







HOW WOULD YOU CHOOSE FOR YOUR HOME?

When you buy insulation, you've got to be right -the first time! For insulation, once applied, is hard to change or replace. Balsam-Wool, the scientific lifetime insulation, can answer your most searching questions. For example . .

Question: Answer:

Why should an insulation be windproof?



No matter how efficient the insulating material itself, it cannot function properly if the wind can blow through it. For this reason, the insulation mat of Balsam-Wool is completely sealed in a tough "overcoat" surrounding all four sides. This covering is impervious to wind-and to moisture, another foe of insulation efficiency. The insulation mat itself is chemically treated to resist fire and vermin.

Question: Answer:

What should I know about application?

The way insulation is applied can make all the difference in your comfort and fuel savings. For example, Balsam-Wool has special flanges which enable it to be fastened firmly in place. It cannot settle or pack down, leaving uninsulated areas. Because of this method of application, a Balsam-Wool job cannot be "skimped."

Question: Answer:

What is the best way of rating an insulation?



Insulation should be rated on job performance—not alone on laboratory tests. A leader in laboratory tests, Balsam-Wool has also proved its lifetime efficiency on the job—in thousands of homes through more than twenty years of performance. When you buy Balsam-Wool, you are sure that it will guard your comfort and fuel bills both.

BE AN INFORMED BUYER-Get all the Answers!

See your lumber dealer about Balsam-Wool insulation or write today for free, illustrated literature. Mail the coupon!



Salsam-Wool	THE PARTY OF THE P
HE SCIENTIFIC LIFETIME INSULATION	·
SION COMPANY ational Bank Bldg.	NE PORT AND

WOOI	CONVERSION COMPANY
Dept. 1	14-6, First National Bank Bldg.
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m-Wool Sealed Insulation. I am a

homeowner	, renter	, architect	□, contractor	□, student □.
Name				

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Here is the quick, modern way to do what used to be a messy and annoying job: filling fine-line cracks in plaster, woodwork, wallboard. Ready the moment you are! No mixing; no messing; no guessing; no waste; no time lost.

Fills evenly and stays put; does not work loose; makes a permanent repair. Use it to fill cracks, small holes or nicks anywherebefore painting, papering or refinishing. Made by chemists who are specialists in Home Repair! At paint, hardware, lumber and

household supply stores. If your dealer hasn't got it, he can get it for you. Schalk Chemical Co., 351 East 2nd Street, Los Angeles 12.



Putter's Plaster Pencil it is not necessary to size the surface before painting. You can go ahead and paint immediately. The first book-issued by THE JUNIOR HERITAGE CLUB is now ready. It is a beautiful edition of Kenneth Grahame's modern classic, THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS, with illustrations in full color by the famous English artist, Arthur Rackham.

Meet Mr. Mole!

[as if you didn't know him already]-

The story of Mole, Rat, Toad and Badger—those four devoted friends and their enchanting river bank community—has endeared itself to many a child who is now a man or woman. President Theodore Roosevelt and Mrs. Roosevelt practically raised their children on it. Mr. A. A. Milne says in his Foreword to this edition: "It is a Household Book; a book which everybody in the household loves, and quotes continually; a book which is read aloud to every new guest and is regarded as the touch-stone of his worth."

Kenneth Grahame always wanted to have Arthur Rackham illustrate it, but he did not live to see the project through. Mr. Rackham himself lived only long enough to complete this labor of love, which he undertook at our request. Now it stands, a monument to the greatest of modern English illustrators — with its twelve beautifully executed water-colors and fourteen line drawings.

If you have never read THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS, do so. You will put it on that small shelf of beloved fantasies, of which Alice in Wonderland is the perfect example.

The Junior Heritage Club was formed in order to bring to modern children books like these, in especially fine editions, at a very modest cost. The books are the great works of literature which form part of our cultural heritage: like Alice, Treasure Island, Aesop's Fables, The Idylls of the King, Tom Sawyer, The Vicar of Wakefield -and many, many more, but only those books which can be counted as authentic classics. They are illustrated by the most famous of modern artists: men like Edward A. Wilson, Reginald Birch, Norman Rockwell, John Austen. They are printed in good type on the best papers available; they are sturdily bound, so that they will be a joy to the child who owns them for many, many years.

If you have ever had to pay \$2.00, \$2.50 or more for hastily-got-together children's books of only passing value, you will be surprised and delighted to know that the publications of The



Junior Heritage Club will cost only \$1.75 for each book that is sent to the Members. And you will be able to take a quiet satisfaction in the fact that your own child, or some other boy or girl in whom you are interested, is being enabled through The Junior Heritage Club to build, regularly, month by month, his or her own personal library in volumes that are worth owning permanently.

Mail the coupon at the right for full information. The Reservation Form does *not* commit you to take the books; it merely brings you the Prospectus in which the Membership Plan is described, and holds a place open for the prospective member until you have studied it.



Reservation of Charter Nembership

to the junior heritage club 595 Madison Ave., New York 22

PLEASE RESERVE a Charter Membership in The Junior Heritage Club for

[please print the prospective member's name here]

and send me a copy of the descriptive Prospectus which will give us complete details. I understand that you will reserve this Charter Membership until we can have had time to study the Prospectus and then advise you whether we want to have these books.

[Your name here: Parent, guardian or other adult]

ADDRESS

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THIS story begins in the late 1920s

day of the boyish bob, the flower-pot hat and the Charleston.

That's when Mrs. P. R. Norris of Grinnell, Iowa, was married. When she set up housekeeping, her hope chest was bulging with fifteen beautiful sheets.

Doesn't sound hard so far, does it? But those fifteen sheets taught Mrs. Norris a valuable lesson! We quote her recent letter:

"Nine of those sheets were Pequots. Blithe little me, I never dreamed, then, what a difference there was in sheets. But I learned...and learned the hard way!"

Our blithe little bride had plenty of opportunity to compare her Pequots with the other sheets; she used them through the inevitable sieges of sickness and years of commercial laundering. Here's what she learned:

...the other sheets proved to be weak in spots, and one by one had to be discarded. The Pequots stood up beautifully! Even now, four of them are fresh and firm and whole enough to use...From now on, it's 100 per cent Pequots for me!"

We're sure that if you buy sheets of several other brands, and use them with your Pequots, you too will find Pequots give smoother comfort and longer wear.

But why learn the hard way? Why not ask for Pequots right off? We're doing our best to supply all retail stores with America's favorite sheets. Pequot Mills, Salem, Massachusetts.

PEQUOT SHEETS

so goodlooking

pequetal so longwearing

CONTRIBUTORS



. PEG HALL has proved once more that Yankee ingenuity can turn a hobby into a successful enterprise. Fifteen years ago, Peg restored some old tinware for a church fair; today her studios occupy an entire building on Boston's historic waterfront. Her authentic restorations of tinware, early furniture, and oddments are shipped throughout the country. Some of her interesting painting patterns are found on the tin and wooden items on page 98, on the lanterns on 96, 97, in the article "Let's Move Outdoors." Designing gift items, and scouting the country in search of authentic designs keep her on the go. We look forward to publishing more of her patterns among our crafts in coming issues.



RKO Radio Picture

· · · VIRCINIA MAYO hastens to urge building hopefuls to build models of the homes they've planned. "Motion picture studios learned long ago that it saves both time and money to create models of the expensive sets before beginning the actual construction," she writes in her article on page 30. A star in Samuel Goldwyn's technicolor production, The Kid From Brooklyn starring Danny Kaye, Miss Mayo is both beautiful and ambitious, is fond of sketching, collecting stray dogs, and designing her own hats. As a matter of fact, she likes all sorts of things -swimming, riding, ice-skating, steak with French fried onions, chicken and dumplings. She trained for the stage from childhood, studying at her aunt's dramatic school in St. Louis.

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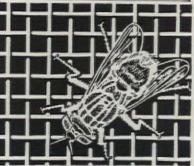
You, too, can benefit by using Sani-Flush in cleaning toilet bowls—just as city people do! Sani-Flush will not harm septic tank action. It's the disinfecting toilet bowl cleaner that removes germ-laden stains and film chemically—the cleaner that saves messy work. Write for scientific report that proves its safety. Remember—a clean toilet bowl has no odor.

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Write for Publication B-5, "How to Protect Your Home against Rust."

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... why. my house alone is worth \$10,000!"

The man with the brief case had a ready answer for that one. "That's just the point I want to make," he said. "Sure,

Remember, your fire insurance policy is a price tag on your house!

your house is worth \$10,000 but it's insured for only \$6,000. And as your insurance Agent I want you to realize this—\$6,000 is all you'd get if the place burned down tonight."

Compare your present insurance with the increased cash value of your home and its contents—and then see your

insurance Agent or Broker. He will tell you how little it will cost for North America's adequate insurance protection. Keep this in mind—values have risen more than two-thirds in the past 13 years.

Insurance Company of North America, founded 1792, oldest American stock fire and marine insurance company, heads the North America Companies which meet the public demand for practically all types of Fire, Marine, Automobile, Casualty and Accident insurance. Sold only through your own Agent or Broker. North America Agents are listed in local Classified Telephone Directories.



NORTH AMERICA

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA . INDEMNITY INSURANCE COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY . THE ALLIANCE INSURANCE COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA

TO EVERY NOOK AND CRANNY



Is your bedroom colder than you like it on winter mornings? . . Is your bathroom as warm as you would like it for the early morning shower or the evening tub? . . Is your living room cold at one end? Are your floors cold

Chances are that your home suffers from one or more of these discomforts which are difficult to cure with the present "on-and-off" control of heat supply, no matter how plentiful that supply may be at the source, the heating plant. But cheer up! There is good news ahead. Moduflow, the amazing new control system developed by Minneapolis-Honeywell, will provide a continuous flow of modulated heat to every nook and cranny of the modern home. It will put an end to the drafts and chilly periods caused by intermittent heat supply and save fuel now wasted by overheating at the ceiling.

Best news of all is that Moduflow can be easily and inexpensively installed right now, in your present automatic heating system. You don't have to wait until you build a new heme. Of course, if you are planning to build, you should make your heating plant completely modern with a Moduflow control system. A fascinating booklet "Comfort Unlimited" which tells all about Moduflow, has just been released. Mail the coupon today for your free copy.

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the Press!

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State

CONTRIBUTORS



• • • CHARLES SWISHER, known to his friends as "Charcoal Charlie," is a leading spirit in stimulating the art of charcoal cooking be it on the East Coast, West Coast, or right smack in the middle of the United States—as long as it's an outdoor party. He is, professionally, the sales director of United Charcoal Broilers, knows from a to z, the art of broiling delicious, juicy steaks in the open air. Some of his special technique in producing these rare steaks is found in "For Steak Lovers Only", page 105.



• L. L. DOLSON, who is a doctor by profession, owes his love of flowers to his Dutch ancestry, his interest in photography to many years' work in X-ray. From a daily diary of garden activities, he culls material for horticultural articles. He has written "You Can Do a Lot with Annuals" on page 80, and has taken the charming picture of the child that illustrates the article on page 28. In his spare time, he tests out new roses and perennials for their growers to determine their adaptability to the rigors of a midwestern climate.



· HELEN COOKE'S leanings toward journalism are just sort of natural. Swinging from years of training and teaching in pharmacy to the role of wife to a newspaper reporter, she fell into free-lance writing and photography without turning a hair. Author of the article "Neighbors Are Nice People" on page 70, she devotes most of her leisure time to reading, chasing fires and accidents with a camera in hand, and refurbishing her house on a newspaperman's budget.



Most women agree ironing is the most tiring household task. The MET-L-TOP Ironing Table makes it easier and more pleasant. The ventilated white-enameled top retains and more fully utilizes the heat of the iron so that clothes iron dry faster, with less pulling and dragging of the iron.
MET-L-TOP is FIRE-PROOF, WARP-PROOF. All-welded and riveted construction provides a permanently firm ironing

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• • • FLORENCE RICHTER JOHNSON writes to us on the letterhead stationery of the New Haven Journal Courier, and says she is "just another news-writer." Her major interest as a Connecticut newspaperwoman has been in city and state politics, but she is now home free lancing, taking care of a Dutch Colonial house. In it the panelled living-room wall and fireplace are copied smack off a cover of The American Home. You'll find her article "Little Guests Can Be Pests" on page 24.



sounds to us like a very lively contributor. Author of "Judy Street Gets a Haircut," she has her share of fun in garden, writing, camera and art clubs. She and her husband (the other member of the family being Rickie, a Shetland sheep dog), manage a group of farms in Illinois. She writes that her husband gardens by "ear" while she gardens by the book, that he slings a handy paintbrush, but can't be trusted for long with a hammer. There's obviously a lot of fun in the Churchill family!



• • ELIAS J. BEACH, who in this issue presents one gardener's views on the perpetually controversial subject of mulch vs. cultivation in the vegetable garden (page 75), says he is just a Dutchess County gardener trying to grow old gracefully. Horticulture is his vocation and his avocation. He started working in a greenhouse at the tender age of ten, and is still with it. Mr. Beach has a Russian wife and two youngsters of two and four to keep him busy.

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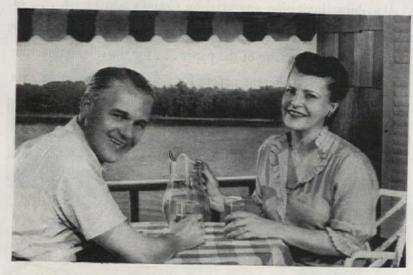
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CRANE'S FINE PAPERS

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How my wife and I are going to RETIRE ON \$150 A MONTH



It all started on my fortieth birthday. Alice had baked a cake, and the Southards from across the road dropped by to help celebrate.

We started talking about what we'd do if we were rich. "I'd like to retire," I said. "I'd go in for gardening, take trips to Florida . Gosh, I wish we were rich. But I never will be! 'Fraid I'll go on working all my life."

Jim Southard puffed his pipe. "How old are you, Al?" he asked.

When I told him I was forty, he was silent for a while. Then, "You're lucky," he said. "You could easily retire in twenty years. And without ever being rich, either. By that time your home will be free and clear. The children will be grown. You could live well on less than you're making now, couldn't you?"

I admitted that we could. In fact, on figuring it out, I knew we'd be well off with an income of from \$150 to \$200 a month. "But we've never been able to save," I said. "How would I ever get an income like that if I

answered, "with a Phoenix Mutual Retirement In-

come Plan. When I'm 60, I can kiss my job good bye, and my plan will start paying me. The secret, though, is to start in time. In your early forties, or sooner."

That was all Jim said. But it started me thinking. I sent away for a free booklet about Phoenix Mutual Plans-and discovered Jim was right. With a Phoenix Mutual Plan, both Alice and I could be assured a retirement income-as long as we lived. In twenty years, we'd get \$150 a month, regular as clockwork.

A few days later, I qualified for my Phoenix Mutual Plan. The twenty years are almost over now. Soon I'll be quitting work. Alice and I will be taking life easy. Our \$150 a month is guaranteed. No, you needn't be rich to retire on an income.

Send for Free Booklet

This story is typical. Assuming you qualify at a young enough age, you can plan to have an income of \$100 to \$200 a month or more-starting at age 55, 60, 65 or older. Send the coupon and receive, by mail a free booklet which tells about Phoenix Mutual Plans. Similar plans are available for women. Don't put it off. Send





Danville, Illinois

"My March American Home came this morning and I've turned the pages just so far as 'A Fable' by Jeannette Eyerly. I had to stop and write you.

"Here is an article-fable if you like-I might have written myself, or at least have lived. The paper over the dining-room window means Ann kicked it out when she flopped on the couch, heels in air. The circle over our registers must be very much like that at the Tinkhams. Dickie didn't execute that crayon mural over our wing chair (he's still crib size), so it must have been Sally. I'm quite sure she was the one who untied the ties on the rose slip cover, making the Cogswell look like a plump, squat old lady getting in or out of her 'Sunday best' with most of her unmentionables showing!

"Oh, yes, I guess every mother with a sizable family (six in our case) has daydreamed over her half-cold coffee. A nice orderly house would be so wonderful-for a little while, even for only a week or two.



John J. Dailey, proud owner of the fireplace he built from one of the A. H. Patterns. He said he followed the pattern with great success, substituting stone for suggested brick

"The question is: Would I rather folks said, 'Isn't she a marvelous housekeeper? Her home is so lovely!" or-'Did you ever see such a healthy, happy, energetic bunch of youngsters! And nothing ever bothers their mother!' I think you can quite readily guess the answer.

"So I'll go on getting my pleasure of orderly places by devouring your grand magazine page by page-most



DIC-A-DOO Paint Brush Bath

It's the life and spring in the bristles that makes a paint brush good. Dic-A-Doo Paint Brush Bath reclaims old paint-caked brushes and keeps new brushes in top-notch condition.

Cleans Fast, Efficiently. Brush Bath works quickly. Paint, lacquer or var-nish comes off fast, leaving your brush clean right up to the hilt.

Used By Painters and Decorators. Brush Bath is the quick, safe brush cleaning Bath is the quick, safe brush cleaning method. Its gentle action can't harm or loosen bristles. (Recommended for nylon brushes, too.) Experts use it—it has to be good!

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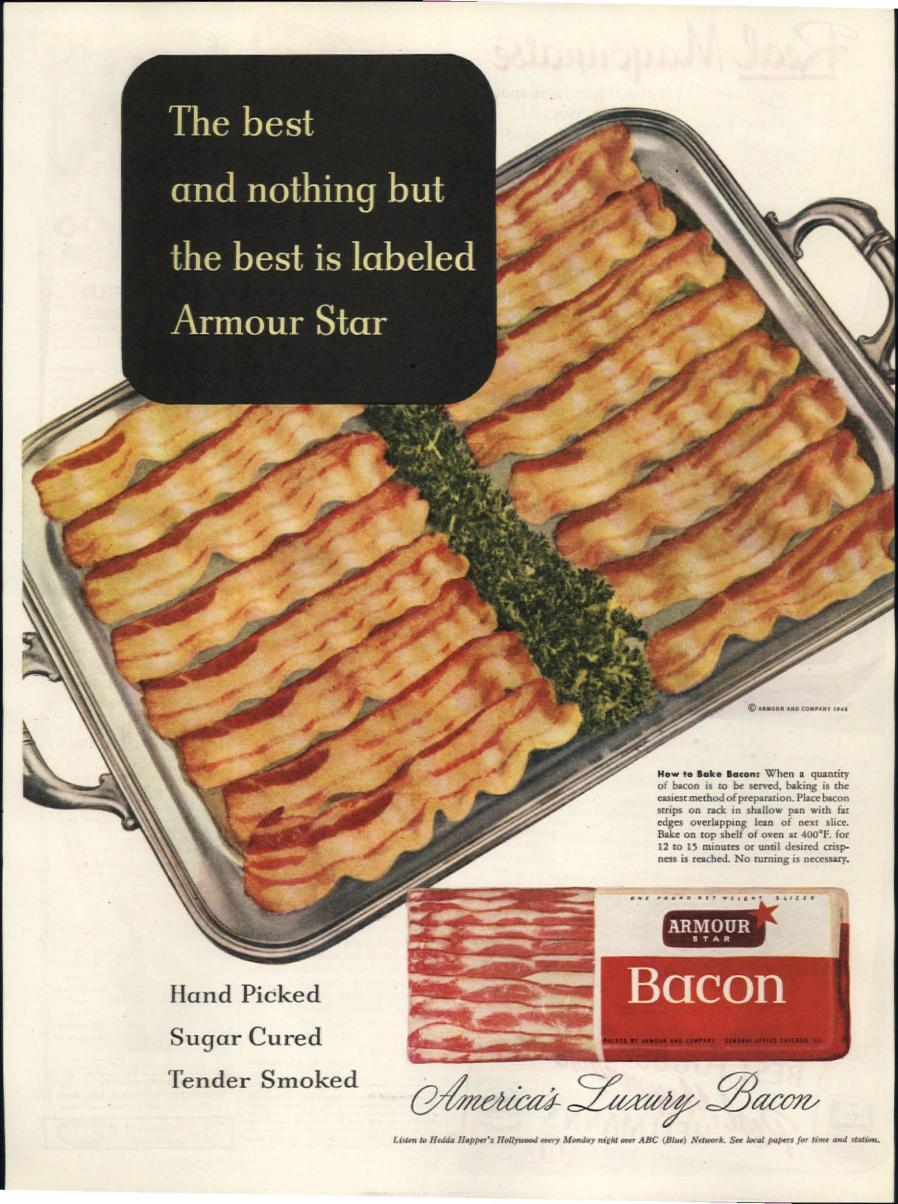
Use Dic-A-Doo Cleaner for any painted sur-face—walls or woodwork — inside or out.
Put it on—wipe it off.
It lifts dirt out. Good
for your hands. Saves
paint!

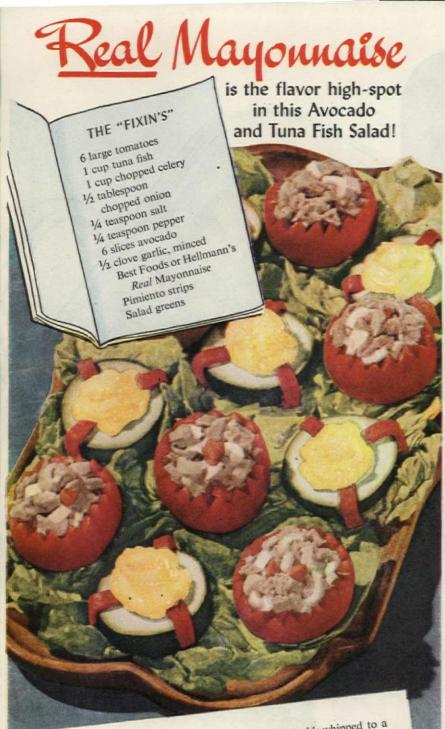
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- WON'T IRRITATE HANDS
- . ASK YOUR DRUGGIST







No Ordinary Salad, This!

Special occasions call for special dishes. Here's how to surprise the folks with a delicious salad: Remove a slice from top of each tomato. Scoop out. Combine pulp, fish, celery, onion, seasonings, and 1/3 cup Real Mayonnaise. Fill tomatoes. Arrange ingredients on tray as illustrated above. Mix garlic and 1 cup Real Mayonnaise and heap in center of each avocado slice. Garnish with pimiento.

Salads made with Real Mayonnaise have a way of hitting the spot with folks who like good things to eat. Best Foods-Hellmann's Real Mayonnaise is all mayonnaise - contains only eggs freshly broken from the shell ... added egg yolks ... our own "Fresh-Press" salad oil ... mild vinegar, and spices. These quality

REFA

ingredients are double-whipped to a delightful smoothness.

MORE good things to eat!

Next time you're thinking about how to give those same old vegetables a new flavor twist-reach for your Best Foods-Hellmann's Real Mayonnaise. There you have a swell sauce for hot vegetables. And those thin "company" sandwiches have real he-man flavor when spread with Real Mayonnaise. That goes for all sandwiches... not just because Real Mayonnaise tastes so good-but because it's so good for you as well. Best Foods-Hellmann's Real Mayonnaise contains 3,140 food energy units per pint; almost the same amount, spoonful for spoonful, as Nucoa or butter. There's real nutrition in every jar.

al Mayonnaise
HELLMANINTHE
EAST. BEST FOODS

of the pictures do look good enough to eat. Then I'll come down to earth again-glad to be here, well, and able to look after my brood."

. . . MRS. CARL THOMA

Thank you, Mrs. Thoma, for taking time out of your busy day to write us! We dare say you and your happy brood of youngsters are the envy of all who know you!

Remember the "Apostle Spoon" article in March? Well, it looks like the author, Genevieve B. Wimsatt, found a fertile hunting ground in THE AMERICAN HOME—she writes:

"Just a line to report that in answering all the letters elicited by the Apostle Spoons article, I was stunned to find myself addressing ladies and gentlemen in Punta Gorda, Florida, in South Dakota, Maine, California, New Mexico, Indiana, and even Canada. All God's chilluns seem to have Apostle spoons. As yet no rare 16th century item has turned up, but so-called 'Chinese Apostles', 'Indian Apostles' and other exotic varieties have come to light.

"So small a pebble to send the ripples so far!"

. . . GENEVIEVE B. WIMSATT

From South Glastonbury, Conn., comes this letter from an antiques collector who picked up a good buy by studying THE AMERICAN HOME articles on antiques!

"For years, I have been clipping from THE AMERICAN HOME for my interior decoration scrap books. I also have an antique book and this letter is to express appreciation for the splendid articles on antiques in the past three years. I am collecting Cupid and Venus pressed glass and English scenic plates. It all began with an article in June, 1942-'Grandmother Had One!'

"Thank you for the pictures of collections and their arrangement. The article on slip ware in November, 1942, helped me to recognize a plate which I purchased for 25¢ recently at an auction."

In defense of tradition, she writes: "I am so glad you have not fallen completely for the modern architecture as some other magazines have. I think they are all wrong. Many of my friends are building or expect to build when they can, but not one is even considering a modern house. As for us, we are just waiting for a real old salt-box house, or square type for our Connecticut countryside. The February, 1946, number had two splendid articles-'We Lift Our Brows to the Sun,' and 'Parents Don't Always Know Best.' Give us more like that!"

. . . ELSIE B. ANDERSON

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.



with Bon Ami!

Just do this-(1) Apply a thin coating of Bon Ami to mirror or windows. (2) Wipe it off before it dries. And dirt's gone glass is crystal-clear. For Bon Ami Cake polishes as well as cleans, leaves no oily film to dull glass and pick up dust. So thrifty, too-cleans 10 average windows inside and out for a penny.

Best for windshields, too!





The Aristocrat DISAPEER

Prices (with atomizer) postpaid: 4 bottle \$1.25; 8 oz. bottle \$1.65. R

nizer 65¢.

BAILEY, PRIHODA & CO., Mfrs.

thout atomizer) 4 oz. b bottle \$1.00; Atomizer

372 W. Kalamazon Ave. Kalain

"Cedar Pine"



Everyone Enjoys a Basement With This Practical Floor

MOISTURE RESISTANT . . . LOW COST . . . LONG WEARING

WHO WOULDN'T BE HAPPY with a basement like this for leisure hours? Such a room is practical today because of an unusual flooring material—Armstrong's Asphalt Tile—especially suited for basements. This new floor is not affected by the dampness that deteriorates other materials when laid on concrete in contact with the ground. This means it can go down right over your present basement floor.

And that's only part of the good news about Armstrong's Asphalt Tile. This modern floor is extremely versatile, gives almost unlimited scope to your decorative ideas. Its wide range of colors, plain and marbleized, offers unusual opportunity for attractive combinations. And since it's laid a block at a time, distinctive designs can easily be created.

A floor of Armstrong's Asphalt Tile is easy to take care of, too. It can be cleaned without trouble, since dust and dirt can't catch on its gleaming, mirror-like surface. All the attention you need give it is a light sweeping, with an occasional washing and waxing.

It's quite natural to suppose that a floor with all these advantages would be expensive. Surprisingly, it's not! The actual fact is that Armstrong's Asphalt Tile is so modestly priced you'll want to turn your old, neglected basement into an inviting recreation room for all the family.

WRITE FOR YOUR FREE COPY of "Livable Basement Rooms." The pages of this practical booklet are crammed with easy-to-use decorative ideas illustrated in full color. Just send a post card today to Armstrong

Cork Company, Resilient Tile Floors Department, 4606 Plum Street, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.



SEE HOW IT LOOKED before the basement became the social center for young and old alike. Now it's a three-in-oneroom—designed for relaxation, refreshments, and active recreation. Notice how the floor of Armstrong's Asphalt Tile makes it practical for this triple usage and at the same time makes the room seem more spacious. Three handsome colors make up the design. Cordovan Marble was used to set off the "music corner" by the radio and record player. The zigzag strip of Clay Brown follows the interesting contour of the room. And to highlight the hospitable snack bar, a broad band of Travertine has been used. Floor plans and details of furnishings sent free on request.



The low-cost floor (A) with the luxury look

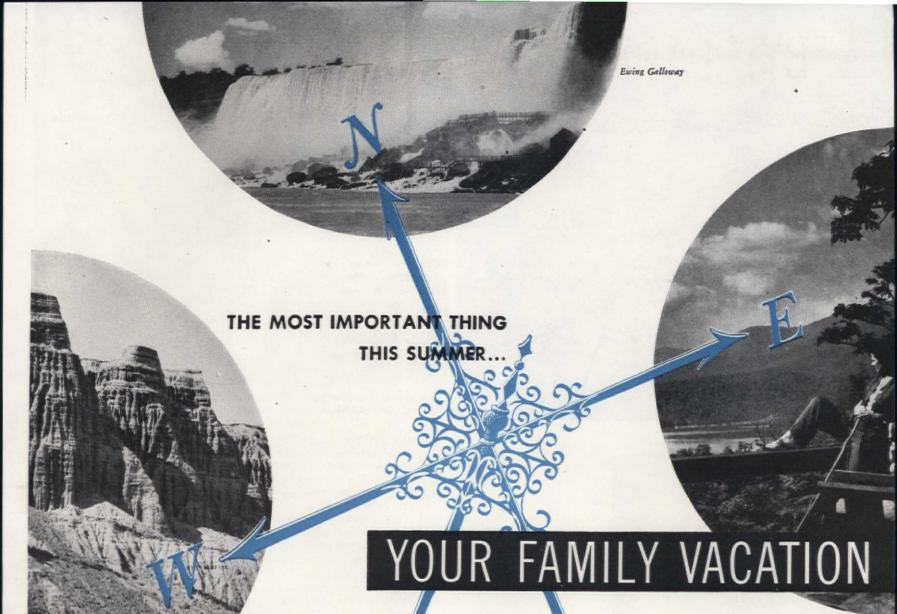
MADE BY THE MAKERS OF

ARMSTRONG'S LINOLEUM AND ARMSTRONG'S QUAKER RUGS

WANT A DAY OFF? Map a meal around a salad!

No cooking to do! Give 'em big helpings of hearty salads.





gether again and at last, at long last, the summer acation is not a two-week escape wishing that faraway GI "were here," but a summer together. This is the summer when whole families will pick up bag and baggage and hie to the hinterlands, mountains, beaches, to all of America's wonderful vacation spots. For if bookings on planes, railroads and bus lines are any indication, America's families will spend this golden holiday exploring new fields.

America has always been a nation on the move and the travel urge so long suppresse is bursting into certain bloom. Posters a brochures are tumbling over one anot to tell of postwar developments in t vel facilities. Brand new is the idea of catering to whole family groups traveling as unit Airways and railways realize the emendous importance of providing for families who wish to be together this summer, have gone all out to make group ty veling to and from points of the composs just as much of a holiday as the ultimate journey's end itself.

Railways have made traveling with children their special concern. For parents, the most ardious part of traveling with children has been keeping them occupied, out of mischief, and out of the way of fellow passengers. Such troubles can soon be forgotten, for trains will have what is called a Junior Club Car—a Kiddy Car, where all kinds of supervised recreation is provided for those kiddies who have been accumulating energy, and have no place in which to "let off steam!"

In the dining car, too, some of the railway lines are stationing pleasant, welltrained hostesses who make mealtimes very special for the children by presenting them with the gift of a color book. Here, too, are children's menus, written in a characteristic manner on school slates to arouse the appetite of the wayfaring child.

And in the passenger coaches, the mother with the infant child can be relieved by a passenger representative, who is not only trained to point out places of interest, but to keep passengers comfortable – even to heating the baby's bottle!

For families with a limited travel budget, there is a new economy unit in travel comfort—the three-tier Coach-Sleeper. It is ideal for family travel, because it is divided

into compartments for parties of three or six. Privacy within the compartment is provided for by curtains fastened from the inside of each berth. In addition to the two washrooms and toilet at each end of the de luxe car, there are facilities within each compartment, including a wash basin with hot and cold running water, a dental faucet, mirror and an electric shaving outlet. The traveling family can reserve a compartment en bloc at a rate which runs about thirty per cent lower than that charged for the ordinary lower berth—luxury travel at bargain rates!

Coach seats that are veritable chaise longues are being introduced by one company as another luxury in railroad traveling, each seat having an adjustable back, foot and leg rest which enables the day or night traveler to assume a comfortable, relaxed position. But added to that, there is a radio hidden in the back of the seat just at ear level. Volume is automatically controlled so that while the program can be clearly heard by the occupant of the seat, it need not annoy the passenger in the adjoining chair if he prefers to read.

Interior design in trains has undergone

Research by H. L. Hulme, Jr.





Preview of air travel to come is this Stratocruiser which seats 59 passengers, with room in other compartments for 22 more

Movies in the sky, a new flight feature. All dressing room needs provided

For sleeping in the clouds and lounge facilities

by overseas correspondence during the war will find ample scope for satisfaction in remote lands heretofore touched only by fancy, for all the excitement of foreign travel is now available. And since the spectacular development of air transport, it comes within the reach of even the average American on a two-weeks-vacation-with-pay budget!

Traveling with children on the airways is so easy that it gives air travel a major appeal to family groups. Young mothers who were forced to fly to spend precious time with their husbands during the war will testify to the quiet efficiency of the hostess on air journeys. Thoughtful touches such as storing of baby's bottle in the refrigerator and the provision of a complete baby kit with diapers, safety pins, and baby food, all win the admiration of the traveling mother. Then, too, the speed of the journey is wonderful when traveling with children, the best of whom are apt to become irritable on a long trip. Time passes quickly for them on board the airliner.

Games, toys, sketch pads all provide diversion. One airways distributes Souvenir Flight Packets with information about the airplane, the flights, the landmarks which are easily identified from the air. Added factor is that when the enchantment of flying has worn off for the children, the high altitude is likely to make youngsters sleepy and contented.

One of the most attractive features of the largest and fastest airplane in airline service is the cabin which permits the ship to cruise through substratosphere levels up to 20,000 feet and thereby pass over virtually all rough weather disturbances normally encountered at lower altitudes.

Some of the amazing accessories which the airlines are considering for passengers' use, are individual radios, ship-to-ground communication so that a passenger can talk to his home or office while aloft; air-conditioning devices which insure a comfortable temperature within the plane regardless of the weather outside; and illuminated trip progress panels which show the city being flown over, plus comfortable sleeping and lounge accommodations. Officials of one airways believe that their new eighty passenger double-decker luxury plane with its pressured cabin, screen for first-run movies, and fourteen seat lounge on the lower deck will open a new era of global mass transportation of passengers by air. And this, at less cost, greater speed, unprecedented comfort, and with the highest standard of reliability and safety. The long-sustained aspirations for placing air transportation within the reach of everyone is today a reality.

By land, by sea, or in the air, travelhungry American families will be on the move this great peacetime summer.

Data courtesy of: Travel Anywhere, Inc.; New York Central System; New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Co.; Pullman Standard Car Manufacturing Co.; Budd Manufacturing Co.; General Motors; Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad; TWA; Lockheed Aircraft Corp.; Pan American World Airways: Boeing Aircraft Co.; American Airlines; Frank Willming photo.

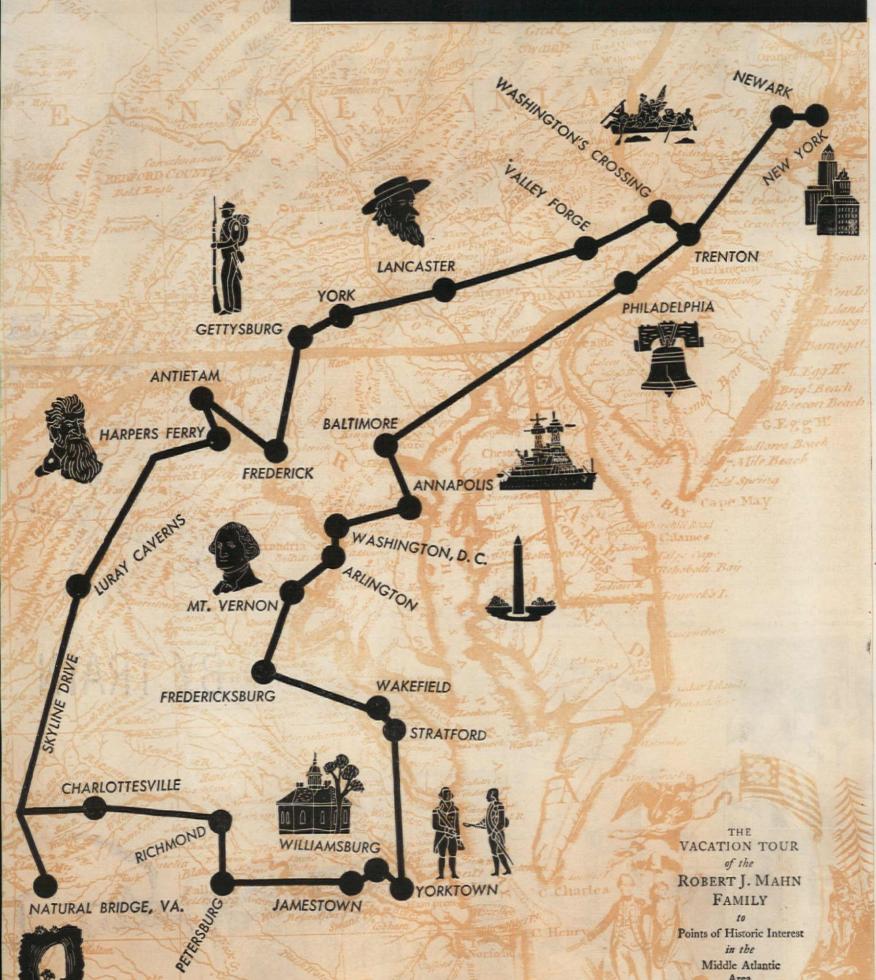


Complete privacy and comfort in roomette

Junior Club Car is first railroad car ever designed for children. Kiddies' menus, gift booklets are added feature



8 DAYS BY AUTOMOBILE



Bettmann Archive



Ferry House, Washington's Crossing



Valley Forge



gettysburg



Monticello

This is the record of an eight-day trip by car, with New York the starting point, covering the Revolutionary and Civil War battlegrounds and historic sites of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia. Taken in midwinter, the trip encompasses 1500 miles, was planned for the two children of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mahn, who were eager to see the places they had been studying in American history. Recreation and education, therefore, were the motives.

December 26. Early this morning we started from New York on our winter holiday. Weather: foggy and cool. First really historical site was Washington's Crossing. We read the inscription on the monument, looked across the Delaware on the scene made so famous during the Revolutionary War. Saw the immense encampment grounds of Washington's troops at Valley Forge, the stables and old headquarters. Here the children liked the colonial uniforms in reds and blues with their cutaway coats, tricorne hats. Spent the night in a little hotel just north of Lancaster so we could see the Mennonite farms by daylight,

December 27. The morning was all we had hoped for driving through the Mennonite district. We found the farms off the main roads, tremendous, well kept, with immaculately scrubbed houses. The Mennonites ride around in little horse-drawn carriages; to us they seemed very picturesque in their voluminous costumes, with flat, wide-brimmed black hats and black ties. Saw our first battlefield today — Gettysburg — which left a great impression on the children. In Frederick, Maryland, we visited the Barbara Fritchie home. Dusk prevented our seeing to good advantage the striking river and mountain scenery in West Virginia around Harpers' Ferry, and John Brown's Fort.

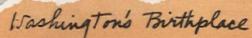
December 28. This day we saw one of the most spectacular sights of the trip, though not historical — the Luray Caverns in the Blue Ridge Mountains, 20 miles off the Skyline Drive. They were beautiful, with glittering stalactites, folds of stone like wind-swept



Forge, Williamsburg



Stocks, Williamsburg

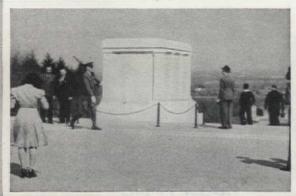




hee's Birthplace



1st British Redoubt at YorkTown



Tomb of the Unknown Soldier



Mount Vernon

Arthur T. Mayer



Capital Building



Washington Monument



White House



Free Lance Photographers Guild

draperies. The caverns are illuminated to bring out all the colors of the stalactites and the children were completely fascinated by them. Because it was hazy, we couldn't see the vista of the Shenandoah Valley from the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Skyline Drive, we were told, is beautiful in June with the pink mountain laurel and wild flowers in profuse bloom. We had dinner in a little hotel in Waynesboro at the end of the Skyline Drive.

December 29. Every square inch of Virginia seems to have something historic. In Charlottesville we saw the University of Virginia campus, reputedly one of the most beautiful in the country, its buildings designed by Thomas Jefferson. But highlight of the morning was Jefferson's home, "Monticello," for which he was his own architect; it is beautifully designed in the classical style. We were intrigued by his inventiveness, particularly by the stairway concealed in the wall, and by a seven-day clock over the door which marks the days by the descent of cannon-ball weights.

At "Ashlawn," home of James Monroe, we were impressed by the beautiful English boxwood gardens. Toured historic Richmond to see St. Paul's Church, Poe Shrine, Confederate Museum, and Capitol.

This was a real field day for us, historically, for we also saw the Crater in Petersburg, where the Federals dug tunnels under the Confederate lines and mined them. We arrived in Williamsburg about eight o'clock after a drive along the James River, in time for dinner—Virginia ham with wine sauce, a delectable memory for the children.

sauce, a delectable memory for the children.

December 30. Williamsburg, a restoration of the original Virginia, was by all odds the most interesting part of the trip. We sensed the splendor of another day in the Governor's mansion of Georgian architecture, from its magnificent wrought-iron gateway to its crystal chandeliers and immense fireplaces. Hostesses in costume recall the spirit of gracious hospitality. Watched a Negress in white cap and apron making bayberry candles in the original primitive manner. The children had their pictures taken in the stocks of the Public Gaol (jail). Saw also the Raleigh Tavern where the Revolutionary War was reportedly hatched, and the beautiful old houses, a tribute to American taste. Drove to Jamestown to see the ruins of the first settlement, and in Yorktown, we visited

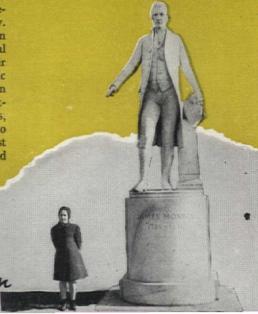
the 3mps Museum and the Moore house where the British surrendered. Drove back to Williamsburg for the night, found the little restaurant and, without hesitation, ordered Virginia ham and wine sauce.

December 31. Riding along the Rappahannock River this morning, we spotted an old colonial hotel at Tappahannock, right on the riverside. Will never forget the Southern breakfast here, with hot corn and blueberry muffins, served by a charming old Negro who just couldn't give us enough to eat. Saw birthplaces of two American leaders: the eight-chimneyed mansion of General Lee at Stratford, and "Wakefield," Washington's birthplace on the beautiful lands of tidewater Virginia. At Mt. Vernon, we found the outbuildings as interesting as the main house, particularly the spinning house and carriage house. At last to Washington, D. C., to celebrate New Year's Eve in the Nation's Capital.

January 1. One of those days, which every traveler has, when everything goes wrong. Continuous rain interfered with sightseeing, but saw the White House and got a view of the city from the top of the Washington Monument. Went on to Annapolis to see the Naval Academy, but the gates were closed. Saw the State Buildings and the birthplace of the Star Spangled Banner in Baltimore.

January 2. The eighth day and the last leg of our trip. In Wilmington we saw the quaint Old Swedes' Church. In Philadelphia, we had time to visit Independence Hall, to see the Liberty Bell, the Declaration of Independence, and the Articles of the Constitution. Also the Betsy Ross house where the first American flag was made.

Were pleased to discover that the entire cost of the trip for a family of four was just 10¢ a mile—a minimum expenditure for such a rich and memorable experience.



Monroe Statue, Ashlaron

Liberty Bell

8 DAYS BY TRAIN

journey by train taken by a family of four to the picturesque sections of French Canada and upstate New York, with Boston the starting point, Montreal, Quebec City, Niagara Falls, and Albany the high points of the trip. It was the children's first overnight trip by train, and the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore F. Gloisten, felt that it added immeasurably to their pleasure to travel by rail.

December 26. Boarded the train in Boston tonight for our trip to Canada. The children were thrilled with the idea of sleeping in a berth. It is so different from traveling by car. We sat in the observation car, watching the little towns through the panorama windows.

December 27. Crossed the border in Vermont. One must have papers proving American citizenship, such as birth certificate, voter's registration card, or service discharge

papers. We are allowed to pring back \$100 worth of goods free of duty after 48 hours in Canada. Arrived in Montreal at 8 a. m. and left our bags at the hotel. Spent the morning in the shopping and financial district. We discovered that Montreal is in many ways like other cosmopolitan cities. As we wandered about, we could hear the bells of the cathedrals. A little later we saw St. James on Dominion Square. It is a replica of St. Peters' in Rome, and the interior is elaborate with decorations in white and gold. On Place D'Armes, we saw Notre Dame Cathedral with its two high towers. In one is a fifteen-ton bell, the largest on this continent. Behind the church is a museum of priceless religious art treasures of the 17th and 18th centuries. In many places historic buildings, churches and monuments are in the midst of modern structures. We had lunch in a French restaurant. One large bowl of the famous French-Canadian specialty, Soupe aux pois, pea soup, is practically a meal in itself. Walked around the open-air market, the Bon secours, where the tarmers sell their produce. Visited the Chateau de Ramezay, imposing residence of the early French governors. In midafternoon, we hired a sleigh and drove to the top of Mount Royal. Here we could get a bird's eye view of the entire city and it was very impressive. Stopped at the Chalet for refreshments and to watch the skiing. Later we climbed the steps to St. Joseph's Oratory, famous religious shrine, and then left for the wax museum, the Musee Historique which is also worth visiting. Wax figures depict Indian trading, hunting and religious scenes. The

Parliament Building

Canadian National Railways

- Quebec City

Canadian Pacific Railway



Chateau Frontenac - Quebec City



Notre Dame Cathel Ral- Montreal



St. Joseph's Oratory - Montreal

Wax Musée - Montreal



To Mt. Royal - Montreal On the train to quebec







Niagara Falls-Canadian side U.S. sile





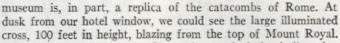
Fort Niagara

Howe Caverns





Thatcher Park



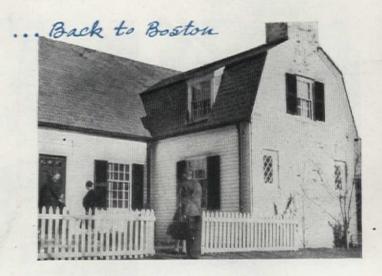
December 28. In Quebec City today we had the feeling that we were really in old Canada. Took the train down from Montreal, but would some day like to make the trip by boat. From our rooms on the Crown Floor of the Chateau Frontenac, we could see the fortified walls and ramparts of the Citadel above the St. Lawrence River and a portion of the city. We enjoyed promenading on the boardwalk of Dufferin Terrace below the towers of the Chateau, which is on top of the cliffs of this walled city. Watched the figure skaters on the ice rink, and the sleds tobogganing down the triple-chute snow slide. The medieval courtvard of the Chateau, and its sixteenth-century architecture lend an atmosphere of the old world. Drove to Lac Beauport. a winter resort, and to the beautiful shrine of St. Anne de Beaupré 22 miles away. In the summertime the quaint calèches, or horse-drawn carriages are available for sightseeing. Found an old French restaurant for dinner, after asking several residents, most of whom only answered "Non comprends." Here, everyone speaks French.

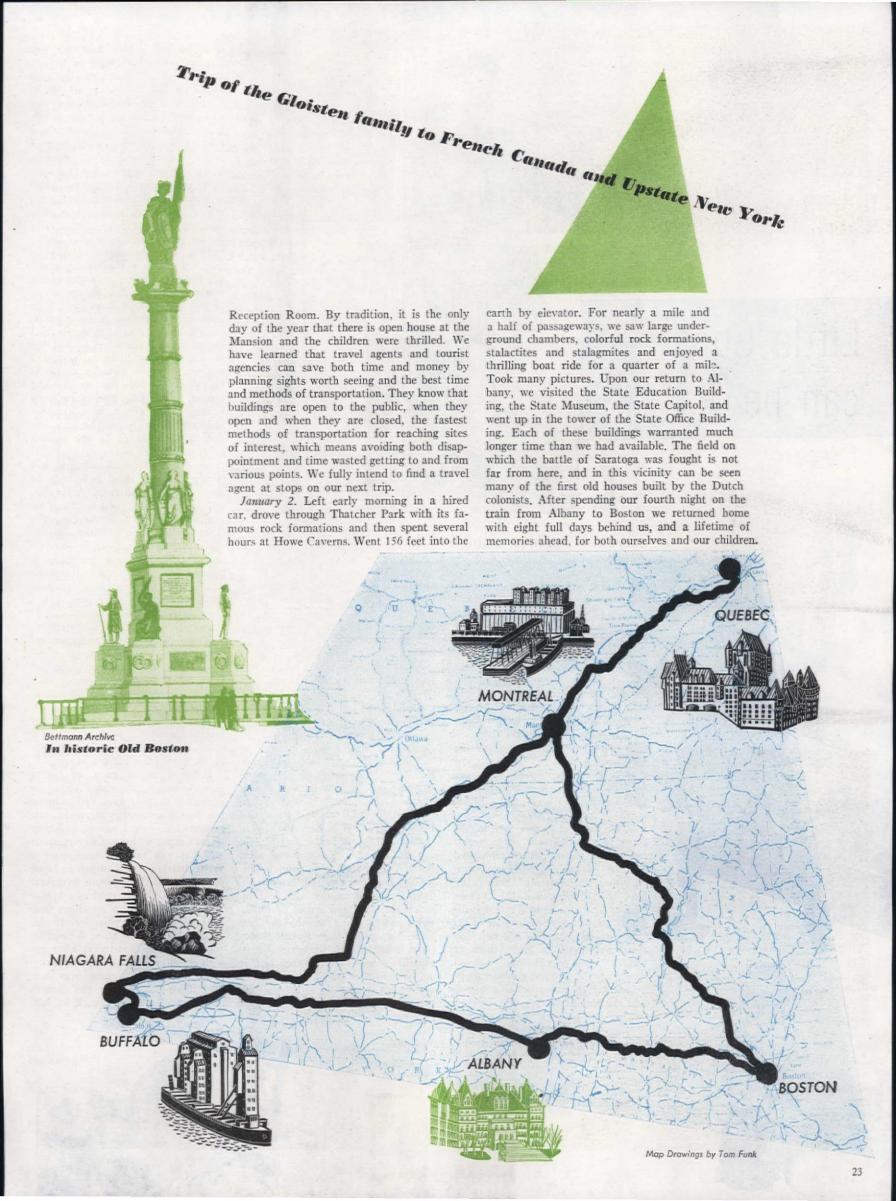
December 29. Took a car today to Montmorency Falls and the Isle of Orleans. The falls, higher than Niagara, were beautiful. The Isle of Orleans is approximately 42 miles in circumference and the customs of a century ago are still preserved. We saw ox-driven carts, and the old French houses with their steeppitched roofs, also the Church of St. Francis de Sales, noted for its artistic carvings. Back in the city, we went down to the old French quarter, were fascinated by the little narrow streets. Saw the house of Montcalm, with its high, slanting roof. Were impressed with the historic high-walled city gates of Old Quebec, the Parliament Buildings and museums. We left for the train with the feeling that someday we would like to return.

December 30. After a most pleasant and comfortable overnight trip on the train, we arrived in Niagara Falls this morning. Have been here several times before but soon found out that the attractive setting in the summer does not compare with the frost effects in the winter. The ice formations defy description. After walking around above the falls, we took the Maid of the Mist elevators down below-a thrill we will never forget. In the afternoon we went to Queen Victoria Park and then along the drive overlooking the lower rapids whirlpool on the Canadian side.

December 31. Took a trip to Fort Niagara today by bus. We could hardly tear ourselves away from the interesting and historic old fort. It was once a French fort, then British, now American. Saw the original trading post, the council chambers, kitchens, the blockhouse, and the main building called the French castle. Spent New Year's Eve in the City of Buffalo.

January 1. Arrived in Albany this morning after a comfortable night in berths on a late train out of Buffalo. After resting at our hotel we sought the aid of a travel agent whose office was in the hotel lobby. It was one of the best acts of our trip. Through his guidance, we had a most memorable time having called at the Governor's Mansion, visited in person with both the Governor and his wife and then enjoyed tea and cakes in their







MEET YOUR

This article is based upon an interview with Captain E. H. Masters, Chief of Detectives of the Lincoln, Nebraska, Police

Department, and upon statistics and material supplied by him

ADJES and gentlemen, meet your burglar. Surprised to see him? Well, you shouldn't be. For he may come at any hour, night or day, to your house. He's the most unpredictable guest you've ever seen. But, oddly enough, in spite of his extreme willingness to drop in, he seldom shows up unless he is invited.

"But I wouldn't invite a burglar!" you say. Yet perhaps you have done just that, more times than you realize. Remember that vacation trip last summer when the whole family was away for a week? Of course, you locked the doors and windows all around, but didn't you also pull down the shades, to keep out the sun's rays? What enterprising young burglar could ignore such an invitation to plunder your house at leisure?

Or perhaps just last week you suddenly decided to go downtown in the early afternoon, and you left a note on the door to inform your school child when to expect you. Burglars can also read notes, and your particular burglar would think you quite obliging to have left the door key under the mat or on top of the lighting fixture.

True enough, housebreaking may be something that usually happens to someone that you don't know, but it is still a considerable menace. You, as a homeowner, are a potential victim of this widespread crime. But there are numerous ways to protect yourself if you are familiar with your burglar and how he operates. Let's have a look at this character and see what we find.

Your burglar isn't apt to belong to any particular race or class, but you can't help noticing how young he is. Of the 12,712 people arrested for burglary in the first six months of 1944, 53 per cent were under 21 years of age, and 68 per cent were under 25. Nor will he be wearing a dark mask and carrying a blackjack. In fact, you wouldn't even notice him if you met him on the street. Unless, of course, you should happen to recognize your neighbor's coat on his back!

Above all else, a housebreaker is a professional, skilled at his trade. He knows how to get into your house, and where to look for your valuables. He is also a connoisseur of what is valuable, and a successful burglar will have organized a ready market for his stolen goods. And, as in most other skilled trades, there is specialization in the field of burglary. There are day burglars, and there are night burglars.

One out of three "jobs" is pulled during the day. In a casual stroll through a residential neighborhood, a burglar will spot a home which he suspects to be empty, because of a note on the door, drawn window shades, piled-up newspapers, or something similar. He will then go up to the door and ring the bell, and if anyone answers, he is ready with some plausible excuse. But if the house is actually empty, then it is no time at all until he is in the house, having entered



He'll visit you if, while away, you invite him by drawn blinds, accumulation of papers, mail, milk . . . in fact doing all those things which to him read—"Nobody home . . . help yourself!"

through either kitchen door or a rear window. But you locked the back door and windows, you say? That is just the reason that the intruder carries with him several keys and a jimmy or two.

The methods of the after-dark operator are more varied. Most commonly he will work like his daytime companion, and only enter houses that he knows to be empty. One of his tricks is to loiter around until he sees the occupants of a house leave for the movies. Then it's up to the door, ring the bell to make sure, then around to the back and into the house. Darkness makes it possible for him to do things like breaking out a section of glass near a door or window latch.

The real elite of the craft of burglars, the men who take the most risks, get the biggest hauls, and rate the most publicity, are the so-called "second-story men." The name comes from entering your home through a second-story door or window, which is usually left unlocked. They always work at night, but it doesn't matter to them whether you are at home or not. In fact, nothing pleases them more than for you to have friends in for dinner! Then, while you are entertaining in the front of the house, they are busy in the rear, making away with your guest's wraps and purses, and any handy things of yours.

This same individual may be a bit shy of lights and people, and wait until you are asleep to come in. Most of this looting is done between midnight and five a.m. This is less spectacular than entering during dinner, but it is just as costly to you.

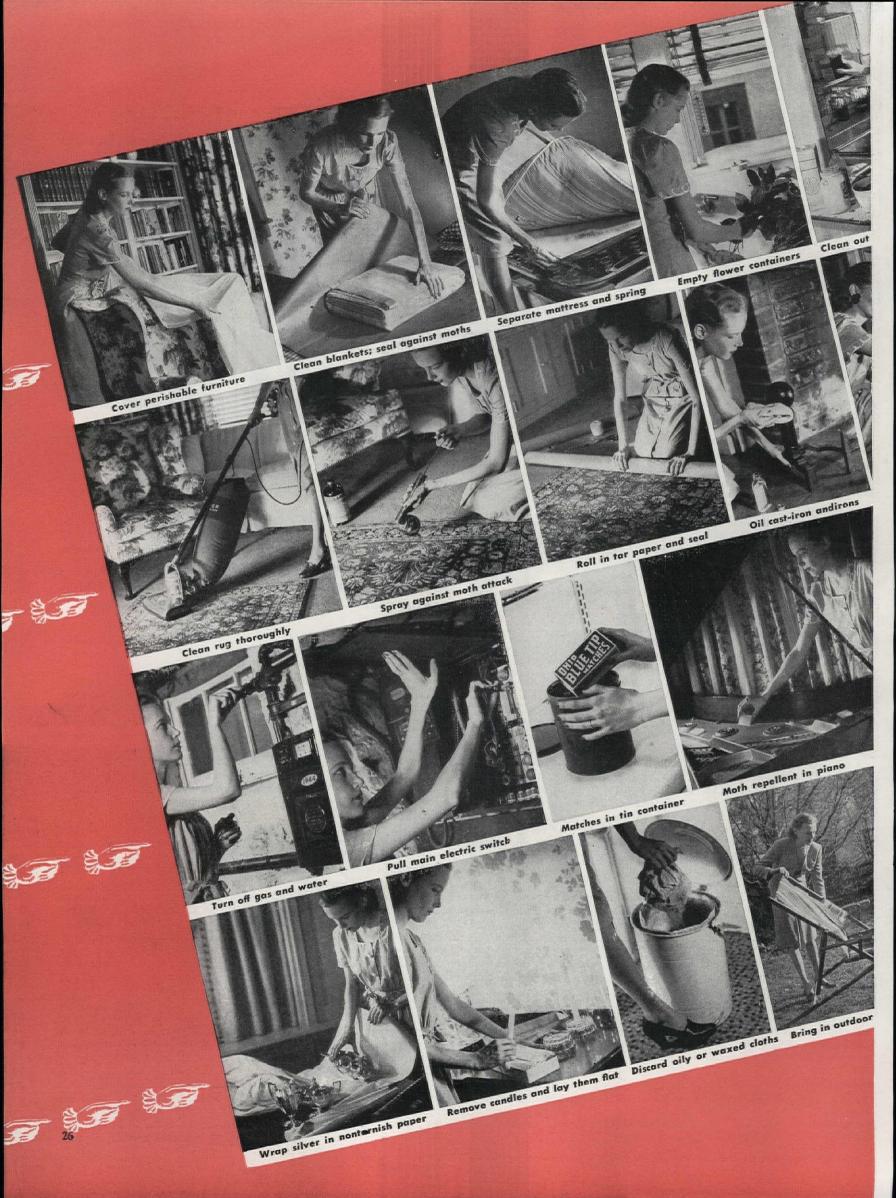
And here you may justifiably begin to wonder how, with burglars so numerous and so adept at depriving you of your valuables, you can protect yourself from their depredations. Captain Masters, Chief of Detectives of the Lincoln, Nebraska, Police Department has these suggestions to make.

First, make sure that your doors have good locks on them. The best type is a modern double lock, with an inside latch, and a metal strip alongside the doorjamb. This strip is to prevent a burglar from inserting a thin piece of metal behind the jamb, and slipping the lock catch.

Don't keep large amounts of money, or valuable jewelry around the house. Burglars are smart enough to know where to look, because they are familiar with the usual hiding places. A bureau drawer, or a mattress, or a vase is not a safe place for valuables. Banks and safety deposit boxes, while more obvious, are more burglarproof.

If you go away, whether for a day or several weeks, try to create an impression of normal occupancy about your house. Leave the shades up, and be sure that your front stoop is kept clean. Tell the milkman, the postman, and the paper boy that you are going. It's a good idea, too, to ask your neighbor to keep an eye on things and to report anything suspicious. You can return the favor when he goes away. And men like Captain Masters, whose job it is to protect your property, will be glad if you will let them in on the news of your departure, too, so that they can give your house special attention.

And here is a tip for you husbands to use the next time your wife wakes up and insists that there is a burglar in the house. Just make a lot of noise and any intruder will quickly depart. Company is one thing he doesn't like and your chances of catching him pretty small, anyway.





More "Orphans" in America Than



Why don't we grow up to emotional adulthood and apply common sense to the problem of human relations?

An appalling number of homes are falling apart through neglect or willful destruction, as divorce mills grind out a bumper harvest of shattered marriages, sowing a new crop of pitiful half-orphans to replace the one just raised. Divorces have doubled since Pearl Harbor, and we haven't even begun to feel the impact of severed war unions. Even before the war, the number of divorce orphans had jumped to a million and a quarter, so, granting that over half the divorces dissolve childless marriages, consider how many of today's ten and a half million chil-

dren under five years of age will be bereft of father or mother by 1950. Our present rate of exchange at the divorce bar will soon endow us with more orphans than bomb-riddled Europe.

While women are not to blame for man-made wars, we're largely responsible for their aftermath of family decay. The wife and mother is the cornerstone of the home, and homes are the bulwark of civilization, a fact as old as the creation of male and female and one which no amount of clever rationalization will alter. The responsibility is frightening, and that may be the reason

in Bomb-Riddled Europe?

Millicent Tralle



Death bequeaths an orphan dignity, but divorce leaves only tattered remnants of pride to clothe his vulnerability

crusading to prove ourselves equal to men. The shorter our skirts and hair in the twenties—the longer our working hours and larger pay envelopes in the forties—the more loudly we asserted our rights. Along with the male prerogative of voting, too many of us adopted smoking, drinking and adultery, until now the only marked difference between the sexes in some cases is biological. We've proved we're equal to a man's job, and no one ever doubted that we could even outdo him in vice if we let ourselves go. So wouldn't it be sensible to agree that there's no such thing as a single standard of morals and conduct, and have fun being the kind of women convention and chivalry applaud?

It's primarily up to the wife and mother to make and maintain a strong family unit without which any individual or nation is weak and lost. We can cry that it isn't fair, and we don't have to like it, but it's our job, the one for which we are peculiarly fitted and were born to do. Just being a fine person is hard enough. It takes a superwoman to hold her family in this streamlined age of competition, but success pays off in rewards no amount of money can ever buy.

Where would we be if our mothers and grand-mothers hadn't stuck to their job? Perhaps many of them would have turned to divorce in heart-break and disillusionment if it hadn't meant social ostracism. Maybe our female ancestors had more moral stamina. They certainly didn't like drudgery, being the family buffer, and begging for pennies. But then, we don't always enjoy the noise and strain of business and industry, putting up with the boss's "cussedness," worrying over the taxes and the high cost of living. These are musts, we think, forgetting that they're equally essential to the job of homemaker.

Nobody's advocating banishment back to the kitchen and economic slavery, though many business women would welcome domesticity. Besides the career women, thousands of war widows will have to go on working; thousands more who are wives of disabled veterans are faced with the double jobs of home and office or factory. It's putting our families first that we should resume in thinking and action—campaigning against divorce in our hearts and in our speech.

Tragically enough, the majority of divorces not only complicate matters but don't solve anything. Of course, we can't blame divorce per se, which, like surgery, is sometimes the only cure. Comparable to labor's right to strike, it is the individual's weapon for survival, intended for use as a last resort. Yet workers refuse to arbitrate and women brandish divorce like a toy pistol in cops and robbers, more surprised than anybody when it proves to be loaded. Human be-

ings seem determined to do things the hard way, deluding themselves that it's the easiest because they're too lazy to think things through, too stubborn to admit they're wrong, too cowardly to fight for moral victory over stupidity and bad bargains. Why don't we grow up to emotional adulthood, apply common sense to the problem of human relations, rationalize our desires, and leave beauty instead of bitterness behind us?

What, actually, is wrong with that marriage of yours-of your son or daughter-of the neighbor down the block? Analyze it objectively, honestly, in private or anonymously in open forum discussion. Educational programs in the field of marriage are being set up in colleges, churches and community centers, and there are a few reputable agencies for consultation and guidance in such key cities as New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles. But these aren't adequate to check the cancerous growth ravaging organized society. and it's up to us women to set the style for decency. We can boycott anything out of existence if we will. So, at the next bridge club or sewing society, instead of gossiping about Will and Mary, complaining about John's shortcomings, or suffering in silence, bring the problem out into the fresh air of analysis. Add up the credits, deduct the debits, and see if the result isn't a nest egg you can help grow into security.

In the long run, rebuilding a crumbling marriage is easier than starting a new one and more apt to turn out satisfactorily. For some inexplicable reason, the matrimonial manpower shortage is increasing out of all proportion to war fatalities, so a would-be divorcee had better consider carefully the prospect of living permanently alone. Most important of all, any child, if consulted, would prefer one natural father to assorted "steps," and he's entitled to his birthright. Who are we women, after all, but, in nature's stupendous scheme of things, instruments for procreation, for perpetuation of the human race and of civilization as founded on family life? Nature doesn't give a hoot for individual happiness, and has a way all its own of deftly slapping down the man and woman who seek it at the sacrifice of others less demanding.

It all boils down to how much we want a thing and our willingness to pay for it. If we want to share in winning the peace as we did the war, the job is waiting—a tough one. But, if we go on lowering the birth rate and raising that of divorce, eventually there won't be any homes left for us to keep or abandon. Not even a rabid individualist would advocate a state controlled existence with regimentation of work, play and love, yet that may come unless every mother's daughter dedicates herself to being a real woman.

so many of us try to evade it. But, if we don't accept it, we're fiddling while our homes burn.

Emotional extremists though women are, we're practical and tough-fibered, and can finish any hard job we start. Our war record at home, in defense plants, or in uniform is one that stacks up favorably beside our pioneer foremothers' battle with Indians and wolves. Nobody can deny that, in times of crisis, we're superb. It's in the letdown periods between that our misdirected energies get us into trouble and lead us astray.

Ever since the first World War, we've been



A piece of light wood or even a bread board makes a foundation for your model. Scale should be 1/4" to a foot



A man considering buying a house will ask questions running the whole gamut, from the ridiculous to the sublime—but the chances are fifty to one that he'll forget the very important one of land controls and zoning regulations affecting what he can do with his own property, what neighbors can do to affect his investment. "Mr. Home-Buyers Blind Spot" an important and very sound article on Zoning and Subdivision Control, is coming for your "Basic Data" file!

Photographs courtesy Samuel Goldwyn Studios



Trace your plans carefully on tracing paper or better still, have prints made at a blueprint company at standard scale 1/4" to a foot. Cut the floor plan carefully and affix it to foundation in same relative position that your house will occupy on your grounds

Cut plans of walls and partitions and cement them on cardboard approximately ½" thick. When dry, cut out elevations, windows and doors. Save doors. Use colluloid for windows. Score celluloid with knife, rub on India ink. It rubs off smooth surface except where lines are scored

Home NOW

Virginia Mayo

A RE you one of the 12,500,000 Americans who are planning to build their own homes? If you are-as I am-why don't you start right now? You don't need priorities or down payments or even a plot of ground. Just pull up a table and begin. Whether your new home is going up already or is still just a gleam in an architect's eye, you will want a model of it to help you to plan the color schemes, the furnishings, the landscaping, and such important details as electric outlets and closet space. No matter how good your imagination is, you need a faithful, threedimensional replica to tell you whether or not your old sofa will look all right between the living-room windows and whether the bedroom doors should open either in or out. And the nicest part of making-and havingsuch a scaled model, I have found, is that you can construct simple furniture out of matchboxes or balsa, or perhaps even find some in inexpensive dollhouse furniture that conforms to your scale. Then-by the time your real house is ready, you will already have it decorated in miniature and know just what goes where.

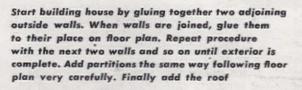
It's a lot of fun, really, this model house building. And it's a good investment, too. The motion picture studios learned long ago that it saves both time and money to create models of the expensive sets before beginning the actual construction. By doing the same thing with your house, you'll be able to make any necessary architectural changes before it is too late, to plan your furnishings and decor months in advance, and to solve all the problems that would otherwise confront you when you moved into a new home. So bring out those blueprints. Do as I have done and have a preview of your house of tomorrow—today.

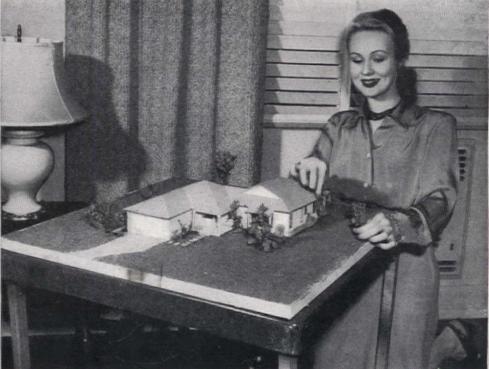
basic data

> For a long time, no doubt, you've been clipping, pasting and filing good plans and new ideas for that dream house of yours. Many of us fully expected to wake up some bright morning this spring to find the bulldozer "chawing away," to hear the heartening music of pounding hammers and buzzing saws. But again we've had to put off our dream house until our economic peace is declared. And in the period of waiting, it has occurred to us here that not only will much pre-planning not be used, but also that much basic data and many fundamentals have still not been made available in simple, direct form, Far too many will find themselves confused by their miscellaneous assortment of clippings and filings-and in the haste of building will not have assembled them so as to be of practical use to their architect or builder.

> That the long years of dreaming and planning will not have been wasted, we urge you to begin now—TODAY—to get your ideas in orderly form; to assemble them with common sense, discarding the fantasies you know in your heart you cannot afford. And as our share, we begin with this issue to label as Basic Data that information which we have not previously given, or if given, not given in the concise manner needed for absorption now, and quick, ready reference in the future. Articles are "required reading" and are intended to supplement, not replace, your own collections of ideas, plans, and dreams. When this land of ours is ringing with the sound of homes-abuilding, let us be ready for it!



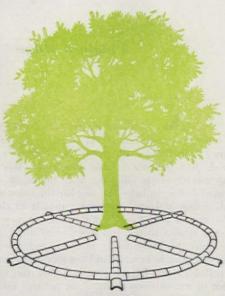




Eaves of roof should come down slightly farther than design suggests, then roof will fit more snugly when house is finished. Build roof separately so it can be removed. In two-story house build each floor individually. Decide color schemes, and paint house with actual paints you are considering. For landscaping, use sand-paper painted green for lawn, sponges for bushes and hedges, twigs for trees

BEFORE YOU BUILD . . .





To protect a tree against soil fill—

1. Lay 4" drain tiles as shown.

Give 1' fall from tree to rim;

screen ends to prevent clogging;

extend some spokes beyond rim

Photograph by author

P. P. Pirone

NE of these days or months, when circumstances permit, you will perhaps find vourself one of a host of happy homemakers. How satisfied and happy you will be with the results when your home is completed will depend on a number of factors. One of the most important-though you may not have thought of itis the treatment you give the trees that you are fortunate enough to find on your property. Even one fine tree is a real asset; several are much better. So, before your building contractor goes to work, yes, even before the architect begins drawing plans for your new house, start thinking about how to preserve that noble tree-or, if you are lucky, those handsome trees. Maybe you chose the lot in the first place because of them. If so, you should be all the more concerned about keeping them healthy, vigorous, and unharmed.

First of all, make sure that none of them will be needlessly sacrificed to make room for house, garage, driveway, fuel tank, or other structural feature. This may require some modification of the original architectural ideas. If there is any question as to the relative value of the different trees on the lot, it will pay to get the opinion of a landscape architect, reliable nurseryman, or other horticultural expert. In general, the skillful thinning of a stand of trees and the dextrous insinuation of the house among them, although more difficult, is more effective than the complete planting of an open site. It is immeasurably better than the all too common practice of ruthlessly clearing a wooded lot as the first step in "developing" it with an entirely new, man-made planting. Make a rule never to remove a tree until the need and desirability of doing so are determined beyond the possibility of doubt. There is a practical, as well as an aesthetic side to this. A tree that has grown in the company of others is likely to suffer from more than lone-liness if several of its fellows are removed. It becomes more exposed to the force, as well as the drying effect, of strong winds; to the bark-scalding effect of increased strong sunlight; to the shock of sudden changes in temperature. And the removal of several trees and their stumps may easily result in damage to the intermingled root systems of those that are left.

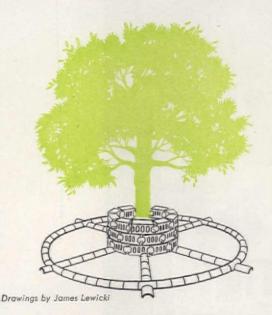
But saving the trees from destruction in laying out your grounds is only the beginning. In the rush of getting the building under way, and the house finished and ready for occupancy, both you and the contractor may overlook some do's and dont's that are vital to their future health. Perhaps you, and he, too, may feel that the only precaution needed will be to wire some boards around each tree trunk to prevent bark injuries caused by trucks and other machinery or by building material being piled up against it. That is a wise precaution, of course, but it doesn't go far enough in preventing damage that is even greater, and that doesn't require bruising contact. First of all, the subsoil removed from the cellar and other excavations should not be spread over the ground around the trees or where you plan to establish a lawn, shrubs, or a garden, even though there may be low spots that seem to call for filling. Such soil is worthless until it has been weathered and improved in various ways and at considerable expense. So, while spreading it around may seem to be the quickest and cheapest way to get rid of it, it is also a sure source of future trouble and regrets. Unless there is a lot of filling to be done where there are no plants to be affected and where the quality of the material does not matter, your best bet is to have the contractor cart away this impotent subsoil. And always, if even only a little of it is used to smooth out a depression in a future lawn, insist that the existing topsoil be removed and placed to one side until the proper subsoil grade is secured, and only then returned and spread over the surface.

Now let's see what else happens during the construction of a house. Merely digging the cellar to a depth of eight or ten feet will cause some change in the surrounding water level to which near-by trees have become accustomed. However, such a change is difficult, if not impossible to avoid, which means that every possible precaution must be taken to prevent unnecessarily handicapping the established trees in any other ways. One such handicap is the result of soil compaction. Many trips by bulldozers, trucks, and other heavy vehicles or equipment made during construction operations over the area through which the tree roots spread will compact the soil for a considerable depth. This will disturb the delicate relationship between roots and soil which has developed over the years. (We'll say more about this when we discuss grade changes.) Some trees are more sensitive to soil compaction than others. The American beech, with its relatively shallow root system, for example, appears to be especially susceptible. The avoidance of trouble in this direction can be worked out by conferring with your contractor (or the landscape architect, if he is supervising the work) and seeing if all heavy traffic over the property cannot be routed away from the vicinity of the trees.

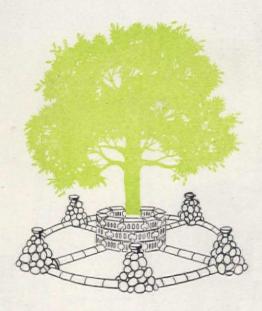
Even more serious than the damage caused by soil packing is that which results from soil fills.

SAFEGUARD YOUR TREES





 Build open-joint dry well (of stone, brick, cement block) to height of fill. Leave plenty of space to allow for tree growth



3. Stand 6" glazed tiles on spoke-rim junctions, with bell end up at fill level. Heap stones around to hold them upright



4. Cover whole area with rocks, then smaller stones, gravel, and thin straw layer to keep surface foot of topsoil from sifting in

If your lot slopes, and the plans call for the filling in of the low area, plus perhaps the cutting off of a part of the higher land; and if one or more large trees are growing in the affected spaces, be sure to consider the consequences of the grading. The addition of several inches of soil around such trees may upset the root-soil balance badly; and the removal of soil will materially injure the root system as well. Both air (primarily oxygen) and water are essential for the normal functioning of roots, which become established within a certain stratum in the soil where these materials are present and where, also, microorganisms needed to break down the organic matter in the soil find conditions to their liking. When a thick layer of soil is spread over such a place, it causes a marked disturbance of this status quo. There is less air at the greater depth where the roots now are and, when air is lacking, certain gases and chemicals increase and become toxic to the roots.

The degree of injury from soil fills varies with the kind, age, and condition of the tree; the depth of fill and the material used; drainage conditions, and other factors. Beech, oak, sugar maple and evergreens are most severely injured; birch and hickory suffer less, and elm, locust, plane, poplar, and willow still less. Weak trees are more severely injured than vigorous ones, and old specimens more than immature trees. Obviously, the thicker the soil blanket, the more marked the disturbance and the more serious the effects. Also clay and subsoil fills cause the most injury because their fine particles shut out the air almost completely. Permeable, gravelly soils are the least harmful and, sometimes, the addition of a layer several inches deep of loose, open soil will do no harm, especially to the less susceptible kinds of trees, while they are sending out new roots nearer the surface. How to solve the problem of an unavoidable fill is explained in the sketches above but, first, clear the ground around the tree, as far out as the branches extend, of all plants and sod. Next fertilize the tree according to standard tree-feeding practice, preferably by the crowbar hole method. Then follow the construction program illustrated in the four sketches.

In the case of a lowering of the soil level, some means must be found of preserving both the roots and the soil surrounding them over as large an area as possible, hoping that the tree will survive the shock of unavoidable injury and of developing new roots to replace those amputated. Sometimes a rounded mound can be left, or a mass of soil retained by an attractively designed wall or box of wood or masonry. Although the cost of any such method of meeting either of the emergencies described is likely to be high, prevention of injury is, in the long run, much more successful and cheaper than remedial measures tried when damage becomes evident. Unless

you take such precautions, or are lucky in your later treatment, you should not be surprised if huge branches on that lovely beech or majestic oak begin to die within a year or two after you move into your house; or if the entire tree gradually succumbs within five or six years.

Editor's Note: So you are going to look after those trees of yours? Good! Then you'll probably want to get two U. S. Dept. of Agriculture Farmer's Bulletins which go into the matter in greater detail than we can here. They are: No. 1896 on "Care of Damaged Shade Trees," and No. 1967 on "Reducing Damage to Trees from Construction Work." They can be had for ten cents each (in coin) from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. And, speaking of trees, here are two good new books: The Friendly Evergreens, by L. L. Kumlien, a handsome, 238-page volume published by the D. Hill Nursery Company, Dundee, Ill.; and the compact 712-page Guide to Southern Trees, by Elwood S. and J. George Harrar (Whittlesey House, New York, N. Y.).

COMING . . . FOR YOUR "BASIC DATA" FILE-

Ex-service man submits complete problem of garden-and-grounds plan for his \$4,000 house—American Home gets six prominent land-scape architects in six sections of the United States to submit solutions—A practical demonstration of home planning and "wise land use"... Watch for this timely, helpful feature





Maynard L. Parker





IDEAS and Lots of Fun to Boot

or how the Charles Freemans, with imagination and enthusiasm, brought new life to a dingy little house

Pauline Berg Graves

So you can't find a house or an apartment ready-made to your specifications-or one that even comes close! Suppose, then, that you throw said specifications away and start with what you find!

That's what the Charles Freemans did. They wanted to rent, but rentals were nonexistent, and the cute little California bungalow they had envisioned wasn't waiting for them. So they turned to the want ads and found a house at their price. It was dingy, drab and dirty, with a place-to-hang-your-hat atmosphere, but it had possibilities and the Freemans had imagination enough to see them. None of the renovations were extensive. No walls to knock down and no additions to build on. A good clean-up job and fresh paint everywhere gave them practically a new house and, when they tossed in some clever decorating tricks, the net result was the envy of all their friends.

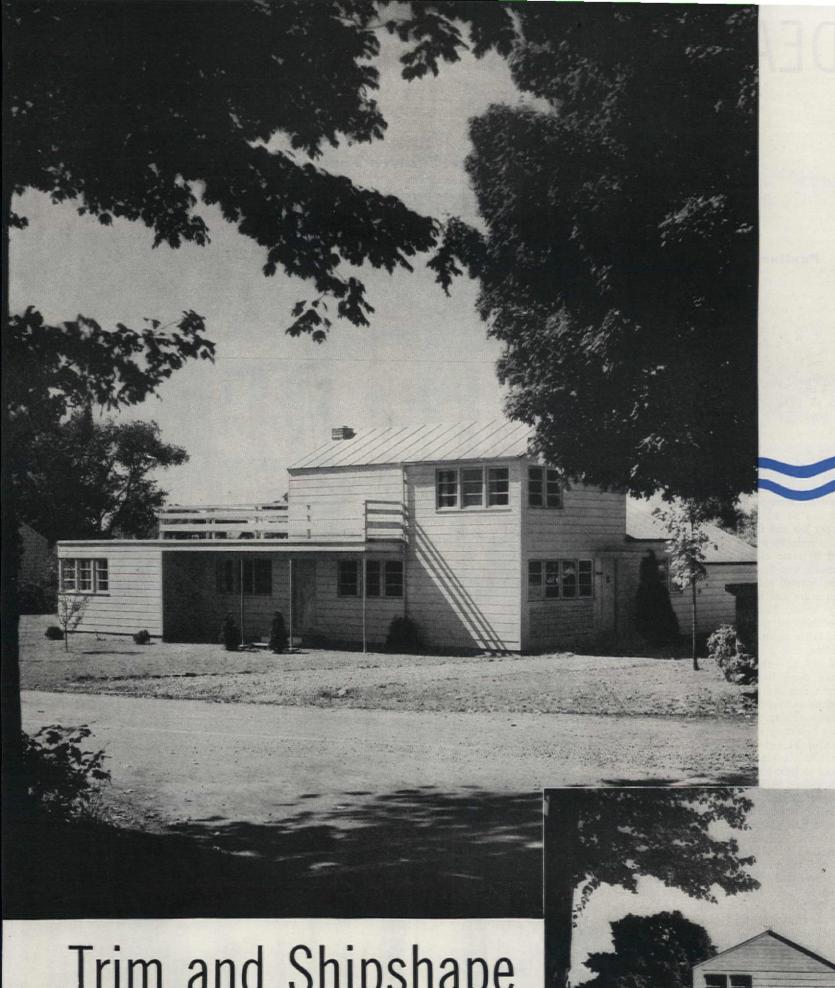
They started with a party . . . a party with no furniture and no games. Guests found an empty house, floors spread with newspapers and buckets of paint standing around invitingly. With much song, accompanied by an accordion, and food-de luxe hamburgers, all you could eat-the painting went fast.

From there the work continued on. Mrs. Freeman denuded the fireplace of its oysterlike white and applied, instead, blue-green with coral paint lining the fireplace opening. A mahogany secretary became more friendly with a coat of blue-green rather than its formal finish. An ordinary red cement floor was changed to light blue to contrast with a truckyellow indoor barbecue, once just plain brick. A mahogany desk was painted to match.

Painting finished, the furniture was moved in, but a rug was needed. Again they turned to the want ads in the classified columns. There they found just the hooked rug that went with the two they already owned. Here, too, was listed the outdoor furniture they wanted to make the yard complete and inviting to play. The Freemans made the best of a bad situation, and found a world of fun planning and executing their own ideas.







Trim and Shipshape

is the Noroton, Connecticut Home of Naval Architect John D. Atkin

MODERN house for the nautical-minded is this Connecticut naval architect's home. An unusual combination that results in a comfortable home for living and a cheerful place in which to work. The north side of the house is devoted to the studydrafting room and experimental shop which, until equipped, was used as a storeroom. The white walls, bright red floor and the mellow pine workbench in the shop provide an attractive setting for the more serious work of making test models of yacht hulls as well as for work on Mr. Atkin's hobby, model railroading. The large room on the second floor (not shown on the plans) was especially designed to house the "O" gauge railway system. A special entrance into the study leaves the rest of the house free for family activities.

Front door enters the U-shaped living room which is large enough for entertaining friends and for comfortable and informal living. The living room is finished in yellow painted plywood and natural knotty pine; ceilings are of composition board painted soft blue. The master bedroom has a built-in bureau flanked by closets. A tiny 7'4" by 11' bedroom has built-in cabinets all along the south wall and double-decker bunks are placed on the west wall.

Space-saving, built-in furniture is also used in the living room and the ship's saloon. A comfortable seat, with cushions of foam rubber covered with durable dark red duck material, runs along the west wall of the riving room. A similar seat is built around two sides of the unique sea-fixed, white pine table in the ship's saloon. No one need sit with a leg in his lap at this spacious table. Walls in the ship's saloon are of plywood painted soft gray.

A two-car garage is attached to the west side of the house. Heat is supplied by a hotair furnace in a partial basement beneath the living room. The house is insulated with reflective type aluminum foil material.

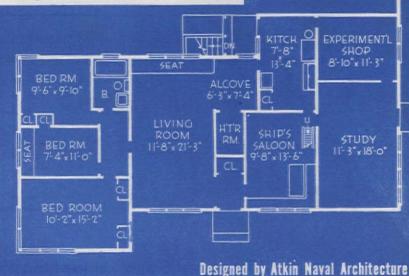
The trim, horizontal lines of the exterior are accentuated by the use of 10" novelty siding. Vertical lines, for balance, are supplied by the delicate pipe supports under sun deck and by vertical batten roof. The many windows are carefully placed to take full advantage of the sun and prevailing breezes. Window treatment is one example of how simplicity in design can reduce building costs. No unnecessary mouldings or trim on these windows; even dust-catching sills have been eliminated. Similar savings were made throughout the house by the honest use of materials.

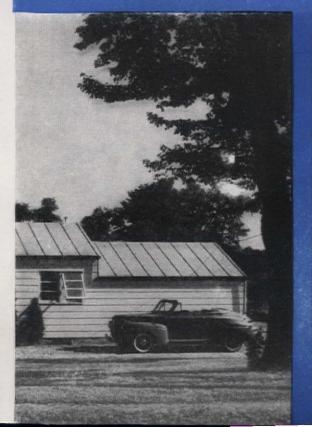


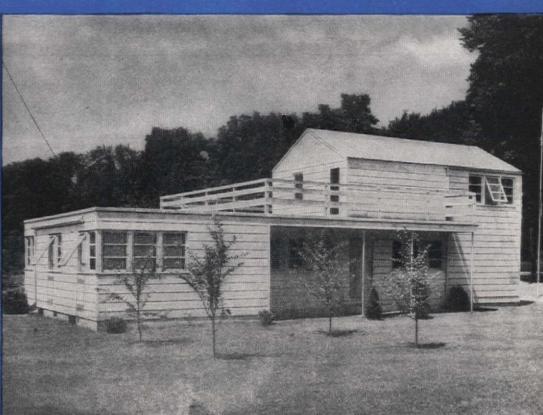
Rodney McKay Morgan

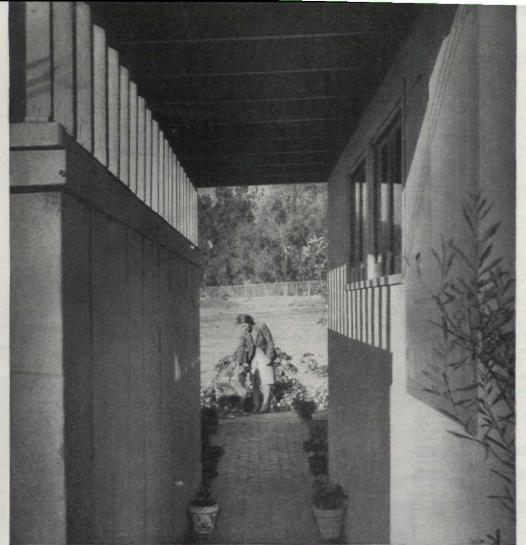
GARAGE 19'-6"x 19'-6"











Light streams through covered passage to brighten high sash of bedrooms



Large floor-to-ceiling sash in living-dining room overlooks lush rear garden

SHARING my life with an architect means, I have discovered, sharing breakfast, lunch, dinner, tea, or any time in between with various and sundry members of the profession who are forever seeking to solve the great problem of perfect living space, a stumper if ever there was one.

How to build efficient modern houses full of beauty and empty of drudgery! (So goes the conversation!) How to conceive houses that suit the individual families and yet are part of the pattern of twentieth-century living! How to create low-cost houses that are sound of limb and still a joy to the eye-which brings us smack up to the problem child of the profession, one that is often shunned by architects like the plague itself, one considered almost intractable, certainly ready for reform-the

really small house, dictated by a limited budget. I'm not talking about the small house with three

modest bedrooms and a couple of baths. No indeed! The problem child I refer to is always coldly labeled the minimum house. There are tremendous possibilities for beauty in really little things, yet the very term minimum house sounds so unattractive, so colorless, and so definitely without glamour. I realize that it's a tough nut to crack, a constant challenge and headache to the architect and designer, but sometimes there's great fun and satisfaction in licking even a problem child. We've tried it and found the experience most salutary.

Like so many things that are good for the soul, we had to be practically pushed into building our minimum house. At the outbreak of the war, we'd

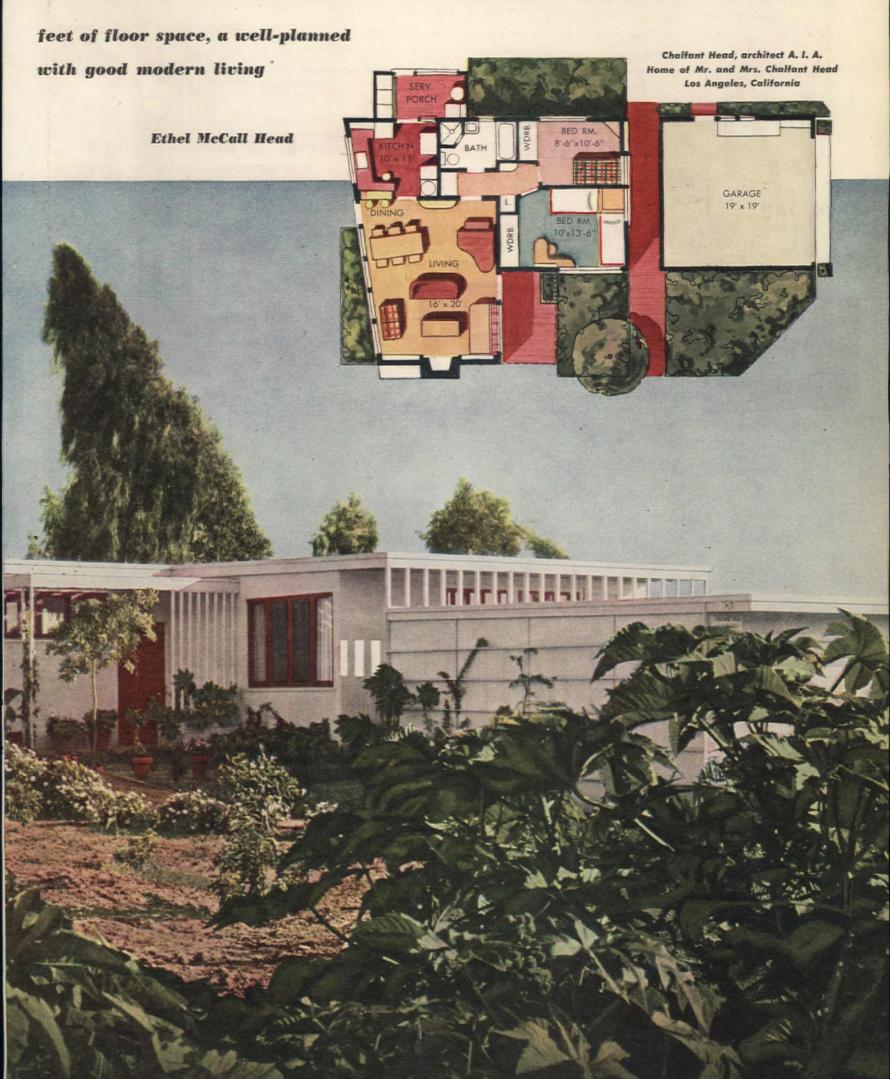
LICKING

with only 800 square house overflows

Photographs by Julius Shulman



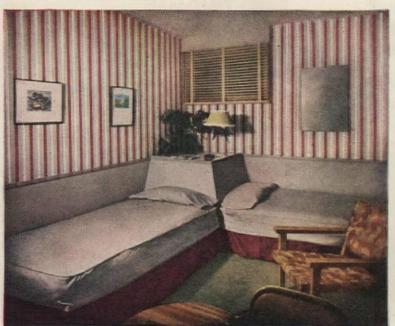
THE PROBLEM CHILD HOUSE







LIVING ROOM devotes one wall to fireplace, bookcases. Two walls are dusty pink, ceiling and fireplace chartreuse. Both colors are recalled in upholstery and curtains. Base of lounge is in wine red, a brilliant contrast to biscuit-toned, wall-to-wall carpet



MASTER BEDROOM employs space-saving arrangement of twin beds set at right angles. The beds slide out to facilitate making up. The wallpaper is red, white and gray stripe above a gray dado. Gray raw silk bedspreads have a dust ruffle of wine red

left our own small house with four bedrooms and three baths, rented a house and resigned ourselves to sitting the war out. We'd failed to reckon with the spine-chilling phenomenon called an eviction notice. Despite alluring ads recommending ourselves as ideal tenants, we soon realized that a fourteen-year-old son and a dog were definite handicaps. No one rushed forth to offer us a roof over our heads. Yet we were fortunate in one respect—we did own land in a pleasant residential area. We applied for a priority and waited. Eventually we were given the go-ahead signal

only on condition that our new house be really 'minimum'. That meant living-dining room, two bedrooms, kitchen and bath. It really added up to a three-room house. For a while we dreaded a sudden attack of claustrophobia! Our architect friends shook their heads sadly at our mad decision, but in spite of their gloom, ground was broken in December, 1945.

Architecturally speaking, the bugaboos of the problem child have always been lack of proper closet space, lack of privacy, a cramped floor plan, and lack of any feeling of spaciousness.

All these had to be licked for family comfort. We had picked the hardest time in the world to do it, when priorities allowed us the very minimum of critical materials. Both adults in the family were convinced that a house of modern design was our only hope in creating a sizable living space. We were determined that ours must look like a home rather than a Pullman section. Though it was conceded that both bedrooms had to be small, they must comfortably house twin beds. To meet this latter requirement, most of the house had to be a pleasant living-dining area



The architect and Mrs. Head enjoy spot of lunch on terrace. Flowers in wine red, chartreuse and yellow repeat colors used inside, extend full length of living-room plate glass wall

Extensive view of garden beyond may be seen from living-dining room adding to spacious feeling of small house to a surprising degree. Open structural beams are used for decorative effect



for family living. The garage was placed at the front of the property with a small motor court in front of it. Our street is a rather busy one with plenty of traffic. Hence no part of the house should look out onto the street. For maximum privacy all living quarters were oriented to the rear or side. Incidentally, the garage between house and street serves as a baffle for sound as well as offering seclusion. Both bedrooms were placed at the front, however, with high transom windows for ventilation from the west yet without a street view. The high windows, incidentally, provide ample wall space for more flexibility in bed location and furniture placing.

In the master bedroom, twin beds are placed along the wall, but can be pulled out on a runner for easy making up. There's a spacious desk built into one corner of this room and, with an armchair added, the room is completely furnished. Wardrobes with sliding doors reveal every square inch inside for clothes storage. There are shoeracks, hatracks, low, built-in trays for clothes storage, and a high storage area ten feet long and two feet deep above the wardrobe. This holds extra bedding, suitcases, and serves as place for little-used clothing. The boy's room has the same type of wardrobe with overhead storage and built-in trays for extra clothes. A diagonal desk, shelves and built-in radio give plenty of room



for the oddments dear to that age. A very tiny bedroom hall is large enough to hold a telephone shelf and chair. There's a deep clothes closet here, too, for use of guests or little-used family wearing apparel.

In the living-dining room we have a concentration of space in order to lick that feeling of little isolated areas. Entry is direct from a covered porch. This main room is two and one-half feet wider at the end adjoining the kitchen. Why? For artistic effect? Certainly not, but because at the service end, we needed more width. However, the fireside end needed cozy intimacy—less space. The whole east wall of the living-dining space is plate glass from ceiling to floor overlooking the brick terrace beyond. It's hard to imagine the room being small when one overlooks more than a hundred feet of woodland. The space extends itself to the outside, thus making not only a pleasant relationship between house and garden but also creating a spaciousness necessary in the minimum house.

The north end of living room, since it adjoins neighbors, is window-less with fireplace and bookshelves. Privacy has been accomplished for the main living area by opening the room only to the east where encroachments of traffic, neighbors and unsightly buildings is eliminated. A space-saving trick which minimizes housekeeping is the counter between dining area and kitchen. On the dining side are two stools and when the counter is dropped down to form a table, we have a perfect spot for breakfast or a quick snack. Another trick for stretching the little house is the use of twin-bed box springs and mattresses in the living room, turning the area into a guest room when needed. Double-duty rooms were most necessary.

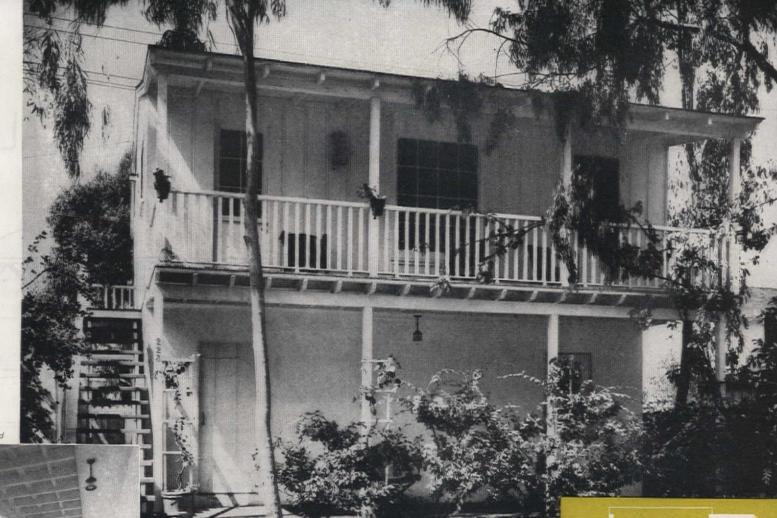
There is no wood flooring in our house. Carpeting with padding is laid directly on a concrete slab. The main structure is frame with exterior plaster and interior plasterboard. A white asbestos roof allows the structural joists to show in the living room, while ceilings elsewhere are of insulating board over two inches of rock wool insulation. An overhead storage shelf in the garage, placed high enough for a car to drive under, provides plenty of storage space for trunks, golf clubs and those many bulky items without which no home would be complete. The brick passage between house and garage not only acts as light well for bedrooms but increases circulation between both the main and the service entrances.

Kitchen is small but full of space. Range was taken off legs and cased in to provide drawers below. Legs were also taken from refrigerator to provide storage for sugar, bread, flour





Eright red and white wallpaper lines adjoining panels of snack bar counter Earth-pink walls, blond woodwork and green chair in well-planned boy's room



Robert C. Cleveland



Narrow Lot Beach House

Ethel McCall Head

HEN Mr. and Mrs. Donald Flickwir built their small two-story beach house at Balboa Island, they decided to put the building at the very back of the property for privacy. One enters a gate in the picket fence and walks down a brick path at one side over white sand of a secluded family beach to reach the dwelling.

Two stories seemed to be a smart idea because on a narrow lot, this gave the family a living-dining room and two bedrooms on the upper floor and provided garage and a guest room, bath and small laundry on the ground floor. Shower for bathers is located on this floor. The entrance leads into a small hall which creates excellent circulation, since the bedrooms and bath, or the kitchen or living room, may be reached without going through any other room, thus assuring complete privacy.

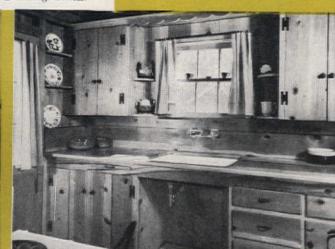
Plaster has been used for the lower floor of the beach house, and board and batten, painted white, above. The flagged stone terrace is overhung with a white-railed balcony, giving the house two openings overlooking the sea. The living-dining room is finished in honey-colored knotty pine with dark blue and white crash draperies as an effective counterbalance. A small fireplace at one end gives heat for coolish nights and the dining end is furnished in a long trestle type table and peasant chairs with bright yellow cushions. Seascapes in bright colors add warmth to the pine walls. All furniture is lightweight wicker or stick reed for low cost and easy maintenance.

The Flickwirs are most fortunate in having access to their garage from the rear of their property, for it guarantees complete privacy in the front yard facing beach.

Pleasant Dutch door overlooking terrace adds gayety to guest room with Ponderosa pine walls, ceiling and fireplace mantel. Bunks have storage drawers below

An easy room to take care of -this kitchen with shellacked woodwork and cabinets. Bright curtains, plates for eye appeal



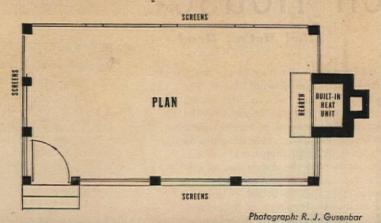




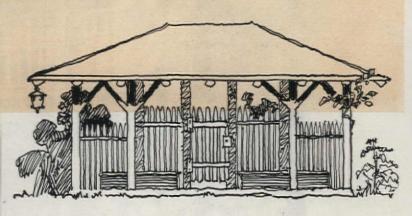
Porches GO IT ALONE



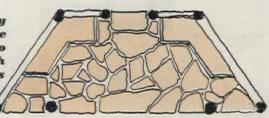
Designed by Cliff May using same materials as main house. Porch on Frank W. Goodwin Estate, La Canada, California.







Built against party fence, slanted side walls add grace to summerhouse with overhanging eaves



Ideas and data by Louise Price Bell, Emily Helen Butterfield, and Martha Darbyshire

William J. Hennessey

A MERICANS love porches! Being fresh-air lovers, we welcome every opportunity to get beyond the four walls of our homes. We eat, sleep, or just plain loaf on porches. In fact, hardly a house plan is drawn up that doesn't include one in its list of musts. All to the good, but let's not have the tail wagging the dog. To be workable a porch must be ample. Tiny porches are useless, yet hitching a worth-while porch onto the average small house often results in incongruity of design. It becomes a porch with house attached. Then, too, think of the rooms darkened and poorly ventilated because of the owner's insistence on tacking on an adjacent porch. On narrow lots, it's bound to overcrowd at the side boundary lines. There's no law that says a porch must be an integral part of the house. Why not build one elsewhere on your lot? The house design won't suffer, and you'll have a good focal point around which to arrange your planting and outdoor dining terrace.

There are plenty of examples of solo porches to illustrate our point. Consider the case of the homeowner with a house so tiny that the idea of a porch of any size was out of the question. Undaunted she decided to let her porch go it alone, right out on the lawn. Across the little, clover-matted yard from the dining room she built a shelter. It was built low on the grade, with a brick floor. Our sketch above shows it with side walls aslant, complete with deep seats, hinged for storage of cushions, dishes or folding chairs. The wide front was left open, eaves left low and broad. Shakes were used for the roofing; wood throughout stained natural brown. Here is an ideal place in which to read, chat, play cards, or even cook an outdoor meal. The sketch above doesn't show the vines which cover it nor the bright sentinel hollyhocks which add a proper dash of color. Along rivers and waterways, on the shores of many lakes, similar detached porches may be found. One such, indicated by a sketch

Detached porch, Alpha Gamma Delta Lodge, Crispell Lake, near Jackson, Michigan



at the top of the opposite page was built on the St. Clair River. There's a tight, low railing around it with gate fitted to open towards any boat that may moor.

Circumstances dictated a separate porch or summer house at the Alpha Gamma Delta Sorority Lodge on Crispell Lake, Michigan. Rules of the lodge require early quiet hours for the younger members while older girls have later privileges because their only diversion and recreation comes at the end of the day. Emily Helen Butterfield, architect member of the sorority, tells how they overcame this conflict between the need for silence and commotion. "We decided that an isolated porch was the only solution-one some 200 or 300 feet from the main building. Wind storms occasionally work havoc in our area, so two or three precautions were taken in the little structure. It was built on concrete block piers set 3'6" in the earth. Bolts buried in the piers were used to secure floor beams and sills. Over-all the porch was 12' x 22' and its walls were of 2" x 4" studs covered with Dutch siding. The north wall was built solid to give protection from wind and chill, noise of the near-by highway and occasional dust clouds. To ease wind pressure, several small openings or ventilators were placed in this seven foot wall, well up towards the plate.

"To enclose the porch somewhat, siding continued along east and west walls about half way up. The rest was screened from floor to plate and equipped with canvas curtains which rolled up and down. The roof, covered with rolled roofing, pitched from the four sides, forming a ridge, lengthwise. Either end of this termi-



Cattails flank either side of tiny bridge leading to summerhouse on miniature oasis of Ed Vander Vries, Tucson, Arizona



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Photographs by Maynard L. Parker

nated in a tiny gable with deep protective eaves. Small triangular openings were louvered and screened for ventilation. Our prevailing winds are west and southwest in hot weather and so the grill or bricked-in heating unit was located midway along the east wall. This combination outdoor stove and heating unit is flush with the inside line of the studs. Plates, grids, metal frames, doors, etc. were purchased and built into the unit. It is so arranged that doors open to show glowing coals or close for roasting corn. The underside around stove and chimney was well sheathed with fire-resisting material. Our little porch is not sealed; its only finish is a coat or two of paint. Small storage cupboards and open bookshelves give it a homelike appearance. Electric service brought from the main house makes it possible for us to enjoy the radio. This glorified summerhouse was a happy solution to our porch problem. There's sun and rest during the day and gaiety, even a steak roast, to be enjoyed at night."

Let's now travel to another part of the country—Arizona to be exact. Ed Vander Vries of Tucson has a green thumb. He loves gardens and so, when he gazed at the huge spot of wasteland behind his new home, he decided then and there to turn it into a true oasis. A few miles from his home town, a natural canyon attracts nature lovers because of its series of waterfalls. "Why not duplicate Sabino Canyon in miniature?" Gardener Vander Vries asked himself.



Simply constructed and more simply furnished for easy living is this reconverted tack room on the property of Mrs. Lota Fletcher of Tucson, Arizona

And so his project began to take shape. As part of this artificial garden spot, a tile roofed open porch was prominently included. In order to break the 175 feet of garden wall at the rear, he built, with his own hands, the attractive timber and masonry summerhouse shown on the preceding pages. Who could ask for a better loafing spot than this rustic structure set amidst miniature waterfalls and a picturesque garden?

Waste space bothers Mrs. Lota Fletcher of Tucson. After converting a garage into comfortable living quarters, she noticed an old tack room which had fallen into disuse. This was a challenge to Mrs. Fletcher, and she decided then and there to turn the unoccupied building to better use. The roof was in good shape and so were the sturdy framing posts. Alfred Messner, interior decorator, agreed that here lay great possibilities for a screened-in outdoor porch. The back wall was left intact, the other three sides screened and inexpensive furniture added. No rugs



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Home wasn't built in a day.

First it was your bouse. Then, slowly . . . as it saw you through the storms and the years ... it became more than a thing of stick and stone. It became your home.

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NATIONAL LEAD COMPANY - New York 6; Buffalo 3; Chicago 80; Cincinnati 3; Cleveland 13; St. Louis 1; San Francisco 10; Boston 6, (National Lead Co. of Mass.); Philadelphia 7, (John T. Lewis & Bros. Co.); Pittsburgh 30, (National Lead Co. of Pa.)



Have a care! Just 2 inches from where you're washing his jam-sticky little toy, your drain is seething with nasty, filthy SEWER GERMS! (Molnar Laboratory Survey.)



Don't expect scrubbing to scare away these loathsome creatures . . .



And as long as they infest your sink drain they keep on breeding more of their unsavory kind ...



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were used on the concrete floor since the room was planned for easy living and an open porch invites dust. Now the place is a popular meeting spot for the Fletchers and their friends. Here, in cool shade, they find a grand place for lounging, reading, sipping cold drinks and warm weather eating. The cost was little, the satisfaction far outweighed pennies spent.

In the days of crinoline and hoop skirts, summerhouses were the central jewel in most of our gardens. You can judge from art and from literature that their main purpose was to shield from weather and as an accent to romance. People hadn't learned to live outdoors as we do today. Now, in this day of informalbobby socks and sun suits, porches go off on their own to offer greater enjoyment of sun and fresh air. Let the first crocus raise its welcome head above ground and the great exodus from the confines of our four walls begins. Dining à la barbecue is a custom we've learned to accept as part of warm weather living. Anything to encourage this mode of life is accepted with open arms. And what better contribution can be found than the detached porch? Every piece of property, no matter how small, offers possibilities. If fear of rainy weather stands in your way, then build a covered, trellised walk between house and porch. Bordered with flowers and covered with vines, it will add beauty and grace to an otherwise indistinctive garden. Any shaped space may suggest a plan for a porch that's going it alone. Any shaped structure can be adapted to our enthusiasm for life in the great outdoors. Perhaps there is hidden inspiration right under your very nose. If a veranda on a condemned building casts off its moorings, it might well be placed elsewhere, streamlined and start life with new beauty and vigor. Often a porch of the simplest design will offer the greatest chances for embellishment. Trees and shrubs will do wonders towards gaining a picturesque effect. By all means don't go in for bizarre designs—lighthouses and windmills have no place on most of our back lawns, so resist them. An Adirondack shelter can often

be given a lift and transformed into a most beguiling summerhouse. With built-in fireplace or stove, it might well satisfy youthful yearnings for camping out. With one or two solid walls and the rest screened in, protection against insect pest, prowling cats and dogs and sudden cold, damp

breezes is definitely assured. During these days of material shortages, odds and ends of lumber and other assorted materials will go a long way towards gaining your dream porch. Lengths of picket fence, abandoned shutters and blinds, porch railings and many such oddments may well offer a challenge to your ingenuity. Make it a family affair. After all, they'll each and everyone of them enjoy the finished product. The price of an ordinary vacation may easily pay for the entire project.



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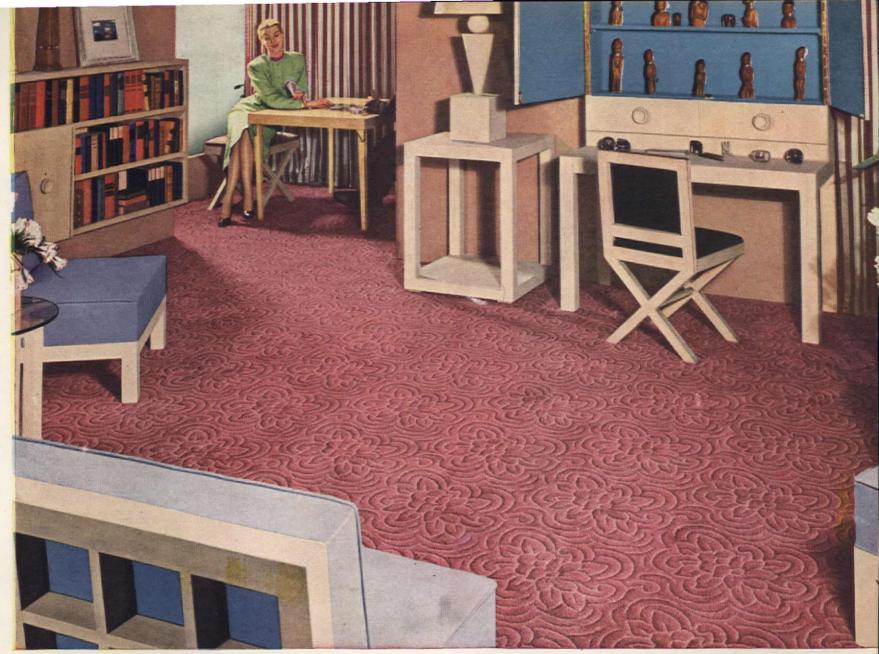
Save time, trouble and expense with a Cutler-Hammer Multi-Breaker

Why tolerate the blown fuse nuisance any longer? Why hunt fuses in the dark... or break off in the midst of preparing a meal to go to the store for the new fuses you forgot to buy? Why stumble down dark cellar stairs and do? The Cutler-Hammer Multi-Breaker ends this annoyance forever. It is installed in the Cutler-Hammer Multi-Breaker in the driven or any other convenient place. And kitchen or any other convenient place. And lever that has snapped out of position. Nothing lever that has snapped out of position. Nothing to the buy... othing to replace! Service is reto buy... nothing to replace! Service is recibild! The average new home can have stored in the twinkling of an eye... even by a dittional. Also easily installed in old homes. How much will it cost you? What are all the facts? Write What are all the facts? Write Goodbyeto Fuses." CUTLER.

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THE AMERICAN HOME, JUNE, 1946



Luxurious-looking, moderately priced, this charming, carved-effect carpet is Bigelow Beauvais 1764

Beauty by the yard-by Bigelow

For Sale: Imagination, inspiration, pleasure, beauty. From about \$4 to \$20 a square yard.

Yes, it's true. Shuttles filled with sturdy Lively Wool are flashing across Bigelow looms again : . . streaks of wonderful color.

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Look at these rugs and carpets soon. New, exciting, they will give you happy bright ideas:





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James M. Wiley

Now this I consider a worthwhile project!

You're bowling right up my alley, boys, you're cookin' on all four burners, you really send me when you dig that stuff about oversized beds! You see, gentlemen, I, too, am one of the great army of cramped creepers and crawlers who huddle nightly 'neath scant covers on even scanter mattresses. I will join you like a shot and lift a clenched fist in this mighty revolution to add more inches to the bedsteads of the nation.

The facts, gentlemen, are these: the average height of the American male is 5 feet 11 inches. Statistics compiled by our learned brothers show that this height is inching along from generation to generation. Now you take this average man: pajama clad (or au naturel) and lying flat on his back in bed he has a scant 21/2 inch leeway of mattress at his head and his feet, since the standard mattress length is 6 feet 4 inches. It just isn't enough margin, believe me.

A particularly nasty problem, especially in cold weather, evolving from this shortage is the business about the feet and the covers. I, for one, like to lie with my toes pointed up into the blue sky yonder. In order to do this I must make my feet as stiff as a teakwood board so as to support the weight of bedclothes stretched at an almost vertical angle from the foot of the bed to the top of my tootsies-the covers becoming as taut as a harp string in protest to this vertical lift.

Now, this, in turn, leads to another problem. Because of the distance the blanket must travel, uphill and downhill, to circumnavigate my feet, the satin-bound top edge of the blanket strikes me somewhere just below the arm pits. Such a décolletage may be excitingly picturesque on, say, Miss Lana Turner. On me it doesn't look so good, fellows! Besides, it's cold. My unbrawny shoulders are left to shift and shiver for themselves unless they manage (and they usually do) to tuck themselves away up under the edge of the bed pillows.

I have long been inured to a clever little device practiced by the manufacturers of bed sheets. During the



THERE'S nothing so flattering to matured beauty as the soft radiance of hand-dipped Taperlites. They erase years from your face, help you to pass the candid test of young eyes.

Taperlites create a mood and spirit that is priceless for family meals. They build habits of charm and graciousness, a background of elegance and poise to frame the enduring values of home.

Recognize Taperlites by their finish

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Recognize Taperlites by their finish and clear color... by their patented Firm-fit end that holds them proudly erect. At department, drug, housewares, grocery and gift stores. Send a postcard now for the helpful booklet, "Guide to Lovelier Table Settings."





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Smartly styled slip covers with fit and quality of finest custom-mades. Tailored the exclusive, patented Customette way . . . fully adjustable, beautifully finished back and front. New, pre-shrunk, "selected vats" patsome with matching drapes. now becoming available at leading stores.

EXCLUSIVE CONSTRUCTION fully adjustable for perfect fit easier on and off. Made for most styles of chairs, sofas, studio couches Roley Poley Mfg. Co., Chicago 10 AT BETTER DEPARTMENT STORES

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SLIP SHOWING? Stocking seams straight? A full-length door mirror *of Pittsburgh Plate Glass is the best way to check up on such details. Shows you how you look from head to toe. Every home needs several. But be sure they're really full length . . . at least 51/2 feet tall. And made from Plate Glass for accurate reflections.

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war years I had to "batch" it for myself and more than once I had occasion to go to department stores to do battle with the wily women customers over a few sheets that happened to be on the shelves. Methought, the first time, that I had solved my problem of length. In the lower left-hand corner of my sheet there was a little ticket which said "108 inches long." I attached no importance at the moment to that sly little afterthought which in very inconspicuous type said, "torn size."

You see, boys, I was not wise in the ways of the world and sheet manufacturers. I took their measurements at face value. I was not wary, as I have since learned to be. When I got my alleged giant home, I stretched it pridefully on my sack. To my utter consternation I found that there was barely enough material to cover the top and ends of my mattress, with perhaps a scant 2 inch margin each way to fold under. Now I ask you, gents, is that a way to treat a paying customer? Is that a way to act? How come those guys don't say what they mean? When I pay my moolah for a 108-inch sheet. I expect naturally to get a 108-inch sheet. Did I get stung? The answer is yes.

Another cagey misrepresentation in the industry is the nomenclature of those shining little items called "comforters." There's about as much comfort in mine as a recalcitrant butterfly. Cut on a scant zoot pattern, it is strictly a half-on, half-off, half youknow-what affair. I thought once I had ended its fly-away tendencies; I cut long strips from an old musette bag, attached one end of the strips to my "comforter," rammed the other ends two feet up the bed between the mattress and spring. It worked all right up to a point. I had to part the covers with a saber before I could knife my way down between them. It wasn't very good for the feet, though-no circulation.

Another time I thought I had solved the old complaint of the covers pressing on the tootsies. I rigged up a little number of plywood that had a flat bottom which you slipped between the mattress and springs at the foot of the bed. This held the gadget in place. There was a hinged upstanding member whose purpose it was to thrust the bedclothes a good eight inches above the mattress so that the feet would have room to twirl at leisure. I had fancy visions of Messrs. Lewis & Conger, all smiles, handing me a certified check for my patent. It hurts me to say, however, that something went wrong one midnight. It must have been a faulty hinge; anyhow, the whole business collapsed, dealt me a mighty clap on the shinbone, and I fled screaming into the night in search of iodine.

I think that you are on the right track, gentlemen. Whatever is done must be conceived as a concerted movement. There is no sense in having a seven-foot square mattress if you can't find a bed to put it on or bedclothes to cover it up. Good luck!

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HANDMADE GLASSWARE OF QUALITY



◆ These natural honey-colored mats are made for me by the Mixtec Indians down in Old Mexico, who weave them by hand from their native palm fibers.

They are just the thing for informal dining, either indoors or out. They look well on any kind of table, and especially so when set with peasant tableware.

My wife says they are great laundry savers—that a quick wipe with a damp cloth keeps them spotless. Long-wearing, reversible, don't ravel and always lie flat.

A welcome gift for a bride or week-end hostess; makes an interesting bridge prize, too.

Size 15 x 12½ inches. Price 50¢ each; 8 for \$3.50. Coasters that match, 10¢ each; 8 for 75¢. Money back if they don't please you.

My little booklet, "Santa Fe Fiesta," shows Mexican and Indian costume jewelry in handmade silver. Ask for it.

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Pictured: North Star "Iris" in Baby Blue, \$9.50 . . . at fine stores everywhere

Setting and accessories by B. Altman & Co.

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Tommy's the proudest boy on the street. Baby's looking pleased-as-Punch, too. And why shouldn't he be? No king, no prince, ever slept beneath a finer blanket than baby's snuggle-soft North Star. Like all North Star Blankets it's every bit virgin wool-finefibered, springy, lively. Mother can tub it over and over, it will wear and wear. And look at the toe-wriggling room!-five full feet long by 42 inches wide . . . and all four sides crisply bound in matching rayon satin.

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"You've never bought so much for so little"



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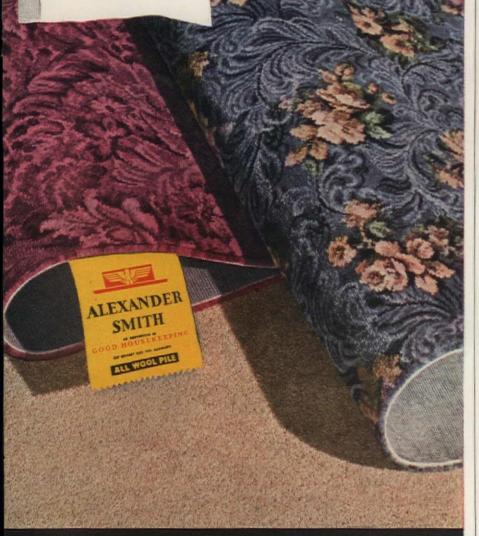
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ALEXANDER SMITH

Glass for Everyday Dining

Ruth W. Lee



Photographs by Frank Willming

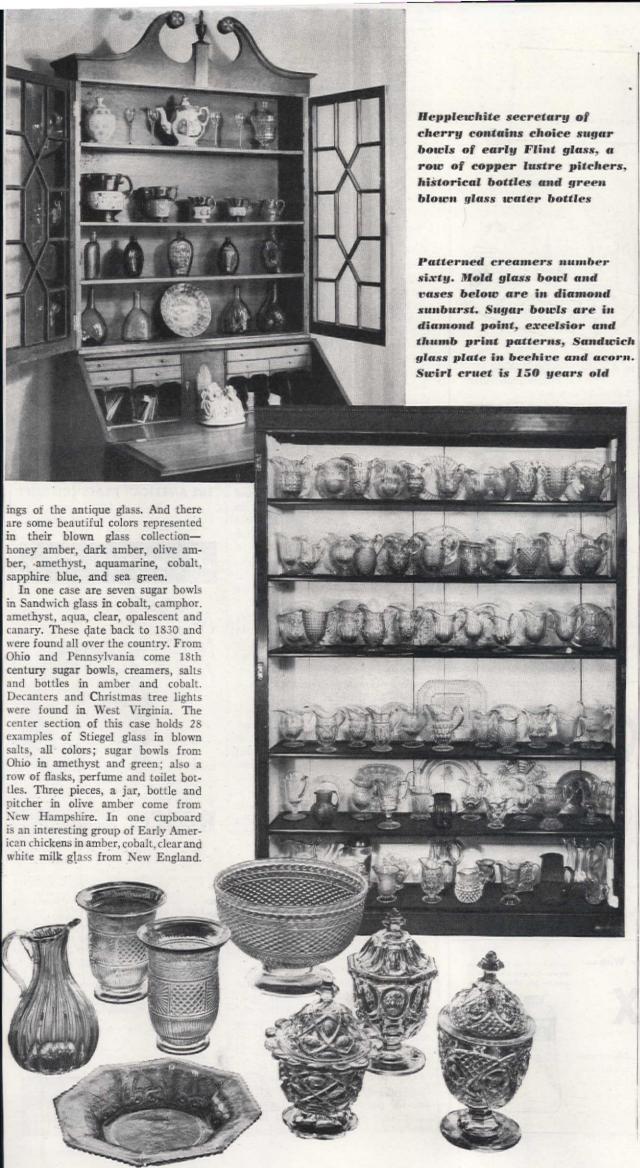
THEN the Rolfings built their house in Kenilworth about ten years ago, they included a breakfast room with a large picture window in the plan. As a decorative idea, they thought it would be fun to fill the shelves of the window with bits of colorful blown glass. So partly for a vacation and partly for the explorer's interest in finding loot, they toured New England shortly after their house was finished. They haunted the highways and byways of east coast states, visiting many an antique shop and collector's corner.

The bug bit them so badly that ever since that trip they have been collectors of blown glass, early patterned glass and Sandwich glass. Their collection is wholly American, a major part of it eighteenth century. It includes 130 pieces of blown glass, 60 patterned creamers, and several

One of Mrs Rolfing's favorite luncheon settings: amethyst goblets, fruit plates, and swirl candlesticks from her authentic collection

dozen pieces of nineteenth century Sandwich glass. Antique dealers have yielded some of their choicest pieces to these enthusiastic customers.

They didn't build the shelves in their picture window. Instead, they lined the opposite breakfast room wall with built-in cases. Against a gay bird-and-flower-patterned wall-paper, which reflects all the colors of the glass collection, the cases add a brilliant and decorative note to the breakfast room. Concealed lighting in the cases brings out the full depth and beauty of all the subtle color-





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how Tampax was perfected by a doctor to be worn internally. Explain how it is made of surgical cotton firmly stitched, how extremely absorbent it is—and how you are unaware of its presence when it is in place!

"show," also no chafing and no odor with the use of Tampax. It is quick to use with its dainty applicator. Easy to dispose of . . . Tampax is a truly remarkable improvement in the sphere of women's hygiene.

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At last! (They had waited since June '41.) The Andersons' dream of a house was begun!



He beamed at the blueprints, "What windows! So wide!" "I shudder to think of the washing!" she cried.



But shopping one day Mrs. A. made a find-Twas WINDEX, to take all such cares from her mind!



And now in her dream house the windows are done With a spray, and a wipeand they shine like the sun!



The picture frames glisten, the mirrors are gleaming, With WINDEX such cleaning is easy as dreaming!



The 20-ounce size is a bargain. Go grab it! And shine up the glass in the house you inhabit!

Get Brighter Windows Quicker With-

WINDEX is a must for house cleaning. No streaking, no film, when you insist on this noninflammable, oil-free cleaner that costs but a fraction of a cent per window. Don't trust cheap substitutes.

Copr. 1946, The Drackett Co.

Costs less than 1¢ per winbuy the big 20-ounce size

The dining room cases house a splendid collection of patterned glass creamers and Sandwich glass. The creamers and sugar bowls include some rare and several well-known patterns which are dear to the hearts of all collectors of Early American glass. Among them are some fine examples of bull's eye with diamond point, the diamond thumbprint, the bell flower, the smocking print, the horn of plenty, and the New England pineapple. In creamers alone are found the thumbnail pattern, hobnail, sawtooth, diamond point, thousand eye, waffle and thumbprint inverted fern, prism and honeycomb patterns. Most of these are clear crystal, but a few are colored. Every one is a perfect piece of its kind. The living room Hepplewhite secretary holds the balance of their collection of historical glass bottles and lustre pitchers.

When the Rolfings started their collection, they were looking only for creamers and sugar bowls in blown glass. Then they added historical bottles and salts. Now, in Early American glass, they have creamers, goblets, and plates. Their Sandwich glass includes sugar bowls, salts, plates, and relish dishes. Most of the patterned glass they found in New England and Indiana. New York and Ohio shops produced the finds in Sandwich glass, while New England and Ohio shops were the sources for the blown glass collection.

While travel was curtailed, the Rolfings found time to study and read about their finds. They selected the best books on Early American glass and now find them a constant source of information and inspiration. In fact, they have profited greatly by delving into the romantic history of old glass, and their reading and study has enhanced the intrinsic worth and merit of ten years of hunting.

Best of all, they do not treat their collection as a museum exhibit. They actually use and enjoy it. They can compose any number of beautiful table settings, and do, both for family dining and for entertaining. Even when they use only a few accessories, such as creamers and sugar bowls, relish trays or goblets, the pieces lend beauty and interest to their tables. And they are always a constant source of table conversation.

One of Mrs. Rolfing's favorite table settings is a combination of amethyst goblets in panel and forgetme-not pattern, fruit plates with pastel borders, and swirl-patterned candlesticks. To set off the amethyst glass, she made yellow mats.

Part of the enthusiasm of this couple for their collection is due to the fact that Mr. Rolfing takes as much delight and interest in collecting and studying as his wife. There is so much American history tied up in each bit of glass that the story of this folk art offers equally as much interest to a man as to a woman. The intricate patterns, the variety of colors, the romance that is attached to each piece is a never-ending source of pleasure to both the Rolfings.



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Such a heater, when connected with Anaconda Copper Tubes, completes a rustless water supply system.

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Anaconda Copper & Brass



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RUSCO! It's the world's first patented, all-metal, self-storing combination screen and storm sash! There's nothing to change, nothing to store! In summer, simply slide Rusco storm sash up into storage position - enjoy full, direct ventilation through the permanent, rustproof Rusco screen. In winter, just slide the storm sash down for complete, fuel-saving insulation. And just look at these extras!

- Patented Adjustable Closure Frame assures perfect alignment and weathertight fit.
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- Storm-proof, draft-free ventilation year
 'round!

Write for free booklet and name of nearest distributor. The F. C. Russell Company, 1836-A Euclid Avenue, Cleveland 15, Ohio.





Lovely Virginia Mayo, now appearing in the Samuel Goldwyn production, "THE KID FROM BROOKLYN," starring Danny Kaye.

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1. The best thing to do . . . is to wait for Beautyrest!

For, remember, a mattress is one of the most important purchases you ever make. It's an investment in comfort and well-being. So it pays to buy wisely! And what could be wiser than waiting . . . when that waiting will bring you at least ten glorious years of "luxury comfort"—with Beautyrest!



2. "Inside Story" comparison! It's what's inside that counts! In the ordinary inner-spring mattress, coil springs are tied together, go down together, forming hollows.

But Beautyrest's 837 coil springs are not tied together. Each separately cushions your hips, shoulders, legs...gives you gloriously buoyant comfort! Isn't it wiser to wait for this?



3. Comfort you can count on! After a few years, some mattresses lose their "looks" and "let you down." But not Beautyrest.

It does not sag, get lumpy or out of shape. Its patented "sag-proof" border stays neat, firm, resilient. (That's why Beautyrest needs turning no more than 4 or 5 times a year.) Isn't it wiser to wait for a mattress like this?



4. "Million Dollar" luxury—1¢ a night! It's seldom you get a bargain when you buy a luxury—but Beautyrest is both!

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You don't have to close a new Silentite window to lock it! The new Silentite safety lock allows the window to be locked in two positions—partly open or closed. A lock is furnished with each window unit.

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F. M. Demarest

Author Puts Her Apartment to Work

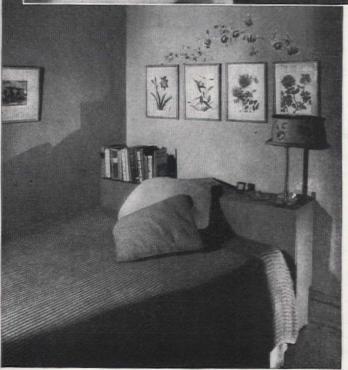
WRITER MARIEAN WELD DESIGNS HER OWN BUILT-INS, FINDS
THEY MAKE HER WORK EASIER AND QUICKER, HER
INGENUITY DECORATED THIS SMALL NEW YORK APARTMENT

Mariean Weld

To me, the fascinating perusal of the decorated rooms displayed in THE AMERICAN HOME and the shops about town do just what they're supposed to: make me want to re-do the entire apartment. A dangerous state of mind sets in as my longing for a new decor soars and my sales resistance ebbs to a new low. And then -the reckless mood wavers before practical aspects as I think of my budget breaking out in a rash at the cost of replacing perfectly good furnishings! And so, like others, I have found that instead of buying a lot of expensive new pieces, a free use of imagination, a very few dollars plus a do-it-yourself-attitude can be a decorating shot of adrenalin.









OY, is Kencork a friendly floor! Listen to this: Kencork's non-slippery, because it's real cork. It's as dry as a cork! And it's warm in winter, cool in summer because cork is a natural insulator. Decorators as well as home-planning folks are going strong for Kencork. Not just in bathrooms, but in bedrooms, nurseries and living rooms. It cushions footsteps, shrugs off stains, lasts for years. And those handsome tones of nutty browns and golden tans look wonderfully smart underfoot!"

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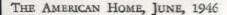
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My props were: A quart of flat paint exactly matching the color of the rug and a bottle of gilt paint, costing about \$4; a couple of yards of lovely, boldly patterned, leaf-printed fabric, also about \$4; five small, brown wooden hors d'oeuvre dishes, under \$8; total \$16. I already had two new, brilliant paintings by Chucho Reyes bought on a recent trip to Mexico, which demanded to be hung and admired, and I wanted to use them.

The basic color scheme in the nicely proportioned living room was satisfactory. Slightly-grayed, light agua walls and woodwork; deep bluegreen rug almost covering the floor; terra cotta and brown shades in the furniture covers and walnut woods of the tables and bookcases; sheer white Ninon curtains at the windows to let in all possible light—the room needed that. The two Reyes paintings had colorings that harmonized with the basic ones. One picture, a mythical horse, was a bold, dazzling composition in terra-cotta tones; the other was a fantastic cock, the deep shades blended on an aqua ground.

Leaves, big, handsome, pleasing in form, were my theme. I wanted the effect of green growing things at the three large main windows on one side of the room. But green growing things perish promptly at these north-exposure windows, doubly challenged as they are by the steam heat from the radiators directly beneath.

Half a yard of the leaf-patterned fabric recovered one lamp shade.

From the remaining cloth, pinking shears clipped out the leaves, which I basted onto the curtains in a deep arc, giving the effect of green growing things, and no upkeep to them at all. The pattern was repeated on the curtains at the other end of the room also.

Over the mantel the five leaf-shaped wooden hors d'oeuvre dishes were hung from screws in the back, small tacks pressed into the wall beneath holding them securely in position.

With blue-green paint, the fireplace wall was painted almost its entire width including the fireplace facing. At the other end of the room a tall, wooden screen repeated the color. On the side wall across from a large mirror (placed there to catch and reflect the light from the windows) a square area of the wall was painted the same dark color. This background was needed to show off the Reyes paintings to best advantage. Thus, all sides of the room were tied together by the use of the new color. The gold paint I used to highlight the veinings and edges of the wooden hors d'oeuvre leaves over the mantel and to paint, freehand, a border around the background on which the Reyes paintings were hung. A new gold-paper lamp shade again picked up the use of the gold tone in the room.

In the living room's rather shallow alcove—9 x 4—where the three large windows are, I placed a small student's desk. It looked entirely out of proportion, though—too scant in size for the space. I dreamed up what I've



found to be one of my better ideas to solve that problem. Over the top of the desk I placed a large, ovalshaped plywood board, a small wooden frame underneath fitting it to the desk top exactly. I padded it with felt to preserve the desk surface. On the plywood surface I sketched an outlinemap of Manhattan, noted some of the principal avenues and cross streets. especially those where friends live. I jotted down their names and addresses in ink, also places I visit and other places of pleasant association to me. The background color is deep blue-green and light aqua; terra-cotta and other colors in the room are the accenting ones. Now the alcove is proportionately filled in by the ovaltopped desk with two open-arm chairs, orange leatherette covered, on each de. The desk is an excellent and useful breakfast, work, card-game and extra table for buffet entertaining.

The bedroom has slightly grayed aqua painted walls, a deep blue-green carpet, the wood furniture matching it in color. This room, 9 by 16, posed a problem in its long narrow dimension as well as by the lack of storage space. (There are only three closets in the entire four-room apartment.) The room required accent on width to give it the illusion of better proportion, so all possible horizontal lines were emphasized. This camouflaged the box-car measurements. Behind the double studio bed a headboard cabinet extends its width. A simple carpenter's job, it is about a foot wide.

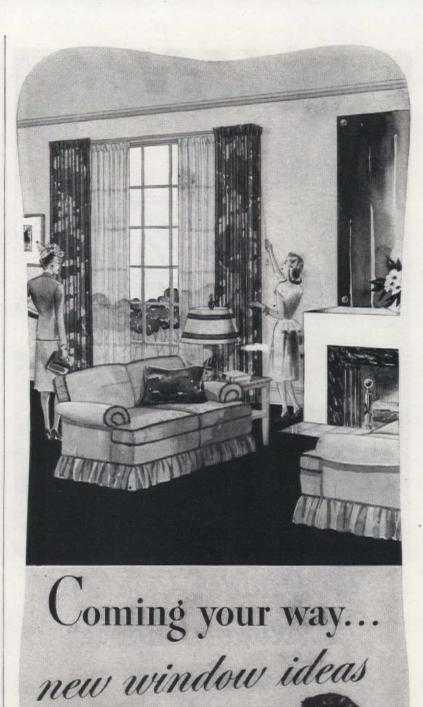
and partly closed in to where it meets the mattress. This closed-in part serves as a pillow rest. The top surface holds the reading lamp and books; the open space underneath, easily got at when the bed is pulled away, stores suitcases and files.

In the 8 x 16 study, also the guest room, the decorating formula of unbroken color surfaces works again. Walls, woodwork, and furniture are all painted the same soft cocoa-brown color; accents are white and dark blue. Blue on white washable toile cotton draperies and sheer white glass curtains hang at the windows; there is a dark blue rug, matching blue corduroy slip cover on one chair, a blue and white pattern on another. At the window end of the room I made very good use of one of those tall metal kitchen utility cabinets with shelves inside. I laid it on its side, going the width of the room at window-sill level, and added a simple carpenter-built, shelf-like table top which curves from the cabinet's end and fastens to the wall. This cabinet rests on a stand. The corner table top holds my typewriter and is my working desk and, inside the cabinet, conveniently at hand, are my paper supplies and my files.

Behind the single-size studio bed in this room is another partly closed-in headboard cabinet. Usually my accordion rests on the bed, very handy for me to get at when I feel like breaking the day's work for a half hour or so of relaxation with my music.



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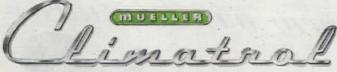
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C-16

Judy Street Gets a Haircut



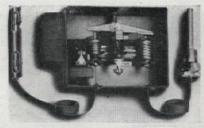
F. E. Fuller

Helen Montell Churchill

It is highly improbable that Mary Harris and Sara Mac-Alilly ever read any of the books on psychology, psychoanalysis, and selfhelp found in the libraries and book stores on Main Street. But never were there two more astute practitioners of those introspective sciences than the two old ladies who lived on Judy Street. Each owned a small white cottage, with a small vegetable, and a large flower garden. Both enjoyed sitting together on one another's porch. But there the similarity ended. Mary Harris was a peach-bloom, rolypoly grandmother, with lace on her collar and cuffs and a ruffle on her apron. Sara MacAlilly seemed taller than she was because her dress was plain, her frame angular, and her manner, like her movements, quick, almost brusque. Sara was the spark plug of their various activities, Mary the sustaining force and, often times, the brake.

The late afternoon sun of mid-August beat down relentlessly upon Judy Street, leaving the fringed and ruffled petticoats of the gardens limp and sagging. Even the trim, starchy cottages looked a bit less trim and starchy. But there was nothing languid about the way Sara MacAlilly's hickory rocker swung forward, protesting in a strident falsetto, and being answered, on the back swing, by the raucous bass of a loose veranda floor board. Gradually the tempo of protest and answer increased to the semblance of a duet, accompanied by the swish of her crisp, dotted swiss skirt. Then it was ended abruptly by the angry spat of her feet, and an involuntary mutter.

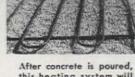
Mary Harris, passive in her chair near by, calmly shifted her gaze from the tangle of thrifty weeds that reached up to brush the eaves of the little shop across the street, where a



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INTERCHEMICAL CORPORATION Trade Sales Division Fair Lawn, New Jersey faded sign reminded the world that at one time violins had been made and repaired there. "What did you say?" she asked.

"I said, 'The cantankerous old curmudgeon!'" snapped Sara.

"Oh Sara, I wouldn't call Mr. Eckhart that."

"Well, I would—and I do. Those weeds are downright unsightly. They certainly don't add to the looks of the neighborhood. They are likely to cause hay fever. If they are allowed to go to seed, they will spoil a lot of lawns and make more work in the gardens. And, when they get dry, they will be a definite fire hazard. All because the cantankerous old curmudgeon who owns the shop is too stubborn and indifferent to have them cut down."

Mary gazed thoughtfully at the offending growth. "I don't believe," she said finally, "that he considers it important that we have to look at them all the time. He doesn't come down here very often nowadays, and anyway, he rarely sees anything beyond the bridge of his violin. And Tony is overworked and couldn't do anything to clear up the mess without instructions." After a moment's reflection she added, "Their's is a different sort of household, isn't it? But, Sara, you must admit that they are talented. Johnny is well on his way to becoming a concert violinist. Mr. Eckhart does make fine fiddles. And I'm told that at the University they welcome students who have studied with Mrs. Eckhart she is so thorough.'

"Yes, and they moved away, out to the edge of town, and got Tony to tend their garden for them so they wouldn't be bothered feeding themselves. If you ask me to name their greatest talent—if you can call it that—I'd say it was hanging onto their money. Tony is fat and jolly because he enjoys garden work and looking after their chickens and cow. He certainly doesn't get that way on the wages they pay him."

As their good-natured chuckles subsided, the two old ladies eyed the luxuriant weeds with quiet, speculative thoughtfulness. Then Mary said. "I can't think of a thing to do but keep on calling on him now and then and reminding him that those weeds really should be cut."

"Unless," put in Sara, "we call the Commissioner and ask him to have it done and bill the Eckharts."

Mary considered the suggestion, then, "No, Sara, that has its drawbacks, too. Mr. Eckhart is a shade on the stubborn side and, if he got his back up, we might have trouble every year. He was a good neighbor when he lived across the street, and I don't like the idea of offending him. I think a more indirect method would produce better results."

"Name one," retorted Sara. . . . And so the argument swung back and forth until, finally, they arrived at a solution that set the whole town chuckling. Later, when they were asked about it, neither could remember who started it, for, like Topsy,



The glory of a brilliant white gloss that *bolds* its whiteness can now be given to your house with Eagle Ready-To-Use White Lead Paint. Because of meticulous care in manufacture, this newest form of century-old Eagle White Lead possesses a hiding and staying power that's truly exceptional.

Eagle Ready-To-Use White Lead Paint brings you the traditional beauty, durability and economy made famous by white lead for 2000 years . . . plus new convenience. As the name implies, it requires no mixing, but comes all set for the brush. Needs only be opened, stirred and applied. What a saving in time and labor—yet you get all the traditional advantages of fine white lead paint!

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Help hold the line against inflation with U. S. Savings Bonds

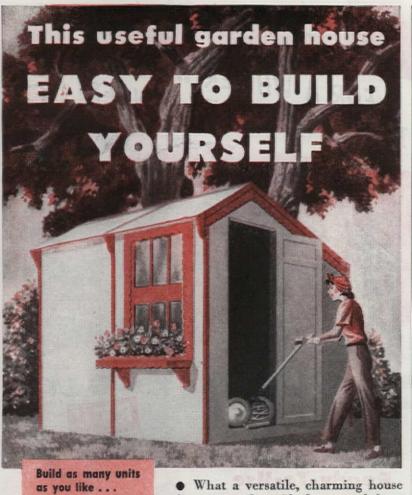
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• What a versatile, charming house for your garden—ideal as a workshop, guest cottage, potting shed, playhouse, tool shed, or poultry house.

No need to wait for materials. Build one now with priority-free Stonewall Board, the new, imperishable, asbestoscement board that's fireproof, weatherproof, needs no painting.

No special skill needed—you can put it up yourself! Stonewall saws, drills and nails readily. The Easi-Bild pattern method permits quick, accurate construction—simply cut the pieces, number them, then assemble where the numbered illustrations indicate. Easy as using a dress pattern! Step-by-step instructions and purchase list of materials included.

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"it jes' growed." And so-for the next two weeks-did the weeds.

Then, on the morning of another hot day, Judy Street awoke, rubbed its eyes, dashed on some cold water, and rubbed them again. Such a sight had never graced the street before; or any other street, for that matter. The lot around the vacant violin shop was a blaze of floral color-red, yellow, pink, white, blue, in all shades and tints! A mass of bloom, in factroses, carnations, daisies, poppies, lilies and a lot more. The flowers were real, too-that is, real paper, carefully wired to the living plants! The jimson-weeds wore carnations in their hair; the plantains along the curb sported huge violets; overnight the burdocks had sent up tall stalks of hollyhocks. But the crowning glory of the crepe-paper garden was the cabbage-weed, crowned with an enormous brilliant red poppy.

For three days the display was a source of amusement to all who passed. Motorists slowed down to get a better view; pedestrian traffic increased as the news spread. Sara and Mary hardly left their verandas long enough to eat for fear of missing some detail of the show. On the third day, a young man with scratch pad and busy pencil joined the throng of observers and, next morning, the town, scanning the local paper over its breakfast coffee, could fairly hear the bees buzzing over the miraculous garden and see the butterflies flitting from flower to flower.

"Sara MacAlilly is 87," said the story, "and Mary Harris is 75 years old. The synthetic garden was planned by them and executed by them in the early morning hours—between 4 and 6 a.m. to be exact—as a protest against the practice of allowing weeds to grow on unoccupied property. Attention Lot Owners and City Fathers! (See picture page 8)."

The publicity brought a lot more sightseers to the spot; it also brought something else. The next day came Tony in his vegetable cart, armed with a scythe and several big baskets. He climbed down from the vehicle, leaned on the scythe, and inspected the scene with an expression of keen appreciation on his smiling face. Then-reluctantly, it seemed-he fell to work. The scythe swished under his powerful strokes and, swathe by swathe, the crepe paper garden fell. Before the huge red poppy he paused. "Pritty theeng. Tony no lika t' cut you down," he murmured to the cabbage-weed. But to Tony orders were orders, so with a final swing of the scythe, the last of the garden was laid low. By noon nothing remained but fast yellowing stubble. Tony, with due appreciation for artistic endeavor, had packed the paper flowers in one basket separate from the weed rubbish, and topped the heap with the red poppy. Then he had tucked buxom pink roses in the bridle, so that they rose above each ear of his old horse, who shook her head until the decorations rustled as if to say,



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WEED CONTROL

Cleans weeds out of lawns without harm to grass

Use this new, safe, economical and easy method to make dandelions, plantain and other ugly weeds disappear like magic.



4-X is another Scott product to help you have a sparkling green lawn. If your dealer can't supply you, write . . .

O. M. Scott & SONS CO.



KILL WEEDS in your lawn...



without killing the grass

Now you can spray your lawn and kill the weeds without killing the grass. Weedone, the original 2-4D weed-killer, picks out and kills dandelion, plantain, chickweed, hawkweed, pennywort, healall, and most other lawn weeds. Weedone also kills poison ivy, poison oak, honeysuckle, bindweed (morning glory) and other noxious weeds that plague the gardener.

The dollar size of Weedone makes enough spray for a thousand square feet of lawn.

Weedone is safe to use around pets; it does not hurt the soil; it is non-explosive, non-corrosive, non-staining.

Ask your dealer or write to

AMERICAN CHEMICAL PAINT CO.

AMBLER, PA.

"Aren't we festive today?"

The soothing lavender-gray light of evening slowly enveloped Judy Street as Sara and Mary, their white dresses gleaming in the deepening dusk, rocked slowly in their hickory chairs and reviewed the course of their successful campaign.

"I saw Mr. Eckhart today," reported Mary.

"Was he mad?"

"No, he just grinned and said that since the flowers had become part of his property, he was going to use them to decorate the booths at the next church bazaar."

Sara smiled a grim little smile. "So it worked," she remarked.

"It certainly did," agreed Mary.
"And not only on him, for us, but on a lot of other people, too. I haven't seen such a campaign of weed-cutting and cleaning up around here for years. The town looks positively bald by comparison."

Sara nodded. "You know, it was a lot of fun but, somehow, I sort of miss those darned old weeds."

Has your town a Judy Street? And does it need a haircut? Well, there are other effective ways to oust weed invaders than that employed by the Misses Harris and MacAlilly; ways less spectacular, but easier, more direct, more permanent.

Until a few years ago, weed eradication meant burning or poisoning the soil with brine, acid, or other corrosive substances. That meant lessened or ruined chances of growing desirable plants on treated ground. Then came chlorate compounds which, dusted or sprayed on foliage, were absorbed by the plants and soon killed them-stem, branch, and root. These preparations, though effective, call for precautions because clothing, etc. wet with them becomes dangerously combustible. The next development was a proprietary form of ammonium sulfamate; used in the same way, it involves no inconvenient or harmful complications-unless applied on valuable plants which it destroys with bland impartiality. The story of how Durham, N. H., was freed of poison ivy (THE AMERICAN HOME, June, 1945) records its successful use on community scale. Then it was found that certain hormone-like chemicals possessed unsuspected herbicidal properties and, even more important, some selective powers. That is, sprayed on a lawn, they destroy various broad-leaved weeds without injuring the grass.

Increasingly available through garden supply channels, these new materials, of which all the possibilities have not been developed or discovered, are real boons for homeowners in keeping their properties and environs weed-free and attractive. And if you want to become acquainted with pest plants of Eastern North America, an excellent little book is Weeds of Lawn and Garden by John M. Fogg, Jr., published last year by the University of Pennsylvania Press.—E. L. D. Seymour



THE BALLARDS EASILY AGREE THEY WANT THE MODERN CONVENIENCE OF

HEIL Automatic Heat

Although plans for their "dream home" are still but a few crude sketches, a handful of notes and some articles from home building magazines—the Ballards already agree that they must have the convenience of Heil oil-fired automatic heating.

Surely, for that home you've dreamed of so long, you want the most comfort and convenience your money can buy. Naturally then, you too will choose Heil. For comparison proves that Heil gives you more in quality, more in economy and vastly more in dependable operation.

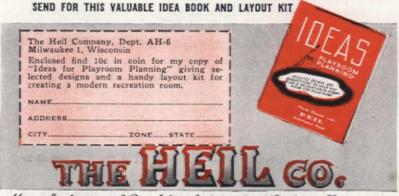
Heil Gives You LATEST Heating Developments

In Heil, you get an automatic heating unit that is completely new and thrillingly modern in styling. Its sleek, trim jacket houses scores of new engineering features which give you more of tomorrow's heating developments today. And for your protection, every new Heil feature has been thoroughly tested in one of the industry's finest research laboratories. Call at your dealer's today and see how well these new Heil models fit your plans and budget. Also send for Heil's new booklet, "Ideas for Playroom Planning," giving selected designs and an easy-to-use layout kit for creating a modern recreation room in your home.



HOW TO GET NEW COMFORT FROM YOUR OLD HEATING PLANT

Now you can enjoy the greater comfort and convenience of automatic oil heat by equipping your present furnace or boiler with a new Heil Conversion Oil Burner, or by replacing your old heating system with a complete Heil Oil-fired Furnace or Boiler.



Manufacturers of Quality Automatic Heating Fince 1924

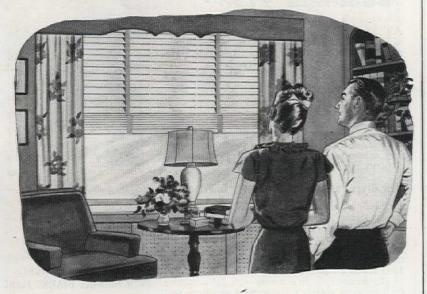




When I was all done, John stood in the middle of the room, took a good look around, and said, "Well, it's nice, but it's not perfect!"



I was mad!"Wait, baby," he said, "all we need is a couple of smart Venetian blinds, tapes to match, you know, real modern-looking."

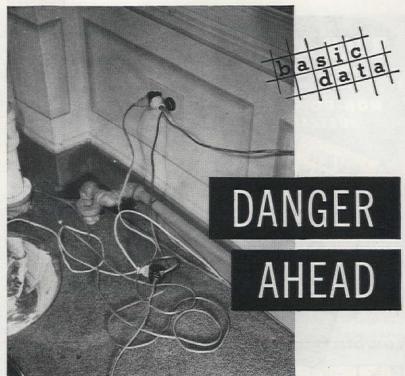


And he was right. Our new Columbia blinds (the most dependable, longest-wearing blinds we know of) have made the place look not only nice, but perfect!

Columbia Venetian blinds, with wood or metal slats, make a lasting and lovely background for your modern home. Tapes come in a variety of shades to complement your color scheme. And the smooth-working mechanism of Columbia blinds needs just the flick of a finger to regulate light and air. Stop in at your local shade shop or department store and see our assortment of Columbia window coverings to suit your taste and your budget. Selections may be limited, but not for long.

Columbia VENETIAN BLINDS

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F. M. Demarest

If You Don't Include
Adequate Wiring in
Your Building Plans
William W. Atkin

DAY by day, electricity plays an ever-increasing part in our lives. We read, and are fascinated by, descriptions of garage doors that, "seeing" a car coming, open by themselves, screens that electrocute nightflying pests; home-freezer units that preserve vegetables, meats and fruits complete, including vitamins; electric dishwashers and myriads of other inventions that go to make home life more comfortable. Many items including vacuum cleaners, electric irons, automatic toasters and other such time-saving devices, are considered commonplace in comparison.

Of course, all these marvels can and will be ours. The huge American production machine is underway at last and the day is not far off when again we will be able to walk into a store and order a new refrigerator, a new iron, a toaster or any other of the old stand bys. The new equipment will be just as plentiful; such things as the automatic washing machines, the home-freezing unit or some new type of air-conditioning for example. Most of us have become so blasé about electrical equipment that we never give a thought to what goes on behind the walls. We accept what electricity provides so readily, we don't worry about what makes it work. When we acquire a new electrical gadget, we are likely just to plug it in. If there is no plug available, we get out another extension cord with a three-way outlet at one end and we're all set-at least, that's what we think. The trouble is, electrical equipment does not operate efficiently when it must share its electrical energy with too many appliances—and with lights. A glance at the photograph above will give you a good idea of what to avoid.

Electric wires can be compared to plumbing pipes. A pipe, to supply enough water to fill ten bathtubs simultaneously, must be larger than a pipe which only has to fill one tub. If we attached ten bathtubs to one bathtub pipe line and tried to fill them all at once, the water would come out of the faucet in a slow trickle if at all. The same thing happens with wiring, though it seems more complicated because we can see the water and we can't see electrical current. Electricity is mysterious also because persons familiar with it toss off such terms as amperes, volts and watts. These are the three terms which most concern the homeowner and definitions would be in order. An ampere is a quantity of electricity. A volt is a unit of pressure; volts push the amperes over the wire. A watt is a unit of working energy; it is this term that the householder must deal with most often. The three units are dependent on one another and there are simple formulae for determining amperage, voltage and wattage. Don't let them scare you away. One ampere times one volt is equal to one watt (1a x 1v=1w). If you know the wattage and the voltage, and wish to determine the amperage, or if you know the wattage and the amperage and wish to determine the voltage, the formulae follow: for amperage, 1w÷1v=1a; for voltage, 1w÷1a=1v.

Electricity enters the house through an electrical service entrance. It is brought in from the street in either two wires or, in more modern installations, three wires. A two wire installation permits electrical energy to enter at a pressure of 115-120 volts. A three wire system permits



How Can Doors Save You Steps? . . . See This Idea Book

Yes, indeed-the right doors-rightly placed—can save plenty of footwork-can help to lighten household tasks by making your home more convenient. A new 32-page idea book "Today's Idea House" shows you how to use doors for this purpose, as well as for greater privacy and more storage space. But that's not all! "Today's Idea House" tells you how to have more windows, how to place them, how to decorate them. Send 10 cents for your copy of this illustrated booklet-you'll find it a valuable aid, whether you plan to build or remodel.

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electrical energy to enter at either 115-120 volts or at 220-240 volts. The third wire makes the difference. Why is it that a more modern installation is capable of using the most modern equipment such as an electric range, a water heater, fuel-fired heating equipment, a dishwasher-disposal unit, an automatic washing machine, a summer cooling fan, an aircooling unit, a home-freezer unit, a water pump, a bathroom heater, power tools for the shop, an electric clothes drier, etc.? Some equipment can be obtained to operate on either a 115-120 volt system or a 200-240 volt system, but it has been discovered that more efficient operation is possible with the latter type of installation. Some equipment, such as an electric range, will operate only on a 220-240 volt system.

The wires from the street lead into a fuse box or circuit breaker panel. From here a number of smaller wires, called circuits, lead to various parts of the house. An adequately wired house should have at least one 15 ampere circuit for every 500 square feet of floor area. These circuits receive electricity from the 115 volt side of the electrical service entrance. Using our formula for wattage, each 15 ampere circuit will provide about 1,725 watts ($15a \times 115v = 1,725w$). These circuits will provide lighting throughout the house and should serve convenience outlets in all rooms except the dining room, breakfast room, kitchen, pantry, and laundry. If your house has a total floor area of less than 1,500 square feet, there should be, in addition, at least two 20 ampere circuits for the convenience outlets in the dining room, breakfast room, kitchen, pantry, and laundry. In larger houses there should be three or more 20 ampere circuits, depending upon the size of the house. An electric range, an oil burner or electric stoker, an electric dishwasherdisposal unit each will require a circuit of its own. The same is true of automatic washing machines, water heaters, home-freezer units and certain other special pieces of equipment. In addition to all the circuits you find are necessary in view of the equipment you already have or will be adding, you should have two spare terminals on your fuse box or circuit breaker panel for future expansion.

All of the above standards are recommended as the very minimum requirements for efficient electrical service from your equipment.

It is a sad but true fact that most houses do not have any such wiring system as is described above. This is particularly true of houses that were built before 1939. Why? Because wiring practice in building had not kept pace with the increases in electrical equipment. Let's see, then, what happens to electrical equipment if there is not enough copper wire in your house to handle it all.

Here is a circuit that is capable of providing 1,725 watts; that would be a 15 ampere circuit on a 115 volt line which is typical of most residen-



THINK BIG!

Yes, plan for "big things" when you go in for home freezing. Plan on packing a lot of foods . . . in an ever-increasing volume. And don't overlook such things as fresh fruit pies, especially delicious out of season.

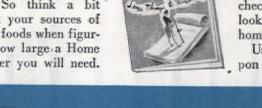
Because quick-frozen foods taste so good, you'll never have enough regardless of how large

a Home Freezer you own. On the other hand. remember that foods must be fresh-really fresh-for home freezing. So think a bit about your sources of fresh foods when figuring how large a Home Freezer you will need. Despite the very low temper-atures maintained, it costs but little to operate a modern Home Freezer. And when it is insulated with Fiberglas* - and most are today - operating costs stay low because Fiberglas retains its high insulating efficiency indefinitely. That's why it's so widely used in commercial refrigeration as well as in home appliances.

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Lumite* never stains! Nothing ages a house faster than ugly, stained sills and sidewalls. But LUMITE never can stain! Never needs painting, either... and cleans easily with just a few swishes with a damp cloth.

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tial wiring circuits. This circuit was installed to provide light for the dining room entrance hall, and living room. When it was installed it was probably adequate, but now-a double socket is screwed into the single central lighting fixture over the table in the dining room. In one socket is a 100-watt bulb. In the other socket is a plug with extension cord running down to the table and a double convenience outlet at the table end. One fine morning the waffle iron and the coffee-maker are plugged into this outlet at breakfast time. The fuse blows. It happens because the waffle iron requires 1,000 watts and the coffeemaker requires another 1,000 watts. Adding these two wattages and 100 watts for the bulb, we have 2,100 watts on a 1,725 watt line. Some amateur Steinmetz decides that the solution is to replace the blown-out 15 ampere fuse with a 20 ampere fuse and everything is lovely once again. The waffle iron makes waffles and the coffee-maker provides coffee. If this is his idea of the perfect breakfast, he will be very happy. What he probably does not know, though, is that he is 1) wasting current, 2) not getting efficient use from his equipment and 3) running the risk, with the larger fuse, of starting a fire. A waffle iron that doesn't get sufficient wattage (or any other piece of electrical equipment, for that matter) is inefficient because electrical energy must work harder and longer to get through a small wire than it would if the wire were large enough to handle the current. The waffles and the coffee take longer to make and the bulb does not give its full quota of light. Besides this, at the end of the month, when the bill comes from the electric company, this overloading takes money out of his pocketbook because appliances have had to work overtime. The fire hazard is present because the larger fuse permits the circuit to carry more electrical energy than it should and overheating results.

In 1932, American householders used about 11½ million kilowatt hours of electricity. By 1944 the figure had risen to 31 million. It is estimated that it rose to 34 million kilowatt hours in 1945. A large proportion of the increase has been caused by the addition of equipment in old houses. Wiring, unfortunately, is not the kind of a job you can do yourself. It's a good plan, though, to know about adequate wiring, important if you are adding new equipment.

If you are troubled with flickering lights, dim lights, if your equipment is not working up to the standard that it is used to, or if you have an octopus of extension cords running around the floor or draped on the walls, you have not got enough copper to provide for efficiency. It will pay you to call in your electrician and have him check the system. When building a new house, make certain that your architect provides adequate wiring not just for today but for tomorrow's electrical living.







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THE Housing Division of the Defoe Shipbuilding Company was developed with a two-fold purpose—to maintain, as closely as possible, the wartime employment level upon which the people of the industrial area in which the plant is located had come to depend and to offer the public a new solution to America's housing problem.

- With this in mind, Defoe designers and engineers were called upon to create a new line of homes which would bring to their owners the comforts of functional design, the ease of maintenance made possible by modern compact construction—plus the economies of mass production methods.
 In addition, they must be built to outlast houses of standard construction!
- The Defoe organization has delivered. The skill and experience acquired by more than forty years of fine workmanship and adherence to the age-old traditions of the shipbuilder's art have brought into being an entirely new concept of gracious living. The Defoe Homes reach new highs in comfort and convenience. While there is nothing fantastic or extreme about them, they are certainly a radical departure from any prewar "prefabricated" houses or temporary wartime structures.
- With the war won and with great hope for a permanent peace just ahead, "Better Things for Better Living" is the slogan for the coming era. The Defoe Homes will be a worthwhile contribution to the good times ahead.



This attractive Cape Cod home can be erected by the Defoe system. Variations in floor plan and exterior treatment can be made to satisfy individual requirements. This, like all Defoe Homes, can be purchased with or without the breezeway and garage.



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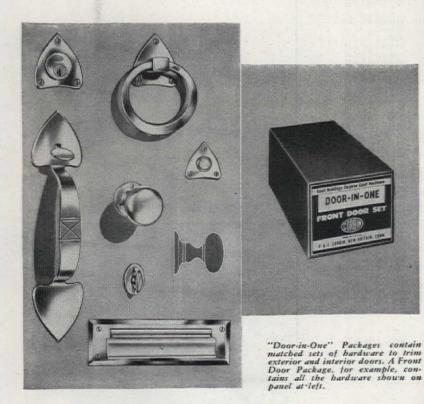
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"Good Buildings deserve Good Hardware."



Neighbors are NICE PEOPLE



Helen Cooke

A MERICAN colonists lived in the midst of continuous labor and material shortages; they had no well-arranged system to buy the goods and services they needed, so they turned to their neighbors for help in emergencies and in tasks which were too big for one man to accomplish.

House and barn "raisings" were typical of colonial enterprises where many hands made light work. When a house was to be built, the land was cleared and material assembled by the owner; then his neighbors, sometimes as many as seventy-five of them, came in and erected the building. They worked together and built the house that one man could hardly hope to build by himself. While they were working they enjoyed the company of their neighbors, for colonial parties were few.

Conditions in 1946 aren't essentially different from those 200 years ago. Labor and materials are scarce, and men are turning to their neigh-

bors; they are knowing them as friends and are asking their help in emergencies and hard tasks.

Taking a lesson from colonial history books and from recent customs of "barn raisings" in rural Indiana, A. L. Fast of Elkhart, Indiana, asked his neighbors in to help him put new siding on his drafty and weathered bungalow, when he found that the current scarcity of labor would hold up his plans until winter.

With the help of his friends, Mr. Fast put new lap siding over the old siding of his single constructed, fiveroom yellow bungalow. He succeeded

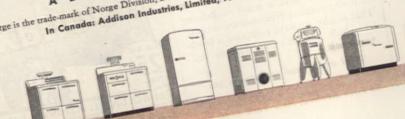


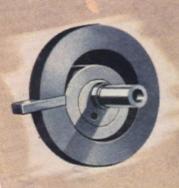


"GRANDMA, YOU'VE GOT EVERYTHING!"

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in bettering the insulation, bracing himself for a fuel-rationed winter and improving the appearance of his house and property.

To do the job he purchased 1,400 square feet of lap siding at a cost of \$100.00. Heavy tar paper was fastened over the original siding, and the new, properly cut strips were nailed into place. The corners were finished with metal corner strips.

The working crew of twelve men represented several trades-a policeman, sign painter, truck drivers, and several mechanics were on hand. They met at Mr. Fast's home about 6 P.M., after their day's work and worked until about ten for two consecutive nights. After dark the work was done with the aid of floodlights.

Although milder than the rum and apple flip served at colonial house raisings, lemonade, coffee and chocolate milk quenched the men's thirst while they worked late each evening. Mr. Fast also served as much ice cream and cake as his neighbors could eat-or carry home with them.

The siding job represented about 100 man hours of labor, but when his neighbors put their shoulders to the wheel, they did a good workmanlike job in only two evenings.

A postscript to the story! When the siding was on, Mr. Fast painted his house singlehanded. The neighbors refused to help? No-he could find only one paintbrush to wield!

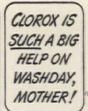


How often have you said, "Wish I'd saved them?" about pictures and plans you noticed in previous issues and which seemed to fit your needs to a T . . . ideas perhaps for adding a future wing ... remodeling an outmoded kitchen or bathroom? There's no time like the present to start collecting the wealth of ideas on these problems which come to you in your AMERICAN HOME each month. To simplify this, we have designed a Dream Home Portfolio consisting of two colorful, rigid covers the size of our magazine page, 10 manila index sheets, 10 linen tabs, and a bright red shoestring to tie all together. The price of this portfolio is 35 cents.

Make Your Church Bazaar

20 pages-8 of them in full coloron organizing and running a bazaar to make it a financial success. Pattern suggestion for best-selling knitted, crocheted, embroidered items, popular recipes for food sales. Time for summer bazaars is fast approaching, and we'd like to have a hand in helping to make yours a tremendous success. That is why we have compiled a booklet which explains our idea in full.

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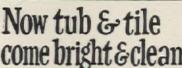
cake without proper heat...the job just doesn't get done right! Clorox is easy to use, economical (it's con-centrated), extra-gentle on your cottons and linens. Snowy-white bleaching, brighter fast colors are only part of the Clorox story... for Clorox also makes laundry fresh and sanitary, lessens rubbing, conserving fabrics. Clorox removes stubborn stains... even scorch,

Clorox is like trying to bake a

mildew... as if by magic! Directions on label. AMERICA'S FAVORITE BLEACH AND HOUSEHOLD DISINFECTANT

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To Cultivate or Not to Cultivate... To Mulch or Not to Mulch...

Elias J. Beach

As a young boy, starting to learn this business of horticulture (so many years ago that I hate to think about them), I was taught that nothing could take the place of hand cultivation of the soil in the growing of plants. Without doubt my vegetable growing methods as of today stem directly from that early training. In the garden area from which my family of four is to obtain vegetables to eat, to can, and to store for winter use, I still practice the so-called, old-fashioned technique of stirring the ground with hand tools. But, because I am not completely sure that my method is the best, I have, for the past two seasons (when a great deal was written and said about the desirability of mulching rather than cultivating) tried out that practice in what I like to call my experimental vegetable garden. In this plot, which is much smaller than my garden proper, I have from time to time tried every method of culture I have heard about, read about, thought about, or dreamed about. Some of the results have been startling; some have proved quite successful, many have not, apparently, proved anything. Anyway, for two seasons-this will be the third-I have mulched this entire area according to the best directions I could find

I realize that two years spent in testing a particular method of crop growing does not give one the knowledge or right to speak with much authority on the subject as a general practice over a wide area. However, my experience with mulching has brought to light several facts that I will state as I observed them, and definitely not as they might be affected by personal opinions or

preferences. I submit them as results on the basis of which you, as individual gardeners, can balance mulching against cultivating and decide which method you are going to follow-or experiment with-in growing your vegetables. Both my garden areas consist of the same sort of light soil; each benefits annually by a "cover crop" which is sown in the fall after the food crops are harvested, and plowed under the following spring. They receive, in proportion to their size, equal amounts of homemade compost and of purchased barnyard manures and other plant foods-the actual amounts of the latter materials depending on how much money I have available each spring. In other words, the soil conditions are as nearly identical as 1 can make them without resorting to scientific methods and chemical tests of available nutrients, trace elements, etc.

As to Cultivation.—In my main garden area, I have never mulched a plant. Year after year I have regularly and constantly cultivated with a hoe, a five-finger cultivator of the "scratcher"

type, or a wheel cultivator equipped with either curved tines or the wide-sweep, flat, hoe-like attachments. In nearly thirty years of gardening I doubt if I have ever cultivated more than two inches deep; of late years I have tried to keep the depth uniformly one inch. The purpose of this cultivation is to pulverize the top layer of soil so finely that it becomes virtually a dust mat, a loosely woven carpet laid smoothly between the plants. Such a mat prevents the hot, penetrating rays of the sun from reaching the delicate feeding roots of the plants. It is also a tremendous help in holding moisture in the soil whence it would otherwise evaporate, and in keeping the ground practically weed-free. Oh yes, weeds do germinate quickly and, seemingly, grow over night. But frequent cultivation never allows them to become more than an inch or so high, that is, large enough to take either moisture or plant food from the soil to an extent sufficient to handicap the plants. As I am a firm believer in frequently "side-dressing" my crops with fer-

Yea, verily, brethren, those are not mere questions, but the elements of a PROBLEM . . . You don't agree with the author? Well, what are YOUR views?





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tilizer, regardless of the amount of manure, compost, or other humus in the soil, the regular cultivation helps to distribute these "booster" applications and make the plant food available to the plants in relatively short order.

This system has given excellent results over a long period, results in both quantity and quality of vegetables grown. I have never had any of them taken apart and analyzed to see if they contained all the food value and vitamins they should, but they are consistently healthy, firm, of fine color, and rich in that appealing, true-to-variety taste. According to some theories that are receiving much attention these days, they may not be as desirable as those grown solely with composts, but as I don't want to talk about anything outside my actual experience, I won't try to go into that. I do know, however, that the average gardener is not likely to be fortunate enough to have enough compost on his or her small property to permit gardening "by compost alone." Certainly, too, it isn't fair to give all the credit for my good crops to hand cultivation. There is the fairly good condition of the soil, and we must not forget the care taken in applying water when needed. Also, I select my varieties carefully for the qualities I want and in relation to my local conditions. Another factor is a regular spraying and dusting program carried out as religiously as the cultivation and side dressing; for I thoroughly believe that in the garden the ounce of prevention is worth a world of curative or corrective measures. In short, my carefully performed garden chores do produce vegetables and have been doing so for a good many years.

What About Mulching?-Let's turn now to my experimental garden, planted with exactly the same care, variety for variety. Remember, the piants here were not cultivated, fed, nor watered at any time, but were given the same spray and dust program as were the others. Yes, I have had some good results as compared with those in the cultivated area; results which may be said to have stemmed directly or indirectly from the use of the mulch. But there have been marked differences.

The first difference noticed was that the mulched plants did not make as heavy a growth. This was to be expected and can be understood, for side dressings of fertilizers give plants quite a push. Next, I noted that the mulched plants did not produce as many buds and blossoms as the others; and the blossoms were six to ten days later in appearing. And as they matured some time after fertilization had taken place in the regular garden, and therefore could not benefit from any pollen produced there, there were fewer fruits set (that is, more unfertilized flowers) on the mulched plants. A third fact was the appearance of mildew on several of the experimental plants. This may have been due to the depth of the



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mulch maintained, but I am inclined to attribute it to the lack of air circulation around the base of the plants. I found some bean beetles and Japanese beetles in the experimental patch notwithstanding my control measures. Perhaps the hay I used for mulching brought them in, though I didn't see any and I'm like a hawk after young chickens when it comes to spotting beetles. (Of course, this infestation spread to the other garden and for a while it was a real battle between me and the bugs.)

As maturity time for the vegetables approached, it was apparenteven to a neighbor who says he knows beans from pumpkins but that's about all-that the quality of the crops grown by the mulch method was inferior to that in the cultivated area. And, as I expected after noting the smaller fruit set, the quantity was much less. Beans, for example, were of fair size, tender enough, and tasty, but from the other garden those of the same variety were longer, fuller, and just as tender and tasty. Carrots were exactly the same. Beets showed a decided difference in favor of cultivation although all were thinned the same. Sweet corn showed wide variation. Disregarding the effects of the borer, which I fought by treating the young ears as carefully as I could, the size and the quality of the ears were inferior to those of the cultivated crops. And so on down the list. Tomatoes showed the least difference in size and quality of fruit, but in quantity, plant for plant, the mulched crop was far below that grown under cultivation.

One fact that I must emphasize, and that was pleasant to learn from the mulching method, is this: After the mulch was applied, there was no work to speak of in caring for the garden. I sprayed and dusted, of course, but otherwise days passed with nothing to do but pull an occasional weed that came up through the mulch. No backbreaking applications of fertilizer, no hand or wheel-hoeing, no watering. This one fact, I realize, may make the mulch method of growing vegetables generally popular with many home gardeners who have long been looking for a way to grow vegetables with a minimum of work. In fact, I am going to keep on experimenting with the mulch. Maybe I did something wrong during the past two years. Maybe I will discover how, by using a mulch, I can save much hard work and still get as many and as fine vegetables as by any other method. Frankly, I hope I do. For, while I am a gardener by vocation and avocation, and love it all from the first sign of spring until frost comes, I am no more a lover of hard work than anyone else. Certainly I would enjoy applying a mulch to the garden and then having time to go fishing or just sit in the shade and watch the heat waves shimmer.

I would plan to do just that this summer except that I know that, just as soon as the yield and the quality began to fall below the par that Ma



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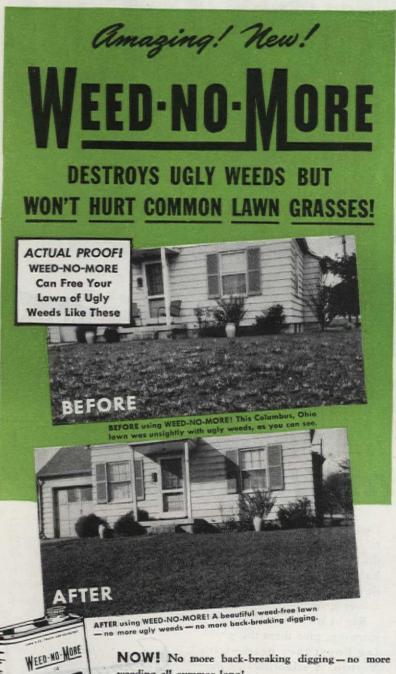
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has set, there would be trouble-and I am a peace-loving man. So my hope of peace plus leisure lies in the possibility that this year may prove to my satisfaction that a mulch will do all that I could expect of it.

THE HORTICULTURAL ED-ITOR COMMENTS: There are several things about Mr. Beach's article (in addition to the author himself) that I like. Nevertheless, I would welcome a chance to debate the issue with him-not in order to challenge the accuracy of his observations or question the sincerity of his conclusions, but so that I might stress the great importance of both local and seasonal conditions in determining the success of any particular garden practice such as cultivating or mulching. I, too, have compared the results of those methods, less systematically than he perhaps, but sufficiently to convince me that, on a light, not too good, Long Island soil and in hot, dry seasons, heavily mulched crops will stand up, grow, and yield more impressively than those in clean cultivated ground. Furthermore, it seems to me that in comparing the effects of the two methods, supplementary aids, such as top dressings of plant food and "water when needed" (certainly not intrinsic parts of either cultivation or mulching practice), should be given impartially to both test areas, if at all. I have an idea that, in general, cultivated plants would show signs of needing water (by drooping or wilting) much sooner than mulched plants. And if you

didn't water them, would they still outdo the others? I wonder.

The labor-saving advantage of mulching, mentioned by Mr. Beach, is bound to be a powerful argument with the average suburban home owner, whose gardening hours are invariably too few and too short. Whether it outweighs a possible lighter yield or lower quality, each will have to decide for himself. But one result that needs extra emphasis is the effect on the organic matter content of the soil and all that it implies with regard to the texture or tilth of the ground. The lighter the soil and the warmer the climate, the more cultivation promotes the oxidation and destruction of that all-important humus. Hence, where conditions do not permit frequent, generous additions of manure, compost, etc., mulching is by far the more effective method of conserving the humus supply. True, few average gardeners have as much compost as they would like. But in many cases that is their own fault. They could have much more if they gave a little time and effort to making it, instead of letting it go up in smoke or out with the garbage. So let me suggest, as my contribution to any mulch vs. cultivation discussion, that you read J. I. Rodale's Pay Dirt (Devin-Adair Co., New York). You needn't agree 100 per cent with all of it to learn how to boost your compost supply.

E. L. D. Seymour.



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L. L. Dolson Lou Richardson



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But don't forget that, while you are working toward that result, or while, perhaps, you are camping in a rented home, you can do much to brighten your lot (in more senses than one) by making generous use of easily handled, quick-growing, brilliant, colorful and reliable annuals.

Why, for example, be content with a barren front lawn bank like that shown at the top of the opposite page when, with a combination of wellchosen, well-placed rocks and some easily established annuals, you can enjoy such a spectacular return on your investment as that pictured just below the "before" view? The flowers that beautify that colorful bank are not rare rock garden material, but simple, more or less foolproof things like sweet alyssum, African daisies, pansies, heliotrope, violas, fibrousrooted begonias, etc., of which there are good selections available in all good seed catalogues for all kinds of soil and climatic conditions.

Again, why let your house foundation go bare, even during that difficult first year after the building is finished, when you have so many other problems on your hands? Note

Quaint pansy faces looking up from one of L. L. Dolson's borders. Shown here in midsummer, these plants were still in full bloom when hit by the season's first hard frost in November



Annual pinks used in a mixed border to fill bare spots and as edging plants

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e gardener ble at you shaker-type





at the bottom of page 81 how marigolds, zinnias, geraniums, petunias, and the like can give just such a situation a bright, cheery, lived-in appearance. Of course, against a house you will have to provide better than average soil, insure an adequate supply of moisture, and perhaps give a little extra attention in the form of protection and feeding. For house walls reflect heat, and a roof overhang keeps the rains from benefiting the plants as they would out in the open. However, it is a small price to pay for all-summer beauty.

A NOTHER often unrealized possibility of annuals is their suitability for use as ground covers. However, it has been realized and is convincingly pointed out by L. L. Dolson, of Iowa, who took the kodachrome pictures of bits of his garden reproduced on page 80. Says he:

For the past fifteen years, I had been growing perennials and roses exclusively until, about three years ago, I visited a commercial perennial garden and discovered that the brightest and prettiest spot on the whole place was a bed of annual phlox. This, the grower told me, he had been trying to interest people in for several years, with only indifferent success. It was then that I realized that most of us, in our constant search for new things, were missing a lot of pleasure by failing to grow some of the old-fashioned annuals our mothers loved so well.

When permanent plantings of shrubs and hedges are first made, they usually look thin and ragged, with too much of the ground showing. Well, they can be dressed up and carried over that awkward, early stage if you will plant annuals in and around them as a ground cover. For the past three years, I have been experimenting with annuals for this purpose in connection with my hedges and rose garden, and the results have been both satisfactory from the cultural standpoint and very pleasing aesthetically. For such ground covers not only furnish gorgeous masses of color, but also serve as a summer mulch, keeping the ground cool and moist and checking weed growth.

The flowers I have tried so far have been pinks, portulaca, annual phlox, and pansies. Annual pinks (Dianthus) come in both double and single varieties, the colors ranging from shell pink to dazzling scarlets, rich violet, and white. A solid mass of them as a ground cover makes a sight long to be remembered. I sow the seed directly in the bed where the plants are to bloom, about the first of May, and, for mass effects, thin out the plants to stand about six inches apart.

The annual phlox, as I have already intimated, also makes a brilliant, free-flowering ground cover as well as a most effective bedding plant. It can be sown outdoors in early May, or indoors some weeks earlier and transplanted to the garden about

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May 15th. Few annuals are more easily grown than Phlox drummondi, or offer such a variety of colors. It is rich in shades of red, and sometimes approaches buff and violet tones.

The free-flowering, highly colorful, low-growing portulaca or sun-plant, is unrivaled as a ground cover, as I have found during two years' trials in my rose beds. As the seed does not germinate until hot weather arrives, it should be sown late. But once a planting is started, it will reseed itself year after year. If you like sparkling reds and bright yellows, try portulaca. It will stand almost unbelievable abuse and neglect, and can be transplanted, even when in flower, in the hottest, driest weather. Of course, common sense will suggest giving newly moved plants some water and temporary shade.

Pansies are actually herbaceous perennials; but they do best-at least for me-if handled as annuals and started anew from seed each year. I have tried raising them both ways, but while plants can be carried over from one year to the next, they tend to become straggling and the flowers obtained are comparatively small. If you want to enjoy big, handsome pansy blossoms, don't go to the corner grocery or hardware store and buy a box or basketful of plants that have been shipped in, loaded with flowers; they are likely to be bloomed out before they reach you and will produce only mediocre results in your garden. Instead, buy seed from a reliable pansy specialist and raise your own. Sow the seed in a carefully prepared bed or row in the garden about September 1st, and when the little seedlings have three or four leaves, you can transplant them to their permanent location. Or you can leave them where they are for the winter and transplant them in the spring as soon as the ground can be worked and made ready to receive them. I have successfully wintered young pansy plants in the open garden, right here in the none-too-gentle Midwest, by giving them, as soon as the ground freezes, a good thick mulch of dried leaves, with a few old annual plant stalks and some brush to hold the leaves in place and keep them from matting down.

I have heard people say that they do not raise pansies because it is too much trouble to pick them every day. Actually, the belief that the blooms should be picked daily is a misconception. Picking that often soon exhausts the plants, in my opinion; the blooms get smaller and smaller and the plants are likely to stop flowering by midsummer. Take only as many as you need for bouquets, remove others as they fade, keep the plants well watered during the hot months, and they will keep right on blooming until the first hard frost. Spray occasionally with a nicotine sulphate solution to control plant lice. Pansies do especially well in partly shaded locations, but can also be used to fill any vacant spaces in the front of a mixed border.



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H. Armstrong Roberts

If You Grow Them ... Know Them

Some time ago, a Minnesota reader protested vigorously because an article on how to obtain quick results in the garden had suggested snow-on-the-mountain (Euphorbia marginata) as one of several useful and desirable plants. "Here in Minnesota," she wrote, "we are trying to eradicate this plant, which is listed in the agricultural bulletins as a dangerous weed. The leaves may cause a skin eruption smiliar to that caused by poison-ivy, and the juice of the berries can cause blindness if it gets into the eyes. * * * We feel sure that if you check up on this, you will no more advise planting snow-on-themountain in a garden than you would recommend poison-ivy which, in appearance, is a beautiful vine."

She supplemented her comment with a copy of a letter from the Department of Agriculture of the University of Minnesota which said in part: "Snow-on-the-mountain * * * is one of the most striking appearing plants of the spurge family outside of the poinsettia. This character has given rise to its use as an ornamental. It is now quite widely distributed in gardens in the United States. When once established and allowed to ripen

Some plants hide a poisonous or irritating nature under a pleasing exterior . . . Here are hints about a few that should be grown with caution, if at all

E. L. D. Seymour

its seeds (which can live in the soil for several years), it is able to maintain itself, unless a special effort is made to control it. * * * Most plants of the spurge family have a white latex which exudes when the plant is broken or cut and which contains more or less of an irritating substance which causes inflammation and blistering of the skin, in somewhat the same manner as poison-ivy. This is quite pronounced in the case of snow-on-the-mountain. * * * We consider it to be a weed of some importance in the Central Plains regions, where it seriously competes with small grains. * * * It may not be very troublesome in a garden where the area is limited and can be easily kept clean, but out in the fields it is apt to be a weed in addition to causing

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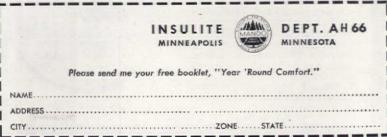
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dermatitis. Keep up your anti-snowon-the-mountain campaign. Too many weeds have started as flowers."

Knowing of the poisonous or irritant nature of some familiar garden plants, but never having heard of any trouble with snow-on-the-mountain, and finding it listed in the catalogues of well-known seed firms, we decided that we would check up on it. We asked authorities in different parts of the country for their opinions, and the net result provides practical and valuable advice for gardeners regarding not only snow-on-the-mountain, but any of the plants that may exhibit dual personalities, being both beautiful and, more or less, dangerous.

First, the Horticultural Division of the University of Minnesota confirmed the indictment of the plant as a noxious weed by the State Department of Agriculture which "is very critical of anyone that grows it as an ornamental." Professor L. E. Longlev of the Division, commenting that "this is the only state I have ever been in where it has been proscribed," said that he has gone along with the rest of the state in not recommending it as a garden annual (although he realizes that it does make an ornamental plant) because, since it is somewhat injurious, "it is probably not worth-while to grow it."

In California, according to Professor J. W. Gregg, "It is not extensively planted or recognized as an ornamental;" but neither, apparently, is it considered a weed pest. He expressed a view rather generally shared by saying that, "In listing it as a possible ornamental for landscape use, it might be well to call attention to its possible poisonous properties in order that people might decide whether they wanted to take a chance with it.'

Director George T. Moore, of the Missouri Botanical Garden, compared its irritating action with that caused "by any number of other plants to which certain people are susceptible," but does not think the plant is to be compared with poison-ivy. "So altogether," he concluded, "I do not think the case against the Euphorbia is particularly convincing. If a campaign to eliminate plants which may cause trouble on contact was started, we would have to get rid of a number of our most satisfactory horticultural varieties including, of course, things like the castor-bean and boxwood, which are really poisonous."

Much the same reaction was reported from the Brooklyn and New York Botanical Gardens; and Professor Victor H. Ries, Ohio Extension Horticulturist, expressed surprise that, in view of the poisonous nature of the sap of snow-on-the-mountain, we do not hear more complaint about it. He also suggested that, "It is possible that some of the so-called cases of poison-ivy poisoning and of conditions laid at the door of other plants, may have been caused by this one. * Consequently in write-ups, I believe this fact should be mentioned, though I see no reason for discontinuing it." Then he added, in



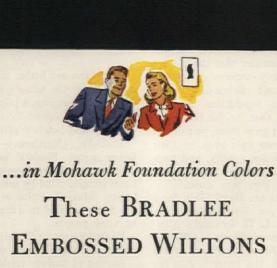
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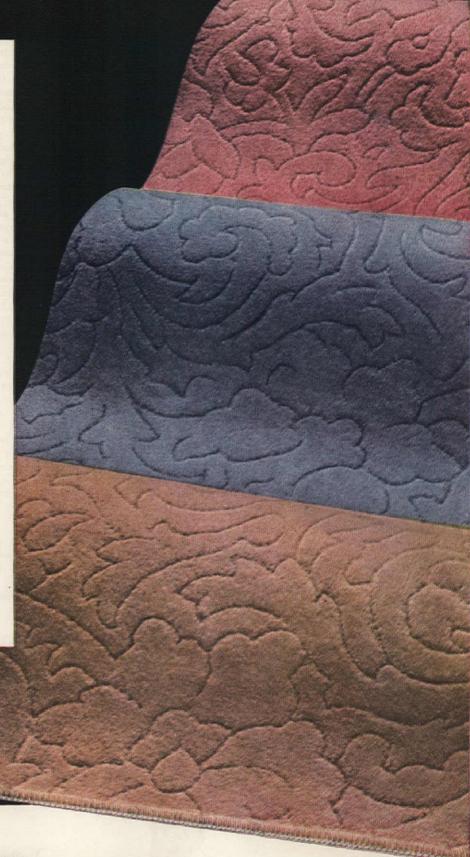
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his characteristically practical way, "I would not worry too much about the old thing if I were you."—Which is just what we propose not to do.

However, the foregoing little flurry about snow-on-the-mountain can well serve as a reminder that there are a number of fairly common and attractive plants (both cultivated and wild kinds) whose reputations are not spotless; and that, as the title says, if you want to grow them, you should do it with your eyes open to their potential nuisance quality, and your fingers crossed against any inconvenience that they may cause.

What plants are they? Well, for a complete list, you should consult some such book as L. H. Pammel's Manual of Poisonous Plants, or W. C. Muenscher's Poisonous Plants of the United States. The latter is also the author of Cornell Extension Bulletin 441 on Some Plants Poisonous to Touch which briefly mentions those which, for all practical gardening purposes, are probably enough to know about, at least in the eastern part of the country. Perhaps the deep South and the far West have other candidates for this rogues' gallery.

Here, then, are some of the plants that some people find it best to handle (if at all) with discretion and with gloves, and the particular parts that give the most trouble:

Poison-ivy and its relatives, poisonoak and poison sumac—all parts.

Wild- or cow-parsnip—foliage, especially in contact with wet skin (as

DON'T GIVE

when an unwary bather sits down on a clump at the water's edge).

Primula obconica, a popular, colorful pot plant, especially if grown in quantity and handled often—foliage.

Daffodils (Narcissus)—sap from flower stems. Florists' helpers who pick and bunch the flowers are sometimes incapacitated by sore hands and fingers. Also, the bulbs of tulips and hyacinths are said to irritate the skin of some people.

Ladyslippers (Cypripedium)—leaves and stems, when wet.

Spurges of various kinds, including snow-on-the-mountain—foliage.

Some buttercups—sap.

Wild iris or blue flag—the rootstocks poison some people if eaten. Nettles, especially the stinging net-

tle and the wood nettle—sap from the stiff brittle hairs when broken. Arbovitae (and at least one variety

of cotoneaster)—twigs may irritate the skin of those who prune them. Ginkgo tree—fruits; and ailanthus,

common in city back yards—flowers.
Less often reported are: Gas plant (leaves, seed pods); Hop-vine (leaves, flowers); Lily-of-the-valley (leaves); Oleander (leaves); Trumpet-creeper (flowers); Osage-orange (milky juice from the stems), and Rue (leaves).



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skill, what we know as "victory gardening." By growing all the vegetables and fruits you can (and will) use, you can live well—and far more happily—and at the same time leave more of the exportable wheat, meats, and fats to be sent to feed, strengthen, and hearten those who are hungry as you, please God, will never be:

Let nothing of what you grow go to waste; share or preserve for future use any surplus above your daily needs. Put by, in some form, a tithe of the good things that you could enjoy on your table, that it may help feed someone, somewhere—perhaps a child in your own community who would otherwise have to go without a hot school lunch.

In your gardening, follow the widely taught conservation practices so that, even while producing more, you will be improving the soil, keeping it permanently fruitful. It's not too late to make a garden. With 90 days or more of growing weather before the first frost, you can grow, from seed, a dozen or more things, and set out plants of tomatoes, cabbage, broccoli. All summer, you can preserve, dry, freeze, or brine many of those; and then, in fall, you can store away the hardy late crops.—E. L. D. S.



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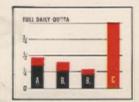
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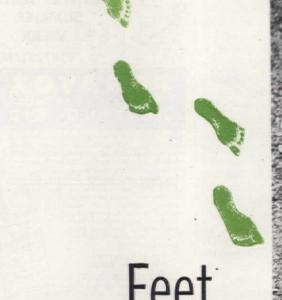
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Feet and Posture

THE posture of a newborn baby is quite different from that of an older child. The thighs of the baby are drawn up against the abdomen and the legs drawn up against the thighs. This flexing of the muscles of the body is a characteristic until the nerve control, which puts the extensor muscles into action, takes over. Thus the legs of the newborn baby are slightly bowed and twisted inward, and the feet are turned inward and have no arches just pads of fat.

During the first year of life the head begins to be held erect. As the muscles and ligaments of the spine develop, an arch develops in the lower portion of the back. Soon the baby learns to roll over, to sit, then to creep and next to stand. Finally, he takes the first few hesitant steps, and then he walks without aid from adults.

For walking, balance and co-ordination are required. A normal baby learns to walk and run early in the second year of life. However, before he walks purposefully and determinedly, he is likely to hold the hips and knees slightly flexed and to keep the legs well apart so as to make a broad base. This gives balance and prevents some of the frequent falls that occur to a baby who is just learning to walk. Characteristic also is the way the baby holds his arms in order to help balance of the body on the feet. A human being stands erect. When a little baby reaches up his tiny hands in order to pull himself up on his feet, he is performing an act of great significance; the baby is assuming the posture that has eventually come to be the characteristic of human beings.

The funnel chest, the chicken breast, the rounded shoulders in children as well as in grownups are signs of bad body formation. Sometimes these deformities result from bad habits of sitting, standing or lying down. Sitting occupies a great amount of a child's time from the day he enters kindergarten until he completes his education. The child who practices excellent posture when standing or walking or running and even when lying in bed may sit incorrectly in school and thus overcome all the benefits derived from assuming good posture elsewhere at other times.



Morris Fishbein, M. D.

Editor, Journal of the American Medical Association

The organ most largely concerned in the posture of the body is the spinal column. Our spines are made of many segments which fit together in a line with certain curves. These curves are developed by the body in order that the human being may balance himself properly on two legs. If we remember that the human being developed from a species that walked on all fours and that the attempt to walk and to stand on two feet puts stress and strain on parts of the body that were not constructed to bear the burden, we will soon realize why we also see round-shouldered and stoop-shouldered people with protuberant abdomens or lame hips. If a child sits too long in one position at his desk in school, the upper part of his body may lean forward and press against his desk. To relieve this strain, the child will slump back in his seat, resting on his shoulder blades and the lower part of his spine. In this position the back is not supported properly, so that it tends to sag downward and to curve. Repeated day after day, this position will eventually stretch the muscles and ligaments of the backbone so that the back becomes rounded and the chin is shoved forward. In the correct sitting position the body is erect and the head is poised to bring the center of gravity in a horizontal line joining the bones of the hips. All children should have at least two five-minute

periods during the hours of study when they may stand and stretch and perhaps take a few corrective exercises. In order to attain good posture, experts in the field of body mechanics recommend that you stand tall, sit tall, walk tall and chesty, with the weight transmitted to the balls of the feet; that you draw in your abdomen, pulling it back and up, keep your shoulders square and high but not hunched and your chin pulled straight back; that you flatten the hollow of your back by rolling your pelvis down and back, separate your shoulders from your hips as far as possible; and lie tall and flat, sleep tall and think tall.

Several weeks or months may pass after the child is first able to get up on his feet before he even attempts to take his first step. The child's muscles and his nerves must learn to work together so that he may remain upright and move. Motion of the body involves the operation of what we have come to call body mechanics. The head must be held correctly if the jaws are to meet and the teeth are to bite together as they should. The chest must be held correctly if the heart and lungs are to perform their functions to the best advantage. The feet must be right and the legs correct in their relation to the feet if the child is to walk. Such relationships must be even more correctly established for running. 91



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Little children naturally have rather large abdomens. A child that is overfed may have, for a while, a strong forward curve to his back because he has to carry around his stomach with its contents. However, the stomach tends to become less prominent after the child stands and walks.

After three years of age the knock-knees that are characteristics of baby-hood disappear, provided that they are not a permanent inherited family characteristic, that the shoes worn by the child do not tend to prolong the condition, and that his diet contains sufficient bone and muscle building materials so that bone and muscle weakness will not prevent normal growth. The substances involved are principally an adequate amount of calcium and vitamins A, C, and D, which are essential to the proper development of bones and teeth.

The posture while lying down is likely to be considerably affected by the bed or crib in which the child sleeps. The bed should be firm and flat, preferably with a springless mattress. If there is a tendency to sag, a full-sized plywood board may be placed under the mattress. A sagging bed allows the muscles and ligaments of the upper part of the body to relax but stretches those on the opposite side. This will distort the structure of the chest and the shape of the abdominal organs. Inner spring mattresses have an undesirable amount of sag. Often the second or third baby in the family will use the same crib that was used by the older children; attention should be given to the necessity for modifying and renovating the crib for the newcomer. Frequently, all that is necessary will be to put the plywood board under the mattress and to make certain that the mattress itself contains enough cotton or hair or both to be even in its support. New in mattress filling is sponge rubber, which seems to meet most of the requirements for proper posture while the child sleeps.

The statement that "the baby needs a new pair of shoes" has become so well established as a part of life that it is a common slogan of those who roll dice. The fact that the baby needs new shoes is a stimulus for extra effort on the part of the father. Recently 4,000 children had their feet measured in the elementary schools of one of our large cities. Only one child said that her feet hurt. Yet the shoes of almost threefourths of them were found to be from one-half to three and one-half sizes shorter than the size for which their feet measured. The only child who said that her feet hurt was wearing a 41/2D shoe, whereas her feet measured for 61/2B or C. The teacher said that when the little girl was fitted with a new pair of shoes her whole character changed and that her work in school improved. Children seldom give good help when they are being fitted for shoes. Boys often wear shoes that are too short, but girls are more likely to get shoes that are of the right length while suiting them-



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selves to the styles. Girls shop around more than do boys in order to get properly fitted. Boys tend to imitate their fathers and to brag that they bought the first pair of shoes that the clerk brought out. There is only one way to get properly fitting shoes, and that is to have the feet measured accurately for each new pair of shoes.

When the child is born, the feet should be examined immediately to determine if they are normal. They may be found turned in or turned out. Sometimes the toes turn up instead of down. When children are found to have deformities of the feet, they should have special attention. When a child is born, the portion of the foot which subsequently becomes the arch is filled with a pad of fat. As the baby grows older, this pad of fat shrinks. One of the causes of disturbances of the feet in children is the fact that they may be forced to wear shoes that are made of stiff leather, in which there is little opportunity for movement of various parts of the foot. The stiff leather shoe really acts as a splint for preventing proper action of the muscles and ligaments. Suitable exercising of soft tissues will overcome binding that follows wearing a stiff shoe.

The human foot does better if it is given a chance to develop normally rather than under the crippling conditions that result from the wrong kind of shoes. Oxfords or sandals with a strong leather sole provide adequate protection as far as the arch and the weight-bearing parts of the foot are concerned. A good shoe will allow ample room for the toes with adequate width, length and depth to the vamp. Such shoes avoid constriction and interference with the circulation of the blood in the foot. The heel portion of the shoe should fit snugly. People used to think that high-top shoes were desirable to help weak ankles. Actually, muscles, bones and tendons become strong through use and not through being held in a tight position. The gradual disappearance of the high-top shoe is evidence that people adopted the new knowledge that medicine accumulated about the proper development of the feet.

In the interest of developing strong feet, children should be encouraged to play in their bare feet in soft, clean sand when the weather permits or in the green grass of the yard.

When the child reaches the age of three or four, most of the fat in the arch of the foot has disappeared. Proportionately, the arch in the foot of an infant is just about the same as in that of an adult. Every child should have a second examination of the feet at the time he enters kindergarten. At this time study will show whether or not it is necessary to modify the shoes temporarily so as to lift one heel or to throw the weight toward one or the other side of the foot in order to insure proper development. Of great importance for the growing child is proper construction of the feet and ankles to provide stability when standing, easy move-

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ment, and comfort in both standing and walking. Painless, free motion is essential particularly if one wishes some grace and spring to the step. Compare the beautiful stride and grace of movement of such actresses as Lynn Fontanne with the awkward motion of hands, limbs and feet of less accomplished performers. Such motion comes only from properly constructed limbs and feet and sufficient activity to maintain that factor of life that the physiologists call tone. Some children are born with the

absence of toes, with webs between the toes, with extra toes, with one toe lapping over another or with similar slight deformities. These are not of great importance to health, but they make it exceedingly difficult to secure suitable shoes or to walk satisfactorily. Surgical attention to these matters when the baby is young is not difficult and permits proper growth and development. Some children are born with a twisting of the foot called club foot. This occurs once in a thousand births. About 65 per cent of the cases are in boys. In 57 per cent of the cases the disturbance is present only on one foot and not on both. The exact cause of club foot is not known. In previous centuries children with club feet were forced to go crippled through life, and this crippling often changed the entire nature of the child. Somerset Maugham shows this remarkably in the deformity of the doctor who is the leading character of his book Of Human Bondage. Nowadays it is unnecessary that a child carry a club foot throughout life. The completeness of the cure depends, however, on the age of the child when it first comes to the attention of a competent orthopedic specialist, the type and degree of the deformity and the extent to which the parents persist in treatment. In such cases active treatment may be necessary for months, and care and supervision for years. The first treatment for club foot is usually applied at birth or during infancy. The object is to correct the deformity as soon as possible and to maintain the correction until the proper use of the foot has made the correction permanent. Usually the deformity is corrected by the use of manipulation, and when the foot is in proper position, it is held in place by suitable bandages, adhesive straps or plaster of Paris casts. After the correction is once established, massage, exercise and the wearing of proper shoes will hold the feet in proper position and maintain a healthful condition. When a club foot cannot be suitably controlled by such corrective measures, surgical operations can be performed which will bring about excellent results and, in most instances, complete cure.

Note: Dr. Fishbein will answer personally and free of charge questions on child care. Address letters to him c/o THE AMERICAN HOME, 444 Madison Avenue, New York 22, N. Y. They should be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.



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cells. You do not need to slice your fruit. For example, merely peel your peaches and cut them in half. You will find that peaches and other fruits very seldom discolor when this new method is used. They will come to your table in all their natural brilliance.

Home freezing of fruit, of course, is new. In early attempts some fruit was mushy, and other fruit discolored badly. But now, after three years of tests approved by leading authorities, we offer you this simple, fool-proof way.

Why don't you plan to try this new and wonderful method this summer. Just send the coupon at the right. We will not only send you full directions, but we will tell you how and where to get Sweetose White Syrup, to use in freezing your fruit. A. E. Staley Mfg. Co., Decatur, Illinois.

IT'S REALLY SWEET! A. E. Staley Mfg. Co. Dept. A-6, Decatur, Ill. Dept. A-b, Decatur, III.

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TOOD FOR OUTDOORS

Julia Bliss Joyner

EATING out-of-doors has always been one of our keenest joys of the good old summertime. And this summer we are again taking our food into the fresh air in earnest. Beaches, river banks, national parks, deep woods, neighborhood lakes, little stretches of green just around the corner, city roof tops or your own lovely garden-in any of these places ordinary victuals become viands, exotic, provocative, delicious as if we had never tasted them before. The peace and release of the open air, the change and the novelty make for good appetites, good companionship and tolerant dispositions all around. Eating out-ofdoors is about all a child can ask

for in summer entertainment. Even the littlest fellows are awesomely well behaved as they stand around and watch—then taste—the fun. Guests who drop in either expectedly or unexpectedly can be well taken care of with less labor and fuss at fresh-air meals than indoors where service has to be more formal. The general effect upon much dining in the open throughout the hot months will be that of vacation away from home.

Don't make hard work of your alfresco meals. Make them practical, easy, and right for the occasion. The less fuss the better. Plan carefully so that no food is wasted. If each guest brings one dish, there is little cost and no hardship for anyone, but be sure there is variety. Here we are giving you some hints and helps in the direction of simplicity.



BOATING LUNCH

Deviled Ham and Cheese Sandwiches
Cream Cheese and Prune Sandwiches
Radishes Celery
Fresh Cherries
Coffee or Milk

*Hot Ham Loaf and Horseradish Sauce
une Sandwiches

Corn on Cob
Cook over fire)

Soft Rolls

Cold Watermelon or Peaches

Coffee or Milk

SUPPER IN THE PARK

PICNIC AT THE BEACH

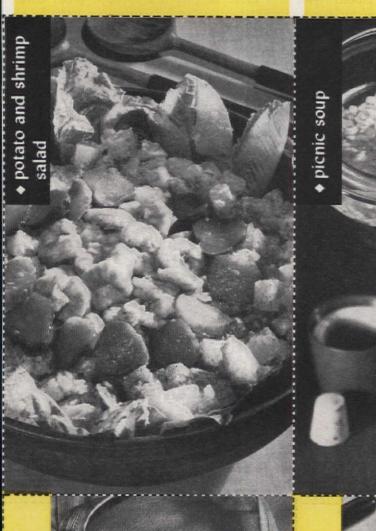
*Picnic Soup

Egg Salad and Bacon Sandwiches

Raisins and Peanut Butter Sandwiches

Whole Tomatoes Fruit

Milk



• ham loaf





Cottage cheese, chopped dried apricots and mayonnaise or salad dressing

Cream or cottage cheese and chopped peanuts on whole wheat bread.

water cress on whole wheat bread.

brunch timbales

bread crumbs and parsley. Add the butter, salt,

To add flavor to lamb chops split and insert mint leaves before broiling

with this mixture. Place in a pan of warm water and bake in a moderate oven 350°F. for about 40 minutes or until timbales are firm. Unmold onto a hot platter and serve with tomato sauce made as follows: Melt 2 ths. butter or margarine in the top of a double boiler, add $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped celery and cook until tender. Place over boiling water, add 2 ths. flour and stir until well blended. Pour in $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups milk and cook, stirring constantly, until mixture thickens. Add 2 ths. tomato catsup or paste and season to taste with salt

Chopped luncheon meat, chopped olives and mayonnaise or salad dressing

dressing on pumpernickel bread.

on rye bread.

6

Ground raisins and peanut butter moistened with honey on nut bread.

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

mexican stew

Minced ham, chopped onion, sliced dill pickle and mayonnaise or salad

Slice of bologna, slice of tomato and lettuce on whole wheat bread.

Egg salad and chopped bacon on white bread.

white bread.

6 2 6

318 cal, per serving Serves 6

Tested in The American Home Kitchen picnic soup

Preparation time: 45 min.

cups cooked beef cut in 1-inch cubes

1 medium green pepper, chopped 4/4 cup chopped celery 1 clove garlic, chopped medium onion, chopped

5 medium tomatoes, peeled and chopped ¼ cup water 1¼ tsp. salt 1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce 1 tbs. chili powder Cook meat in the fat until browned. Add onion, green pepper, celery garlic and cook until the vegetables are tender. Add the chopped tomatoes water. Season with salt, Worcestershire sauce and chili powder. Cover and simmer for 20 minutes. Pour into a serving dish and top with mashed potatoes. This is an excellent way to use leftover beef. Source of Vitamins A, C, B complex 314 cal. per serving Serves 4

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

Preparation time: 45 min.

4 cups ground, cooked ham
1 cup soft bread crumbs
1 medium onion, chopped
1 egg, beaten

Y₂ cup milk 1 tbs, prepared mustard Salt and pepper Whole cloves

Combine the ham, bread crumbs and onion. Add the egg, milk and mustard. Season to taste with salt and pepper and mix thoroughly. Pack mixture into a greased 9x5x3 inch loaf pan and stick whole cloves in rows over the top of loaf. Bake in a moderately hot oven 375°F. for 30 minutes. If desired, the ham loaf may be served hot with horseradish sauce or served cold with a salad. If the hot loaf is carried to a picnic, place in insulated bag, as illustrated, or wrap in paper.

421 cal. per serving Serves 4.6

Insulated bag courtesy of Aeronautical Supplies, Inc.

Source of vitamins A, B complex

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

pepper and celery salt. Beat the eggs slightly and stir into the chicken mixture. Add the milk and mix thoroughly. Fill 6 greased custard cups about % full COMBINE the chicken, margarine

on

5. Minced chicken, shredded almonds and mayonnaise or salad dressing

3. Cream cheese, chopped prunes and water cress or 4. Deviled ham and pimiento cheese on rye bread.

on nut bread,

13

Source of vitamins A, B complex and pepper.

Preparation time: 31/2 hrs.

½ tsp. chervil
medium onion, chopped
tbs. chopped parsley qts. cold water lbs. beef bones % tsp. pepper 3½ qts. col 2 tbs. salt

15 cup diced celery
25 cup diced green pepper
27 cup diced carrots
28 cup cut string beans
39 cup diced potatoes
20 cups tomato juice

PLACE beef bones in a deep kettle with the water. Add the salt, pepper, chervil, onion and parsley and simmer covered for 3 hours. Remove bones from the soup, cool and skim off surface fat. Add the remaining vegetables, cover and simmer until the vegetables are tender. Add the tomato juice the last 5 minutes of cooking.

While butter and fats are scarce,

season melted suet with horseradish or

with mustard and spread on broiled meats

Serves 6-8

77 cal. per serving

Source of vitamins A, C

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

potato and shrimp

salad

Preparation time: 20 min.

1/3 cup chopped onion
1/2 cup chopped onion
1/2 tbs, chopped parsley
2 tbs, chopped parsley
1 cup cooked or canned shrimp
1 tsp, salt

1/8 tsp. pepper Dash of summer savory

2 tbs, salad oil 1 tbs, vinegar 1 tbs, prepared horseradisk

Combine potatoes, onion, celery, parsley and shrimp. Add salt, pepper and summer savory. Mix together the mayonnaise, salad oil, vinegar and horseradish and pour over the potato mixture. Toss lightly until the ingredients are well mixed. Chill before serving.

Instead of sautéed onions with

steaks or hamburgers, serve sautéed sliced

green peppers and chapped green olives

226 cal. per serving

Serves 6

Source of vitamins A, C, B complex

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

SUMMER BRUNCH

PORCH LUNCHEON

DINNER IN THE GARDEN

*Brunch Timbales and Tomato Sauce
Green Peas Corn Muffins
Raspberries and Cream
Coffee

Hot Consommé

*Potato and Shrimp Salad

Radishes and Carrot Strips

Bran Muffins Grape Conserve

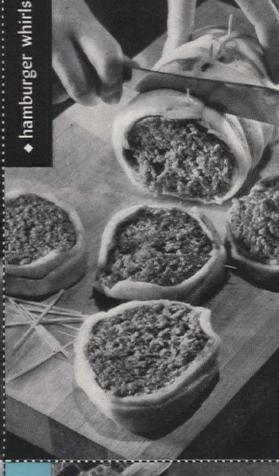
Iced Cantaloupe

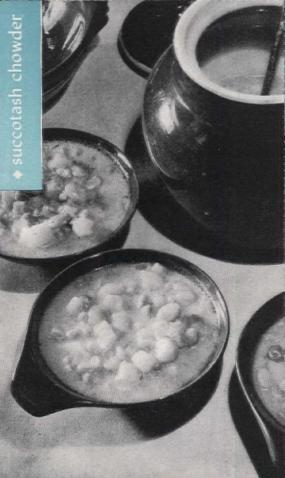
Coffee or Tea

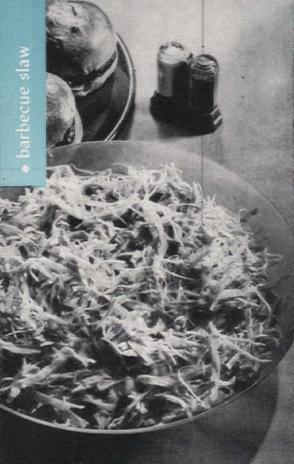
*Hamburger Whirls Barbecue Sauce
Sliced Tomato and Onion
Toasted Buns
Green Salad French Dressing
Berry and Orange Cup
Iced Tea

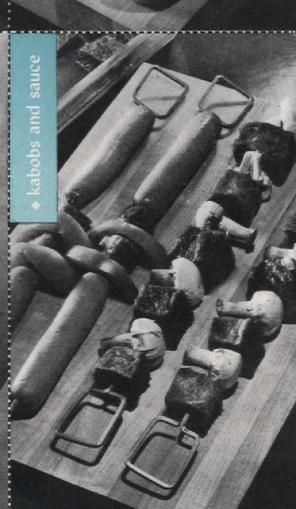












(Marinates several hours)

tsp. dry mustard tsp. Worcestershire sauce clove garlic, minced 1/2 cup salad oil cup vinegar

11/2 lbs. beef or lamb cut in 11/2 inch Mushrooms Salt Pepper

Combine the salad oil and vinegar. Add the mustard, Worcestershire sauce and garlic and mix well. Pour over beef and let stand in the refrigerator for several hours or overnight. Drain meat. Arrange on skewers and alternate with whole or sliced mushrooms. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. Broil on one side until brown, turn and brown on the other side. Other kabob suggestions: Whole frankfurters on skewers with alternate wedges

of tomato and slices of pickle. Cubes of ham with alternate wedges or cubes of pineapple. Scallops with alternate pieces of bacon and tomato wedges.

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

Preparation time: 15 min.

barbecue slaw

Preparation time: 114 hrs.

escalloped potatoes

cup vinegar cup tomato juice 4 ths. minced onion 1 tsp. salt

1/8 tsp. pepper 1/4 tsp. dry mustard 1 tbs. sugar 8 cups shredded cabbage

OMBINE the vinegar, tomato juice and onion. Add the salt, pepper, mustard and sugar and pour over the cabbage in a salad bowl. Toss the cabbage until well mixed with the dressing.

Serves 6

53 cal. per serving

Source of vitamins A, C

are tender.

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

succotash chowder

Preparation time: I hr.

cups milk, scalded cups lima beans % tsp. pepper Dash of thyme 13% cups corn tsp. salt 1 Ib. salt pork cut in small pieces medium onion, chopped selective chopped celery

cups boiling water cups diced raw potatoes

1/2 cups tomato juice

tables are tender. Add the tomato juice, water, potatoes and lima beans and simmer covered until the vegetables are tender. Add corn and milk. Season with salt, pepper and thyme and simmer but do not boil for 10 minutes longer. Note: Chopped clams or flaked fish may be added with the milk and the corn Cook salt pork until brown, Add onions and celery and cook until vege-

315 cal. per serving Serves 6-8 Tested in The American Home Kitchen

Source of vitamins A, C, B complex

Preparation time: 25 min.

hamburger whirls

14 cup minced onion 11/2 cups corn flakes 2 lbs. chopped beef 10 slices bacon beaten l egg,

Worcestershire sauce tomato catsup

1 tsp. marjoram 1 tsp. salt 1/2 tsp. pepper

PLACE 10 slices of bacon on a board so that the lean edges of each

slice overlap the preceding slice about 1-inch. Combine the beef, onion, corn

flakes and egg. Season with catsup, Worcestershire sauce, marjoram, salt and

pepper and mix well. Press into a cylindrical shape and place crosswise on the bacon slices. Draw bacon slices around the meat are fasten with toothpicks. Slice in 1-inch rounds and broil each slice about 4 minutes on each side. Serve on hamburger buns with a slice of pickle and barbecue sauce made

Fry potato salad in a little hot fat. Good for picnics on cool days and makes leftover salad more interesting

as follows: Combine 1 6-oz. can tomato paste, ½ cup vinegar, 1 bouillon cube dissolved in 1¼ cups hot water, ¼ tsp. salt, ¼ tsp. garlic salt, 2 tsp. sugar and 1 bay leaf in a saucepan and simmer for 15 minutes.

Source of vitamins A, C, B complex

433 cal. per serving

Serves 8

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

with salt, pepper, ½ of the celery salt and flour. Cut frankfurters in 1-inch pieces and place on potatoes. Cover with the remaining potatoes. Sprinkle with salt, pepper, and the remaining celery salt and flour. Dot with butter and pour the milk over the top. Cover and bake in a moderate oven 350°F, for 45 minutes. Uncover and bake 20-25 minutes longer or until the potatoes

PLACE 1/2 of the potatoes and onion in a greased baking dish. Sprinkle

4 tbs. nour
8 frankfurters
1 tbs. butter or vitaminized margarine
2 cups milk

2½ cups thinly sliced potatoes 1 medium onion, thinly sliced Salt and pepper

1 tsp. celery salt

Wrap cubes of cheese with small slices of ham, bacon or bologna; fasten toothpicks. Cook under the broiler



Sprinkle potato chips with grated American or Parmesan cheese and heat in a moderate oven. Serve at once

chicken-in-the-pot

Preparation time: 114 hrs.

whole carrots

Flour

12 small onions 8 small potatoes 12 small whole car

dn

1 3½-4 lb. chicken, cut 2 tsp. salt Dash of pepper

3 cups water
14 cup chopped celery

Source of vitamins A, B complex

174 cal. per serving

Serves 4-6

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

Season the chicken with salt and pepper and, if desired, brown in a little fat. Place in pot, add the water, cover and simmer for 45 minutes or until chicken is almost tender. Add the vegetables, cover and simmer until vegetables are cooked. Remove chicken and vegetables to a large casserole. Make the gravy as follows: Skim off any surface fat. Measure the chicken stock and return to the pot. Add 2 ths. flour mixed to a smooth paste with ½4 cup cold water for every cupful of chicken stock. Simmer for 5 minutes, stirring constantly. Add salt and pepper if needed. Pour hot gravy over chicken and vegetables and serve from the casserole.

Serves 6 389 cal. per serving Source of vitamins 4, B complex Source of vitamins A, B complex

Tested in The American Home Kitchen









LOVERS ONLY

"Charcoal Charlie"



F. M. Demarest

THE time of year has again rolled around when nature lovers ecstatically announce the awakening of suburban wild life (the birds and the bees are with us again!) It is that time of year when the food experts and back-yard Escoffier write glowingly of the joys of outdoor living and with much Mumbo Jumbo furnish a waiting public with a wealth of recipes for outdoor cooking and entertainment. I shall leave burgoo, fricassees, bear meat, and other fancy dishes to authorities on these foods. This article is directed at beef lovers only, that great mass of the American public interested in outdoor charcoal cooking in general, but more specifically in delicious, thick, juicy steaks.

The history of barbecue and charcoal cooking is a most interesting one. Barbecue in this country goes back to the days of the Spaniards in Southern California. Pit barbecuing is still a wonderful institution, but modern man can't stand up under the treatment our ancestors used to give their stomachs. New generations have turned to the charcoal broiler type of barbecuing and, in my opinion, it's all for the best. California today is still famous for barbecue, but in recent years they have also turned to the portable type of grill.

With the advent of portable broilers or barbecues, the other sections of the country became more aware of this delightful form of outdoor entertaining, and back yards and patios from coast to coast have produced a new breed of royalty, the charcoal king, the world's best outdoor cook. Indoors he is just an average "Joe," but on week ends he really blossoms out and presides at his out-





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door steak party with skill and aplomb. He gives mother a much earned rest as he takes over the purchasing, preparation, cooking and serving for his cronies.

Outdoor barbecues are a most delightful form of entertainment-simple, yet lots of fun. Your guests have a free and easy attitude about the whole thing, everybody pitches in to help. A fire in the open and sizzling steaks with their fragrant aroma provide a setting for complete relaxation.

So now for cooking methods, type of fire, and cuts of beef.

FIRE. Charcoal briquettes are the preferred fuel, as they last longer and burn more evenly. They must be charcoal, however. The fire should be allowed to reach the proper cooking stage naturally, either by kindling or starting wick. Charcoal should never be forced when it is to be used for cooking purposes. A deep bed of coals is essential, if you wish to achieve perfection. The deep bed is most helpful also in party giving, as the necessity for refueling is eliminated. The top of the fire should be 5" to 7" below the grilling surface. The fire arrives at perfect cooking stage when all the flames have subsided and a gray film covers the top briquettes.

BROILING. Pages could be written on various cooking methods. In my travels throughout the country I have found that nine men out of ten claim to be the world's best steak cook. They all have pet ideas and theories, and most of them are pretty good. Some use the salt-caking method, others use olive oil, barbecue sauce, and hocus-pocus of their own making. I believe in beef for beef's sake, and here's how I cook it:

Steaks should be 2" to 21/2" thick, with virtually all fat trimmed off. Place steak on a greased grill. Then the remaining fat should immediately produce sufficient flame for searing to hold in the natural juices. Immediate searing is of utmost importance. If your steak is trimmed too lean, have on hand several small pieces of fat about the size of a small marble to drop through the grill, momentarily stimulating a blaze for searing. If the beef is too fat, a dash of water will quench the blaze and not interfere with the fire. I prefer my steak seared black, but you can readily control that with the volume of the searing blaze. Cook on one side until juice bubbles appear in body of the meat, then turn and repeat searing process. On a very hot fire, cook about two minutes less on the second side. On a medium or low fire, cook about the same time on the second side. Turn the steak only once for best results. Season after cooking.

Beef lovers need no more. The sealed-in natural juices and the charcoal flavor from the smoke provide steak that needs only a dash of salt and a fork with which to eat it.

Even if you have always liked beef well done, try it over charcoa., rare to medium-rare. The treat of your





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life is in store for you. The extra heat of charcoal cooks through, but allows the meat to stay red and juicy all the way through, and the flavor of the meat, with its sealed-in juices, is enough for any epicure.

BEEF CUTS. In some sections of the country tenderloin is served as a preferred cut; in others, top of the round, or sirloin. I contend the perfect flavor of beef is contained in the choicest of all cuts-the "shell," or the porterhouse. In buying beef, insist on U.S. choice or prime, aged eight to ten weeks. The "shell" is stripped in the butcher shop, tenderloin and tail ground together with 10 to 15 per cent of added fat for the finest hamburger ever made. The porterhouse side is then butchered into steaks, trimmed to suit, and completely devoid of bone or gristle-all pure meat.

"CHARLIEBURGERS." Take one ground steak patty and cover with finely chopped onion. Season to taste with salt, pepper, barbecue, or other favorite sauce. Then cover with a second patty slightly larger in diameter and knead together around the edges. Charcoal broil on greased grill. Note: In mixing the ground meat, add some fine bread crumbs for better adherence of the meat.

TYPE OF CRILL. There are many excellent outdoor grills in the better stores everywhere. I naturally lean to my own design. This broiler has a deep, square cone, is readily portable, and is finished in stainless steel and in perfect outdoor colors. One of the principal innovations in this design is draft control, which I have been advocating for many years. These units also have warming and baking ovens, plenty of work table space, and an ash receiver which will allow you to operate on the porch in case of inclement weather.

You can, of course, give either an elaborate or an inexpensive party outdoors, but if you're having steaks, I make the following suggestion: tonato juice, if desired, 1 to 1½ pounds of "shell" steak per person, plenty of mixed green salad with lots of tomatoes and avocado, halved bread slices or rolls, and coffee. Have some pie ready for those guests who fail to fill up on the beef. In buying beef as described here, do not be alarmed at the price per pound. Remember you are buying all beef—not fifty per cent bone and fat.

ARE YOU GOING TO MOVE?

If you wait until you actually move before advising us or the Post Office, copies of THE AMERICAN HOME will continue to go to your former address and the Post Office will notify you to send postage to have the magazine forwarded. Because of scarcity of copies we cannot duplicate copies to new address.

Please notify us at least thirty days before you move, telling us the date you will move and be sure to tell us your old address as well as the new address. If you can send us the label from an old copy it will help.

The American Home Magazine 55 Fifth Avenue, New York 3, N. Y.





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So easy to use. Cleans as it polishes. Lin-x Cream Polish restores beauty to fine furniture without tiresome rubbing. It's non-oily—resists finger marks—polishes to a hard, waxy, gleaming surface. The modern easy way to protect and beautify your furniture.



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For linoleum and all wood surfaces. Resists boiling water, sizzling grease, fruit juices, perfume, even alcohol. Gives a sparkling luster that wears and wears. Flows on smooth. Easy to use. Easy to clean. "Just brush it on!"

ONLY 95° . \$170



Footnotes to Canning

Don't let good fruits and vegetables go to waste! Home canning this summer is just as important as it was any time during the war. Every jar you put away for winter will do its bit toward making the world's food supply go around.

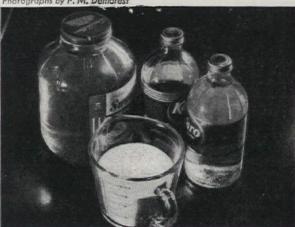
The prospects are bright for pleuty of canning equipment. Water bath and pressure canners will be available again in quantities which should meet the needs of home canners. There will be plenty of jars and tops and

the quality of rubber rings will be

better since more natural rubber is used in making them. Tin for cans is still scarce but some cans are on the market and also the equipment needed for sealing the cans.

Sugar supplies are short and you may have difficulty in finding all the corn syrup you will need to do your best canning. Remember that some fruits keep equally well when canned with no sugar. Our grandmothers put up berries, peaches, and apples with no sugar. Their theory was that fruits and berries had a better flavor espe-

Photographs by F. M. Demarest



Use your precious sugar and corn syrup for canning extra quality fruits this summer and can fruits for pies with no sweetening



No canning equipment list is complete without a pair of metal tongs for lifting jars. Coal tongs from your fire set may be used



When lifting jars from the boiling water bath throw a towel over the top of the kettle. This is a protection for you and the jars





Add 1 tsp. Lea & Perrins Sauce to white sauce. To give tangy-good flavor to fish . . . always use Lea & Perrins! Either to season its sauce, or in the cooking! And at the table . . . a few drops more will make fish taste even

FREE Recipe Book. Write Lea & Perrins, Inc. 241 West St., New York 13, N. Y., Dept. 6A.



cially when used for pies. Sugar was added when pies or cobblers were made or when fruit was served alone.

There are two kinds of corn syrup and both are used for canning fruit. For good results follow the manufacturers' directions closely when using these syrups. You will be proud of your results. It is now an established fact that fruits canned with corn syrup and sugar or corn syrup have an exceptionally bright color, a good sun-ripe flavor, and the firm texture of the fresh fruit is retained.

Caution Before Canning-Absolute cleanliness is essential in canning. Utensils, cloths, table tops and general surroundings should be clean, as well as jars, rubbers, canning equipment, and the food to be canned.

Vegetables or fruits which are decayed, bruised or overripe attract molds and bacteria and are unfit for canning. These low quality products may not actually spoil, but they will be poor in color, flavor and food value and entirely unsatisfactory. W. en you can freshness, you can more minerals and vitamins.

Don't can in the oven. There are several reasons why this is not advisable. Oven regulators are often inaccurate. Oven canning requires longer processing time than the boiling water bath. Food is apt to discolor or spoil because it heats slowly. Jars often break or explode in the oven because they are sealed too tight or filled too full and you lose the food as well as canning equipment.

Check your pressure canner at the beginning of each canning season and make sure it is in good working order. Reread the directions for using and cleaning the canner and follow them closely before you start working.

Caution After Canning-Do not stand jars on their heads to cool. In this way good seals are often broken. Test seals the day after canning when the food is thoroughly cool. Remember most sealing failures are caused by not following instructions. It is important, too, to follow directions for testing seals since there are several kind of tops and closures.

If nonacid food fails to seal, use the food immediately as reprocessing spoils the flavor and texture. For acid foods correct the cause by changing the lid, jar or rubber and reprocess the food or can in open kettle. Floating Fruit-Sometimes fruit and tomatoes rise to the top of the jar, leaving a space of clear liquid underneath. This may be due to one of the following causes: Overripe or crushed fruit; packing fruit in jars raw, or not preheating enough to drive out the air; using a very heavy syrup which draws juice from the fruit and makes it lighter than the syrup; packing fruit in jar so loosely that the jar contains too much liquid in proportion to the fruit.

When canned tomatoes separate so that the pulp rises to the top leaving light colored juice in the bottom, the cause may be: Overripe tomatoes which do not hold their shape; preheating too long before putting them

Mrs. Crosby writes an Ad

about her Easy Spindrier:

Mrs. G. K. Crosby of Huntington, West Virginia, thinks so well of her Easy Spin-drier washer that she sat down and wrote us this letter about it. We think it's a better ad than we could have written because it is the real experience of a real wife and mother who uses an Easy.



R. F. D. #2 Huntington, W. Va.

Dear Easy:

There are things you can do with an Easy Spindrier that you just can't do with other washers. Articles that aren't colorfast can be tossed in at the end by themselves. You can decide at the last whether the water is still clean enough to take the bathroom rug. You can give special attention to shirt collars, overall knees, and pajama feet. You can make full use of a tubful of soapy water instead of having it run down the drain only half used.

Today is a perfect example of why the Spindrier feature is so important for "extra" things. One at a time I washed three blankets, a homespun coverlet, and an enormous bedspread—all with the same tub of suds! The coverlet was made by my great-great-grandmother and had never been washed before. It looks beautiful! One of the blankets was a repeat job to remove the stickiness and smell left by incomplete removal of soap. Someone had used a wringer on it. I washed it again, and with the help of the Spindrier I was able to restore its original softness.

Charlotte C. Cros We can't add much to this letter except to suggest that you see for vourself how the Easy Spindrier does a week's wash in less than one hour. One tub washes while the other spins out up to 25% more water than wringing... with no hard creased wrinkles to iron out and no broken buttons! We're shipping some Easys today but it will be some months before the supply equals demand. So order yours now! Easy Washing Machine Corporation, Syracuse 1, N. Y.

WASHES MORE

CLOTHES FASTER



Use it near the playpen-



or in the sewing room-



or in the kitchen

Ironing needn't be a tiresome task. With the new Victron Portable Ironer you can sit down and iron. It's quick—easy—whether you iron a few delicate underthings or a full family wash.

The Victron Portable Ironer fits every requirement of every homemaker. It's simple to use—can be carried from room to room in a jiffy—and tucks away easily in the smallest homes.

Say "goodbye" to ironing day fatigue—take it easy when you iron with a new Victron Portable Ironer. See your Victron dealer now—a postcard request will bring his name.

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MANUFACTURERS OF QUALITY ELECTRIC PRODUCTS



Patented double syncro-gears assure positive, SAFE cutting action... will not slip, skip or jump. Cans of all sizes and shapes are held securely and smoothly opened with a twist of the wrist. Always ready and SO easy to use. Leaves smooth round edges and lifts lid for easy removal. Fully guaranteed. Has built-in handy bottle opener.

At better stores everywhere: or send check or money order for \$2.00 (\$2.25 West of Denver) plus 15c for mailing to . . .

SWING-A-WAY Steel Products, Merchandise

SWING-A-WAY

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CAN OPENER



This pressure saucepan can be used for canning leftover foods or small amounts of vegetables or fruits. It holds three pint jars

in the jars; processing too long. Tomatoes packed raw are more apt to separate than those packed hot.

Storing Canned Foods—Before storing canned foods see that the jars or cans are clean and dry. If glass jars are used, labelling is unnecessary but put the date on each one. In normal times it is advisable to eat canned foods within the year but longer storage is safe if they are properly canned foods. An insulated pantry is ideal, and next to that is a dry unheated basement or storeroom fairly convenient to the kitchen. Although these storage spots should be cool in the summer, they should not reach the freezing point in the winter.

If you don't have a basement and live in crowded quarters, look around your place and see if you can find an inconspicuous spot against an outside cool wall where shelves can be built and canned food stored.

Moving Canned Foods—The main problems in moving properly packed foods is jolting and heat. Jolting may loosen the tops so that spoilage bacteria which cause flat-sour spoilage may start working. Jars moved inside of a car are likely to be less jolted and cooler than those moved in the trunk compartment.

Cooking Home Canned Foods—All vegetables except tomatoes and all meats should be boiled in an open saucepan for ten to fifteen minutes before tasting or using. This precaution must be followed to destroy any toxin that might be present.

Can he chew his way to healthier teeth and gums?

Yes indeed! That is, if he's fed a food that he has to chew—a hard, crunchy food like Milk-Bone. Chewing Milk-Bone exercises a dog's teeth and gums, helps keep his mouth clean and healthy—while supplying him with essential food elements, minerals and vitamins. Start feeding your

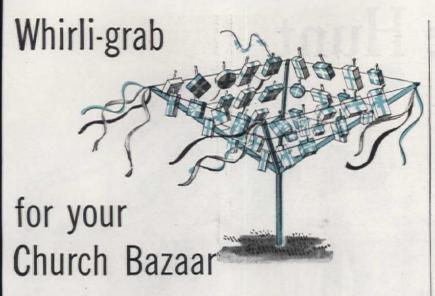
dog wholesome, nutritious Milk-Bone. It's made especially for dogs and is convenient to feed. Ask your dealer for Milk-Bone.

Milk-Bone Biscuit contains nutrients your dog needs: Vitamins A, B₁, B₂, D and E... Meat Meal... Fish Liver Oil... Whole Wheat Flour... Minerals... Milk

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Address	

BAKED BY NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY





Brand spanking new is this idea that outmodes any and all fish-ponds for your Ladies Aid Fair! The Whirli-Grab is none other than your revolving outdoor clothes drier. Hang it with dime-store packages wrapped in heavy paper of any color, and tie with inch-wide strips of bright gingham, printed percale, chambray or rayon instead of string, and top each package with a generous bow.

On the day of the fair, set the clothes drier into a piece of pipe driven well into the ground where the booth is to stand. And now comes the fun of decorating the *Whirli-Grab!* Wind the center post and arms of the dryer with strips of crepe paper of assorted colors. At the outer

end of each of the four arms, nail long streamers of varicolored paper. Attach your gaily-wrapped packages each plainly marked five, ten and fifteen cents, by clipping the bows to the lines with clothespins. The slightest breeze will make it turn like a merry-go-round!

The little tots will be fascinated by the twirling rainbow colors, and the grownups will enjoy turning the "booth" around to choose the packages that take their fancy. You'll add a neat sum to your proceeds before you know it, and all in true carnival spirit. Change it for next year's fair by decorating in crepe paper from palest yellow to deepest orange.

Frances R. Richter

This New Faries Bathroom Cabinet Has Exclusive Features You'll Want!





Two Personal Compartments for everyday needs, such as cosmetics and shaving



"Safe-T" Compartment, for peison drugs and adult items...out of reach of children as door opens only by pressing button on top

- Utility shelf, for cosmetics or shaving equipment when in use.
- Tooth Brush Holder . . . inside cabinet where brushes won't collect dust.
- Handy, Safe Razor Blade Disposal.



Yes, the Parkway is the most modern bathroom cabinet you've ever seen. It is the most useful, too, for all the family.

Besides the special service features listed at the left, it has adjustable glass shelves, piano hinges, No. 1 polished plate mirror.

And the Parkway is most beautiful . . . its all-steel cabinet is finished in white baked enamel and chromium plating.

See that your Architect or Builder includes the Parkway in your home of tomorrow. And if you're remodeling, the Parkway is a tonic for a jaded bathroom. Your dealer can get it for you...the price is reasonable.

Manufacturing Company Decatur, Illinois

Write for catalog and prices of the complete FARIES Line of Bathroom Cabinets





MOLASSES COOKIES

8 cups all-purpose flour

4 teaspoons Arm & Hammer or Cow Brand Baking Soda

1/4 teaspoon salt

l tablespoon ginger

l teaspoon cinnamon

3 cups molasses

l cup lard, melted

1/2 cup butter, melted

10 tablespoons boiling water Granulated sugar

1. Sift, then measure the flour. Sift three times with the baking soda, salt and spices. 2. Combine the molasses, melted shortening and boiling water. 3. To these liquid ingredients, add 4 cups of dry ingredients and blend well. 4. Add remaining 4 cups of dry ingredients gradually, beating well after each addition. 5. Let stand in a cool place about 1 hour. 6. Turn onto a lightly floured board. Roll 1/4 inch thick. Cut with large, floured cooky cutter. Sprinkle with granulated sugar. Bake in hot oven. Amount: 5 dozen. Temp.: 425° F. Time: 15 minutes

ARM & HAMMER BAKING SODA OR COW BRAND BAKING SODA

All spoon measurements level

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This offer good only in the United States W45

STREET ADDRESS

CITY OR TOWN STATE

Treasure Hunt



Clifford Parcher

Photographs by F. M. Demarest

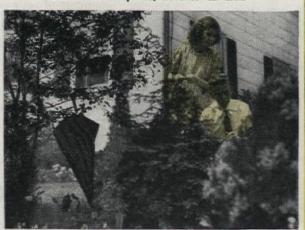
flying start with the crowd gathering outdoors, eager to join in the fun of an old-fashioned treasure hunt. But this one is a new twist, for nothing is truly hidden. The hostess explains that there are nine items "hidden in sight" in the yard, in garden, garage, patio, shrubs, whatever the case might be. All items can be seen without moving anything, and each treabecause it is distinctly out of place.

Supply your guests with paper and pencil. Searching can be done individually or in pairs. Warn your guests not to give away the secrets as they discover them. You're ready to go!

Finding all nine objects means that you are a super hunter; locating six, marks you as average. But if your list shows less than five, you'd better



Obviously "hidden in sight" are flower basket in fireplace, toaster at side



Look on the other side! Umbrellas are never hung on crab trees, or are they?



The hunt goes on! But their clue is above in hanging vase from garage door



Carrot all tied up in ribbons and lying in rose bed is a sure find in this game

tie your "specs" around your wrist with a ribbon and wear your gloves over your ears!

First answer to objects visible but hidden is a telephone book on the lawn table. The chair with fancy cloth on back is out of kilter, too, and there's something wrong about the beach umbrella on the grass near the table instead of over it. A flower basket hung on a hook inside of the fireplace like a cooking kettle is wrong, too, and who would think of using an electric toaster out of doors, when a fireplace is so handy?

People just don't hang flower vases from garage doors, so there's another answer for your list. And umbrellas aren't hung on the branches of a crab tree—that is, for all normal purposes, so write it down quickly. Down in the rose bed is a fancily beribboned carrot, pretty much out of place and "hidden in sight." And the hammer

lying near the shrub in the rock garden should never be there. A picture frame at the foot of a shrub and a white ash tray lying on the ground are two more solutions. And when does one hang Christmas decorations on outdoor shrubs in the summertime? Or tie ribbons on them? Two more for your list! It's fun-this sporting game, and you can think up all sorts of things that will be really amusing. Things like a pine or spruce branch wired to a deciduous shrub. Or a large flower blossom attached to the low branches of a nonflowering tree. Perhaps a framed picture hung on the outside wall of house or garage, or even a man's garter fastened around the trunk of a small tree!

But what if it rains, you say? There are just as many "hidden in sight" ideas for indoors. A potato in a bowl of apples. A lettuce leaf pinned to the floral decoration of a



Hammer lying near shrub in rock garden chalks up another addition to your list



Two more finds are here: picture frame at foot of shrub, white ash tray on soil



Holiday decorations on shrub, ribbon near leader pipe are both "hidden in sight"



Actually, this beautiful Monarch Electric Roaster Range gives you TWO ovens — one at cooking-top height for roasting and quick baking—and a regular, large oven for baking requiring additional space. You'll never be crowded for ample oven capacity with a Monarch Roaster Range. It's a deluxe quality range — built exclusively by Monarch. Ask your nearest Monarch dealer for full information.

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"Isn't Aunt Anna
an old dear!
.. and it's an electric."





Hitt—a smart and trim Seth Thomas electric clock for the modern kitchen. Lustrous plastic case in popular colors. \$4.95, tax extra.

(Prices subject to change)



Pyper—an outstanding alarm clock value. Selfstarting electric movement. Plastic case in ivory color; \$4.95, plain dial—or \$5.95 luminous dial, tax extra.

Seth Thomas
"The finest name in clocks
SELF-STARTING ELECTRIC OR SPRING.WOUND
A product of GENERAL TIME Instruments Corporation

*Seth Thomas is Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

pillow. A thimble on the light switch. A stamp on a flowerpot. A piece of carbon paper pasted to the sooty back of a fireplace, or cellophane stuck on a glass lamp shade. A plate in the bookcase. A corn plaster that blends with the wallpaper. Or an open cookbook on the piano rack with sheets of music. A plant in an empty wastebasket—well, you can see this is a game for the imagination! It's good sport for any age group, and fun for everyone.

So the world's moved outof-doors! (And, of course, party ideas with it!) Picnic, back-yard barbecue, garden party—whatever the case might be, here is an idea to spur you on to summer entertaining.

Invitations to a back-yard picnic can be cleverly made up on small squares of colored construction paper. Pasted up cutouts of each item on the menu lift up to reveal time, place, and so on. Hamburgers can be cut from light tan paper (cut double) with darker brown insert between. A green ear of corn is also cut double, with a yellow insert underneath, across which is written the time of the party. Similarly, tomatoes, doughnuts, punch glasses in assorted colors of paper, lift up to reveal further information about your coming party. Then make up an inviting and interesting come-on!

. . . Nancy Judd De Koe

Searching for a shower idea? Not the usual gift-filled parasol party or any other cut and dried engagement party? Make the hunt for shower gifts twice as much fun by cleverly using wedding symbols as clues to hidden engagement presents.

A tiny bit of mosquito netting or lace curtain suggesting a wedding veil can be used as one clue, hung from ceiling or window, the gift somewhere near it. A wedding ring can be suspended from the chandelier or from a wall lamp, and a small present hidden there. Other wedding symbols which can be effectively used as guides to hiding places include a box of rice, old shoes, flowers, a cake, and a small bell. No more merry a hunt will ever ensue for shower guests!

As an entertainment highlight of the evening, the bride can be given a bridal book, prepared beforehand, and filled with suitable pictures clipped from magazines and pasted up with appropriate verses. The pictures can follow the story of the courtship, the couple's first meeting, their first big date, the engagement announcement, wedding plans, and so on. The bride-to-be reads the book aloud to the guests, with, of course, great amusement for all!

For table favors, use miniature bits

16,000,000 BUDDY POPPIES

for sale! Won't you help reach that goal by wearing one Memorial Day? They are made by disabled Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S. Don't let them down!





Good-looking—good-tasting...Tomato juice, frizzled luncheon meat, sweet potatoes, succotash, green and ripe olives, pear halves, cookies, iced coffee...and they all come to you in cans!



YOUR REFRIGERATOR couldn't begin to hold the abundant variety of fine foods—fruits, vegetables, juices, soups, meats, and fish products—that are always available to you in convenient cans—never "out of season." And processed canned foods do not have to be stored under refrigeration before opening.

samples from each "batch" of canned foods are sent to the plant laboratory to be checked for flavor, texture, color, and vitamin content? Yes, and because most canneries are located right at the source of supply, fruits and vegetables are canned within a few hours of harvesting—no loss of nutrients or flavors due to long transportation.



The state of the s

MANY NEW KINDS of canned meat products will soon be coming to market. They'll be thrifty because of no waste—and so tasty you'll serve them proudly . . . Modern canned foods are cooked right in the can. In fact, each steel-and-tin can is really a miniature "pressure cooker." Flavors, minerals, vitamins and other nutrients are sealed in!

SAFE from dirt, germs, odors
SAFE from air, light, moisture
SAFE even after a can is opened
—because, in the canning
process, both the can and its contents are sterilized. Simply cover the top and place in the refrigerator.

NO OTHER CONTAINER PROTECTS LIKE THE CAN

CAN MANUFACTURERS INSTITUTE, INC., NEW YORK

1 part Imp...1 part Cherub



... and all of him really "alive"

That's my Hemo boy!

ow let's talk about your cherub (one part imp).

You prize his health above rubies, don't you? ... And you'd travel miles for food to keep him sturdy, wouldn't you?

Then, how about a short trip to your grocer's or druggist's for the super-tasting food drink, vitamin-and-mineral rich Hemo?

Hemo helps assure your child of

enough of the vitamins he should have every day to feel really "alive."

And taste? It's childhood's favorite flavor — delicious, lip-smacking milk chocolate! Try Hemo yourself! Grand hot or cold. Only 59¢ a full-pound jar. About 2½¢ a serving!

Just 2 glasses of HEMO made with milk supply a full day's needs of all these vital vitamins and minerals:

The Vitamin A in 3 boiled eggs!

PLUS

The Vitamin B1 in 4 slices of whole wheat bread!

PLUS

The Vitamin B2 (G) in 4 servings of spinach!

PLUS

The Vitamin D in 3 servings of beef liver!

PLUS

The Niacin in 3 servings of carrots!

PLUS

The Iron in ½ pound of beef!

PLUS

The Calcium & Phosphorus in 2 servings of cauliflower and 1 serving of cooked green beans combined!

JUST ONE GLASS of Hemo gives you:

HEMO exceeds adult requirements!

Historia daily seeds set 2 servings of HIMS, for U.S. miritionists made with mile, size

Borden's Hemo

IF IT'S BORDEN'S, IT'S GOT TO BE GOOD!

of lingerie made from small strips of ribbon. Or if you are not handy with the needle, or do not have time to make favors, you can purchase dolls' lingerie at the ten-cent store which will be equally attractive when they are used for place cards.

The table can be set with a white cloth, silver bells suspended from overhead, and hung over the center of the table. Or, if there is nothing to suspend them from, use narrow satin ribbons and white paper hearts, working out a scheme from the center of the table. Keep the refreshments simple, but decorate the cake with a pastry tube, drawing two hearts on the cake, the names of the couple in script across the center of the hearts.

Alberta Griffith

SHOWER GAMES

WHEN giving a shower it is always well to have planned yet flexible routine rather than leave your guests to haphazard conversation and the mere distribution of gifts. Then, too, your guests deserve a little treat as well as the guest of honor. Plan a course of games which spell fun and eventual prizes for them.

Start the games rolling with Jumbled Words, which lists things a bride should have when starting housekeeping. They will read as follows:

1. nctairus, 2. nooynhoem, 3. moeh,
4. gertoirrefar, 5. nruftreui, 6. nbsduha,
7. usutraeos, 8. nnslie, 9. gnir, 10. pishepsna.

Answers are: 1. curtains, 2. honeymoon, 3. home, 4. refrigerator, 5. furniture, 6. husband, 7. trousseau, 8. linens, 9. ring, 10. happiness.

Obtain in advance as many back newspapers, same date and edition as there are to be guests. Then make a note of certain advertisements, giving as the cue a headline or sentence within that particular ad. When you have decided on five or eight such ads and their clues, write them down and be prepared to call them off to your guests one at a time. Or you may give an individual list to each guest. Hand each a newspaper and have them jot down the page and firm where each particular clue may be found. The first one tracking down all clues is the prize winner. A few suggestions from any paper might read: Clue: "Saves work, mother, time." This your guests will track down to "Mother's Friend Diaper Service." Second clue might be "Keep hair groomed all day long," the source "Rosalinda Hair Lacquer," etc.,

Guggenheim is always a favorite. Object of the game is to find words in each of six categories, beginning with the letters of the BRIDE. Correct names gain two points for the contestant. Player having the most points wins. Draw out six squares across and six squares down on each sheet, with the letters of the word "bride" across the top, and at the lefthand side, list House Furnishings, Honeymoon Cities, Pets, Husband's Christian Name, Wife's Christian Name, Food. Under the first letter B, this might read when





Super-Portable! Twice as Useful! The Perfect Gift—Now in All Stores!

Turn every pot and pan in your kitchen into a mixing bowl! You can—and will—with this Dormeyer Streamlined Mixer! Bring it to the range for hot-mixing; to the table for cool-mixing; mash potatoes in the panthey're cooked in. In addition to the dozens of uses it has on its stand!

Its real magic is in its results! Speeds are streamlined, too—the exact 3 you need for ALL electric-mix recipes. Plus beaters that feed mixture through one into the other. Lifts and folds ingredients together, blends lightness, smoothness IN. Plus Magic MIX-ARM Stand—lets you move beaters from side to center of bowl, while it's mixing, achieve 4-Way Blending. 2 mixing bowls, jiffy juicer. 110-120 AC Denver, West St higher.

DORMEYER CORPORATION

4300 N. KILPATRICK AVE., CHICAGO 41, ILL. FOX AGENCIES, PORT CREDIT, ONTARIO, CANADA

baked beans at their best



Heinz Beans

Ready to
Heat, Eat
and
Enjoy!

filled in, Bed, Boston, Bird, Ben, Bertha, Bread. Second column might read Rug, Rochester, Rabbit, Robert, Ruby, Radishes, and so on.

While you are out in the kitchen preparing refreshments, give your guests their final puzzle. You'll have to write your question sheets in advance. Number to twelve, writing questions after each number. Below, number to twelve, and leave spaces for answers. By the time quests have filled in answers, your refreshments will be ready.

This is called a "General Intelligence Test."

1. If you ever saw (the hostess inserts here the first name of the bride-to-be's- fiance) jump over the moon, write number 1 after numbers 1 and 4 in answer column. If not, write C.

2. If dishpan hands are lovely, write Z after 2; if not, write O.

3. If Shakespeare wrote "Love's Old Sweet Song," put R after 3; if not, put M there.

4. If it takes twice as long to softboil an egg as it does to hard-boil it, write X and L after 4 and 9. If not, write the letter E.

5. If you like bridal showers better than ironing, write A after 5—if not, better see a psychiatrist.

 If housekeeping isn't a fulltime job, write K after six. If it is, write in N.

7. Close one eye and without thinking, write after 7, the fourth letter of the alphabet.

8. If the proposal comes after marriage, write R after 8. If before, write C

9. If coffee is a beverage, write, nothing. If it isn't, write P after 9.

10. If a honeymoon follows wedding bells, write T after 10 and 12. If it doesn't, write in Y.

11. If black and white are the same, write H after 11. If opposites, write the letter I.

12. If you have enjoyed yourselves thus far, write the letter T after number 12, and read the results.

Answers, reading down, will say. "Come and Get it."

Eugenie Gluckert

OUTDOOR GAMES Price 20¢

Need some new ideas for picnic entertainment? Or are you perchance, stuck for children's games at this week-end's outing? Rest your fretful mind, for here's a game sheet to rescue you from any and all outdoor game dilemmas! Races, relays, contests, all kinds of swimming games for the picnic at the lake, game after game for the children, plus some crackerjack games for the grownups are included. Three dessert tempters that are delicious for serving ice cream are added to the ideas that more than fill the eight pages of this party pamphlet for outdoor fun!

Send order and remittance to: (no stamps please)

Dept. E., THE AMERICAN HOME 444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N. Y.





Buying SAFFETY in Household Equipment

Fireproof covers and automatic controls prevent "phone fires"

Edith Ramsay

or laid up with a broken leg before investigating that tipsy kettle or the poor construction of that stepstool? Experience has always been the best teacher, but now that we are acutely safety-minded, let's look into things before we buy. Mrs. Consumer has turned many a tide and merchants can't afford to carry redundant merchandise if the housewife purchases only the best. And by the best, we do not mean the most expensive, for less expensive articles can be made safer with a little more care in choice of materials, design, labor and handling. Before we buy we must know the purpose for which we intend to use household items, and select them with that use in mind.

Before buying any electrical equipment we must take stock of our own homes or the homes about to be built. Is the home properly wired? And by properly, we mean safely and adequately. New homes are wired with the future in mind. Enough outlets, circuits and circuit breakers or fuses are planned for the present and future load, but the old house may even have to have new lines put in to carry the load intended. If you are planning to add any electrical equipment, have your wiring surveyed by a licensed and reliable electrical contractor. Plenty of outlets alone does



not in itself mean that a house is adequately wired, for the load capacity is the guide.

Individual circuits must be introduced for electric range, electric hot-water heater, laundry drier, air conditioning, built-in bathroom heating, automatic heat control, automatic laundry, attic fan, water pump, dishwasher sink. Appliance circuits of 20 amps. or 2300 watts capacity must be provided for: roaster, mixer, refrigerator, freezer, toaster, waffle iron, washer, and handirons.

Reliable manufacturers have spent years in re-

search to bring you the best—and we hope the safest—in labor saving devices. Learn to buy from reliable manufacturers. Learn to look for underwriters' labels the badge of reliability.

Examine the electric washing machine for underwriter labelled wiring. Check the safety release on the wringer. Be sure that the automatic washing machine has an automatic cutoff should youngsters tamper with the door.



The term mangle with all of its gruesome implications is no longer accepted. Ironer has been substituted. Without the heat on in the shoe, test the ironer for the safety release. Is it accessible in case of accident? Is there a thermostatic control? Is there a pilot light?

In purchasing the electric hand iron, the cord and the manner in which it is attached to the iron should be investigated. Here again the cord should have either of the two underwriter labels attached. The red band indicates that the cord has been tested to withstand 3,000 flexings; the gold band indicates that it has been tested to withstand 10,000 flexings. Irons with thermostatic control are safer in the long run than those without, for they control the heat set and then shut off automatically when the required temperature is reached, probably preventing some fires caused by those too long chitchats on the phone. One new iron has side rests which some will like for its fatigue-saving value. Almost all are equipped with some kind of rest to lift them up and away from the board when not in use. Choose iron with rest best suited to your needs.

Steam irons are back on the market and a blessing they are for woolens and synthetics. The safety factor here is you. Screw the cap on tightly after filling, and never refill while hot—the burst of steam from that small aperture can scald severely. With care we have a marvelous servant.

Before purchasing an iron, choose the right weight, remembering that the weight does not govern the swiftness of the ironing process. The kind of sole plate and the wattage are more important. You can get used to the light and faster heating iron and save hours of fatigue.

While on the subject of irons, we might take up boards. The term board will probably be with us always, but all-metal ones are back again and they constitute a real help in eliminating or reducing the fire hazard in ironing. Of course, your pet board itself can have a new fireproof asbestos or glass-cloth pad and cover to convert it into a practically fireproof fixture in the home. The ironing board should be tested for sturdy construction, should be nontippy; it should have rubber tips on the legs, not only to prevent marring the floor, but to keep it from creeping. It should be as comfortable for your height as possible. Here the women can make a great contribution by insisting on correct heights. Remember when all counters were too low? Today perhaps they're too uniformly high-but we are coming to two work levels in the kitchen and perhaps we will wake up to adjustable ironing boards. In fact one or two manufacturers are talking about them at present.

I bring up stepstools at this point, for so often they are used in conjunction with the ironing board as the much-needed perch to rest our weary backs as we iron the small things. But stepstools as such are of more real danger in the kitchen than most of us realize. We build per-





pendicular kitchens today; we buy cheap stepstools; and then we climb all over that little cheap stool and expect it to stand up. In a wellthought-out plan for our work, we sit down at our planning, our ironing, our preparation of foods. Why not invest in a good sturdy stool whether of wood or of metal? Check its construction: Are the rungs well set? Are there enough rungs to brace it? Have the steps got corrugated treads? Are the treads wide? Does it tip if we step on that lower step? An added convenience would be a good back rest-some might just as well not have the excuse for a back rest they have now. Oh, for a handsome kitchen stool designed for that unpaid servant in the kitchen-the housewife? Remember, the executive has a well-paid, efficient secretary and she probably screamed her head off until she got that posture chair in her office for her long hours at typing, so let's create a commotion until we get one.

Before putting up just another pulley for that clothesline, investigate the new attachment that eliminates the necessity of stretching out of the window. You can sit in your kitchen and hang up your clothes without ever going near the yard.

Too often we get along with any old stepladder in the home, perhaps borrowing Dad's from the garage or tool shed. Let's have a sturdy, not too heavy stepladder for our own use. (We'll have to put up those curtains, likely as not!) Is it wide enough to be nontippy? Check the ladder for the little pail shelf which has an added function in that it keeps the ladder from folding up when we are midway to the ceiling.

Remember the lowly clothes basket? And I really mean low, for it was always across a doorway and you tripped over it, or a piece of wood or reed broke out and you tore the skin of your leg as well as your stockings? This basket comes in metal now-a rust-resistant metal light as a feather. Get the metal basket carriage toosave steps and also back fatigue.

And if you wash the kitchen and the laundry floor, preserve the linoleum afterwards with nonskid waxes. If applied correctly, they are skidresistant and safer for all of us.

Hot-water heaters can only be judged by the integrity of the manufacturer, but things we can ask about are good insulation, reliable thermostatic control, safety shutoff valves.

Electric heaters have made great strides in safety assets. There is little reason to buy the coil type that set fire to flimsy housecoats or ones with the bright red coil in the center which so attracts children that they grasp it, only to be maimed for life with a dreadfully burned hand. Yes, there are tip-proof ones on the market, even electric steam and infrared ones, safely enclosed.

An electric mixer that is light in weight is a poor investment, for it may hop right off the counter breaking bowls as it goes and not only



The soft, non-hardening plastic material of PressTite Caulking and Sealing Cords is the quickest, easiest and neatest method of filling unsightly cracks and holes in wood or plaster before painting.

Just press a rope-like section of Press-Tite Cords into the crack or crevice with fingers — no tools required — can be painted. Will not stain — always remains soft and pliable.

Get a better, smoother paint job by sealing all holes and cracks first, with easy-to-use Press-Tite Cords, at your dealer's hardware or paint counter.

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Sealing around bathtubs and sinks—Sealing around baseboards—Sealing against bugs and vermin—Glazing windows—and hundreds of others.

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spoiling food but perhaps cutting or scalding you or the children looking.

Lamps used for real therapeutic purposes should only be purchased under a doctor's direction. Under this category of therapeutic appliances come such things as sun lamps, heating pads, blankets, bottle warmers and heaters. Heating pads should have underwriters' labels attached, a switch to regulate the temperatures. The electric blanket has been greatly improved during the war. The experience the manufacturers had in making high altitude flying suits for the armed forces has been put to good use in these civilian goods. Investigate the electric blanket for pigtail cords and check them for automatic temperature controls.

Some of the baby bottle warmers are also vaporizers-an added feature, but here again be sure the wiring is stout and the warmer or vaporizer automatically shuts off when dry so it will not overheat.

All ranges should be checked for insulation. Insist on knowing the insulation used in any stove. The pet cocks on gas ranges or the switches on electric ranges should be placed at the back of the stove, away from children, or if in front, should have to be operated with manual force.

Look for burners so placed that pans will not be crowded and thus get knocked off the range to burn or scald those near by. Look for grids that have some device to keep them safely on the range top. Look for good design on these grids so that all your pots, even your pet little one, will not tip into the burner. Test the smoothness and design of these grids with a pot. If a de luxe stove, see if the light on the surface really is functional, not just a pretty-pretty. Does it really throw the light into the cooking utensils? On an electric stove a light should show that the oven is on, and also which burner is lighted so that little hands aren't put on what was thought to be off. These burners can be like a loaded gun-"I didn't know it was lighted," is a sad after-cry, the damage is done.

Let's insist on waist-high broilers in stoves. Waist high is the term used for the broiler set in the top part of the oven and not set way down close to the floor. No matter how much the salesman may tell you it is good for the figure-it isn't. It makes cooking a drudgery. A bit more money and two ovens are worth the difference. One can have the broiler waist high for meats in one oven and bake popovers in the other.

Few refrigerators are being made with toxic gases as the refrigerants today, but it is well to inquire when purchasing and to decide on nontoxic gas as the refrigerant.

I have always said that anyone who can read, can cook. I still maintain it, for if you ask those who have failures and skin out of those failures with the old excuse-"I just wasn't born a cook"-you will find nine times out of ten that they followed a tested recipe, but either forgot

STILL THE BEST KNOWN, SAFE, PROVEN WAY TO NO ODOR - NO WRAPPING - NO PUTTING AWAY!

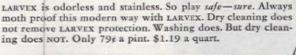


This Amazing Successful Method-Used By Big Woolen Mills - Now Sold For Home Use

The wise, modern way to protect your suits, coats, dresses, rugs and sofas from moth-damage is to actually мотн PROOF them. But don't take chances with new products which haven't fully proved their worth. Instead-BE SAFE -BE SURE-use LARVEX!

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was and a standard of Phase Products Company

something or substituted their own I amounts. And here we come to pressure cookers. Look to reliable manufacturers again, I say, and if directions are followed carefully, there should be no trouble. Read those well-thought-out instruction books with every appliance. Read them first from beginning to end. Study them. Stand over the appliance with book in hand. Never trust your memory for timing. If women insisted on seeing the certificates of the U.S. Bureau of Standards which most pressure cooker manufacturers have, and bought only those so marked, the fast-growing business of fly-by-night manufacturers would not thrive long. We would nip it right in the bud.

Know for what purpose you are going to use a pot or pan, and buy it for that purpose. I doubt if the fly-bynight manufacturer of inferior pots and pans would stay in the market long-even though merchandise buyers in stores bought these goods-if the housewife would examine these pots and pans before buying them.

Take the saucepan out of its high nest on the store's tables; put it down on a level space and see how tippy it is. A good place to test it is on the range itself (and most housewares departments have them either in or adjacent to the department), for the range is the place you will be using it most of the time. If the handle is unusually heavy and the bottom of the pan not large enough, don't let the salesperson tell you that putting something in it will always help, for it won't-you will invariably have trouble with this pan when you get home. Examine the beading-that turned-over edging at the top of the pan. If it is rough and unfinished, you may have difficulty cleaning it; odors will remain under it, or you may cut yourself on it. All edges should be smooth and free from sharpness. This holds true for handles, too. Once the handle is sharp along the edges, it will always be sharp and a constant source of danger. Not only is it important for a pan to be tip-proof, but you will find the straight sides facilitate more rapid heating, and are more economical.

Never buy chipped enamel-coated pots and pans. Enamel is really a misnomer, for the coating on so-called enamel pans is really glass. You know that once you chip glass, it is more easily chipped along that initial break, and these chips can be a real source of danger if swallowed. Enamel is good and it has many uses.

Glass cooking utensils have their advantages, but they need care in handling. Never let them boil over. Don't scour them with steel woolthis makes little scratches in the glass, little weak lines which may cause breakage. Use wire racks between them and the new electric burners.

The French-fry kettle should be large enough not to allow the fat to boil over as the food is added. The companion basket should have a long hook on the opposite side from the handle to balance it evenly on the



It is estimated that birds such as the nuthatch. chickadee and downy woodpecker each eats as high as 100,000 insect eggs and larvae per month. Without the birds the insect problem would be much more acute

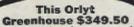
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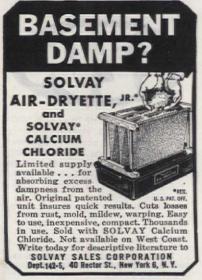
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Anaconda Copper & Brass









rim of the kettle while draining. Deep fat and candy thermometers are back on the market and are a decided safety factor in the home where much cooking is done. Fat is treacherous to deal with. If controlled not by "by guess and by gosh," but by accurate recording and regulating of heat, many accidents can be avoided.

Buy the teakettle that can be refilled without scalding yourself. Some of these have a wide spout. Some have a sliding fastened lid so that when pouring, the lid won't fall off and the escaping steam thereby scald you. There is one that looks like a dumbbell—it really has a heat-resistant handle, is filled through a large hole at one side while the steam escapes from a hole on the far side.

Meat grinders have been redesigned but little in the past fifty years. Too small a grinder is a poor investment, for you will run greater risk of mashing your fingers along with the food in your haste to get it done.

Purchase cutlery with a view to the right knife for the right job. You wouldn't buy a carving knife to pare potatoes. See that the blade is well and securely placed in the handle. This goes for forks, too.

Some of the "gadgety" knife sharpeners are not only ruinous to the cutlery, but dangerous to the user. Purchase a good steel, with a good guard at the handle and learn how to use it properly. Purchase knife racks to hang on the wall or to lie flat in the drawer so that knives can be picked out one at a time, not only to save their edges—but your fingers as well.

Here, under the general heading of cutlery, are the gadgets. Buy only those you need so as not to clutter up your life and your kitchen. Buy those with some real utility value. All wooden tongs get slippery in the water—the grip is lost and crash goes jar, contents, and temper. Of the many so-called peelers on the market, few shave off only the vegetable skins and not your own. Some have safety guards for the fingers. Don't buy glass funnels or measuring cups that are not of heat-resistant glass.

There are more spurious can openers on the market than one can shake a stick at. A few of the hand openers have been made safe and cut almost as clean and well-turned an edge as the wall opener which is ideal.

I wonder if we women are not as guilty as Dad in leaving tools around the house? We should have a small, safe tool kit. To be sure, we don't need a brace and bit, but let's get the screw drivers and hammers out of the cutlery drawer and put them in a good "ditty" box—the thumbtacks and upholstery nails in their own little cubicles. (Fingers, nail polish, tempers all saved in one box!)









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YOUR FOODS COOK WHILE YOU'RE AWAY ... It's automatic!





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Seated at her ironing to minimize fatigue, the housekeeper uses the new glass cloth burnproof cover, the metal basket on the carrier is new and safe for the housewife, requires little lifting and never snags her stockings



The asbestos burnproof cover has an elastic edge for easy fit, is washable, safe, longer lasting and economical



This tiny fire extinguisher weighing only 8 oz. when full, is equal to two full quart extinguishers and is efficient and safe for household usage



This safety heater, considered safe enough to leave a child playing near it, won the Lewis and Conger National Award for contribution to safety



One Foot Does the Work

Now you can clean and wring out the dirtiest mop without once touching your hands to it. Just place it in the Patented De Luxe Mop Wringer Pail, swish it around in the water, step on the foot treadle and lift it out. It's an easy, one-footed operation! No throwing the Pail out of balance, no splashing, no contortions. The New DeLuxe has no springs or mechanism to get out of order. All parts are galvanized to prevent rust. It is NOT top-heavy; won't totter or tip over. Provides plenty of room for mop to spread out and clean itself. It's light enough for the daintiest woman; strong enough for a janitor. See it at your dealer's. Schlueter Mfg. Co, . St. Louis, Mo.

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your out-of-doors eating come to our attention now. The Pepsal salt and pepper holder comes in several attractive colors of plastic base. Its chief comfort and joy is that it is almost entirely "damp-proof" and unspillable. Tuck it into a corner of the picnic basket and do away with little wads of salt-filled wax paper or conventional salt and peppers that spill all over.



The Fiberglas interlined utility bag shown here is one of three designed by this firm for carrying frozen foods from store to home without defrosting. This Mother Hubbard drawstring bag is lacquered neoprene both inside and out. Fabrikoid is used as the covering in both the zippered and the fold-over style. We can buy our frozen foods at the distant shopping area, have our hair done or keep a luncheon



date on one of the hottest days of summer, yet rest assured that protected by the Fiberglas heat barrier interlining the utility bag will preserve the frozen foods for eight hours or more. Ice cream, milk, butter, beverages or the baby's formula are some of the products which will benefit from being carried in one of these bags.

The Jiffy bags have been used com-



mercially for carrying ice creams from store to home, but are now on the market for home use. They can be used for the same products as the fabric bags above, but are disposable.



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"There we were in our new home for which we had skimped and saved so much - just enough in the bank for groceries and now no pay checks for four months. How could we possibly keep up the mortgage payments?

"Then when you told me about the ABC Mortgage Cancellation Plan and that we wouldn't have to make payments while you were unable to work, that convinced me more than ever. Yes, Honey, you are the smartest man on earth."

Yes. Smart and thoughtful home owners can now have the protection of the Allied Building Credits Mortgage Cancellation Plan. This plan protects the home owner by cancelling payments in the event of sickness or temporary disability. Or if he should become totally and permanently disabled, or dieall remaining payments are cancelled. No medical examination

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HAVE you been dreaming during the past four years about that new house you are going to build or, perhaps, about your present home and how you would like to improve it? Our Architectural Department is ready to supply professional advice to help you avoid future pitfalls. We will go over your plans carefully and criticize them for you. We cannot supply working drawings, but will offer helpful suggestions toward attaining your goal. Please supply as much information as you can. Draw your plans to scale, that is, let 1/4 inch equal each foot, and show exactly where the windows and doors are placed and give their dimensions if it is a remodeling job. Our fee for this service is \$1.00. Any minor building problems will still be answered for the usual stamped, addressed envelope. Address letters to Department A.

*Readers concerned about damp basements will find helpful facts in our leaflet #167-DAMPNESS. A copy of this may be obtained for 6 cents from THE AMERICAN HOME Booklet Department, 55 Fifth Ave., New York 3, N.Y.

PERHAPS you are hoping to do some redecorating-our trained staff of experienced decorators is prepared to help you solve whatever decorating dilemmas confront you. Write us in detail what you wish to do with your room and include a floor plan of the room drawn to scale, 1/4 inch equals one foot. List the furniture you plan to use, and in return we'll send you a floor plan, showing furniture arrangement, plus color schemes. The fee is \$1.00 per room. Minor questions will still be answered for the usual stamped envelope. Address Dept. D.

WHAT a pleasant season for parties and so much to celebrate! Our Party Department is prepared to plan a special party for you. Just write and tell us the kind of party you wish to give, how many guests you expect, date, time, and place, description of your table appointments, and entertainment your guests prefer. Suggestions will then be sent you for room and table decorations, centerpiece and favors-all for 50¢ a party. Please print name and address clearly. Address letters to Department E.

Send problems, requests, and remittance to: (Please do not send stamps) American Home (Indicate Dept.) 444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N. Y.



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A vast number of Eclipse hand and power models have been made since V-J Day, but a 4-year backlog means that some people who want an Eclipse will have to wait. Eclipse Franchise Dealers will get their full pro-rata share, however, and do their best to fill orders as quickly as possible. The Eclipse Lawn Mower Co., Prophetstown, Ill.



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It's a real Frozen Food Chest that freezes meats, fish, game, poultry. Makes 9 lbs. of ice cubes at a clip in four Hi-Speed ice trays. Stores altogether more than 40 lbs. of frozen fruits, vegetables, meats and ice cream. It's big, deep, wide and roomy, and it's easy to use because it's right inside your new Kelvinator refrigerator.



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And of course you want Moist-Master refrigeration . . . created by Kelvinator's separate set of cooling coils, concealed within the walls of the refrigerator. Still, super-moist cold, closed in by shining glass, guards the vitamin content of perishable foods, perks up garden vegetables and keeps the appetite appeal in uncovered leftovers. It's an exclusive Kelvinator feature designed to stretch food dollars and make meal preparation faster and easier for you.



Get Both Combined in Kelvinator!

Get the best of both . . . real Frozen Food Chest and the famous Moist-Master Refrigerator, combined in one Kelvinator . . . in the same cabinet, plus a separate zone of balanced cold for foods such as milk, butter, eggs, and citrus fruits. And there's a dry storage bin for root vegetables. Powered by the famous, safe, economical Polarsphere unit... sealed in steel and lubricated for life. What a refrigerator! It's coming soon to your Kelvinator dealer's. See him now for delivery dates... and see his three other big, beautiful, new Kelvinators, at prices to meet every budget!

KELVINATOR DIVISION, NASH-KELVINATOR CORP., DETROIT

Get the Best things First...Get

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You'll want a new Kelvinator "Automatic Cook" Electric Range, too! Self-starting . . . it cooks whole dinners by itself. Your Kelvinator dealer has it now!

Wait for this ultra-new Kelvinator Home Freezer, coming soon to your Kelvinator dealer's!





