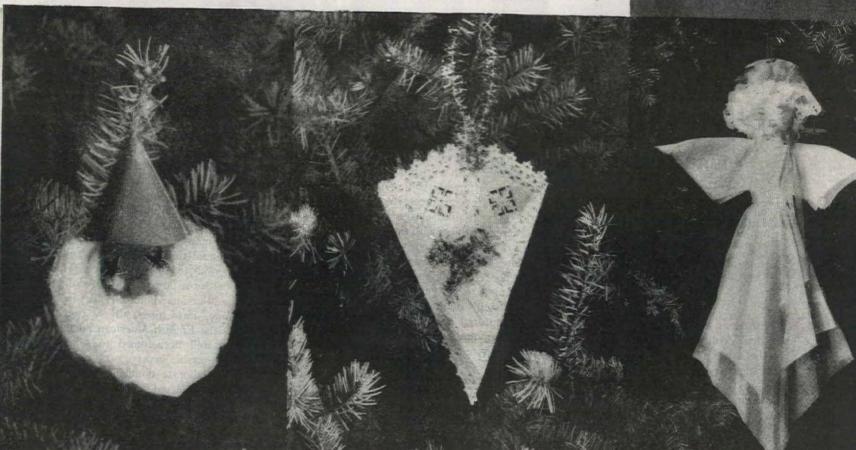
Lace paper cornucopias, sticker angels gummed to handbag mirrors, and white robed angels of mesh backing from moleskin-all trim the tree



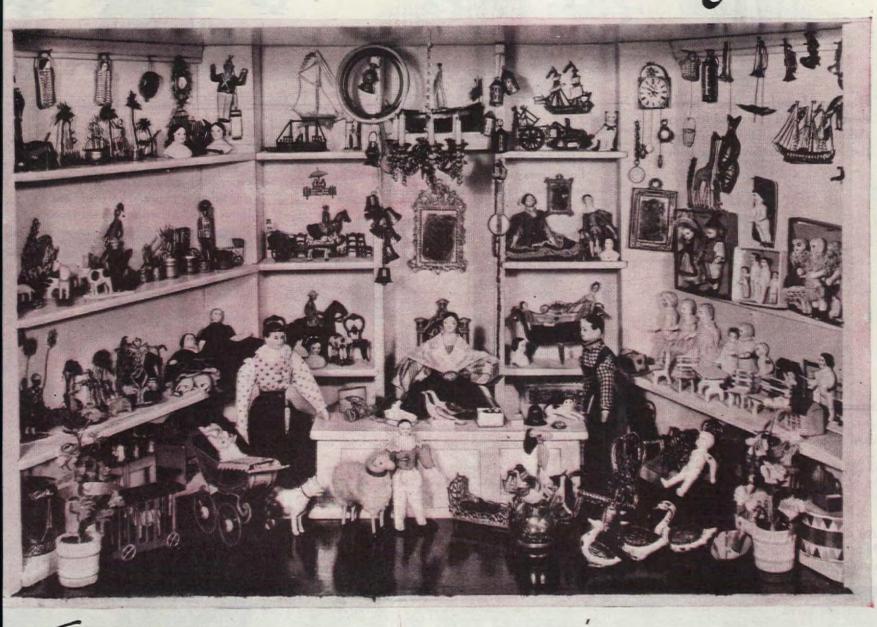
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CHRISTMAS CARD TREE of green construction paper. The cards are fastened to tree with gummed tape





When all the World was Young...



The sumptuous Victorian doll rooms of Helen L. Kendall

MAYBELLE MANNING

"The little toy dog is covered with dust, But sturdy and staunch he stands; And the little toy soldier is red with rust, And his musket moulds in his hands. Time was when the little toy dog was new And the soldier was passing fair, And that was the time when our Little Boy Blue Kissed them and put them there." Little Boy Blue-Eugene Field (charles Borbmer's Sons)

REMEMBER the day when you were suddenly colt-legged and too big to fit in mother's lap any more—remember when it was suggested that you were too "old and big" to play with dolls—remember how Grandmother reflected over glasses with wise regard of your dilemma, "there's so little time to be young, you know, let her play a little while yet in her dream world."

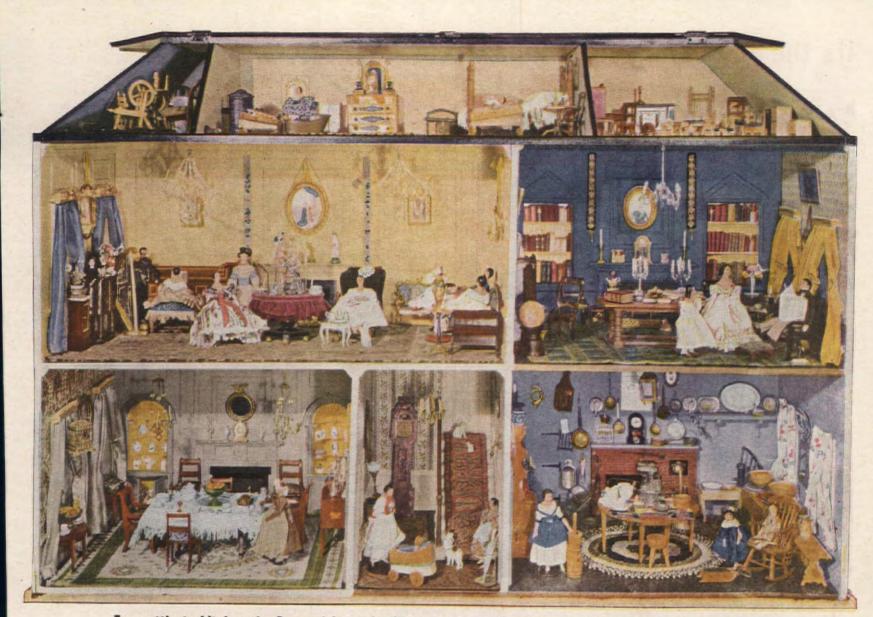
Remember when the past had no past, but of how one lived close to dreams that were new and bright and all the world was a happy forevermore—remember when all was sheened with the shine of love, and dollies were warm with the hug of your arms? How the heart remembers. Remember when your eyes were like elegies of spring and you were breathless with the love of little things?

I returned deep within myself to that long-ago and heard crystal-clear the far-off echoes of childhood—and like a child I wanted to cry out and wished that Helen Kendall's dollhouse were my very own. As enraptured I gazed on the warm plush air of the family dollhouse, I was of the realization once more that nothing could be so good for the renewal of the heart as collecting for a dollhouse.

With emotional "Little Boy Blue" nostalgia there was the proof of how the little toy friends had remained so long true. There they all stood again, proud in their aliveness, responsive once more to the warmth of childhood possession—neglected little toys retrieved from dingy, long-ago attics, well-loved little toys that one knew had been cherished in secret, sad little toys like poignant reminders, sacred little relics that once again gave loving tribute to the eternal charm of childhood.

The doll house of Helen Kendall a threestoried, mansard-roofed dwelling represents the life and times of an English family (of the period 1837) in America. The house peopled by a large family of dolls, known as the "Parsons" family, reflect in their occupancy, furnishings, dress, and appointments the English-American home-life of a family well accustomed to solid comfort and reasonable luxury.

The elaborate domicile, complete in its research, collected by Helen's mother, Mrs. Henry P. Kendall, can be regarded as a



From attic to kitchen the Parsons' house is filled with fascinating miniature furnishings for doll life in 1837

historic document, but avoids being a doll's house chosen by grownups for grownups but happily by dolls for dolls. We agreed with the idea, "after all, what is a doll's house for if dolls are not allowed to make themselves at home in it?"

The gay, homelike 1837 Victorian mansion was like beholding something a fairy godmother would bestow upon a very good, very deserving and most longing child, and not like beholding a museum toy or a masterpiece of miniature craftsmanship. Nor was it a show-off possession scaled far beyond a child's imagination, nor so fairy-princess as to make another little girl green with jealousy. It was life with a family of dolls to be shared like friendships. One could feel the quickness and zeal of small creative fingers, eager hearts concerned with the life and doings, the joys and the sorrows of all that could happen day after day to a real doll family.

I remember seeing "The Queen's Dollhouse," the most elaborate toy in the world, and of my disappointment upon not being introduced to its occupants. How I should have loved to have seen the royal family seated at dinner with distinguished guests, the butlers and footman waiting at table, the cooks in the kitchen. As a historical record, depicting a way of life, Helen Kendall's A doll millinery shop with its captivating display of bonnets and bandboxes

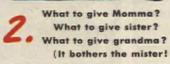


PHOTOGRAPHS BY GEORGE H. DAVIS STUDIO

It's the day before Christmas



It's the day before Christmas And all through the shops, Poppa is running With starts and with stops.



He knows that his wife

Could use one or two,

Or maybe a dozen.

POPPA LOVE MOMMA? This Pyrex

Double-Duty Casserole makes a dozen different dishes. Cover is an extra pie plate 1 3 sizes. 2 qt. size 75¢

GLAMOUR GIFT! This Pyrex Cake Dish is just made for chops, layer cakes, desserts. Bakes food ½ faster. A gair makes a lovely gift. Each **35**0

SHE'LL BE PROUD of her pies in this trans-

25¢

WARE

parent Pyrex Pie Plate! Sticky foods wash off its smooth sides like magic. Three sizes. 9½" size

Y22

PRESSED

IN GLASS

And his Aunt and his Cousin



When just as he's ready To give up in despair, What does he see But a sign "PYREX WARE"!





APPLE-OF-HER EYE! This Pyrex Utility Dish goesfrom the oven to the table to the refrigerator. Cooks small roasts, hot breads, rolls, biscuits. 10½" size, only 500



"PYREX" IS A REGISTERED TRADE-MARK OF CORNING GLASS WORKS, CORNING, N. Y.

comfortable 1837 Victorian mansion held for me, an added interest over that of Her Majesty's for the fact that it was occupied.

Colleen Moore's fabulous doll palace, next in elaborateness and cost to that of Her Majesty's, is also uninhabited. With all the avidness of a bobby-sox autograph collector, I longed to see a pageant of Hollywood star's dolls lending glamour to the extravaganza.

Let's take a tour of the Parsons' residence and a few of its miniature treasures. The first illustration represents a "Doll Toy Store." As shopkeepers of that day, the lady clerks are dressed in the correct business attire: note the proprietress behind the counter with her superior air, her billowing plaid taffeta sleeves and India muslin fichu, in contrast to the shirtwaist clerk and the over-all dress of the second. Arrayed on the shelves are miniature marvels of mechanical genius: a tiny cuckoo clock that resounds out a lusty "cuckoo," little dogs that "bowwow," little lambs that bleat and dolls that say "mamma-and-papa."

In the dollhouse proper is the dust-covered attic, as dim as daydreams, crowded with fascinating doll rummage: little horsehair trunks with brass buttons in which repose such mementos of a doll's past as fans, tiny gold-edged note paper, wee muffs, laces, feathers, and faded satin ball slippers.

In the governess's room are two babies in rocking-cribs and a tin tub drawn cozily before a miniature replica of a base-burner stove.

On the second floor we come to the drawing room, sumptuous with flowered Brussels carpet and its Victorian decor of yellow satin and rose. Dashingly uniformed young soldier dolls are grouped around the clavichord in which there is a diminutive music box. One almost expects to see the dance of the dolls to the sheerest strains of a Strauss waltz. The Victorian coquettes, erect as the sofas upon which they are seated, all in the best Emily Post manner of that day, are plentifully furbished in the "beau-catchers" of that heartbreak era, stand-alone taffetas, offshoulder decolletages, a dozen laceedged petticoats to a doll, ruby earrings and chil-frills.

Over the mantel hangs a rare miniature Baxter print of Queen Victoria (valued at \$150) while the walls are adorned with two other Baxter prints showing Victoria and Albert with their children in the Highlands.

The collector's treasures to be noted in the library are 1837 transcript editions of the London Times and the Boston Globe, a tiny revolving pocket map globe which marks Australia as New Holland and New York as Amsterdam, Aesop's Fables in French, and an edition of Pictorial America.

As evidenced from the sideboard in the dining room with its array of sterling hallmarked silver, the Parsons family were known as "people of means." Corner cupboards are lavish with a full dinner service of Chelsea china.

On the Paisley-carpeted stairs two china Chelsea house cats preen, while the newest baby is ensconced in the "go-cart" of that day.

In the kitchen, where amplitude was a necessity, is everything that a cook's heart could desire, silverlined copper, pewter, and carved wooden bowls. Above the fireplace hangs a stage route map, while below there's a candle holder handily fastened. On the side, a brace of guns, probably equally handy.

Below the dollhouse proper, is a "Doll Millinery Store," with as tantalizing display of millinery as ever fluttered a feminine heart, bonnets with flowers gauzy as a hummingbird's wing and gay French picot ribbons as Frenchy as Old Paris. The unbelievable decorated band-boxes were constructed and reduced to scale and painted in true reproduction of the old ones by ingenious Mrs. Kendall, who carved as well the wooden hat stands in exact copy of the old wooden hat display forms. Perhaps you would observe that the doll in the brown satin dress possesses a most rare and beautiful head of Chelsea china.

What a valuable record "family" dolls and doll-housing can be. Such a record of personages of the Royal family of England and personages of great events have been perpetuated and kept alive through the medium of dolls. Once perpetuated in this manner were our "White House" dolls, our "first ladies," in replicas of their inaugural gowns, Martha Washington in her lace kerchief and apron, Mary Lincoln in purple velvet, Abigail Powers Fillmore in ivory moire and deep cream lace.

Popular and beloved were the "family" dolls of "Little Women," Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy. It is possible today to collect dolls that are new, yet historical, that some day, as collector's items, may save the old family homestead.

The constructing and furnishing of a dollhouse and of accumulating a family, can be a magnet for the youngest sprout to the oldest matriarch. An old wardrobe sectioned into rooms makes an ideal housing for just such a project. Because no other container protects like the Can...

10000

•••• we'll get real flavor in our coffee when we can buy it again in vacuum-packed cans.

No other container combines all these 4 advantages

1. SAFETY: Remember how good your coffee tasted ... when it came fresh and fragrant from the steel-and-tin can? Well, after Victory, this wonderful container will be back again ... safeguard-ing coffee aroma from roaster to cup!

2. ECONOMY: Your money goes for what's *in* the can! For cans are easy to make, fill, ship, and handle. No wonder coffee is just one of 2500 products which over 135 industries normally pack in cans.

3. QUALITY PROTECTION: Food authorities know the can protects flavor, color, vitamins, and minerals. When food is processed, the cans are sterilized in the processing—so there is no safer container for the unused portion! Simply cover and refrigerate.

4. CONVENIENCE: Cans are convenient. Cans don't break. They're easy to carry . . . easy to open and easy to dispose of. No other container combines *all* these advantages!

CAN MANUFACTURERS' INSTITUTE, INC., NEW YORK

Cans Fight for Victory. That's why vacuum-packed coffee and other favorite products in cans are missing from dealers' shelves. They'll be back—after Victory. New improved cans will serve America. Meanwhile, use wisely all items you get in cans. *Turn empty cans in for salvage*.

"AND NOW ... THE NEWS !"

Those of us who know what it means to wait with anxious hearts, will always be grateful for the boon of being able to tune in our radios and pierce the wall of silence between the fighting fronts and home.

The pure "Clear As a Bell" quality of tone for which SONORA is specially noted, has been of extraordinary value in reproducing the war's historic broadcasts with life-like clarity and faithfulness.

This matchless advantage plus the characteristic beauty of SONORA cabinets combine to make SONORA a treasured friend with those everywhere who know and demand true radio value.

You may look forward to a convincing SONORA demonstration just as soon as Uncle Sam permits us to switch from goods of war to goods of peace.

SONORA RADIO & TELEVISION CORPORATION 325 North Hoyne Avenue, Chicago



ov marts being what they aren't this year, it is up to Santa Claus' sponsors—parents, specifically—to help fill his pack or the allotted space under the tree with playthings that can be made at home. Luckily for all concerned, the simple, sturdy toys children get the most joy out of are those with the best chance of turning out 100 per cent successes in the amateur workshop. In general, more imagination than skill is demanded. Clothespins, for instance, have wonderful possibilities. For a one-year-old, an

of fun, and their Christmas loot may be more meager than it has any reason to be. So, let's get going!

Don't worry too much about materials. Once you put your imagination to work, you will discover all kinds of toy materials in the tin can and clothespin class lying about the house and waiting to be used. Granted, many toys are made of wood and that is a somewhat scarce commodity but scrap wood, which perfectly meets your requirements, can be obtained from cabinet shops and industries using wood or

Made Toys This Christmas

Herbert Studios

Less streamlining but more sentiment maybe more Santa!

There are still about enough wheels to go around. Reclaim them from fractured tricycles and wagons the termites ate to make open air doll carriages

enameled tin can, with sharp edges safely tucked under, in which a few rainbow-colored clothespins rattle tantalizingly, is a most satisfying toy. Older children treasure clothespin dolls. Then, there is furniture for a dollhouse, puppets for the sophisticated darlings who have outgrown ordinary dolls, rugged stilts, carts, wagons and such for the future football and hockey stars, and bean bags and costumes . . . why, the list of things you can make could almost overrun our space! If you don't make some of them for your youngsters, you will be cheating yourself out of a lot

> For a rattling good time, all a fellow needs is pins and a bright enameled can with dull edges

salvaged from orange and apple crates and lug boxes. Most of these boxes are made of wood especially selected for its toughness and that is exactly the quality you want. Then home-fashioned toys can "take it!"

The toy needs of children under five, outside of wheel toys (and there are substitutes for these) are for blocks, little trains and cars, sand toys, bath toys, throwing toys, stuffed animals, push and pull toys, dolls and doll equipment, art equipment, and toys which use the small muscles, such as bead stringing, fitting toys and so on. Children from five to nine enjoy

> The younger the artist, the broader his or her canvas should be. This easel has just about everything. It's easily made



No chromium, no intricate signal system, and yet nursery dinky lines with good, solid wooden cars will give everyone concerned a lot of pleasure. Papa gets his fun in making such a train. Baby can operate it, solo! <u>Hold</u> it, mother ! Just two inches from where you washed that knife

your sink drain is swarming with deadly SEWER GERMS

Survey by Molnar Laboratories, New York City

all the scrubbing and elbow grease in the world won't touch these germs

the other the brander lib

but **Drāno** boils SEWER GERMS out in a jiffy ! Keeps your sink safe, sanitary !

Actual sewer germs magnified approximately 20,000 times

Yes, and **Drāno** opens clogged drains too_even drains so stopped up that water can't trickle through!











CLEARS OUT SEWER GERMS OPENS CLOGGED DRAINS Photographs by Jack Bigelow

the same types except that pull toys and animals are less important and the play plan must allow more scope for imagination. The one shortage that will really cramp the craftsmanship of parents with a child in either group is that of wheel toys since, from the age of eighteen months, children usually take keen pleasure in wheel toys of one kind or another. But if you are willing to put a little time and thought to the solution of the problem, you more than likely can produce a wagon and a wagon is a very choice toy, indeed. The child up to three years old, who is a pushtoy fancier, is delightfully easy to please. Find a box approximately eight inches by fifteen-so it can be used as a carry-all-and nail a oneby-two strip across the bottom at each end to provide a base for screwing on plate castors or wooden wheels. If wooden wheels, they should be about six inches in diameter and of either five-ply wood or pine, and screwed on the ends of the bottom strips. For larger wagons, scout around for larger boxes and second-hand wheels of almost any kind. A dandy two-wheel job can be made of junked tricycle or wagon wheels, tricycle support, lead pipe and broomstick handle. Children over six who have any skill at all in using tools like to have a hand in making their own wagons and it might be a better idea simply to present your son with the pieces of, say, a soapboxmobile which is, in essence, a glorified wagon, all cut out and ready to be put together easily and let him do it himself.

While wheel toy play answers the child's need for big muscle activity, there is other equipment that can



A carry-all is a versatile toy and it requires only two wheels, and it's practically a cinch to make

satisfy this need. Mrs. Mary Roff, at present with the Children's Community Center, Inc., a cooperative nursery school in Berkeley, California, says "Give me two dozen hollow blocks, four or five small planks, a couple of jumping boards and some dress-up materials and I can keep any group of five-to-niners happy." Three to five years-olds enjoy the blocks and boards, too, but use them for climbing and sliding where the older group use them more for building. Even at two, children enjoy climbing up and sliding down boards. If you are lucky



VILL YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

It's possible for us to win this war and lose the victory. This is no idle play on words—it's cold, hard reality.

How could such a thing happen?

It could happen in just this way: Suppose most of us accepted the idea that it no longer is important to keep on working so hard... or necessary any longer to deny ourselves the things we don't need but have money to buy... or necessary to keep on buying War Bonds.

Materials essential to the double knockout punch would be lacking at the crucial time . . . inflation would get started by our own wild scramble to spend . . . war savings would fall short of providing postwar markets that are necessary to make postwar jobs.

Instead of enjoying the fruits of our victory, we would be looking to government to provide jobs out of thin air. That kind of employment means sacrificing our freedom of the way we want to make our living ... of the kind of a home we want to build ... the car we want to own ... the education we want to give our children.

For wars may be won on battlefields but the fruits of victory are enjoyed only by those who have what it takes.

Our country will come out of this war with a productive capacity that can supply a wide variety and choice of goods people want to buy. Alcoa, for example, has many, many times its prewar capacity to supply aluminum for buildings, homes, appliances, railroads, trucks, automobiles and countless other uses. In addition, our industries have the skilled workmanship to produce and the inventive, technical and engineering talents to imagineer new, undreamed of comforts and conveniences.

But will we have what it takes to enjoy victory?

We will, if we have the wherewithal that gives us freedom of choice in planning, working and buying. And the best insurance that we will have this freedom is to put every dollar possible into War Bonds!

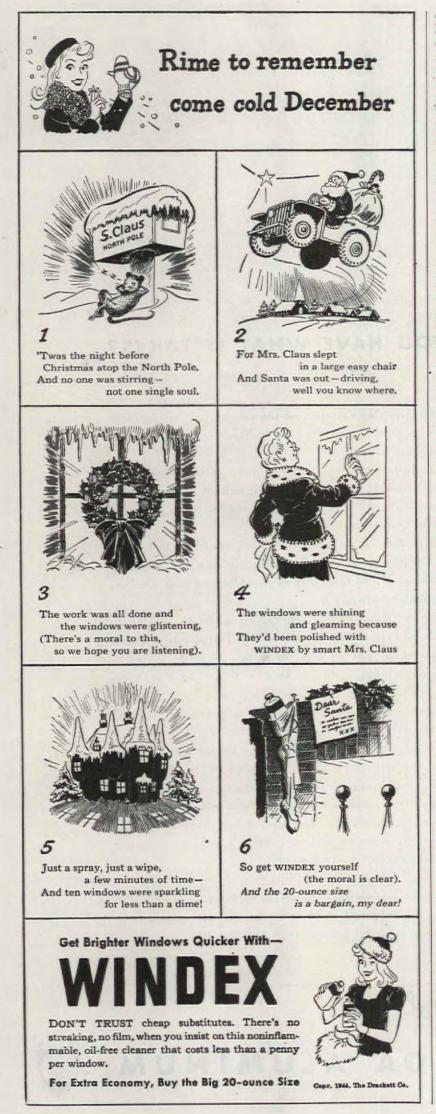
ALCOA ALUMI

The men and women of

THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1944



ALCOA



enough to be able to obtain them, large packing boxes and barrels are excellent additions to the equipment suggested by Mrs. Roff. All these things should be sanded and preferably, painted. It may not be possible to get the jumping boardsmade of one by 10 or 12 inch Oregon pine-because of the lumber shortage. If hollow blocks are unavailable for the same reason, try to get the materials and make them, or get together a few fruit boxes, paint them various colors, and give them to your child for Christmas. Still another simple substitute for the wheel toy is the stick horse, for your child of three or so to gallop away on. Tin can stilts, made with ropes and large tin cans, are also a mode of transportation and fun for the child over six. The familiar swings, slides and bars, nicely covered in a bulletin put out by the Department of Labor, also meet the need for big muscle activity, but the climate decides whether or not they are practical Christmas gifts. Throwing toys are not as plentiful

as they once were but Baby's ball can be made of cloth and stuffed and everyone, from infants on up, enjoys bean bags. Infants of six months like to feel them and children of six and over like them in connection with a bean bag board which can be made of three ply or pressed fiber board.

A sandbox is one of the most easily made toys and, fitted out with the proper imaginative tools, it provides endless scope for play. In winter it can be kept on the porch or in the garage or in a roomy basement. Here is a good list of sandbox toys: nested tin cans, brightly enameled inside and out, tin can buckets with string bails, building blocks made of mill blocks sanded smooth and enameled, trains and cars made from wooden cheese boxes or of box wood and spools, doll furniture made from three ply wood or box wood, and clothespin dolls. These can be used for other play, too.

There are still bath toys in the stores. However, a boat can be made very simply by placing smaller blocks on top of a larger one and using doweling for the smokestacks. The boat doesn't even have to be shaped like a boat for children under six. The superstructure gives it reality.

Toy animals are enjoyed by all children. Older children like to have a number of them built around a central idea, such as a circus. Little children favor stuffed animals. Wax animals can be carved from a block of colored wax made by melting a wax crayon and wax together. Or, animals can be carved from soap. Little ones love the smooth feel of these toys. Older children will get more enjoyment from a gift of solid wax blocks in different colors, with patterns of various animals for suggestions in carving. All sorts of wooden animals can be cut out of one-inch pine with a coping saw and mounted on wheels made of doweling or spools. Give your six to nine year-old the pieces of wood with animals already traced



WHEN YOU FACE THIS QUESTION



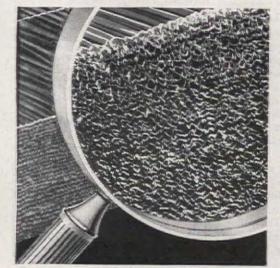
THE Classified section of your telephone directory tells where to find the authorized dealers in many trade marked products. It gives their names, addresses, telephone numbers.

Next time you wonder who handles what...next time you want help in an emergency or everyday problem...look in your Classified.

A lot of people depend upon this busy book for sales and service information.



Why many-layer KIMSUL is scientifically superior — easier to install



44t Layers in One Blanket - With 44 separate layers of insulation backed with heavy water-proof paper and stitched together, KIMSUL is scientifically superior to loose, bulk insulation in these important ways: (1) Provides uniform insulation . assures unvarying performance over every inch of insulated area. (2) Retains original thickness - no sagging . . . no sifting . . . no settling.



Installing is Easy as A B C-Anyone who can use a hammer can install KIMSUL. Put it between joists of the unfloored attic . . . or between rafters of the sloping roof, if your attic is floored. Ex-tremely light in weight and compressed into a convenient, compact roll, you'll find KIMSUL easy to carry. And pleasant to handle . . . it contains no sharp, metal-like ingredients to irritate the skin.



Enjoy New Comfort-With KIMSUL installed in your attic, your home will be far more comfortable all year 'round. In winter you'll have warmth aplenty with as much as 30% less fuel. And summer will bring you an extra KIMSUL dividend in the form of a cooler, more livable home. Order KIMSUL today from your lumber or building supply dealer, hardware or department store.

6 More Reasons for Insisting on KIMSUL Insulation

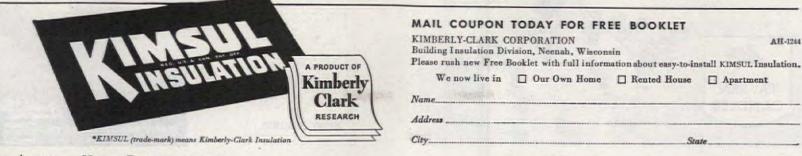
Comes Compressed - Like a closed accordion, KIMSUL comes ready to take home in your car - compact and convenient. You s-t-re-t-c-h it to 5 times its packaged length when installing it.

Fire-Resistant - There is no insulation known that will make your home fire-proof. But the insulation must not add to the fire hazard of a wood frame structure. KIMSUL meets this requirement because it is chemically

Moisture-Resistant - KIMSUL will float indefinitely on water, proving its water-resistant qualities. Stays Put-Once installed, KIMSUL does not sag, sift or settle.

Lasting Protection - Made of wood fibers impregnated with asphalt, KIMSUL lasts indefinitely. It is a permanent investment in your home. Economical - Pays for itself in fuel savings; reduced housecleaning expense; added comfort.

[+KIMSUL Double Thick Attic Insulation has 44 layers. KIMSUL is also available in Standard Thick (approximately 1") and Commercial Thick (approximately 1")]



treated to resist fire.

PERFECT SETTING

Tavern Christmas Candles to light up Holiday Tun!



It just wouldn't be Christmas without candlelight! So you'll want the traditional Tavern hand-dipped candles, of course. But more than that, you'll want the extra gaiety that only Tavern Holiday candles can give you.

Star Tavern, Rusper, England, famous for gracious hospitality during Queen Victoria's reign

> Angels, choir-boys, Santas—they're as eye-catching as the Christmas tree! And if you've planned a special table setting for dinner—a children's party—a buffet supper—you'll find Tavern Candles to fit right in with your decorative scheme.

Like all Tavern Candles, these engaging novelties are made by skilled craftsmen. Count on Tavern Candles to help you make it a merrier Christmas!

BRIGHT IDEAS IN TAVERN'S CHRISTMAS CANDLES



on them and let him do the cutting. Jointed animals, of three-ply wood, are favorites with those under five.

That cloth dolls are still beloved is proved by the interest girls of all ages take in the soft cuddly sleepy time dolls that are on the market. Certainly, you can make a doll that is soft and cuddly! Dolls with arms and legs that can be moved are constructed along the lines of marionettes. For these, use two-piece wooden bodies, wooden arms and legs, and either a wooden or a papiermache head. The papiermache appeals especially to the child of five or older who will prefer a realistic doll.

Child-size furniture and a childsize playhouse are not generally considered toys, but children use the furniture in their play and very much enjoy having a house the right size in which to use it. Doll play becomes more real when there is a stove the child's size on which to cook dolly's dinner, a chair on which to sit while singing a lullaby, and a bed to tuck the doll into. Your four-year-old daughter actually will enjoy an apple box stove, with burners painted on and stick burners that turn, more than she would a beautifully made miniature metal stove! Playhouses are more important than dollhouses. Later, the playhouse makes a clubhouse.

Little girls love dollhouses, too, and even with nothing more compplicated than one orange box set on top of another, four rooms can be supplied that will give any child over five many happy hours. Both boys and girls like wigwams. Six or eight bean poles, with a gaily colored, inexpensive Indian blanket for the covering, make an excellent gift. The blanket can be held in place with safety pins or painted clothespins.

At four, children begin to like dressing up in costumes. The sailor suit you were planning to add to your youngster's wardrobe would be quite acceptable as a Christmas present. Jeans, supplemented with a cowboy belt, scarf and cowboy hat, are now regarded by the small fry as regulation cowboy regalia. Girls may prefer dark skirts to jeans. Girls and boys like army uniforms and whole uniforms or parts, such as hats, come in the Christmas gift category. Lengths or squares of material are very useful in the game of dressing up and you might make up a special box of odds and ends of materials, picked up at remnant sales, as a present. Jewelry, especially beads and clips, should be included in the costume equipment for the girls. Another variation for the feminine costume is afforded by







TODAY, many physicians are advising Ovaltine for the child who is rundown after illness—for these two reasons:

down after illness—for these two reasons: First, Ovaltine supplies the basic food substances—complete proteins absolutely necessary to repair muscle, nerve and body cells—and high-energy foods for vigorous health. Ovaltine is specially processed for easy digestion and taken in food-drink form, so it often "stays down" when nothing else seems to agree.

when nothing else seems to agree. Second, Ovaltine is one of the richest food sources of vitamins and minerals in the world. Three glasses daily, made with milk as directed, provide a child's full minimum requirement of Vitamins A, B₁, D and G, and Minerals Calcium, Phosphorus and Iron. These vitamins and minerals, so important to speedy recovery, are often deficient in restricted diets. Ovaltine is served in more than 1700

Ovaltine is served in more than 1700 American hospitals. If someone in your family needs building up, try giving Ovaltine 2 or 3 times a day to speed the return of vigorous health.



PEARCE MANUFACTURING CO.



IT'S A PITCH BLACK NIGHT ... RAINING CATS AND DOGS ... YOU TURN INTO YOUR DRIVEWAY ...

YOU PRESS THE BUTTON inside your car and your Avco AUTOMATIC DOOR OPERATOR goes to work. Immediately...



THE GARAGE DOORS OPEN. The lights go on in the entrance to the house, in the garage and yard



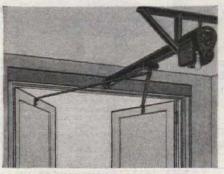
flood light. You don't have to do a thing except drive in.

THE GARAGE DOORS CLOSE AUTOMATICALLY too. Inside your house, you merely push a button — the doors close and lock themselves, and the entrance light in the house, the garage light and flood light go out.

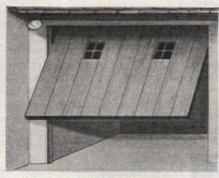
A MIGHTY handy convenience, isn't it? All the work is done by the AVCO AUTOMATIC DOOR OPERATOR—a compact unit which can be simply attached to any type of standard door. (See the illustrations below and write for complete information.)

Furthermore, these Door Operators are no mere post-war pipe dream. They are being installed every day. They are at work opening and closing heavy doors in the war plants of the nation. So why not set aside a few War Bonds now — for the very purpose of having this sensible and modern protection in *your* home after the war!





OPENS ANY TYPE OF STANDARD DOOR — Overhead Fold, Tilt, Inward or Outward Fold — no matter what type doors on your garage — there's an Avco Automatic Door Operator for you. In hundreds of installations, they are setting records for continuous, low-cost, trouble-free operation.



3 MODELS FOR HOME USE — and each is precision-made to give a lifetime of service. Avco Automatic Door Operators are easily installed in existing garages, with a correct size for your particular needs. They may be changed from one door to another at any future time.





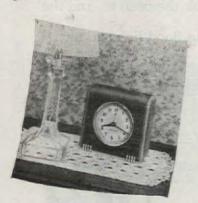
Look what Betty's doing!

1. Betty is a war bride - married Bob on his last leave before going to sea. No chance to set up a home now, of course. But Betty isn't a girl to be discouraged. She's *clipping ideas* for that home out of the magazines. Shopping with shears - for things that will make their home livable and lovable. See what Betty's clipped in Seth Thomas clocks for after the war....

(Remember, Seth Thomas clocks are not available now)



2. Betty wants a living-room a bit on the formal side. So she's chosen this dignified Seth Thomas-solid mahogany, inlaid with rare woods. Westminster chimes will peal the quarter-hours. 3. Since Bob is in the Navy now later he's sure to appreciate this clock. It'll be nautical and nice on his bookcase - and will strike deep, rich notes on the hours and halfhours.

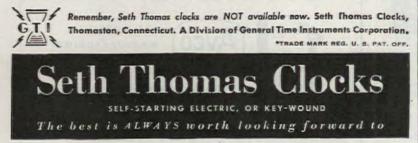


4. Seth Thomas alarm clocks never encourage that "Oh-how-I-hate-to-getup" feeling, even in the soundest pillow-pounders. They wake you up so cheerfully! Betty has her eye on this one for their bedside table.



5. Even if Betty could furnish her home now, she couldn't of course buy Seth Thomas clocks. So she's holding the War Bonds that thoughtful relatives have bought her as wedding presents. Good taste all around, isn't it?

6. When you plan your post-war home – and why not start a scrap book today? -remember that few things give a room such warmth and character as does a fine clock – a Seth Thomas clock. Seth Thomas clocks for homes are not being made now. But just as soon as our country no longer needs our entire productive capacity, there'll be even more surprising values in Seth Thomas clocks than ever before!... All these clocks will be notable for their exquisite design, faultless timekeeping, and long-lived dependability – as all Seth Thomas clocks have been for more than a century.... They're something new and exciting to look forward to!



a set of colored aprons—with a nurse's white apron and cap.

There are several toys that use the small muscles. Large colored spools to be placed on nails driven into a board are as fascinating as pegs in holes. Beads for stringing can be made out of spools cut in half, or of paper wound around a match stick and glued in that position. Shoelaces, with tips dipped in paraffin to lengthen them, make good strong strings. Infants of six months and over like the colored spools, already strung, of course, and older children enjoy stringing spools or beads.

Various craft materials count as toys. Crayons, paint, fingerpaint, clay, scissors, and paper never fail to intrigue children up to nine. Give your child large pieces of paper for his paint and crayon work. If he doesn't go to nursery school where there is opportunity for painting, he will appreciate a large easel supplied with newsprint paper, several cans of paint made of powdered paint, and a oneinch brush. Don't give a paint box with a little brush and a small art tablet to the child under six. Powdered clay, which can be obtained from some of the local paint stores or from pottery making establishments, is messy but is easy to work with and is highly prized by most children. Give clay that can be fired to children over five and let them have the pleasure of making objects which can be fired and enjoyed for a long time.

Your five to niner will take a great interest in making stand-up birds and animals. You might present him with some, already drawn on heavy paper, and ready for scissors and paint. Another paper activity is the pasting of triangles, circles, and other shapes of colored paper on larger pieces of colored paper, and these make diverting gifts, along with scrapbooks, paste, and magazine illustrations of planes, animals, trains, etc. For boys and girls of five to seven, cut animals out of oilcloth and give the animals, with a tapestry needle and embroidery thread, all ready to sew and stuff. Or, you might start your child on a weaving project. Weaving can be done on a board with finishing nails driven partly in, down each side, opposite each other and quite close together. Wool or raffia can be used. Tie this at one corner, then go up and down, up and down, until you reach the nail on the opposite corner, then tie again. Let him use a tapestry needle or bobby pin for weaving.

If your boy is between five and nine, he should have a hammer, saw and ruler of his own. Due to the shortages, he probably will have to use Papa's vise. Scraps of plywood or soft pine in a cloth bag, with nails, sandpaper, and paint should be given to him so he can do his own building.

Important: Letters requesting information should be accompanied by a stamped, completely addressed envelope. Manuscripts and illustrations will not be returned unless accompanied by the necessary postage. They will be handled with care, but we cannot possibly assume responsibility for their safety.



Make Christmas merrier for your dog with a present of wonderful-tasting Milk-Bone dog food. It contains five nourishing foods ...high-protein meat meal, whole wheat flour, fish liver oil, milk, yeast...vitamins A, B₁, D, E, G, and essential minerals!

For breakfast give him tasty Milk-Bone Biscuit. At night serve hearty Milk-Bone Tiny-Bits... just add warm water, soup, broth, gravy or vegetables, plus bits of meat if you wish! Order dependable Milk-Bone dog food from your dealer today!



NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY





Important as experience is, Oil-O-Matic will bring more than experience to the design and precision-production of your Victory Era automatic heating, Today, new men have aug-mented key positions on the most experienced planning and produc-tion staff in the oil heating world. When vital wartime assignments are completed, a quarter of a century of experience *plus* the fresh vitality and thinking of new minds will collaborate in presenting America's most distinguished line of automatic oil heating equipment. Now-today-earmark the War Bonds that are to bring the comfort, convenience, and cleanliness of automatic Oil-O-Matic heating to your home. On the basis of experience, on the basis of in-spired engineering—you can expect more from Oil-O-Matic.



The satisfaction and pride he derives from such "play" are part of your gift to him. And, if you make toys this Christmas, you will understand how much those by-products of work enhance the value of things made.

ELLEN OSCOOD'S prefatory remark that "regardless of war, children go on wanting Christmas gifts, and adults continue to want to give them" is immediately followed by the expressed conviction that rummaging in any home will bring to light enough rummage of the right kind for making as many playthings as could be wished. Beyond the materials, all that is necessary is a slight ingenuity, some awareness of what children can do and like to do at certain ages, and the foresight to keep the toys safe and strong. If left-over beads are restrung for a child, along with the painted spools, you should put a knot between each bead so that there is no chance for them to slip off, even if the child did manage to break the tape. The one-year-olds' clothespins should be painted with a vegetabledyed enamel so they can be chewed with safety. Empty boxes, the candy or cereal variety, can be covered with bright wrapping or wallpaper, a couple of pebbles put inside, and the lid firmly secured with adhesive tape, for rattles. Bean bags are more fun when given animal or fish shapes. Cut the scraps in stylized designs, the way a child would draw them. Give the fish a button eye on one side and the cat a yarn tail. Select soft materials, such as velvet or silk, that are pleasant to touch and handle, have the colors bright, and use two different materials in making one animal.

Bibs can't be classified as toys but the young person worrying along with his first set of teeth never seems to have enough bibs and they are gifts that are sure to please his mama. Left-over material is just the thing for these. A tiny tray cloth and napkins will make life pleasanter for any child who has to stay in bed while getting over that inevitable cold. If the material is percale, it needs only a hem. If it is plain, an animal, or flower outline, or yellow duck appliqued in one corner, adds a gay touch. Or the child's initials or name, in block letters, might be outlined. The three-year-old enjoys possessions that are his very own. This holds true for hankies, towels and washcloths, all of which can be made from grownup-sizes, worn at the edges but still good through the centers.

All children seem to like bags for their belongings. Here again left-over materials serve and it is more interesting to have the two sides in different colors. Just draw a string or a tape at the top after the sides have been sewed together and it can be used for marbles, doll's accessories all kinds of things! For the little girls, a bit of fur or embroidery makes the bag much more glamorous. Those who like to pretend, now and then, that they are grownup would love outof-date evening bags fitted with comb, mirror, and a tiny hanky. All the ones





How old is your Hoover? ... Even if it's as old as twenty-five years-you can still get genuine replacement parts for it from Hoover. Today Hoover Cleaners are giving their owners service far beyond anything ever asked or expected of them-



and service by Hoover. Authorized Hoover service is available at minimum cost to Hoover owners all over the United States and Canada. THE HOOVER COMPANY, North Canton,

Ohio; L'amilton, Ont., Canada

PLUS TAX

(25 cents higher in some areas)

All work guaranteed. Estimates furnished.

Prompt service.

LOOK HOW LITTLE GENUINE HOOVER SERVICE COSTS! TOTAL COST ONLY

Take no chances! Give your cleaner genuine Hoover Company service and genuine replacement parts! Cost is low-for example: MOTOR cleaned, lubricated, new carbon brushes

installed AGITATOR or BRUSH ROLL cleaned and lubricated

BELT replaced

BAG completely renovated CORD, SWITCH, all electrical connections checked APPEARANCE improved **CLEANING EFFICIENCY** restored.

You can get Genuine Hoover Service only at Hoover Factory Branch Service Stations, Authorized Hoover Dealers and Authorized Hoover Service Agen-cies. (Consult classified phone directory under "Vacuum Cleaners.") If there is no Hoover listing write when the service the service agent. there is no Hoover listing, write us. When the serviceman calls, insist that he show you his Hoover credentials.

P. S. Never discard worn or broken parts. They must be turned in for replacements.

The Army-Navy "E" award received 3 times for high achievement in the production of essential war equipment.



THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1944



PICTURE how just one piece of sparkling Streamline Modern will adapt itself to the decorative treatment of your bedroom! Then picture this charming, distinctive, sensibly-styled furniture by Heywood-Wakefield throughout your entire home!

 You can buy limited quantities of smart Streamline Modern now. After the war, better stores everywhere will have enough for everyone . . . and for every room in your home!





58 full-color pottery creations of authentic Audubon and other prints, exquisitely modeled and hand-painted.

modeled and hand-painted. GROOSE from this magnificent array of real-istic bird-life masterpieces, that different and distinguished gift . . . or delight yourself with one or more of these charming room ment of artists and craftsmen who have definitely succeeded in capturing the true. inspiring grace and majestic colorings of winged beauty. Famous, lifelike Stang Birds are pictured in full color and completely described in our new Bird Booklet. Send for a copy today. For your protection each Stangl Bird bears the name "STANGL" on the bottom.

FULPER POTTERY CO. Trenton 4 EST. 1805 New Jersey FULL- COLOR BOOKLET COUPON Fulger Pottery Co., Trenton 4, N. J. Please send handsome booklet illustrating complete collection of 58 Stangl Birds in fall color. 10¢ enclosed for mailing cost. complete collection -NAME.....

More fun than ever . . . music such as you've never played before—with the Solovox attached to your piano! You play the Solovox with your right hand

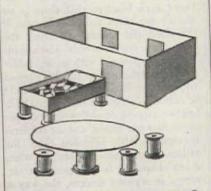
Fun

-producing effects of violin, organ, saxophone and many more-to your own piano accompaniment. It's the magic of *electronics* put to work creating gorgeous musical tones! Solovox attaches to any piano; doesn't affect piano's ordinary use or tone. An outstanding hit before the war, it will be back when our war job is done.

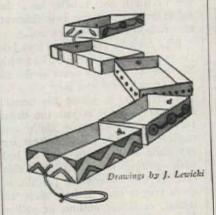


who are three and over are delighted with jewelry and if you look through your bureau, you will come across old or broken "junk" pieces which have only to be reconditioned to become perfectly presentable. Coat the scarred pieces with nail polish or sealing wax.

There is no limit to the ways of decorating a dollhouse. The walls may be papered or painted, the cut-out windows "glassed" with waxed paper, the floors covered with scraps of oilcloth or smartly carpeted with shaggy pieces from old bath towels. But don't finish it completely. Your little girl will like it better if she herself decides on some of the important items. That gives her a greater interest share in it. And, for the same reason, you will get more enjoyment out of your children's enjoyment of the toys you make at home. No homemade toys will ever lack the personal touch.



No dollhouse? No furniture? Why not see what can be done with a shoebox, spools, and ingenuity?



Box lids appropriately papered and coupled together form very fine flat cars for the toddler



Dig down in bureau drawers for all the junk jewelry you don't wear and shine it up to make a 200-watt gift for a young lady

Busy as you may be DON'T NEGLECT HOME HEALTH PROTECTION!



Even WHEN time for house cleaning is limited, high standards of sanitation should be a first consideration. You can provide such

sanitation easily with Clorox. For Clorox makes enamel, tile, linoleum, wood surfaces hygienically clean . . . deodorizes, removes stains, too. And Clorox gently bleaches white cottons and linens (brightens fast colors), makes them fresh, sanitary. Clorox is free from caustic, an exclusive, patented quality-feature. Use Clorox regularly for greater family health protection. Simply follow directions on the label.



Weary Feet Perk Up With Ice-Mint Treat

When feet burn, callouses sting and every step is torture, don't just groun and do nothing. Rub on a little lee-Mint. Frosty white, cream-like, its cooling southing com-fort helps drive the fire and pain right out . tired muscles relax in grateful relief. A world of difference in a few minutes. See how lee-Mint helps soften up corns and callouses too. Get fort happy today, the Ice-Mint way. Your d. aggist has Ice-Mint.



THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1944



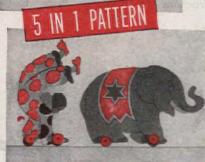




Idea from Elsie G. Smith

A REAL PROPERTY AND A REAL PROPERTY.	and the second sec
A-705 Snow-baby & Humpty Dumpty	15¢
A-706 Doll Cradle	20¢
A-707 Circus Animals	20¢
Be sure to enclose remit for patterns you wish.	tance
THE AMERICAN HOM	E
55 Fifth Ave., New York 3,	N. Y.
NAME	
	1
STREET	
CITY ZONE NO.	TATE





Idea from Elizabeth Lee Schweiger **AMERICAN HOME PATTERN A-707-20**¢ A circus quintet of the pull-toys all toddlers adore. Brightly painted, mounted on baseboards or wheels. Pattern gives outlines for sawing, tracings, color scheme, directions

THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1944

Idea from Mamie O. Odum

AMERICAN HOME PATTERN A-705-15¢ Soft, squeezy snow-babies and a wide-eyed Humpty-Dumpty who can take it are perfect Christmas sock fillers for the crib age. Socks, by the way, and scraps are what these are made of. Instructions are elementary and the sewing is as simple as threading the needle. Pattern contains all details and tracings for making these toys



Idea from Norbert Engels

AMERICAN HOME PATTERN A-706-20¢ A sizable cradle for a small hand to rock in the doll world it rules, and a most satisfying toy to make and give! This is a Colonial type of knotty pine with painted birds and flowers. All details, tracings, and color chart



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PEOUO

making the nifty bread tray shown above. Directions all complete. 15¢



The Formal Tradition ... down

N THIS topsy turvy world we've come to appreciate more and more any semblance of order—any feeling of dignity and quiet charm. That's why houses like those shown on these pages seem particularly refreshing. Both reflect an air of orderly living, an appreciation of those qualities so necessary for a civilized home life. Though formal in design, they are completely lacking in that rigid, impersonal feeling so often associated with formality. There's a warmth and friendliness about them that is completely appealing. By strange coincidence, both are located deep down in the Lone Star State; the delicate classic home of Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Austin is in Dallas, while the twostory Georgian house of Dr. and Mrs. C. O. Sansing is found on the outskirts of Houston. But actual sectional locality has nothing to do with their universal appeal. They could easily be at home in your own town or mine, and what attractive and welcome additions they would be to any neighborhood!

Let's study the Austin house first. We all know that the one-story home has become steadily more popular during recent years. Perhaps this is due to the ease with which it solves housekeeping problems. With Mrs. America resigned to doing her own housework, constant stair climbing during the day becomes an irksome task. Anything that will banish extra footwork is welcomed with open arms. Thus we have one of the major attractions of the one-level house. In the home of Mr. and Mrs. Austin we are particularly fortunate in finding a





Home of Dr. and Mrs. C. O. Sansing, Houston

in Texas!

WILLIAM J. HENNESSEY

plan that not only includes those rooms we all desire for necessary living but we find, too, a comprehensive house with *three*, count them, three bedrooms plus a fair sized playroom. Knowing the scarcity of good plans of this kind, we're certain you'll find plenty to study here. But before knowing about this unique layout, we were first attracted to the house by its front elevation. Set back a bit from the street with just the right amount of ground planting, it is a classic temple in miniature. But, by wise use of a delicately scaled portico and refined detail, a temple for living! The stylized pediment recall over the end windows is especially well handled. Brick walls are painted white; shutters a soft gray green. The entire effect is that of dignified friendliness—a cordial



neighborly invitation to enter and enjoy the colorful charm of its interiors. Entrance hall, living room, and dining room have been wisely treated alike in color and furnishings. This is logical in that they are a part of one unit. Walls and woodwork are a gray green; accents in each are of black and gold. The octagonal shape of the vestibule adds stature and individuality to this small area. Black empire benches with dull gold velveteen seats are its only decoration; its floor is of black and white marbleized linoleum. In the living room we find, with the exception of the rose-wood melodeon and the bleached pine corner cabinets, mahogany furniture throughout. Upholstery adds much to the soft tone quality of the room-gold brocade, violet velveteen, and green and eggshell striped satin being predominant. Window draperies with their classic swags are of gray green velveteen, blending into the wall color and adding spaciousness to the entire room. A black and gold mantel is the focal point around which the various pieces have been carefully grouped. The floor in this room has been covered with a dull gold carpet, a color which one finds also used in the lamp shades and bases. However in the dining room, eggshell taffeta draperies accent rather than blend with the gray green walls. Tailored valances are of dark red velvet. A figured carpet with brightly colored flower groups on an eggshell background covers the floor. Here too, the furn'ture is mahogany. A formal star and laurel wreath design on a gray green background covers each chair seat. The effect in all three of these rooms is definitely Empire with none of the austerity long associated with this particular style.

A complete change of pattern occurs in the master bedroom. Victorian is the name for this room, carried out in the same meticulous manner. The bed alcove is a huge garden of cabbage roses on a white background surmounted by

Home of Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Austin, Dallas

Empire accents of black and gold add luster to gray green living and dining walls. Net draperies with red velveteen swag frame rose speckled Victorian bed alcove

Photographs by George H. Van Anda



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28

red velveteen swags. Heavy folds of net, trimmed with Irish lace drape gracefully at each side. The same detail has been used at the large floorto-ceiling windows opening out onto the screen porch. A quaint dressing table also wears a skirt of net. Against warm white walls and woodwork, deep red accents on the tufted chairs and dressing table stool were a most happy choice. A soft pink-beige rug quietly acts as a background for the



Dallas, Texas, home of Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Austin

Robert P. Samuels, Architect

spirited color notes that sparkle above it. Marble top tables and walnut Victorian beds complete the gay late nineteenth century atmosphere. Two bathrooms have been placed between the bedrooms, a happy solution to the "guest room with private bath" problem. A small but adequate kitchen adjacent to the breakfast room completes the overall plan picture.

Georgian was selected as the proper style for their home by Dr. and Mrs. C. O. Sansing for two reasons. First, they wanted a house that would not become outmoded with the changing years to come. Then, too, it would serve as a fitting background for their fine collection of antiques. Thanks to a genuine feeling for the adopted style plus the choice of an architect sympathetic to their desires, the resulting two-story home is one of the most successful examples of Georgian that we've seen in many a moon. Built of soft pink brick, salvaged from an old Texas court house, its two-storied walls set naturally into the surrounding background foliage. By the way, here's one house that satisfies both the architectural and landscape eye. Mr. E. L. D. Seymour, our horticultural editor, was most enthusiastic about the ground planting used around the property. Nigh on to perfection, he claimed, and I heartily agree with him. Sad though it be, many houses suffer from an unwise selection of planting, tending to mar rather than enhance the over-



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PEACH HALVE

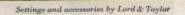
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sleep is your best beauty treatment

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all effect. Extra large windows with their pale green shutters were carefully chosen to combat the long hot Texas summers. Cross ventilation in every room was also planned to catch every available cooling breeze. A large south porch easily accessible to living room, morning room, and kitchen has proved a boon when weather becomes unbearably hot outdoors. Because, too, Texans must prepare for the sudden "northers" that pop up during wintertime, fireplaces were installed in both living room and master bedroom to supplement the regular heating system. In the bedroom Mrs. Sansing uses gas logs for quick heating. White trim, on the exterior, along with the recessed entrance with its graceful curved top add immeasurably to the beauty of the front elevation. "The man with the high hat," a wallpaper pattern supposed to be the replica of a design found in an old trunk lining in Marseilles, France, covers the entrance hall walls and acts as a key to the rest of the interior color schemes. Upon entering the house, one sees directly through double doors leading into the morning room, the porch and garden beyond. This adds greatly to the feeling of light and spaciousness of the house. Incidentally seen in this way the trees and flowers take on an added attractiveness.

Wood paneling has been used quite judiciously throughout the house. There is a particularly attractive mantel breast in the living room. Flanked by sturdy fluted pilasters, the overmantel has been divided into three equal panels with curved top corners. All woodwork is painted off-white, a color that shows to great advantage the gleaming brass accessories and antique furniture. Walls in the living room have been papered in a broken stripe of pale putty gray seen in the



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"This is our future ...

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This is the rest of our life . . . the life we'll have together when this war is over, and you're home . . . home, at last.

I can see a blanket of snow on that little roof ... a garland of pine cones on our front door ... and peace and stillness and warmth and firelight, and the lovely litter of Christmas on our living room floor.

The perfume of pine is everywhere, and you're sitting there in your red leather chair, smoking a last cigarette by the fire, and I'm curled up on the hassock, my head against your knee... when all of a sudden the clock will strike twelve and you'll kiss me and say, 'It's Christmas day ... Christmas, at last, in our very own house!'

And then, as if in a dream, we'll walk out through the hall, past garlands of laurel festooned on the stairs, past the table with reindeer and bright Christmas balls...out to our gitchen, all shiny and new ...

hat will be a fairy tale place!

We'll stand in the doorway and both look our fill . . . at the wonderful electric range with its magical trick of cooking whole dinners even while we're away. . .

And I'll reach out and touch the latch of our roomy, big refrigerator and you'll 'oh and ah' at the turkey and fixings behind gleaming glass. And then I'll show off the pride of my heart . . . our home freezer full of marvelous things . . . frozen chickens, and steak and young, tender greens . . .

Then you'll hold me close without saying a word . . . just listening to what my heart won't stop whispering . . .

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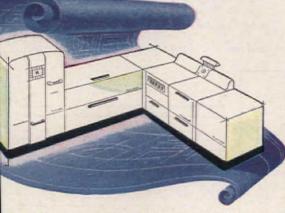
and finer electrical appliances than we have ever built before. It means refrigerators, electric ranges, home freezers, and electric water heaters to make the kitchens of America the truly enchanted places they can be . . . it means that the new developments, the scientific advances made in war will be incorporated into these appliances as rapidly as possible to make them the more useful, the more efficient part of the home you want—when peace comes.

This will be our part in the building of a greater, a happier nation. For we believe all of us owe to those who have fought to preserve it, a strong, vital and growing America—where every man and every woman will have the freedom and the opportunity to make their dreams come true.



Thisbookletwith pictures and floor plans for six modern low-cost homes, together with details of their exciting new postwar kitchens designed for easy living, is offered to home planners without cost. See your Kelvinator retailer or drop a postcard to Dept. 4-C, Kelvinator, Detroit 32, Michigan.

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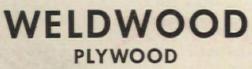
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All these fine woods can be yours... installed in a variety of ways and in combination with many other materials ... to harmonize with the decorative style of your furnishings.

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Waterproof Weldwood, so marked, is bonded with phenol formaldehyde synthetic resin. Other types of water-resistant Weldwood are manufactured with extended urea resins and other approved bonding agents. Back of these Weldwood Plywood Products are unmatched facilities and experience in Plywood production and fabrication. Available also are the serv-ices of a qualified technical staff which includes engineers, chemists and wood technologists,

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background of the hall paper. Fulllength draperies are of a subdued patterned brown. One glance at this room through its wide sliding doors offers the same hospitable note that is everywhere apparent throughout the entire house. Especially attractive is the small but well-placed morning room. This room might well be named the book room since one of its walls is entirely covered with well-thumbed volumes. Here floor-to-ceiling random-width pine boards cover three walls and are painted a pale gray green. A gray carpet with sprightly rose pattern has been used as floor cover. Full-length draperies flanking the windows adjacent to the French doors which lead to the porch are of mulberry. The room, being small is simply but comfortably furnished with sofa and two lounging chairs.

We find random-width pine walls in service passage and kitchen also. Painted flat white they add a brightness and sparkle to these rooms. Bright glazed yellow ceilings and green marbleized linoleum floors are the color notes in these areas. The powder room, off this passage, has a gayly papered ceiling in a trailing ivy design in dark green. Walls here have also been paneled in white with a hand-wrought iron mirror frame capturing the same green tones of the paper. In the dining room, the wood dado and trim are of off-white while the wallpaper recalls the soft gray green of the morning room. By cleverly recapturing these same tones throughout the house, Mrs. Sansing has given the interiors an air of spaciousness and unity. Climbing the graceful hall stairs this feeling becomes more and more apparent.

Soft peach tones, taken from the hall paper have been used generously





in the master bedroom. This room boasts three exposures and opens onto the roof deck, where among the tree tops one may relax completely. In furnishing his room, Joe had a complete free hand. The results are just what you'd expect a teen ager to want. Airplanes skim gracefully over the wallpaper; built-in bookcases take care of his many books and heterogeneous collections. Not perhaps a decorator's dream, but Joe thinks it's O.K.

In the rear of the house, connected by a covered pergola is the two-car garage. Above the garage are two pine paneled rooms overlooking the garden. Each is furnished with large closets and there's a bathroom opening off the stair hall. Joe uses one of these rooms now for his workshop; the other is reserved for the maid.



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Before the Year Ends .. on the State of the House



IVEN war has lessons that aren't Iso grim, and efficiency in getting along with what we have is one of them. We learn to take care of our belongings, to get out of them the wear the manufacturers intended they should give. The homemaker, in particular, is the gainer in this respect. She discovers that utensils which, in ordinary times would be discarded, are good for cooking many months longer, that clothes can be made to wear longer, soap to last longer. Above all, she learns to take regular inventory of what she has on hand and to estimate



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how long it can be made to last, rather than how soon she must buy to replenish her stocks. If repairs are needed, the need shows up in the inventory. Getting along on less buying doesn't mean scraping, it means getting by with dash.



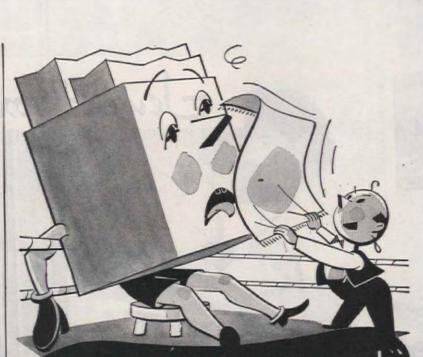
To make soap last longer have it thoroughly dried out before using and let it dry out between times



The medicine cabinet is the home first-aid kit. Regular check-ups keep needed supplies on hand



Salvage demands for old clothes and newspapers keep storage space clear of all unnecessary clutter Photographs by Kaskel-Karplus, from Monkmeyer Press Photo Service



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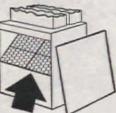


3 You can give your furnace the air it needs, and again get more heat with less fuel, by replacing the dirty filters with new Dust-Stops.*

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Look in the classified telephone directory for Dust-Stop dealers, or order from your local department or hardware store. Most sizes cost only \$1.50 each.





Filters are inside the blower cabinet. Just remove the panel to replace.

Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corp., 1905 Nicholas Bldg., Toledo 1, Ohio In Canada: Fiberglas Canada Ltd., Oshawa, Ont.



STOP





s AN example of beautifully managed space in close quarters, we A think this one-room home for young newlyweds comes close to perfection. Shoe box in size, it is as exquisitely compact as a jewel case. And for all its delightfully uncluttered air, there is no skimping on the furnishings that make for either comfortable living or individuality. It was furnished on a money budget, too! But certain of the pieces are custom made and exceedingly handsome. The decorating is the work of DOROTHY MELLICK, of the American Home Decorating Staff, and we'll let her continue the story from here on. ...

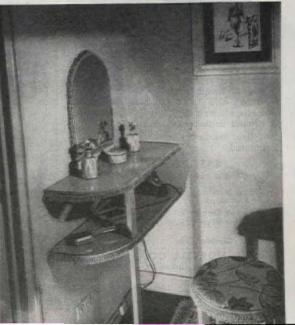
The apartment is an odd shape with two little alcoves that im-

pressed us all as a piece of temperament on the part of the builder. But as our schemes worked out, these proved to be assets, for we were able to make the living room needs and the sleeping accommodations interchangeable. The bride's and bridegroom's mahogany chests, which are featured here, are obviously the focal point of interest in the room. These are placed together so that with the especially designed mirror and sconces they form a decorative and functional part of the furnishings. The monogram of the bride is used on one of the knobs, that of the groom on the other. For the disklike knobs, eighteen inches in diameter, I chose a dyed chartreuse-



Three rooms in one! This distinctive first home is a living room for sitting, dining, sleeping





How cold the wind blows! And her coat's open wide... But the wheat germ in Ralston Protects from inside

THE GOLDEN HEART OF WHEAT

WHEAT GERM

RELEASES NEW ENERGY

AIDS NERVES, APPETITE, GROWTH.

DELICIOUS HOT RALSTON

THE WARM-UP, BUILD-UP CEREAL

HAS 21/2 TIMES AS MUCH

PROTECTIVE WHEAT GERM

AS NATURAL WHOLE WHEAT.

GROWNUPS AND CHILDREN

LOVE ITS HEART-OF-WHEAT FLAVOR.

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GERM IS CEREAL RI CHEST OURCE S OF PROTE сті B -VITAMINS HOT RALSTON IS WHOLE WHEAT PLUS EXTRA AMOUNTS OF WHEAT GERM

COOKS IN

5 IINUTES

COOKS IN

10

ECOND

BAKE THE WORLD'S FLUFFIEST, TENDEREST

GINGERB

BUSY DAY ?

QUICK DESSERT

Just add water to Dromedary Gingerbread Mix!

Costs less

than home

DROMEDARY

PIPING HOT

GINGERBREAD

IN A JIFFYI

mixed!

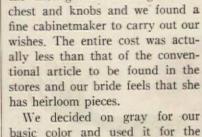
CHOCOLATE MARSHMALLOW GINGERBREAD

George Washington's Mother's Own Recipe! Luscious squares, velvet-smooth and spicy ! Just add water to wonderful Dromedary Gingerbread Mix! When finished baking, top with marshmallows (about 25), and return to oven 'til browned. Remove from oven. Top with melted semi-sweet chocolate (7-oz. pkg.) to which 3 tbsps. milk have been added. M-m-m-m1

QUICK PARTY CUP-CAKES

Delectable, low-cost dessert, easy enough for busiest days! Add water to Mix. Bake in greased muffin pan. When baked, cut cones from tops of cakes; fill with whipped cream, custard, or sweetened cream cheese thinned out with milk; replace cones. Simply heavenly!

HIMMANAN



vellow wood for the marquetry,

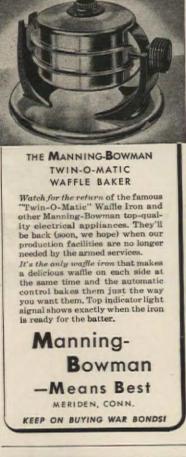
with an original petal motif for

the monograms. I designed the

basic color and used it for the walls and the uncut pile rug, especially dyed, and therefore making a dent in our budget. But then we wanted a rug that would last as well as be the perfect shade. For draperies and curtains, we chose a chintz with harmonizing gray background and floral design in tones of chartreuse-yellow, deep rich greens and fuchsia, with the fuchsia colored poppy in a quilted motif for the cornice. The accent colors were used throughout for all accessories. For the lounge chair and ottoman we selected a rough textured fuchsia material, and for the occasional chair, a quilted chintz on the inside in the same pattern and coloring as the draperies and the beds, with the back upholstered in a dark green.

Accessories include a pair of antique Chinese pewter vases mounted on a simple plinth, which was finished in silver leaf toned down to dull pewter finish, and lamp shades of the same chintz as used elsewhere. A cigarette container really is an interesting old tea caddy. The generous book shelves were unpainted wood pieces. Because there was plenty of wall space and no need for the shelves to blend inconspicuously with the wall, we had these lacquered chartreuse. The powder room alcove decorated in gray and chartreuse was the idea of my client who was enjoying a pleasant touch of the decorator's fever.

One of our most satisfying jobs was the bedroom alcove-all of eight feet in width and just long enough for the twin beds. These also were especially made. The top spreads are of fuchsia, skirts of chintz, pillows reversible in fuchsia and quilted chintz. We had a window problem here as well as a space deficit. A window over the back center of each bed presented an expanse of wall that wasn't high enough for comfortable flat pillows, so we had both oblong bolsters and pillows made, and arranged the bolsters to meet under the center of the window with pillows on top at either side for symmetry. . . . Again proving that imagination need not be handicapped by limited space or budget.



THE BEST

is always worth

waiting for ...



Dream Kitchens always include these familiar favorites.





"Over there" DROMEDARY Pasteurized Dates go big!

now feeding All there. As soon as s available we'll br

DROMEDARY-FINEST NAME IN FOODS!

SIGHT

The better your electric light bulbs, the more precious light you'll get at lower cost. So Sylvania Incandescent Lamps are made with but one thing in mind — to give you more light, better light at highest economy!

> There's a new kind of light that's helping win the war in thousands of plants. It's Sylvania Fluorescent Lighting-cool, glare-free, bright as a sunny spring day. Soon you'll be enjoying it throughout your home!

SOUND

Here's a compact, war-working Sylvania Fluorescent Lamp dressed to travel into tight places with cool light. You'll be seeing its after-the-war offspring doing home duty in wall brackets, in closets, in boudoir and bath! Light must be placed where you need it—without waste! That's why Sylvania designs fixtures to work with fluorescent lamps and accessories. They form a close-knit, fully guaranteed unit giving the most for your money in usable, working light!



The Sylvania brand on a radio tube stands for only one quality-the best. Right now, Sylvania Radio Tubes have extensive war jobs wherever radio is used. If your radio needs new tubes, see your Sylvania Serviceman. He will, do his best to help you.

> Sight now joins Sound in Television! Sylvania is a pioneer in the development of the cathode ray tube-today's most practical and economical solution to the receiving of sharp, clear pictures-by-air in your home.

Housed in suitable electronic devices, Sylvania Electronic Tubes are used in almost every field of science. They have gone to war in many ways. They will help make the coming Peace freer, easier, more enjoyable!



SYLVANIA ELECTRIC PRODUCTS INC.

Never a bitter note

That famous flavor found only in Schlitz is as free from bitterness as a songbird's lighthearted melody. For Schlitz is brewed with just the *kiss* of the hops, bringing you all of the delicate hop flavor and none of the



JUST THE *kiss* of the hops

...none of the bitterness

THE BEER THAT MADE MILWAUKEE FAMOUS



LAURA A. DRAPER Guest Health Editor of the Month

ROWING old, the doctors tell us matter-of-factly, is a process of change that is usually in evidence around the half-century mark but which actually begins long before that—very likely in the twenties. The corollary is clear. If we want to protect the health of the older persons we expect to be, we must begin away ahead of that time to put good health practices into effect. These are so familiar—most of us know more about good hygiene than we practice —that I am going to emphasize only one, the periodic physical examination. It is the custom to have such an examination annually and this is desirable throughout life but after forty it becomes especially important for then it may reveal changes in bodily function or structure that need medical attention and care.

Chief causes of illness in old age are diseases of the heart, of the kidneys, high blood pressure, hardening of the arteries, cancer, diabetes, and accidents. With the exception of the last named, all of these are gradual in onset. What the physical examination can do is detect them in their beginning phases when measures can be taken to cure them or to halt their progress.

In many instances, the examination reveals no difficulties. The physician is able to say heartily, "You're in fine shape. Keep right on just as you have been doing," and the examinee goes ahead with renewed assurance. Eventually, however, there comes a time when the examination discloses trouble signs. This differs greatly with the individual but whenever it happens, it is extremely important for a responsible member of the family to sit down with the physician and the patient while the condition is explained and the procedure is putlined. If this advice is given to the patient alone, he may fail to pass it on correctly. This may be because he does not understand but, more often, it is because he fights against the limitations which he views as evidence of age, is fearful of becoming a burden, and hopes that the doctor has exaggerated, anyhow! Some patients, on he other hand, give up even wholesome and desirable activities

Annual physical checkovers can forestall the onset of old age

Photographs by F. M. Demarest and Schnall, from Frederic Lewis



Encouraged to participate in family recreation and made to feel he really is wanted, the older person offers good companionship



For any strenuous occupation, doctor's orders should be law



The process of slowing down increases the traffic hazard



Broken walks, slippery floors, often may be the cause of falls



Moderation in activity prolongs the enjoyment



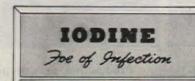
Quick... THE IODINE BOTTLE!

• Future All-American heaves a long pass . . . touchdown . . . and a scraped knee.

Safety first measures are important. There's danger of serious infection. Do as doctors do. "Paint" the injured area with Iodine, a safe, efficient germicide.

efficient germicide. Always see your doctor if a wound is serious or a minor one doesn't heal as it should.

10DINE EDUCATIONAL BUREAU, INC 120 Broadway, New York 5, N.Y.



SICKNESS or ACCIDENT Don't allow Hospitalization expense torun your life savings. Insure NOW.... BEFORE ITS TOO LATE! In case of unexpected sickness or accident you may go to any Hospital in the U. S. or Canada, under any Doctor's care. Your expenses will be paid in strict accordance with Policy provisions. Individual or entire familyeligible (to age 70). The Company is under the supervision of the Insurance Department. No agent will call.

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NORTH AMERICAN MUTUAL INSURANCE CO. Dept. AH4-12, Wilmington, Del. Please send me, without obligation, details about your "3c A Day Hospitalization Insurance Plan".

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\$540.00

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WarCoverage&other valuable benefits.

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City-----State-----

unless they have their family's encouragement. If the patient and family understand the conditions and the physician's instructions, it is usually possible to establish a routine within which the patient can function comfortably.

Periodic examination of the eyes is as important as the general physical examination. Two examples are cataract and glaucoma. As middle age is passed and general activities are decreased, the tendency is to use the eyes more. This should be guarded against and the eyes fitted with glasses which meet the individual's needs.

Accidents are such an important factor in disability and death among the elderly that the safety regulations-which all of us know but frequently ignore-should be taken seriously. Falls are among the most common accidents. Slippery floors, small and uneven ground, even in the back yard, are precarious and so are steps with non-uniform risers. Burns are more serious for older people because the circulation is poor. As pedestrians, older people are the adults most frequently injured by automobiles. The older person with slower mental and muscular responses is at a disadvantage.

Mental health is inextricably bound up with physical health and each has considerable effect upon the other. A wise plan for activities promotes the mental well being of the older person with a physical handicap. He must be encouraged to participate in family work and play, so that he continues to feel useful and wanted; he must not be placed in a position of competing with younger people, so that he is not faced with the alternatives of overdoing or admitting he can't do as much as he used to!

The person who has looked at life with optimism, has learned to face facts objectively, and has always met his problems as philosophically as possible has trained himself well for these years. He sees the other person's point of view and is sympathetic with interests outside his own. He maintains contacts outside the family circle. This sort of person never becomes—one of the spectres of old age—"of no use to anyone."

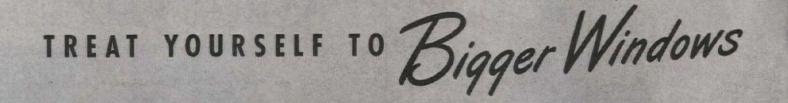
If an older person, or, for that matter, any other member of the family, becomes ill, it is desirable to know how to keep him comfortable, Today we have the opportunity of learn'ng this through the Red Cross Home Nursing or Nurses' Aide Classes. The Visiting Nurse Association will usually be glad to send a nurse to demonstrate the simplest method of care.



Don't be guilty of neglect. Head colds can cause much suffering. So when you catch a head cold, do this: Put a few drops of double-duty Va-tro-nol up each nostril. This specialized medication does two important things—

Helps prevent many colds from developing if used at the first warning sniffle or sneeze. Promptly relieves sneezy, sniffly, of head colds. Makes breathing easier. It's sensible always to keep Vicks Va-tro-nol on hand-ready to use when needed. You can save yourself from much head cold misery! Follow directions in folder.





Architect: John Franklin, Pittsburgh.

SEND FOR FREE BOOK ON Thermopane

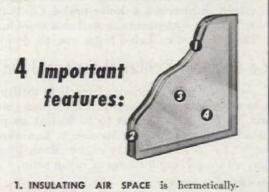
... the windowpane that insulates

Now you can satisfy both your ardent wish for the beauty and cheerfulness of larger windows and your practical desire for comfort and heating economy as well.

How? With Thermopane-the Libbey Owens Ford windowpane that insulates.

You can't see the insulation in Thermopane, but it's there—a layer of dehydrated air sealed between two panes of clear glass. This double-glass windowpane fits into a modified single sash, just like a single pane of regular glass. It stays in the year 'round; there's no need to put up or take down extra glass.

Whatever your climate, make the windows in your home as large as you want them—with the extra comfort and heating economy that Thermopane's insulation provides. For your copy of a free booklet describing Thermopane, write to Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Company, 1124 Nicholas Building, Toledo 3, Ohio.



sealed at the factory.

2. PATENTED BONDERMETIC SEAL bonds the two panes of glass into one unit to prevent dirt and moisture infiltration.

3. CLEAR VISION because the dry air is sealed in to prevent frost or condensation from forming on inner glass surfaces.

4. ONLY TWO SURFACES TO CLEAN because the inner glass surfaces are cleaned at the factory before the units are sealed.

© 1944, Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Co., Toledo, Ohio Polished Plate as as to LIBBEY • OWENS • FORD a Great Name in GLASS



GIVE fine, new Chatham Blankets—the nicest sort of Christmas gift—so colorful, so snug, so *right* for the season! Chatham Blankets are warm and wooly and fuzzy, with full body and a wonderful, deep nap. They launder beautifully and last for years. And the Chatham name means you give the best possible quality at its price.

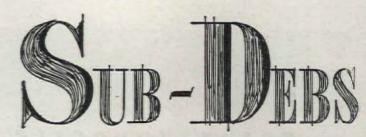
How can I be sure I'm getting good value?

Look for the famous Informative Label on every Chatham Blanket. It gives all the facts about size, weight, construction, durability, colorfastness, shrinkage — facts you need to *compare* values. Sometimes a lower-priced Chatham Blanket will suit your requirements as well as a more luxurious one. The Informative Label helps you to decide.

Can I get a Chatham Blanket at the price I can afford?

Yes, you can. From luxurious all-wools to thrifty, serviceable blends, there's a Chatham Blanket within your budget — and it's the finest blanket to be had at its price. See Chatham's Sutton, Marley, Woolwich, Lamsdown, from about \$6* to \$16*. Four pretty colors: Rose, Blue, Green, Cedar, with matching bindings of rayon satin.







Perhaps you've noticed the "awkward age" is on its way out as a phase of growing up. Sub-debs, like delightful Jane Devlin of the movies, are nice people. They believe in equal rights for the family! Interminable 'phone talks are kid stuff!



Homework to the accompaniment of the radio, even with some movie idol's photo before one for inspiration, doesn't make for high marks as sub-debs – Jane, too, – learn for themselves. Concentration gets it done better and faster

ARE NICE PEOPLE

KAY CAMPBELL

POSED ESPECIALLY FOR THE AMERICAN HOME BY JANE DEVLIN, Sub-deb star in David O. Selznick's "Since you went away"



Pointing and grimacing are not pretty at any age and Jane, who says she had a hard time breaking herself of both habits, goes into an act to show how "gruesome" they make a girl look. Looking gruesome is worse than eating peas with knife

Sprawling with one leg thrown over the chair arm, shoe a-dangle from big toe, and munching an apple might be excused when a girl is young —say 9 or 10, but a 12-year-old has her dignity to maintain. Also she prefers sitting pretty

Making everyone else uncomfortable is one of the surest ways of winning the odious awkward age tag so sub-deb Jane tries to remember to ask what program the family would like before she dials



Sleeves are not being used for hankies! This graphic demonstration by Jane of what happens when a girl forgets to lay out a handkerchief for school, elicits horror-stricken protests from her friend, Margery Redman. "No, not that!"

Sub-debs are quick to catch on to the most efficient way of doing anything. Jane's system of hairbrushing-20 strokes up and 20 down-includes planning her activities for the following day and so counts double

Boredom can be banished from the small chores by teamwork. Karen Sue joins her young Aunt Jane in a toothbrush session during which she learns about her molars from a girl famous for her lovely smile





A TOAST TO GOOD TASTE

• After war is done, a good many good fellows will have good reason to get together. Perhaps you've thought of an inviting nook in which to welcome home your own particular veterans.

• Perhaps, too, you've considered using the Western Pines*. . . in themselves veterans in the art of bringing friendly warmth and charm into the home.

• Of course, most home building and remodeling can't begin until Victory. But thinking ahead and planning are right in vogue. And few picture books will give you more fascinating ideas than "Western Pine Camera Views." Your own copy is free for the asking. Address: Western Pine Association, Dept. 184-F, Yeon Bldg., Portland 4, Oregon.

*Sugar Pine *Idaho White Pine *Ponderosa Pine THESE ARE THE WESTERN PINES



been! It's tea dancing, no less. Not that the dansant stuff. Just tea dancing. But with super planning and novelty twists that make it top box office. There are men, naturally; eats, ditto; and stunts and prizes extra.

ICE CUBE DANCE

CLIFFORD PARCHER

Posed especially for The American Home, courtesy David O. Selznick,

supervised by Kay Campbell

HAT's cooking with the teens? Well, pardon the recording, but where have you

Whoops! The whole thing is as easy as running out of gas coupons. You toss in a few mixers, add a couple of tag dances to make the stags happy, thaw the weather chatter with a wacky stunt or two and a chance to cop a prize or two, and you don't eliminate the eliminations. And if that doesn't begin to sound like the fun it is, you'd better get your reflexes tested. Let's dwell on the mixers. In basic English, mixers are mixers. They change a bunch of stand-offish, self-conscious goons into a closely knit club of chin-wagging extroverts whose last worry on the list if they had a list would be what to do with the hands. The Talking Circle comes under this heading. The girls form a large inner circle, the boys a large outer circle, the band strikes up, and they march-in opposite directions -and the music stops, without advance notice. At that point, each man shakes hands with the glamour number in front of him. If they don't know each other, they rapidly exchange names. Their conversation has to be on the subject announced by the leader the instant the horns hushed. For example, the subject could be, "What is the hottest band you ever heard?" Or, "My favorite movie actress is --," Or, "What do you hear on the radio that's sharp?" Then the music begins again, the march goes on, and more people get acquainted. You can't go through that routine very long without limbering up socially. After four or five passing conversations, the leader announces that the next stop determines partners for the first dance. Another quick defroster for the party preliminaries is the Blind Date. The gals line up across one side of the room, the gents across the opposite side. Then, the latter are blindfolded, one at a time, whirled around three times, and started on their way across the floor to find a partner. The first lady touched is it. But if neither of these mixing devices appeals to you, don't give up. You can match halves of cards to establish starting partnerships-have them comic cards so the first dance will start with a laugh.

And, now for a tag dance to take the curse off the uneven number of the boys or girls. If the boys are in the majority by three, pass out that number of lemons, one to each man. As the dance gets under way, the lemon-bearer stalks the lady of his choice and presents her partner with the fruit, along with the observation, perhaps, that "you get the lemon; give me the peach." To make the lemons circulate more rapidly it might be helpful to announce that anyone holding a lemon when the music stops must be prepared to pay some kind of mild forfeit.

70

Age Tea Dance

HOW TO DEFROST A PARTY, CUT WEATHER OUT OF THE PRELIMINARIES, AND GET EVERY GAL A HANDSOME PARTNER!

Our Cast: Shirley Fedderson, Vanguard starlet; Cindy Garner and Dorothy Mann of "Since You Went Away;" and co-stars, Marine Pvt. Leon Wills, Winchester, Ky.; S/M Bob Bruns, Dayton, O.; Harold Altman, Utica, N. Y.; Franklin Langsner, New York, N. Y.

But maybe—or, perhaps, we should say "probably"—there will be more of the fair sex in attendance. Here is a way to prevent wallflower anxiety: Give each of the temporary wallflowers a large rubber ball (make it a large ball) which she rolls out on the dance floor. She replaces the first girl it touches. The "balled out" lassie carries on and by the same tactics finds herself a new swing-swain. The grapevine promised stunts and stunts there must be! For the first, how's about a Sharpest Couple Vote? The girls cast secret ballots for the snazziest tie on display while the boys express their choice for the loveliest dress. As soon as the votes are counted, the two winners combine as partners to give a brief exhibition dance. Prizes might be War Stamps in whatever denomination fits in with the party financing.

One of the most hilarious stunts is called Freezing. It is in two parts. It is explained in advance that when the music stops, which it must do unexpectedly, the dancers must freeze in the position in which they are caught by the music stop. Each round is won by the couple judged to be in the funniest position until the "finals" with three or four couples participating, the others on the sidelines as a cheering section. Now

ROLLING BALL: Device by which wallflowers garner partners



TALKING CIRCLE: Music stops, partners start talking



FREEZING: Music stops, dancers "freeze," everybody warms up





LADY SEYMOUR ALL-WOOL SNOOZER

For a very Merry Christmas and many pleasant dreams to come, nothing could be cozier, more practical, than a

Lady Seymour

ALL WOOL SNOOZER SEYMOUR WOOLEN MULLS SEYMOUR WOOLEN MULLS

OR ALL WORL FLANNELS

Lady Seymour Snoozer. Woven in smart basket-weave. it's light, yet warm enough for cat-napping on the sofa, and large enough, too, to use as an extra coverlet on chilly nights. Rayon satin bound Lady Seymour Snoozers are 60 x 72 inches and come in rose dust, ciel blue, seafoam green and winter rose.

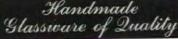


from the time of your Great Grandmother

There is something reminiscent of an almost forgotten yesterday in this exquisite creation by Westmoreland. As a gift it conveys, so charmingly, the donor's warm intimate thoughts.

The Westmoreland Wedding Bowl, in all-crystal or crystal and ruby, is one of many superb handmade cre-ations by VZestmoreland Craftsmen.

WESTMORELAND GLASS CO. GRAPEVILLE, PA.





Built as a city of better living, St. Petersburg has an almost ideal combination of natural and man-made advantages . a pleasant climate, a beautiful setting on a sub-tropic peninsula, every kind of sport and entertainment, plus all the facilities of a progressive metropolitan community. Now is a good time to do a

little personal post-war planning . . . a good time to get information about sunny St. Petersburg. Write today for our 32-page booklet, also our booklet "Come and Live in St. Peters-Address G. L. Davenburg." port, Chamber of Commerce-



comes part two. Each man is provided with a pie plate and an ice cube or an orange. Besides dancing with his partner, he must balance the cube or fruit on the bottom of the plate. The couple remains in the competition only as long as he succeeds.

Another screwy stunt is the Paper Bag Dance. Give each of the girls a paper bag large enough to slip over her head and a supply of crayons. The boys go out of the room while the girls tear out opening for the eyes and nose and decorate the faces as their whims dictate. Then the boys come back and choose partners from the disguised beauties. It is just as much fun to reverse it and have the girls do the choosing. After that, it's time to pull a Lucky Dance. There are a number of ways of doing this and you can take your choice from the ones suggested or use them all during the various breaks in the set, depending on how many War Stamps you have left for prizes. When the music stops, some couple will be at a predetermined lucky spot, marked by, say, a thread hanging down from the decorations, the position nearest the band, etc. Or, the lucky couple might be the ones leaving the floor at or closest to a particular time.

We want some non-dancing games, too. Let's get out those large balls we used awhile ago. Divide the entire group into teams, with both boys and girls on each team. Have the teams form two single lines facing the end of the room. The leader of each line takes one of the balls and tries to toss it over his head without bending his body or turning around. The second in line must catch it and toss it over her head to the next one back. The player who fails must recover the ball and return to position before tossing it on. The last player in line runs up to the head of the line after catching the ball. This continues until the team is back in its original position. As a reward, the winners might be served first when refreshment time comes.

Here is a game that demands quick reactions. All players stand facing the leader at the end of the room. They should be spread out so each can be seen by the leader. He points to his mouth and states, "this is my ear." Without hesitation, each player must point at his ear and say, "this is my mouth." He or she who hesitates or makes a mistake drops out and joins the leader in catching others who can't keep up with the score.

And so, back to the bustle-rustle! Another sharp way of running an elimination is to have some graybeard stand with his back to the merrymakers and from time to time during the dance announce physical characteristics or apparel items that cause the old drop-out. For instance, "All redheads and their partners may sit down;" and, "Boys who part their hair on the right must take their girls to their seats; and, "Ladies wearing rings on their little fingers, sit down !"

Did you say fun? Why, there hasn't been so much fun at dances since the Indians stopped whooping it up!



"I WANT NESCO ENAMELED WARE!"

> • If babies understood the many reasons for NESCO Enam-

eled Ware being used to prepare their food-they'd clamor for NESCO Ware for the entire family. NESCO Enameled Ware has won

preference for baby's use because its sparkling white finish is sanitary. NESCO Enameled Ware kitchen utensils are built to stay clean. The new, improved NESCO Enameled surface of these fine steel housewares "stays new longer"lasts years with reasonable care.

. Our laboratory research has made NESCO Enameled Ware highly resistant to physical abuse, heat shock, stain and stove-top wear.

Restrictions limiting our manufacture of consumer merchandise

will mean less Enameled Ware available at your retail stores. However, keep asking for NESCO-it's worth shopping for.



National Enameling and Stamping Company The World's Largest Manufacturers of Housewares 278 N. 12th St. . Milwaukee I, Wis.

New quick-mixing idea...now perfected in Swans Down's Mix-Easy Cakes!

"Folks, you can stir up one of these new quick cakes while you used to be thinkin' about gettin' ready! Isn't that a fact, Kate? No creamin'-only three minutes beatin'-an' only one cup an' one bowl to wash!

> "Take this Holly Wreath Nut Cake—it's quicker'n a wink, and yet it's the grandest, *eatingest* cake! Pretty as a Christmas tree, too, isn't it, Kate?"

> "You bet it is, Aunt Jenny! And it's like all the cakes I've tasted that were made with Swans Down and the new perfected Swans Down 'Mix-Easy' method —it's got a richer flavor. Keeps fresh longer, too.

"You'd never think, when it's made so quickly, that it could be as delicate as a traditional, old-style Swans Down Cake—but it is! Same fine, even texture, same tenderness, same delicious goodness.

"Remember, folks, we can't guarantee those perfect results with any cake flour but Swans Down!"

More Swans Down "Mix-Easy" Cake Recipes in the Box!

All your favorites made the new "Mix-Easy" way! Just follow the recipes on the folder inside your Swans Down package. (Of course, you can still use Swans Down in all your regular stand-by recipes, too!

SWANS DOWN

HOLLY WREATH NUT CAKE

Have shortening at room temperature. Grease and

lightly flour a 9-inch tube pan or two 8x4x3-inch loaf pans. Start oven for moderate heat (375°F.). Sift

Preparations:

Measurements: Measure into sifter:

2¾ cups sifted Swans Down Cake Flour

Swans Down)

(and be sure it's

2 teaspoons Calumet

Baking Powder 1½ teaspoons salt 1¾ cups sugar

flour once before measuring.



"NO CREAMIN, KATE SMITH! AN' BEATIN' CUT IN HALF!"



"RIGHT, AUNT JENNY! AND ONLY ONE CUP, ONE BOWL!"



"RICHER TASTE, TOO, AND KEEPS FRESH LONGER!" Measure into bowl: 1 cup vegetable shortening

Measure into cup: % cup milk 1 teaspoon orange extract 1 teaspoon almond extract

Have ready: 3 eggs and 1 egg yolk, unbeaten 1 cup finely cut walnut meats

Now-Swans Down's "Mix-Easy" Part!

(Mix by hand or with electric mixer on low speed.) Sift dry ingredients over shortening in bowl. Add $\frac{1}{2}$ of liquid and the eggs. Mix until all flour is dampened; then beat 1 minute. Add remaining liquid, blend, and beat 2 minutes longer, Add nuts and mix. (Count only actual beating time. Or count beating strokes. Allow at least 100 full strokes per minute. Scrape bowl and spoon or beater often.)

Baking:

Bake in moderate oven (375°F.) 1 hour, or until done. Spread with ½ recipe seven-minute frosting, made with remaining egg white. Decorate with wreath of cut citron and maraschino cherries. This cake is also delicious without frosting.

GUARANYPED

Kate

Smith

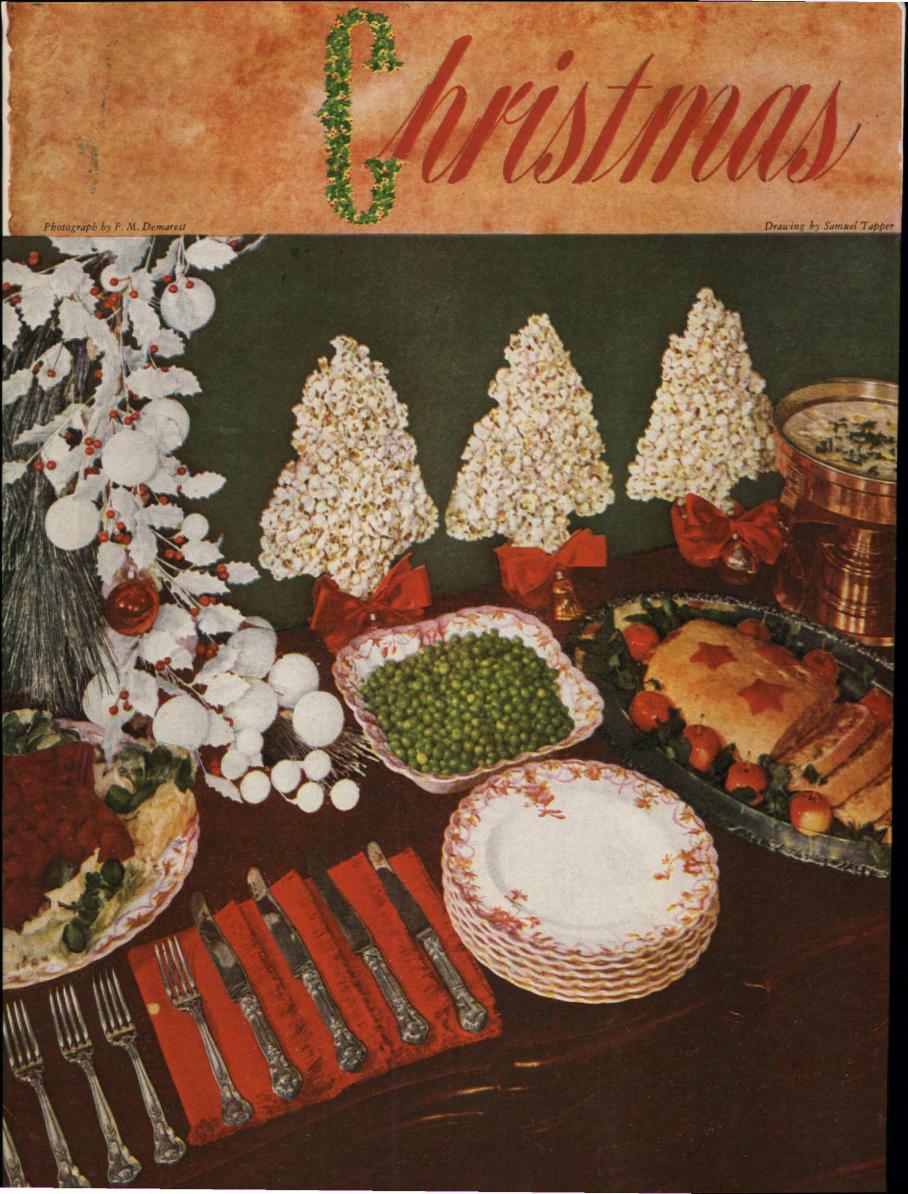
Double the cost of all ingredients back, if you don't think your Swans Down "Mix-Easy" Cake is better than any similar cake you've baked with any other flour!

The makers of Swans Down can give you this guarantee because Swans Down has made supremely fine cakes for 50 years. Today more women choose Swans Down than all other packaged cake flours together.



TUNE IN: Hear "Kate Smith Speaks" and "Aunt Jenny's Real Life Stories." Their radio programs are next-door neighbors Monday through Friday on CBS. See your local paper for station and times.





JULIA BLISS JOYNER

It's the night before Christmas and the very winds are singing. Now and then a gleeful gust rushes down the chimney to exchange whispers with the fire. The house is gay, mysterious, and gift-laden. The flame of the candles and the Christmas tree lights wink at each other knowingly. Grandma, in the big fireside chair, has just put the last loving stitch into the scarlet wool muffler she has promised Big Sister. Father sits on the other side of the hearth, so jocund that even his jokes seem new. The younger children run upstairs and down, their voices sweet and high for they have as much secret business before midnight as have their elders. Besides, they have been appointed to greet at the door the guests who are coming

Tree, Wreath and Snowflake Canapes

TAPE

These days, especially-give your meals this **2-WAY HELP!**

It's walnut time! So help yourself to better meals - twice better. More flavorsome. More nourishing.

No fuss and trouble, either! Just add walnuts. Watch 'em work wonders, with even the simplest recipe. What a treat to find walnuts in the lunchbox, too — and what an energy food! But always use "Diamonds" — fresh, plump, perfect kernels, the very best walnuts!

help with NOURISHMENT

"CRUNCHY ...AND CHOCKFUL OF ENERGY"

BEST-YET WALNUT BREAD

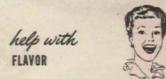
- 3 cups sifted allpurpose flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 1% tsps. salt
- 4 tsps. baking powder
- 1 cup Diamond Walnuts, coarsely chopped

1 egg, beaten

1 cup milk

Festive enough for teatime—but don't let that fool you! Rich in walnuts, this bread is hearty food. Grand for lunchbox sandwiches!

Sift flour, sugar, salt, and baking powder into mixing bowl. Add egg mixed with milk and beat well. Stir in walnuts. Pour into well-greased loaf pan (about 8x4x4 inches) and let stand 20 minutes, then bake in moderate oven (350°) 65 to 70 minutes. Turn out on rack to cool. Remember, walnuts step up the nutritive value of any kind of baking—cakes, cornbread, muffins, cookies.



"ANYTHING GOES... WITH WALNUTS"

1 cup coarsely diced

pickle (or % cup

½ cup coarsely chopped Diamond

sweet pickle relish)

celery ½ cup diced sweet

WALNUT GELATIN MASTERPIECE

- 1 package lemonflavored gelatin
- 1 cup hot water ½ cup cold water
- 1% cups coarsely diced
- unpeeled red apple
- 2 tbsps. sugar
- 2 tbsps. lemon juice Walnuts
 - Diamond Walnut halves

A shimmering, "Diamond" studded beauty—and what a flavor combination! That's the way with walnuts—they go with anything, and glorify it.

Dissolve gelatin in hot water. Add cold water and cool until it begins to thicken. Mix diced apples with sugar and lemon juice, add celery, pickle, and chopped walnuts, and fold into the gelatin. Pour into 6 individual molds (or a 1 to 1½ qt. mold) and chill until firm. Serve on lettuce, and top servings with mayonnaise and tempting, golden Diamond Walnut halves. Serves 6. Excellent with meat or fish dishes.





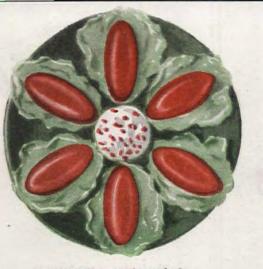
child's angel sandwich

carol supper

Chicken Roll — Egg Sauce Jellied Apples Buttered Peas Hot Biscuits Star Salad Christmas Bell Cakes Hot Chocolate (for children) Coffee

tonight for supper and carols. Mother has been needing half a dozen selves for all she has had to do this week. But on Christmas the more selves the merrier. And Mother is indeed merry tonight, as the family and friends march into the dining room singing *Adeste Fidelis* too joyous to care whether they are off key or on. The special Carol Supper is arranged on

The special Carol Supper is arranged on



poinsettia salad

holiday tea

Christmas Canapes and Sandwiches

Gingerbread Candy Canes

Holiday Mints

Raspberry and Gingerale Punch

Coffee Tea

the buffet so that everybody can serve himself and have plenty of room to move around. It is a dazzle of delight, all the way from the little white popcorn trees and the cranberry Star of Bethlehem to the sizzling hot chicken roll to say nothing of the pretty bell cakes.

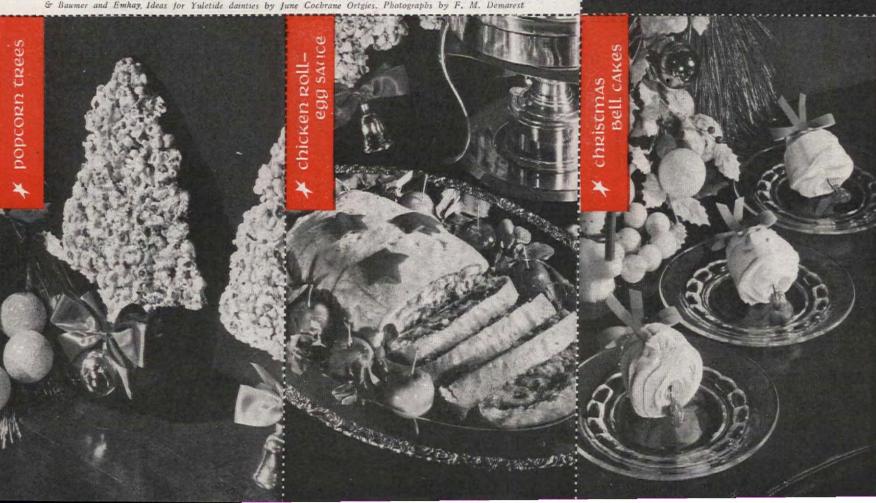
The preparation of both this little supper and of the holiday drop-in family tea of the

China-Spode "Aster" pattern, Copeland & Thompson. Silver-"Chantilly" pattern, The Gorham Co. Candles-Will & Baumer and Emkay, Ideas for Yuletide dainties by June Cochrane Ortgies. Photographs by F. M. Demarest



christmas sandwich loaf



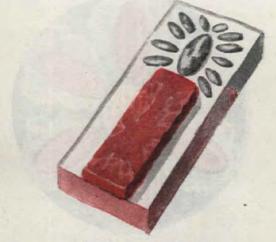


gingerbread candy cane

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

gelatin in the water and chill until slightly thickened. 0 Preparation time: 2 hrs. Source of vitamin sauce. pour into mold and chill until firm. Unmold cups hot water cups cranberry sauce 125 cal. per serving 3 platter and garnish with crisp greens. 2 packages strawberry or raspberry flavored gelatin ISSOLVE cranberry star salad Serves: 8-10 in Fold

Photograph printed on back of each recipe



candlelight sandwich

next afternoon or later during that blessed week should be managed in such a way as to leave time for the genuine spiritual celebration of the Christmas season.

The tea table symbolizes a Christmas package, its white cloth "tied" with red crepe paper or material. Tall candles, evergreens, and ornaments complete the picture. Gingerale and raspberry ice punch is served at one end and tea and coffee at the other end.

The Yuletide dainties pictured on these pages are by June Cochrane Ortgies. They include sandwiches, canapes, salad and sweets.

For the Snowflake Canape (on tea table) cut rounds from toast or whole wheat bread. Soften cream cheese with milk or cream and put on rounds with a tube to resemble a snowflake.

Cut the bread for the Wreath and Tree Canapes (on tea table) in the shape of trees and wreaths (it is safer to leave bread in the center of the wreath to make it more firm). Spread with mashed and seasoned avocado, mint jelly, or with green-tinted cream cheese. Decorate with snips of tomato or pimiento. The bread for Candlelight Sandwiches (on tea table) is cut in rectangular shape. The candle is a small slice of tomato or pimiento and the



rays and flame are of mayonnaise. Santa Claus Canapes are made the same way with a cream cheese trim and nut meats for the eyes.

For the Gingerbread Candy Canes (on tea table) use prepared gingerbread mix or your favorite recipe. Bake in a shallow pan and cut in cane shapes. Spread with white frosting and make stripe of red-tinted frosting.

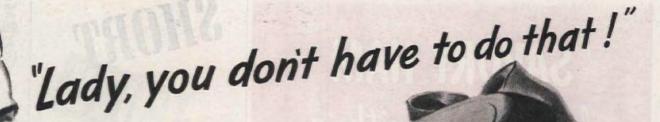
Holiday Mints (on tea table) are made by pressing chopped nuts in mints to form letters. The end ones are decorated with red candies and slices of green gum drops.

To make Poinsettia Salad arrange mounds of cranberry sauce or jellied tomato on a chop plate and pile cottage cheese in the center. Top cheese with chopped nuts or chives.

The foundation of the Christmas Sandwich Loaf is long slices of bread with different fillings between slices. Frost with softened cream cheese and decorate with strips of pimiento to look like a Christmas package. Slice and serve.

The Child's Angel Sandwich is arranged on a blue plate. A round bread and butter sandwich makes the head. The wings are slices of white meat of chicken or turkey shaped with scissors. The mouth is jelly, the eyes dark meat and the golden curls are mayonnaise.

hell cakes Preparation time: 60 min.	M tsp. salt M cup milk or equal parts evaporated milk and water 1 tsp. vanilla der	CREAM the shortening, add sugar gradually and continue creaming until Iight and fluffy. Add well beaten egg and beat thoroughly. Sift together flour, baking powder and salt and add to the first mixture alternately with the milk. Add vanilla and pour into 12 greased and floured muffin pans or custard cups. Bake in a mod- crate oven (350°F) for 25 minutes. Scoop out a small opening in the large end of the cupcakes and cove. cakes with frosting. Insert a cherry, preferably one with a stem for the clapper.	185 cal. per	me Ortgies Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN	sauce	2 cups chopped 34 cup milk or 34 cup milk or evaporated n 3 cups prepare 2 hard cooked	M ELT butter, add flour, and mix well. Add cream and chicken stock and cook, stirring constantly until thickened. Add salt and pepper. Use about V_2 cup of this sauce to moisten chicken. Reserve the remainder for sauce. Add milk to biscuit mix and mix according to the directions on the package (if you prefer use your favorite biscuit dough recipe). Roll dough out into a rectangular shape and spread with chicken. Roll up like a jelly roll, place on a greased baking pan, brush with milk and bake in a moderately hot oven (40.0° F) for 30 to 40 minutes. Reheat sauce, add chopped eggs and serve with sliced loaf. Garnish loaf with pimiento stars, jellied crabapples, spiced peaches, or cinnamon apples. Serves: 6 451 cal. per serving Source of vitamins 4. B complex Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN	Preparation time: 30 min.	½ cup light corn syrup ½ tsp. salt	C RISP popcorn in slow oven (250°F) while cooking syrup. To make syrup: combine sugar, water, corn syrup, and salt and stir until sugar dissolves. Cook without stirring until a little of the syrup forms a hard ball when dropped in cold water (265°F). Pour syrup over corn stirring well. Cut a Christmas tree pattern from a piece of cardboard and grease or cover with waxed paper. Grease hands and while mixture is still hot press popcorn to this shape. If using trees for deco- ration as well as eating, stand in custard cups and decorate cups with ornaments.		aleb Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN	
• Christmas bell	 4 cup shortening 1 cup sugar 1 egg well beaten 2 cups sifted cake flo 3 tsp. baking powder 	CREAM the sl light and fluffy. Add wel powder and salt and ad and pour into 12 grease crate oven (350°F) for the cupcakes and cove. stem for the clapper.	Yields: 12 cupcakes	Idea from June Cochrane Ortgies	 chicken roll-egg st 	 3 ths, butter or margarine 3 ths, enriched flour 1 cup cream or evaporated milk 1 cup chicken stock ½ tsp. salt ¼ tsp. pepper 	M ELT butter, cook, stirring constantly this sauce to moisten cl mix and mix according favorite biscuit dough with chicken. Roll up milk and bake in a mo sauce, add chopped egg jellied crabapples, spic	Serves: 6 451	• popcorn trees	4 qts. popcorn 2 cups sugar 1 cup hot water	C RISP popce syrup: combine sugar, Cook without stirring cold water (265°F). Po from a piece of cardbo while mixture is still ration as well as eatin	Yields: 4-8 inch trees	Idea from Jean McCaleb



There's no "heart trouble" in that appliance – it has an EMERSON-ELECTRIC MOTOR

Of course, no woman is going to take along a stethoscope when she buys a motor-driven electric appliance. But this much is true—what the *heart* is to the human body, the *motor* is to the appliance. It's just smart buying and good common sense to make sure you get a strong, reliable motor—a motor that is precision-built to give QUIET, uninterrupted operation.

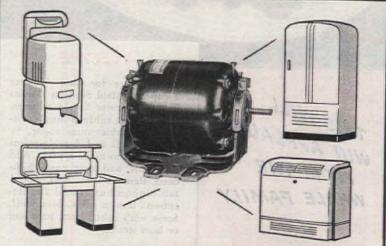
If the motor in your appliance is an Emerson-Electric, you can be sure it will give you long, faithful service. Because Emerson-Electric Motors are made by the same people who make the famous Emerson-Electric Fans-many of which have been in operation 25 years and longer!

So, when you buy these new home appliances, ask "Do they have Emerson-Electric Motors?"

Are you going to modernize or build a new home? Write today for complete information on Emerson-Electric Kitchen Ventilating Fans and Home Cooler Fans.

> THE EMERSON ELECTRIC MANUFACTURING CO. ST. LOUIS 3, MISSOURI Branches: New York • Chicago • Detroit • Los Angeles • Davenport

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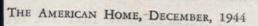


The American Way of Life is Powered with Electric Motors

For more than 54 years Emerson-Electric Motors have been providing dependable power for many of America's best-known appliances, and helped to build the reputation of their makers.

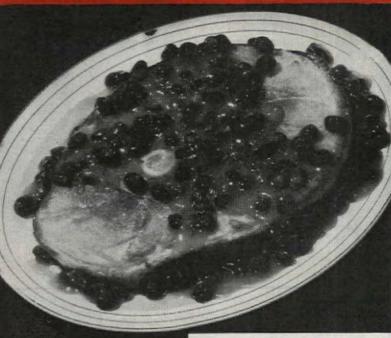
The Best Christmas Gift ... WAR BONDS

APPLIANCES

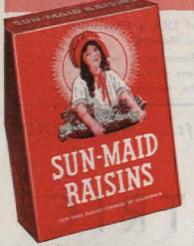


MOTORS. FANS

SAVORY HAM dressed up with a tasty sauce of SUN-MAID RAISINS



THIS WILL WIN APPLAUSE FROM THE WHOLE FAMILY



RECIPE

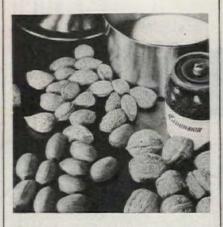
Raisin Sauce for Ham-Simmer 1 cup Sun-Maid Seedless Raisins in 2 cups water for 15 minutes. Combine 2 tablespoons cornstarch, 2 tablespoons sugar, 1/8 teaspoon salt and 2 tablespoons cold water to make a paste. Add to raisins, and heat until thickened. Remove from heat. Add 1 tablespoon butter and 2 tablespoons lemon juice. Mix well. Serve with baked ham, ham loaf or ham steaks.

DELIGHTFULLY rich and nutritious, Sun-Maid Raisins have a special natural sweetness that heightens the flavor of everything from sauces to cereals-gives your meals that extra distinction the family appreciates! Be sure to ask for Sun-Maid Raisins! Their uniform quality is carefully controlled from the vineyard to the grocer's shelf-their freshness constantly checked by representatives of H. J. Heinz Company, distributors of Sun-Maid Raisins to the nation.

2 KINDS—An exclusive process makes both Sun-Maid Seedless and Sun-Maid Puffed Seeded Raisins easy to pour from the package!

A SINGLE BOX ADDS ENERGY AND FLAVOR TO MANY THRIFTY DISHES





PICED NUTS: Cook 1 cup sugar and 1/4 cup water until a thread spins (236°F.). Remove from heat, add 1 teaspoon vanilla, 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon and 11/2 cups nuts. Stir until nuts are sugared. Separate.



MAKE consomme or any other soup for the Christmas dinner more festive by placing tiny trees cut from pimiento in the soup and sprinkling with chopped parsley.



Use left-over turkey this way: Remove turkey from bones, cut in small pieces and mix with gravy or cream sauce. Split rolls, heat and fill with the turkey mixture.

0101010101010 New Orleans Treat for Your Children -RICH IN IRON, TOO!



Brer Rabbit GOLD LABEL Molasses

LIGHT COLORED, SWEET AND MILDI CHILDREN LOVE ITI

If you and your children have never tried Gold Label Brer Rabbit Molasses on bread, pancakes or waffles, you've missed one of the biggest treats in good eating.

Gold Label Brer Rabbit is the highest quality, light colored, fancy New Orleans molasses-sweet and mild for table use. And one tablespoonful added to a glass of cold or warm milk makes a delicately flavored milk shake that's rich in iron and calcium.

Contention of the server of th

If you prefer a dark molasses, get Green Label Brer Rabbit, especially recommended for cooking and for a full flavored milk shake.

Free Penick & Ford, Ltd., Inc. New Orleans, La., Dept. A12-4

Send me - free - "Brer Rabbit's Modern Recipes for Modern Living," telling all abou New Orleans molasses for table use and cook ing. Also pamphlet, "Something Every Mothe Should Know," on iron needs.

Name. (Print Name and Address) Address.

FUDDING is a friendly dish. Its warmth is comforting, especially in winter. It satisfies hungry children and active adults as few desserts can do. In these days when the heat is low and our houses are colder than usual, a steaming pudding for dinner is the equivalent of an extra supply of fuel in the furnace or a glowing backlog on the fire. Men as a rule dote on pie, women on ice cream and fluffy custards, and children upon cakes and cookies. Pudding is the one dessert on which all the family seems to agree. But there are puddings and puddings. Keep yours at the peak of perfection and you can serve them as often as you like, not only with great success but with more-please applause from your whole family.

Pudding Perfection

Recipe printed on back of each photograph



child's pudding

Preparation time: 2 hours to chill

Preparation time: 11/4 hrs.

Mtsp. saltMtsp. cream of tartarMcup sugarMcup chopped nuts

1 cup chopped seeded dates water

date nut fluff

egg yolks well beaten egg whites

flavored gelatin 1 package strawberry 2 cups hot water ½ cup applesauce

a rotary egg beater until fluffy. Fold in applesauce. Pour into individual molds and chill until firm. Unmold and garnish with strips of plain gelatin. Serve with cream chill, and reserve for garnish. Chill remainder until slightly thickened and whip with ISSOLVE gelatin in hot water. Pour 1/4 cup of mixture into a shallow pan, or custard sauce.

Set dish in a pan of hot water and bake in a moderate oven (325°F) for about 1 hour

or until firm. Serve at once with custard sauce made as follows: Add 3 tbs. sugar to 2 slightly beaten egg yolks. Add 1 cup milk, stirring well. Pour into top of double

boiler and cook stirring constantly until mixture coats the spoon. Add ½ tsp. vanilla.

255 cal. per serving

Serves: 6

Source of vitamin C

until stiff but not dry. Fold in date mixture and nuts. Pour into greased baking dish.

yolks. Beat egg whites until foamy, add salt, cream of tartar and sugar and beat

OVER dates with water and cook until soft. Cool slightly and add

egg

62 cal. per serving

Serves: 6

KITCHEN Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME

chocolate graham pudding

2 tbs. shortening

 $\frac{y_{\rm s}}{1}$ cu's sugar 1 egg yolk 1 square unsweetened chocolate melted $\frac{y_{\rm s}}{2}$ cup milk

11/4 cups graham cracker crumbs finely rolled (about 15) 11% tsp. baking powder 14 tsp. salt 1 egg white stiffly beaten

OFFT flour, baking powder, salt, and spices. Mix raisins with flour mixture

4 eggs well beaten 2½ cups bread cubes (¼ inch)

cup butter or margarine cup brown sugar cup raisins

so that each one is coated. Cream butter, add sugar gradually and cream thoroughly. Add eggs; mix well. Stir in flour mixture and bread cubes. Put in greased

top of a 11/2 quart double boiler, cover and cook over boiling water 21/2-3 hrs. If you prefer, put in a greased mold and steam. Unmold and serve with orange sauce

made as follows: Combine 34 cup sugar, 11/2 tbs. cornstarch, 1/8 tsp. salt, 1 tbs.

butter or margarine in a saucepan. Gradually add 11/2 cups hot water, stirring con-

stantly. Cook until thick and clear. Add 1/2 cup orange juice, 1 ths. lemon juice and

Source of vitamins A, B complex

528 cal. per serving

Serves: 6

Source of vitamin A

1 tbs. grated orange rind. Serve hot.

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

REAM shortening, add sugar gradually, and cream thoroughly. Add egg baking powder, and salt. Stir into chocolate mixture. Fold in egg white. Pour into greased top of 11/2 quart double boiler, cover and cook over boiling water 11/2 hours. Serve warm with vanilla sauce made as follows: Mix 1 tsp. flour and ½ cup sugar in a saucepan. Add ½ cup corn syrup, ½ tsp. salt, ¾ cup light cream, 1 tsp. vanilla and 1 tbs. butter or margarine and cook for 10 minutes over medium heat, stirring contantly. Note: Equal parts evaporated milk and water may be used instead of milk. and melted chocolate and mix well. Stir in milk. Mix together cracker crumbs, yolk .

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

418 cal. per serving

Serves: 6

whole wheat Indian pudding

2 tbs. butter or margarine 1 tsp. salt ½ tsp. ginger 1 tsp. cinnamon

4 cups milk v cup whole wheat cereal cup sugar cup sugar cup molasses

2/4/4

cereal and cook 10 minutes. Remove from heat, add remaining ingredients and pour into a greased baking dish. Bake uncovered in a moderate oven (325°F) for 45 minutes. Add remaining cup of milk, stir well and continue baking for 45 minutes. Serve warm with ice cream. Note: Equal parts evaporated milk and water Scalp 3 cups of the milk in the top of a double boiler over boiling water, may be used instead of milk. add

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

214 cal. per serving

Serves: 8

molasses and beat well. Add bread crumbs, suet, and fruit and mix thoroughly. Sift together flour, salt, baking powder, and spices. Add to first mixture with the nuts. Mix and pour into greased pudding mold or baking dish. Cover and steam 4-5 hours. Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN Preparation time: 5 hrs. Mrx raisins, citron, orange and lemon rind, figs, and applesauce. Add orange juice and let stand several hours or over night. Beat eggs, add sugar and Source of vitamins A, C, B complex 1 tsp. salt 1 tsp. baking powder 1 tsp. cinnamon 1 tsp. cinnamon 1 tsp. cloves 1 cup chopped nuts Serve with your favorite sauce. For a gift decorate with cherries and nuts. crumbs 3 eggs 34 cup sugar 34 cup molasses 1½ cups dry bread cru 1 cup ground suet 1 cup enriched flour cup orange juice 385 cal. per serving Z Christmas pudding %cup chopped citron1ths.grated orange rind1ths.grated lemon rind%cup chopped figs1cup applesauce rind 11/2 cups raisins Serves: 12 Preparation time: 134 hrs. Source of vitamins A, B complex

Photograph printed on back of each recipe

can make it into a gala dish and a new sauce can convert an old standby into an exotic stranger. It is the housewife's ally especially when children have finical appetites. She does not have to give Junior or Junioretta a sales talk when the foods they need are served in a pudding. She combines sometimes problematic milk and eggs guilefully with other orthodox ingredients and her willing offspring do the rest. The proof of any pudding is in the eating. You can have lots of fun proving the six puddings given on this page. The most important and the most timely of these is, of course, the Christmas Pudding. When it is steamed in a glass baking dish, I can think of no better suggestion than this for a gift from one family to another. The Child's Pudding is

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

Preparation time: 3 hrs.

steamed bread pudding

Preparation time: 2 hrs.

Mcup enriched flour2 tsp. baking powderMM1 tsp. nutmegMtsp. cinnamon

Source of vitamins A, B complex

Frankly, the appearance of a pudding is not always in its favor. Even

a pretty pudding tastes better than it looks. But a glamorous garnish

the one cold pudding among the lot, but its quality is so delicate and light that even the quantities consumed need give parents no concern. The Indian Pudding differs from the old New England dish we all remember in that whole wheat cereal is used as the base instead of cornmeal.

Vanilla ice cream served atop a steaming dish is an unexpected contrast. It is not necessary to have a regulation steamer for making steamed

puddings. A double boiler can be used if the recipe specifies this method.

Or, you can use a deep covered kettle. Put the mixture in covered mold

on a wire rack in the bottom of the kettle, add boiling water to half the depth of the mold, cover the kettle and steam according to the time indi-

cated in the recipe. If individual puddings are desired reduce the steam-

ing time. Cover the top of each individual pudding mold with waxed or greased paper, tie down securely with a string, and then steam.

HOW TO KEEP SANTA CLAUS OUT OF YOUR POST-WAR HOME!

... but do you WANT to?





A BIG CHIMNEY plays Santa Claus by letting you burn the cheapest of all homeheating fuels-Bituminous Coal-the one fuel that will always be inexpensive because America has a 3,000-year supply!

The sense of satisfaction-and the hardmoney savings-that can come from owning your own home are the "Santa Claus" nearly everyone believes in! But if you don't care about that, all you have to do to keep this "Santa Claus" away, is to build a home with a skimpy chimney!

Then you'll be able to burn only the most expensive kinds of heating fuelsfuels whose cost may go even higher in the years ahead.

To safeguard yourself against thismake sure your home has an adequate chimney-one that's big enough to handle all kinds of fuel equally well. Big

enough, for instance, to provide sufficient draft for burning Bituminous Coal -which is the cheapest home-heating fuel available. That's why 4 out of every 7 homes in the United States rely on it for steady, dependable heat. And nowadays it's also an automatic fuel and the one that gives the most uniform heat,

LIVING ROOM SETTING FROM GROSFELD HOUSE, CHICAGO

Your architect or builder will tell you that a chimney which is adequate for burning Bituminous Coal is also efficient for burning any other fuel you ever might choose. Talk it over with him-it will pay you to do so!

when used with a modern coal-stoker!

4 Wonderful Holiday Cookies

.all made from Grandma's basic molasses recipe

"Holiday baking can be mighty easy. By varying my simple basic recipe according to direction, you can make any one of 4 delicious cookies. They'll be the best tastin' molasses cookies ever because they're made with my sweeter, mellower molasses."



GRANDMA'S BASIC MOLASSES COOKIE RECIPE

1/2 cup shortening 1/2 cup sugar 2 beaten eggs 1 cup Grandma's 4 cups flour ½ tsp. salt 1 tsp. baking soda 11/4 tsp. cinnamon

11/4 tsp. powdered ginger 1 tsp. allspice 1/4 tsp. nutmeg 1/4 cup sour milk

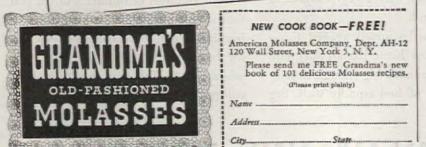
Cream shortening and sugar until fluffy. Add eggs, mix well and add molasses. Sift dry ingredients thoroughly. Add alternately with sour milk to molasses mixture, blend thoroughly after each addition. Drop from teaspoon onto greased baking sheet. Bake in moderate oven (350° F.).

GRANDMA'S 3 COOKIE VARIATIONS

GINGERBREAD MEN... add ½ cup flour to basic recipe and roll to ¼ inch thickness. Cut in gingerbread men shapes. Bake in moderate oven (350° F.) 10 minutes. They're extra delicious because they are made with Grandma's molasses. It does not contain sulphur dioxide.

FILLED COOKIES . . . chill basic recipe dough one hour. Roll to ½ inch thickness. Cut in circles. Top one with chopped dates, raisins and nuts or your favorite filling. Cover with another circle. Press edges together firmly, prick top. Bake on greased baking sheet in moderate oven (350° F.) 12 minutes. These will make a hit with the whole family.

ICED BAR COOKIES . . . omit 1 cup flour from basic recipe. Spread dough ½ inch thick in 2 greased 8-inch square pans. Bake in moderate oven (350° F.) 15 to 18 minutes. Cut in bars, cool and ice with con-fectioner's icing. Be sure to use Grandma's molasses in all your recipes. Its purity isn't destroyed by artificial preservatives for NONE are used.



Photographs by F. M. Demarest Candles from Emkay and Will & Baumer





MASS beauty for your Christmas Ass beauty for your Christmas table this year from graceful native greens, ribbon streamers, and bright ornaments saved in their tissue cocoons from other years. No decorations are so attune to the season as evergreens. We like to take deep breaths of their pungent forest fragrance, permeating the house from eagerly opened front door to busy kitchen. Let the children join you in the sheer pleasure of foraging for pine cones and branches, glowing red berries, or any of the greens that grow in your locality; and let them have a part in decorating the Christmas table and the house as well as the tree.

our Christma



7 These kneeling angels on blue or silver stars can be used for favors, decorations or place cards. Cut from cooky dough and decorate with white, brown and pink frosting

8 Branches of pine and hemlock are effective if you want to keep your centerpiece low. Tie them together with a large red ribbon bow and arrange walnuts or other nuts in a cluster near the center

1 Even your youngest enjoys helping. Here evergreens, fruits and stately candles are used for the centerpiece. Star place mats of colored paper, sprigs of pine and Christmas bells complete the festive holiday table arrangement

able

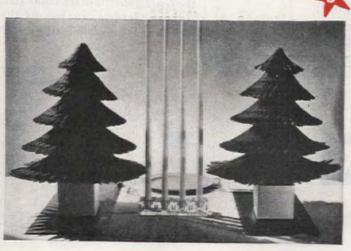
2 Polished red apples with a candle inserted in each surround this arrangement of native greens. Magnolia and pine boughs are used 3 This little tree may be real or artificial. Place it in a small box in the center of the table. Instead of the usual ornaments, decorate it with cotton snowballs and tiny lollipops tied with pert bows of red and green ribbons

4 The whole family will like this jolly Santa Claus. Make the body of popcorn ball mixture, the buttons of cherries and cut the arms and hat of colored paper. The head is a Christmas ornament with hair and features of cotton **5** For this modern table setting pick two tiny perfect evergreens or use artificial ones. Put trees in boxes-tall candles between

6 Pine cones with matches stuck beneath the scales and tied with bright colored ribbons serve as pretty place cards and favors









a Living Picture says "Merry Christmas" a thousand different ways!



A thousand different "Merry Christmases" will A thousand different "Merry Christmases" will gleam from the polished plate glass of a Genuine Nurre Mirror. Color, light, warmth, love and laughter will be caught and reflected from its scien-tifically silvered surface in ever changing patterns. A Living Picture will brighten a room, add spacious-ness, cheer and charm, promote gracious living, and help shape a house into a home. Nurre Mirrors are made by master craftsmen in many different patterns, all beautifully styled and moderately priced. After your next War Bond pur-chase, see them at your local Nurre Dealers'.

FRFF ROOK!



"How Famous Decorators would use Mirrors in our home." ractical suggestions on the effect tiveuseofmirrors.

CITY .

ctutes THE NURRE COMPANIES, INC. Dept. AH, Blo Please send me FREE mirror bo NAME ADDRESS

m

rigola lurpee Atlee Burpee Co. Burpee Bldg., Philadelphia 32, Pa 304 Burpee Bldg., Clinton, Iowa



Brings Happy Relief Many sufferers relieve nagging backache quickly, once they discover that the real cause of their trouble may be tired kidneys. The kidneys are Nature's chief way of taking the excess acids and waste out of the blood. They help most people pass about 3 pints a day. When disorder of kidney function permite poisonous matter to remain in your blood, it may cause nagging backache, rheumatic pains, leg pains, loss of pep and energy, getting up nichta, swelling, puffiness under the eyes, head-aches and dizziness. Don't wait! Ask your druggist for Doan's Pills, used successfully by millions for over 40 years. They give happy relief and will help the 15 miles of kidney tubes flush out poisonous waste from your blood. Get Doan's Pills.





POINSETTIA CLOSELY RIVALS HOLLY FOR HOLIDAY DECORATION. USE IT FOR A SPIRITED PARTY MOTIF

FOR an exhilarating color-lift, choose the scarlet poinsettia as your winter shower or party motif. The brilliant flowers, with bannerred petals and springtime-green foliage, are decoration enough for the entire house. But for the table, you can play up to the blooms by using a lacy garland of evergreen lengthwise down the center of the table for background, with tall red tapers, and with doilies of scarlet paper cut in a pattern suggesting the general outline of the poinsettia.

Favors further carrying out the idea can be made of red candy



suckers with crepe paper ruffles pasted around the stick close to the candy to represent the petals. The stems can then be wrapped in green crepe paper and the lower ends inserted in little glassine bags filled with red-hot cinnamon drops. When the neck of the bag has been gathered and tied about the stem of the lollipop flower with a green ribbon bow, the candies will hold the stem in position so that the flower stands upright. The petals of the poinsettia may also be simulated in a salad of cream cheese and pimiento. Remove the pimientos whole from the can, cut with a sharp knife, and fold strips back to form the petals. Then place the pimiento over a mound of cottage cheese and add a sliced stuffed olive to the center of each blossom. With the salad, you might like to serve hot tomato and chicken bouillon, star-shaped sandwiches, and

To get off to a festive start, either use poinsettia note paper or decorate the invitations with poinsettia seals and write the lines in light, carefree rhyme

Dramatize table or buffet with red and green. Have candles and doilies the same vivid shade as the blossom and use a lacy garland of evergreen the long way

festively decorated cookies.

Unless you are so lucky as to find holiday note paper decked out with the poinsettia, you can use seals imprinted with the motif on your invitations. The following verse is suggested for these:

A Poinsettia Party Symbolic of good cheer Seems just the thing to celebrate This season of the year; And just the right occasion For showing the honor due To our good friend, Miss So-and-So. Now, can we count on you? A——shower Date and hour Hostess Place





HELEN EMILY WEBSTER Sketches by Clare McCanna

To keep the party going at a pleasantly brisk pace, start a candle lighting or a cranberry spearing relay-perhaps both. In the candle lighting relay race, each member of a team runs across the room with a candle to a bowl of matches, strikes a match, lights the candle. runs back to his team, blows out the light, and hands the candle to the next runner, who repeats the performance. If the flame goes out en route to the team, it must be relighted before it can be handed along. The cranberry spearing relay is run in about the same way, with a hatpin used as the spear and one berry being added from the bowlful at the opposite end of the room before it is handed on. The rule is "hands off"----only the hatpin can be used to spike the elusive berry. If it is lost en route to the team, it must be recaptured by the same fussy method.

From the Fortune Wheel made of crepe paper petals, doubled to form pockets for the fortune slips, the guests can read the future. Light reading, only



"A great day is coming again"

Then the gleaming Wear-Ever aluminum you've waited for will once more be available. You will be able to replace utensils you patriotically contributed to meet early war shortages, and the pieces you generously presented to utensil-less brides. The aluminum industry was first to exceed war needs. Now an abundance of *aluminum* is available. As soon as available *manpower* is in excess of war-production needs, Wear-Ever manufacture will be resumed, to continue employment.



MEAL-GETTING A PLEASURE WITH GOOD TOOLS

Each Wear-Ever aluminum utensil is designed to cook better, and more easily. Each heats so much faster that less fuel is needed. The heat dis-

tributes itself rapidly throughout the utensil, avoiding hot scorch-spots over the heat. Baking and roasting turn out beautifully and evenly browned.

THIS PRIDE-MARK YOUR GUIDE

On the bottom of each genuine Wear-Ever aluminum utensil you will find the embossed trade mark shown below. It is a mark of pride. It signifies quality, strength and beauty that will endure.

If war-needs for manpower delay appearance of Wear-Ever in your community, it will pay to wait for genuine Wear-Ever.





WEAR·EVER

THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1944

87



There is a variety of anagrams that make the most of the holiday season. In this game, the object is to see how many words players can make of the letters contained in "H-O-L-I-D-A-Y-S-E-A-S-O-N." With the exception of the letter "E" which may be used with absolute freedom, the letters may be used in the derived word only as many times as they appear in the phrase "holiday season."

For less strenuous fun, make a Poinsettia Fortune Wheel with double petals of red crepe paper, into each of which a fortune-bearing slip of paper has been slipped. The petals should be attached around a central yellow disc to form an enormous blossom. To learn his or her fate, the player plucks one petal and extracts the "fortune" slip. Conundrums to be solved or stunts to be performed may be substituted for the fortune verses. At a convalescent shower, it would be a nice thought to enclose good wishes or cheerful greetings for the honor guest, with the participants writing their sentiments and putting the flower together.

The gifts, done up in red or green, may be presented to the honoree on a tray covered with a gigantic poinsettia doily. As far as possible, seals and name cards decorated with the flower should be used on the packages for gilding. Make the incidentals-invitations, table setting and gift wrappingsas decorative as possible. All these combine to create a generally gala atmosphere and a frivolous mood.

A Poinsettia Party is keyed to holiday gaiety and is suggested especially for anyone whose birthday coincides too closely with Christmas to be given the customary attention, for anyone who must be convalescent during the holidays, for a Christmas housewarming, or for the Christmas bride. The cheer generated on this occasion will long outlast the season.

For the Bride-to-be

Our new BRIDE'S BOOK is dedicated to serene center-aisling, without even a momentary wrinkle over the attendant preliminaries. It covers everything from the announcement to 'musts" for the first home. If you have orange blossoms in your bonnet, this is your book of the year! Price 50 cents.

Send remittance to

THE AMERICAN HOME 55 Fifth Avenue, N. Y. 3, N. Y.

...................



"Morning, son, you said you'd like Some 40-Fathom Fish?"

"Yessir, my pop is bome on leave And wants his favorite dish!"

The tangy, fresh-caught flavor of 40-Fathom Fish is a great favorite with menfolk, big and little. Mother appreciates this aristocrat of seafoods, too, because whether she buys it quick-frozen, fresh or canned, it's all wastefree and remarkably easy to prepare. Full of the precious nutriments we all need, too.

Try serving the family a piping hot dish of broiled fillets tonight. Or get dinner off to a fancy start with a tempting sea. food cocktail.

Your grocer may not have all the delicious varieties of 40-Fathom Fish you want because part of our fishing fleet is on duty with Uncle Sam. But there's enough around to make it worth looking for. And any varietyidentified by the big "40" on the package - is a treat too good to miss.



1-2-3-OUCH



EVER HEAR of calcium, young fella? It's a mighty important item to those new teeth that are coming in! Scientists recognize that for sound teeth (and strong, straight bones), you need to get EXTRA calcium while you're growing...33% more than the daily minimum governmental requirement.

GET MOM to give you delicious, chocolatey Cocomalt with your meals. Cocomalt^{*} is so rich in calcium it makes three glasses of milk equal a whole quart in calcium value...gives you that important "extra." (Also gives you extra iron, phosphorus, and Vitamin B_1 and your day's need of Vitamin D!)

And boy, will you *love* it! Ask Mom to get Cocomalt today!

*2 heaping teaspoons to an 8-oz. glass of milk





IN LIMITED quantities the following booklets are still available. Hurry, hurry to send in your order before the ones you want and need are all sold out. When our supply is exhausted we shall not be able to reprint these helpful American Home Service Booklets.

FOR YOUR KITCHEN Consider the Kitchen Kettle

FOR YOURSELF

Fair at Forty $\#159....10\phi$ Tells what to do for face, neck, hands, and hair to keep you young and lovely.

FOR YOUR PARTIES

FOR YOUR NIMBLE FINGERS Slip Cover Instructions

A Sewing Christmas Tree #15615¢

A most lovable and useful gift to make for friends who sew. Directions for dainty and pretty containers for scissors, thread, etc., all to be attached to a cardboard tree. Tracing diagrams are included.

Please order booklets by number and send remittance to: THE AMERICAN HOME 55 Fifth Ave., New York 3, New York

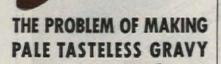


dept. or neighborhood store. 9 ft. 6¢. Royledge Shelving

THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1944

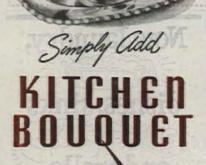
Get SOILAX at Hardware, Paint, Variety and Department Stores

Economics Laboratory, Inc., St. Paul, Minn.



RICH BROWN DELICIOUS

OLVED



Want to be known as a champion gravy maker? Here's all you do.

Just make gravy, stews, meat pies, croquettes, hash, your usual way. Then add Kitchen Bouquet. Like magic it brings out-magnifies the true full-bodied taste of meat. Adds luscious rich-brown color!

Try it today! You'll never again make gravy without it. Ask your grocer for Kitchen Bouquet.



DELICIOUS

GROCERY STORE PRODUCTS SALES COMPANY, INC., N. Y.



BLBOW grease takes time and in these busy days time is one of our most strictly rationed commodities. It is a smart girl who learns the tricks that get better results without putting in too many minutes at the little but necessary chores of scrubbing and polishing. One short-cut consists in giving the article a protective coating so that it doesn't need cleaning nearly as often. The other is to make use of speedier methods of undoing the damage. Neither of these is necessarily orthodox. For instance, nail polish is suggested as a bright idea for jewelry, white wax for waterproofing the clothesline, beeswax and salt for iron accessories that have rusted in places.



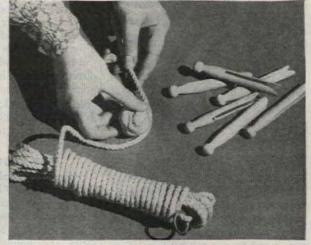
From William Swallow If inexpensive costume jewelry has a tendency to leave green marks on skin, this nuisance can be overcome by giving jewelry a coat of nail polish



To clean hairbrushes, rub in flour with soft duster, leave in awhile, then shake the brush out. Dust will come out with flour. Saves bristles and time



To renovate copper ware, rub the blackened part with half a lemon dipped in salt, then rinse off with clear water to prevent acid eating into copper

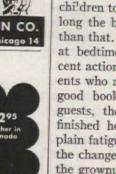


To waterproof new clothesline and keep it from soiling as quickly, rub with white wax. Waxing is easy to do and helps prevent clothesline marks



Four photos from Three Lions To make rusty iron accessories come up brand-new, rub them with a mixture of beeswax and salt. This does an excellent job with little elbow grease



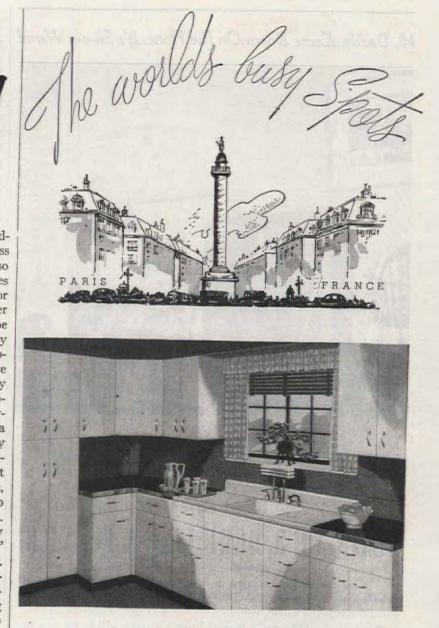


R EBELLION of the young in sud-den unnamed fear of darkness at the order of "lights out" is so common that mothers sometimes fail to recognize the protest for what it is: a signal of a deeper distress. True, night fear may be an excuse cannily seized upon by children to detain Mother and prolong the bed hour. But it is more than that. The cause for insecurity at bedtime may stem from innocent actions on the part of the par-

DEDE DE ARMAS

ents who are looking forward to a good book, the arrival of early guests, the news broadcasts, unfinished household duties, or just plain fatigue. Whatever the reason, the change from the child's day to the grownup's night is too abrupt. A sense of frustration gradually builds itself up into a "boogie man" that menaces the bedtime hour.

Mothers have tried various methods to combat this condition; treating the symptom without probing the cause. Some have refused to take it seriously, believing that indulgence would be detrimental to the courage and character of the child. Some, thinking it to be a passing whim, leave the light burning until the stage passes. More imaginative parents dangle fantastic tales of night fairies, or any subject which they hope will serve as a mental pacifier until sleep comes. Others have considered it the proper time to speak firmly about "growing up" and to lecture reprovingly on the subject of being afraid. One friend of mine ran the gamut of these experiments with little success. One night, she had an inspiration. She took her son by the hand and instead of going upstairs to bed, walked outside in the yard with him. Together they looked at the moon, the stars, and the fireflies. They looked for the flowers which bloom in the night and for those which seem to sleep. They felt the freshness of the dark and smelled the air. When she was putting him to bed, he said, "When I was little, I was afraid of the dark." Joyously, she called me to tell me that he had lost his fear of the night.



Hustling, bustling crowds are outward signs of a busy people. But we think the real busy spot in the home is the kitchen. • The new American Kitchens are bright, cheerful, convenient, adequately equipped with cabinet-sink and cabinet space, providing three convenient work centers for (1) Preparation, dishwashing, cleaning; (2) cooking and serving; (3) ample storage, gleaming white all-steel equipment, smartly styled, ruggedly durable, magically convenient. · Obtainable in separate units or as a complete ensemble. When? Just as soon as American Central's total war duties are brought to a victorious conclusion. Meantime - remember American.



AMERICAN CENTRAL MANUFACTURING CORPORATION . CONNERSVILLE, INDIANA

THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1944

New York 11, N. Y.

Hi, Daddy...Come Down On The Floor...It's So-o-o Warm!



Here's The Kind Of Oil Heater That HEATS YOUR HOME LIKE A FURM

It's something to be glad about!-to have such wonderful warmth on the floors! A joy to revel in even heat that's comfortable from head-height to shoe-soles, and in flooding billows of pleasant warmth, going through the whole house!

This is the real "heat of tomorrow" that Coleman will bring you, in



new, improved oil heaters and in famous Coleman Floor Furnaces and Central Heat Plants. It's the advancement you're most interested in-that of healthful comfort, with "push-abutton" ease and freedom from work and dirt. In city, town or country, you can enjoy this modern, automatic heat with Coleman Heat Plants, that use clean gas, oil or butane gas as fuels.

Do you want to know how many burdens these Coleman improvements can lift from your shoulders what remarkable comfort they bring? Then write for this:

You get 3 kinds of comfort with a Coleman Oil Heater (1) floods of cir-culating warm air like a furnace; (2) "quick-warm-up" radiant heat, by opening heat reflector doors; (3) di-FREET: The "Inside Story Of Tomor-row's Home Heating." A de-tailed illustrated report on Coleman's new developments, giving the practical facts! Real help in planning for better heating and a better home! Just mail the coupon-now! rected flow of warm air at floor level. THE "HOT" NAME Coleman IN HOME HEATING Coleman Lamp & Stove Co. Dept. AH-931, Wichita 1, Kansas. Without obligation to me send me your ustrated free book "The Inside Story of morrow's Home Heating." Name THE COLEMAN LAMP AND STOVE COMPANY Address WICHITA 1 - CHICAGO 11 - PHILADELPHIA 8 - LOS ANGELES 54 TORONTO, CANADA State

Recently there was an article about another such case. The approach of both mothers was fundamentally alike. The beauty that is to be found in the dark seemed to be the panacea for fear in each case but the attention of the children was directed to different sights. It is not coincidence that the temperament of each child happened to be suited to what was pointed out as interesting. The inadvertently effected cures came from more subtle sources. It mattered not what the sight or story; it was the proximity of the mother, the spirit behind the hand that reached out to them that stilled the intangible fear. This fear dissolved in the presence of understanding and companionship, a togetherness with someone. It is not darkness a child fears but aloneness and insecurity. In a leisurely and companionable manner, these mothers transmitted a sense of tranquility and some of their own serenity to their children. They left them with a sense of still being an important part of their world, rather than a segment cast off with the admonition, "lights out."

Our defense against loneliness is not limited to a single hopeful request. We are not forced to weather the mood with only an electric bulb to dispel it or a few hurried, placating words from those we confide in. When we consider the variety of our own resources, it isn't too much to be on hand when our children need us!

<text><text><text><text><text><text>

of September, 1944. (Signed) Theodore F. Gloisten Notary Public, Nassau County No. 484 Cert. filed in N. Y. Co. No. 558, Reg. No. 307-GB, (My commission expires March 50, 1946.) [SEAL]

Beauty FOREVER YOUNG in the mellow radiance of TAPERLITES*



Candlelight

on polished wood and silver! Warm, flattering tints on your eyes, skin and hair! That's the witchery of TAPERLITES! In quality, artistry and color, TAPER-LITES stand first among popular-priced hand-dipped candles. They are used wherever the subtler values of taste and social usage are cultivated At depart-

ment, drug, housewares, grocery stores, gift shops -or wherever candles are sold. *Trade Mark Registered SEND TODAY For your free copy of "A Guide to Lovelier Table Settings". Dept. AH-12. of Made by WILL & BAUMER CANDLE CO., Inc. Syracuse, N. Y. Makers of Quality Candles Since 1855

THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1944

MUL will do laundry in the bathroom ... so why not



be practical about it ?

T^F JUDY hadn't been born, I don't suppose we'd ever have had this very special bathroom of ours. For years, George had been fussing about my washing out things in the bathroom. Then I went to the hospital. He forgot to send out the laundry so he had to wash some socks and shorts himself!

You can guess the rest. When George came to the hospital that evening, he grinned and said, "If you're going to keep on making a laundry out of the bathroom, why don't we fix it up so it will be a little handier?"

By the time I got home with Judy, George had already invented the "ladder gadget." You just hang the wet clothes on the plastic bars, swing the whole thing up over the tub, and hook it. The drip goes in the tub. Between times it makes a grand towel rack.

But that was just the beginning. I pitched in with the idea of a small laundry tub beside the washstand with everything enclosed in a cabinet. There's a neat top for the tub, a drawer for towels, and a tilt-front clothes hamper. There's plenty of room for washing powders and soap in the twin of the oversized medicine cabinet... and the whole unit is flooded with light from the recessed fixture overhead.

Naturally there was only one floor for such a busy room—Armstrong's Linoleum. It's practical, splashproof, cleans in a jiffy. And there are so many lovely designs and colors from which to choose. We picked a rich burgundy in Armstrong's Marbelle, and our linoleum merchant suggested those clean-cut accent strips of plain gray and white linoleum. No bath could ever be just ordinarylooking with a floor like ours.

Lucky for me George did have to turn "laundress" that once. Lucky for all of us.

To help you get more use—and more enjoyment —out of every room in your house, write today for "Ideas for Old Rooms and New." This book is illustrated in full color and crammed with do-ityourself suggestions from Hazel Dell Brown's own home decoration scrapbook. Just send 10¢ (outside U. S. A. 40¢) to Armstrong Cork Company, Floor Division, 4412 Pine Street, Lancaster, Pa.

A handsome bathroom . . . a handy laundry. As a bath, this double-duty room is complete even to the little legless dressing table fitted with sliding trays to hold creams and lotions everything a woman needs. As a laundry, it has all the equipment you want, compact and out of the way. As a room, it has the smartness and charm that only a modern Armstrong Floor can give. It's Armstrong's Marbelle Linoleum, Style 027, inset with strips of plain Gray and plain White Linoleum, Styles 24 and 23. Washstand unit is topped with plain Gray, Style 24. Write for a complete list of furnishings and room plan, free.







What is the key to the unparalleled productivity of the American system? The American Way has provided the largest yield in peace and in war alike because it inculcates the spirit of freedom under which the creative mind flourishes.

Gallant applied scientists and practical men who make dreams come true are in perpetual rebellion against the outmoded, no matter how well established by custom.



Pathfinders, they are forever dissatis-fied with "good enough" and are ever restless to achieve "something better." Such creative men and women who have thrived under American freedom

would be stunted by an authoritarian government, which attempted to set up bureaucrats, with static minds, to pass judgment on their dreams, their ex-plorations, and their experiments.

Under the American system, industry, which is the service supply of all the peoples in war and in peace, has wisely hitched its wagon to the stars of science, invention and engineering.

Like other modern enterprises, Armour and Company values highly the creative side of man and to further that inspiration, maintains an elabor-ate research department which seeks to improve products and services through shaking new secrets from the bushes of hidden knowledge.



Launched under the title "Neo-Fat" (products resulting from the separation of fatty acids) come many new dis-coveries, developed to meet today's economic needs for domestic sources of necessary raw materials rendered of the packing industry, these Neo-Fats blaze a trail down which will Fats blaze a trail down which will travel to the consumer a caravan of new, improved and much needed in-dustrial products. In this group are soaps, cosmetics, polishes, drying oils, resins, enamels, and printing inks. Along with these, Armour's research in fatty acids and oils has yielded ingre-diants for many other things the Ameridients for many other things the American people can use to advantage, such as weatherproof electrical insulation and plastic moulding compounds.

Recognizing that nothing is perma-nent in life except change, the Armour personnel is forever seeking better ways of doing the day's work. It pioneered in bringing into acceptance many basic innovations in the food industry, on which American civilization depends.

Gabastwood

President, Armour and Company Fifth of a series of statements on the American system of free enterprise which makes possible such institutions for service as Armour and Company.



Armour's Star on this sugar-cured, slow-smoked bacon promises extra goodness!

It is the pledge of Armour and Company that none but the pick of any pack shall ever be labeled with Armour's Star. Armour's Star means the finest quality available.

Armour's Star Bacon is better from the start. To make this best-tasting bacon, Armour chooses only the best bacon sides from any

day's pack. Then, sugar-curing and slow-smoking over fragrant hickory and hardwood fires turns these choice bacon sides into something special to delight your taste. Armour's Star Bacon gives you bigger slices on the platter, too, because of an exclusive controlled mellowing which lessens curling and shrinking when you cook the bacon.

Buy the best-buy Armour's Star Bacon. Enjoy it for dinner soon, cooked according to the recipe given here,

Armour's Star Bacon and Macaroni Loaf

2 cups uncooked elbow macaroni (about 8 oz. pkg.) * 1 cup milk

1/2 lb. Armour's Star Bacon 2 cups grated Cloverbloom Cheese (8 oz.) 2 Cloverbloom eggs, beaten '2 tsps. salt

Recipe

Cook macaroni in boiling water as directed on package. Drain and combine with milk, cheese, eggs and salt. Place in well-oiled loaf pan and bake in 350° F. oven for 1 hour and 15 minutes or until solid. Turn out onto platter and serve with Armour's Star Bacon. Garnish with tomato wedges and parsley. 5-6 servings. To cook Bacon: Place in cold frying pan over low heat and cook slowly 7-8 minutes, pouring off fat as it accumulates. Bacon should be crisp but not brittle.

C ARMOUR AND COMPANY

Listen to Hedda Hopper's Hollywood, Every Monday Night over CBS. See Local Papers for Time

