

The AMERICAN HOME

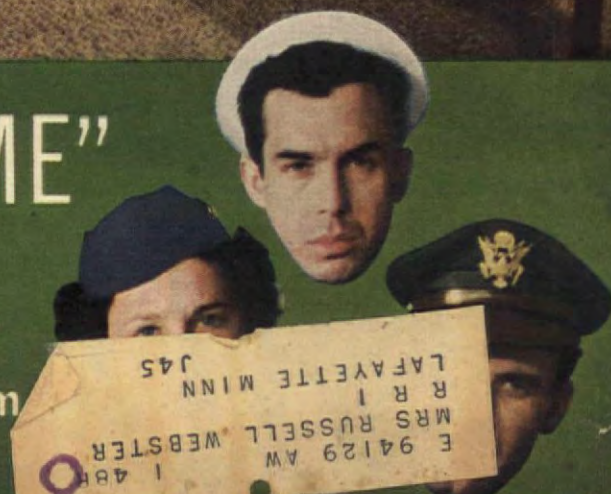
July 1946

15¢



"WE WANT A HOME"

Case Histories of 13 Families
Who Licked This No. 1 Problem



E 94129 AW
MRS RUSSELL WEBSTER
R R 1
LAFAYETTE MINN
J45



Is your dining room too small ?

MINE WAS! In fact, it was so tiny that when we had company, I could hardly squeeze by the table. I'll never forget Uncle Wally laughing at "Sally's snake dance," as he called it. But actually that's just about the way I looked trying to wait on people.

I'd racked my brain for a way to make that cramped little room more spacious. Get rid of some furniture? I needed every piece. Rearrange it? I'd tried a dozen different ways. And as Fred pointed out, "You can't push back the walls."

Push back the walls—that remark struck a spark. I seemed to remember clipping some such idea for my scrapbook, the one I started when we were planning our first house. I finally unearthed it in the attic at the bottom of the trunk where I've saved Fred's old letters. Sure enough, there it was in an Armstrong's Linoleum advertisement I'd cut out years before! "The Floor That Pushes Back the Walls."

When I went down to the store, Mr. Harbison said, "Yes, we'd be glad to help you design an Armstrong Floor that would make your dining room seem larger, but you might have to wait awhile to get it. Linoleum's pretty scarce these days."

Mr. Harbison was wonderful. Between us we worked out a special scroll design that was so lovely it made it all the harder to wait. But actually I wasn't held up at all, because, with the floor all planned, I could go ahead with the rest of the room.

The green color that Mr. Harbison suggested gave me the idea for the allover color scheme that gives the room so much unity. The scroll design suggested the brackets and the scalloped curtain which give the two little windows that "big" look.

Another clipping from my scrapbook gave me the idea of covering the end wall with a smoked glass mirror that runs down to the floor and placing the table against it to make more room.

Planning was exciting. And then came the day when Mr. Harbison's men came out to put in the Armstrong Floor. Watching them was like seeing a miracle take place. Every minute the room seemed to get bigger. Maybe you can get the effect yourself by covering up the floor in the picture and then slowly sliding your hand away. See what I mean?

So, if you have a tiny room, don't let it cramp your style. Try some new ideas. And start with the "biggest" idea of all, a special Armstrong's Linoleum Floor. You'll find it's easy and inexpensive to push back the walls and make your little room grow.

Ideas push back the walls of the cramped dining room below. Ideas like the smoked wall mirror, space-making furniture arrangement, spacious window treatment—and particularly the room-widening Armstrong Floor. It's Armstrong's Evergreen Linoleum, Style 21, inset with scroll design in White, Style 23. Your linoleum merchant will help you plan an equally smart room though his selection is limited today. List of furnishings and room plan sent free.



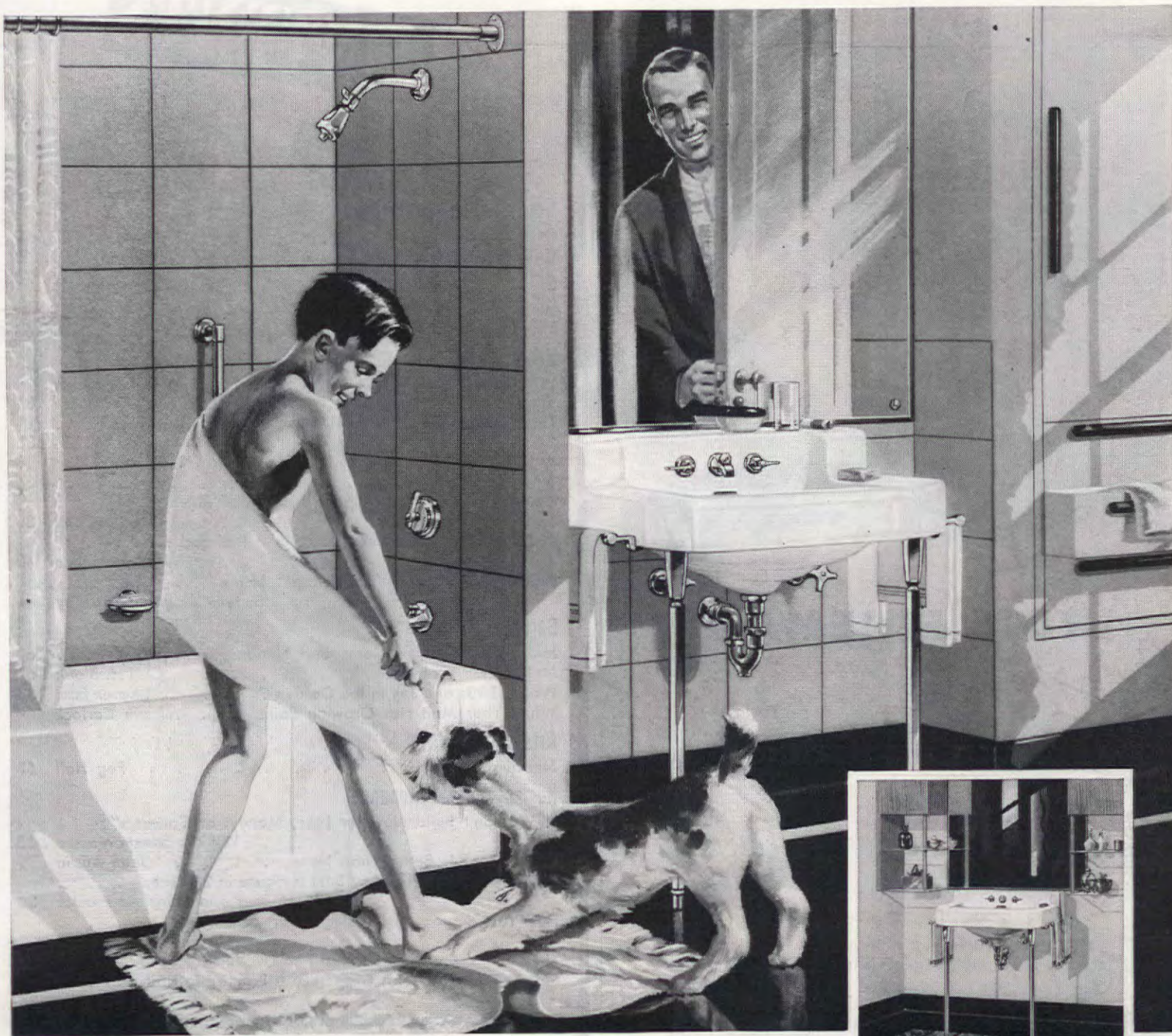
Send for new book of ideas for your dining room and every room in your house. "Album of Room Ideas" by Hazel Dell Brown brings you 32 pages of room interiors in full color, scores of do-it-yourself decorating hints taken from the personal scrapbook of this famous decorator. Send 10¢ (outside U. S. A., 40¢) to Armstrong Cork Company, Floor Division, 4607 Pine Street, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

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THE AMERICAN HOME, JULY, 1946



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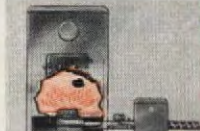
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| | |
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THE AMERICAN HOME, JULY, 1946

"Well, I finally
got her married!"



WHAT A JOB—being bridesmaid for my sweet but scatterbrained cousin!

A few days ago, I thought I'd *never* get her down the aisle. And on top of everything, I found she hadn't bought a thing for her linen closet!

"Darling, *you* help," she begged. "Here's some petty cash—*could* you pick me up some sheets? 'Course, I couldn't *begin* to afford anything as luxurious as the dream-sheets *you* have, but I do need *something*..."

Uh-huh—I helped. And returned shortly with my best canary-feathers smile—and the smoothest, softest, whitest sheets a gal could touch fingers to!

"Behold!" I beamed. "Lovely Cannon Percale Sheets—twins to *mine*! And you get some change. Cannon Percales put de luxe sleeping within *anybody's* reach!"

Grateful? Ever since, she's been telling chums, "You *must* come sleep on my divine sheets—Cannon Percales! You'll see how smart *I* was to pick 'em!"



My own true-life experiences



As an engaged gal, I quizzed all my young-married friends about sheets. Found 'em living blissfully with lovely Cannon Percale Sheets—the sheets that reconcile percale tastes and slim pocketbooks!

As a bride, I puffed with pride about my own lovely Cannon Percale Sheets. So smooth, so sweet-sleeping. Woven of special long-staple cotton. So fine that they have 25% more threads per inch than best-grade muslin sheets!



As a housewife, I'm enjoying my Cannon Percales anniversary after anniversary. (A budget-minded gal—or *any* gal—*does* appreciate wear!) And Cannon Percale Sheets are so light—make bedmaking and home laundering heaps easier!

Another Cannon value—Cannon Muslin Sheets! Well-made, long-wearing!

Cannon Percale Sheets

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Smart Modern



Picturesque Cottage

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Is your house modern, flat-roofed? Top it off with a famous Barrett Specification* promenade-surfaced Built-up Roof—place some colorful garden chairs on it, and—*presto*—you've added a rooftop outdoor living room to your home! Barrett Built-up Roofs, used on the Empire State Building, the Atomic Bomb plant at Oak Ridge, Tenn., and many other famous structures, are weather-snug, rugged as can be... built up of alternate layers of

coal-tar pitch and felt, with a fireproof wearing surface.

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CONTRIBUTORS



... WILLIAM EDMAN MASSEE, who is the author of our lead article, "I Wouldn't Build Now for Love, Money or Congress" on page 15, is searching for a home on the eastern seaboard. At the same time he is writing a series of articles on what the American home could be if people could get what they wanted. Continuity writing and radio production are his strong forte. During the war he wrote and produced radio shows for the United States Army Air Forces.



Rodney McCay Morgan

... ATHOS AND SARA MENABONI are fortunate in that their five-acre plot in Georgia is all woodland (see page 24), for Mr. Menaboni is a bird painter, she a writer and lecturer on ornithology. And "Valle Ombrosa," which is the name of their home, is truly a bird sanctuary. An aviary houses many rare species, while wild turkey, duck, quail and pheasants are at liberty within the property.



... G. E. KIDDER SMITH, who is an architect by profession, finds that photography and architecture go well together. He did the illustrations for two notable shows at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, both "Brazil Builds," and "Stockholm Builds." He is now in Europe on a Guggenheim fellowship, doing books on Swedish and Swiss architecture. He was previously a fellow of the American-Scandinavian Foundation to Sweden. Mr. Smith took photographs of the house on pages 28, 29, 30.



What To Do About More Closets See This Idea Book!



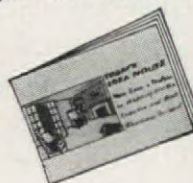
Need places to put things? Want to plan closets that are more useful—better placed—easier to use? Then you'll want a copy of "Today's Idea House"—new, 32-page book containing dozens of photographs of actual home interiors. Here's a wealth of planning information, not only on closets, but on using doors and windows of Ponderosa Pine in new and interesting ways that make your home more comfortable and convenient. Whether you plan to build or remodel, you'll want a copy of "Today's Idea House." Mail the coupon!

The Best is Yours with...



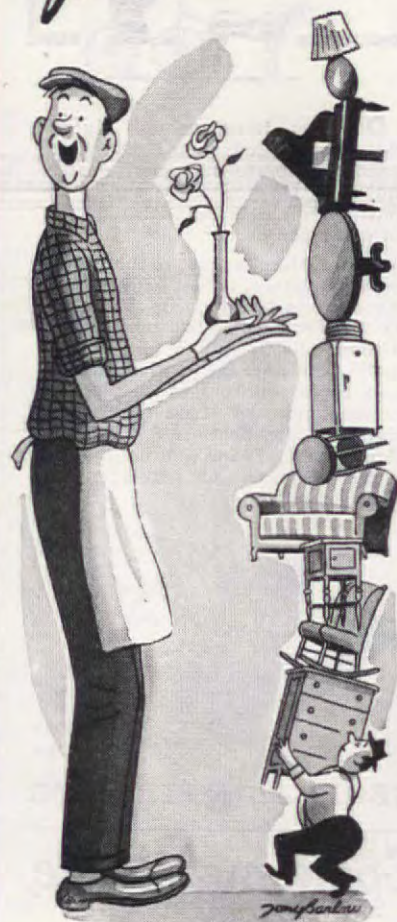
Some of the Many Subjects Covered by "Today's Idea House"

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- How to care for woodwork.
- How to partition for privacy.
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Easy-to-find information in its 'yellow pages' is of real help in locating tradespeople for many household and business needs.

In them, you will also find the authorized local outlets for many advertised brands—listed under their trade marks.



CONTRIBUTORS



Harris & Ewing

... GROSVENOR CHAPMAN'S house on page 28 is the house of an architect, and therein perhaps lies its particular charm. In charge of a section planning construction for the Navy's air transport service and experimental aircraft program during the war, he is now practicing architecture in Washington, D. C., specializing in an "economy size" advisory service for veterans. His avocations are sketching, racket sports, and a game of his own invention called water tennis.



Robert J. Arnold

... MARGARET DELLEA RIZZIE is doing well, we think, as a veteran's wife. While her husband is a zoology student at Syracuse University, she works as a service representative for a telephone company. But moving from a large house on a 175-acre farm in the Berkshires to a one-room trailer in a camp set up for G.I. married students presented its problems. How ingeniously Mrs. Rizzie is managing is revealed in "G.I. Bandbox Housekeeping" on page 82.



... CHLOE DENHAM, a former member of THE AMERICAN HOME staff, chalked up 18 months overseas with the American Red Cross to her credit during the war. This experience left her with her one great ambition—to return to England and France to visit again the friends who were so hospitable to her and to fellow Americans during the invasion. Born in New York, she spent an interesting childhood attending no less than thirteen schools in the East, then went to Ireland to the University of Dublin. Her housing problem in New York City is told on page 40.

Were my
eyes
opened
... but
WIDE!



*The case
of the
Happy
Nightmare*

A few ill-chosen bites at bedtime gave me a nightmare that would have frightened Edgar Allen Poe! But it opened my eyes to a big mistake I was making.

You see, that nightmare scared me out of my sleep, so I tried thinking of pleasant things ... my wife and youngsters ... our bright future. But then I thought ... what sort of future would my family have if something happened to me? Sure, I'd always had good intentions about life insurance, but I'd never done much about it. Lying there in the dark, I saw all too plainly how my happy-go-lucky attitude could leave my family in decidedly unpleasant circumstances. I determined to take action ... and soon! So next morn-

ing I called in a Mutual Life Representative. First he estimated my family's Social Security benefits. They were way short of what I wanted for my family. So then he showed me how, through Mutual Life's "Insured Income" Service, I could change the picture completely ... could team up my Social Security with life insurance to assure my family all they needed for normal healthy living.

I'm still not sold on nightmares ... but that one did me a good turn. Because now I know that my family is well protected. And if all goes well, I'll be able to take things easy myself in my retirement years!

The Mutual Life Representative in your community offers you this same service—without obligation, of course.

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Your Bell Telephone Company will be glad to suggest ways to "telephone condition" your new home. Just call your Telephone Business Office and ask for "Architects and Builders Service."

BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM



CONTRIBUTORS



• • • **GEORGIA LONG's** interest in the basement homes of the Utahans (page 26) stems from a good bit of relations and welfare work on Utah military installations. At one time she also did volunteer work for a Puerto Rican settlement house. For eight years she called Paris headquarters as foreign representative for an American garden studio.



F. M. Demarest



• • • **SAMUEL BARBER**, the noted American composer, is one of the triumvirate of talented young men who make their home at "Capricorn" pictured on page 36. His most recent works are *Cello Concerto* performed by Koussevitzky, and a ballet for Martha Graham. This summer he is conducting concerts of his own music in Europe. **GIAN-CARLO MENOTTI** is the composer of four operas to his own libretti, two of which have been produced by the Metropolitan Opera. He is at present the recipient of a Guggenheim fellowship. **ROBERT HORAN**, who completes the trio, has just finished his first book of poems, is now in Europe as a correspondent.



Rodney McCay Morgan

• • • **RICHARD L. AECK** is one of the foremost modern architects of the South. His own house was featured in the November, 1945, issue of *THE AMERICAN HOME*, and this month we are happy to present another of his design, the Menaboni house on page 24. He practices architecture in Atlanta, Georgia, and is design critic for "Residential Design" at the Georgia School of Technology.

Does Your "Modern" Home
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Do you have enough lights where you need them? Do your appliances perform properly—and quickly? Do you have sufficient outlets, uncluttered with a maze of extension cords?

If not, the chances are that your wiring system is not up-to-date for today's wiring needs. The new *G-E Electrical Modernization Guide* tells in simple terms how easily the average modern home can be adequately wired for the convenience of true electrical living. Write Section AW761-82, Appliance and Merchandise Dept., General Electric Co., Bridgeport, Connecticut.



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Accepted for Advertising by the
Journal of the American Medical Association

Dear American Home

"I HAVE just read Sgt. Herbert Merrill's letter in your February magazine and would like to inform him that his thinking is indeed wishful. For his information, this is what the G.I. will encounter when he starts to build his dream home. First, the location: In our growing little city, there are two types of locations within the reach of the average G.I. (that is, within the \$500 to \$1000 class and harmonious with the \$4000 home Sgt. Merrill expects to build). We have choice lots in the bottom of a not-always-dry lake within the city, or choice lots beyond the city limits with no chance for gas, water, or electrical services. After a month of trying to wheedle an indifferent architect to blueprint our modest cottage, our financial troubles start. The G.I. Bill provides a loan of \$2000, the finance company will match it with \$2000, we have a few War Bonds, and we didn't want a very big house anyway, so we're all set to go. Well, maybe we didn't go, but after a preliminary discussion with a contractor, the baby's bedroom goes, along with several feet off the living room, the basement, the floor furnace, the fireplace, the garage floor, most of the kitchen cabinets, and some of the electrical wiring. So now we start to build our house. It isn't a Cape Cod; it isn't a pleasant little home with a patio; it isn't the 'ranch-house genus with a graceful, lengthy sweep.' Instead, it's a bedroom, kitchen, living- and dining-room combination, and bath, built as square as possible because a roof with only one angle is cheaper, and it's costing \$6000. With the price of the lot added, the total is considerably more than Sgt. Merrill is dreaming about—or us either for that matter.

"Next—on with the War of Governmental Red Tape! The appraiser takes over. More delay while we deed our lot back and forth among members of the family in an effort to cover up the awful fact that it cost \$2700. Four weeks to get an approval from the loan company and finally the contractor takes over.

"From here on the struggle lessens—not because the problems are fewer, as you might think, but because after three years of war and three months of trying to build a house, Joe is just worn out and doesn't much care any more. If the electrical workers have been on strike and he can't get light fixtures, it doesn't matter; if steel workers and their strike have shut off the supply of bathtubs, guess he can



MR.

**Kitchen cleaned already?
I thought you'd be hours!**

MRS.

No, sir! Cleaning's quick when your cleanser doesn't leave dirt-catching scratches.

You save a lot of scrub-time by using Bon Ami regularly. It's *one* cleanser that doesn't leave scratches to hold dirt and slow down cleaning.

Pure, white Bon Ami works without grit—simply slides grease off in seconds. Leaves sinks and bathtubs satin-smooth . . . leaves hands parlor-pretty, too. No wonder it's a favorite for every cleaning job!



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Packaged in a handsome steel jacket finished in two-toned baked enamel, it banishes forever the ugly old-fashioned furnace. Result: a clean basement, an added room.

Your new Heatway is now going into production. Find out about this new way to bring summer indoors in winter. Mail the coupon today . . . no obligation of course. Stokermatic, 570 Lexington Avenue, New York City 22.



MAIL COUPON TODAY

FOR FULL INFORMATION

STOKERMATIC, (Dept. A5), 570 Lexington Avenue, NYC 22 • Gentlemen: Please send me—with no obligation on my part—full information on Stokermatic Heatway . . . the new automatic winter air conditioner that cuts coal bills and helps pay for itself with savings.

NAME (Please Print) _____

ADDRESS OR BOX NO. _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

No. of rooms to be heated ☐ No. of floors to be heated ☐ To be installed in new house? ☐ Or to replace present heating? ☐

just use a washtub. If he doesn't have linoleum because of a strike, it doesn't matter—it's O.K., too.

"That carries the story of G.I. Joe and his housing problem as far as possible at this writing. According to our contract, we can't even expect our new home for three more months because of the window and door shortage. However, the second chapter of this sad, sad story has already started. It's entitled, 'How G.I. Joe gets furniture now that he has spent all his money for his house.'"

. . . MRS. JOHN MOORE

"I have just finished reading Louisa Randall Church's inspiring article, 'We Lift Our Brows to the Sun' in the February issue.

"Women, if organized, can surely be a powerful group, a constructive force in world affairs. If women of all nations could speak to each other, I know we would all have the same common interest—to better the world for ourselves and our children. We, who bring potential soldiers into the world and who tend their broken bodies and minds after war, should have a voice in determining the necessity for war.

"After the first World War, a great peace movement swept our country, but apparently it was not started on the right premise—it merely made us all aware that we hated war but had no workable plan to prevent it.

"Mrs. Church's challenge to us to improve our young people morally and spiritually must be taken up by all women. But we apparently need leadership. We need an international movement among women."

. . . MRS. E. CRAIG

"Obviously they're all childless, animal-less people with a dash of the superhuman—these occupants of model homes in magazines!

"In the summer they sit on a freshly mowed terrace all day, sipping iced drinks while waiting for the photographer. Winter finds them decorously enjoying a roaring fire which, miraculously, does not spread a film of ashes over the lustrous furniture. The men in these houses never come home tired and grumpy from a hard day at the office to fall asleep in the immaculate slip-covered chairs. Instead they dash in full of zest, eat a delectable meal prepared in invisible pots, and immediately thereafter grab a handful of hammers and saws. Before they retire, they have constructed a barbecue pit or at least converted the attic into bowling alleys.

"Any dog which may appear in the photographs is either stuffed or old or toothless. No playful puppy ever chews the end off the dining-room rug or leaves muddy scratches on the front door. No four-year-old draws murals on the walls or picks the leaves off the potted plants. No kitten ever walks across the freshly waxed table top.

"I have a picturesque house, too. It's 150 years old and has deep window sills and a fireplace in the kitchen. The floors are pegged and the bath-



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room is modern. But you'll never see our home in any of the magazines. I just can't bring myself to shoot my dogs, divorce my husband, and put my daughter up for adoption.

"Besides, we sort of like it the way it is. You see, we don't just look at it. Instead, we happen to live in it!"

. . . MARY PAUL BAILEY

"I greatly enjoyed 'You and Your Trees' by John A. Moore in the February AMERICAN HOME and the reading of the article caused a few ideas that I have had for some time to 'jell.' Briefly, why don't some nurseries cater a bit to the 'tree collectors' scattered about the country? Four years ago, I acquired a 17-acre wood lot near my home and two years later, I began tree collecting quite earnestly. I have bought from nurseries here and there, but many of the trees I would like I cannot find listed in catalogues; some I cannot obtain in the small quantity I need, and the variety descriptions in most of the lists are inadequate. Why wouldn't a nursery find it profitable to go after business like mine? It might offer, for instance, an 'Oak Collection' of from one to three specimens of each of a number of species (and perhaps some variants) suited to a definite region, all well-rooted, healthy, and properly labeled with scientific and popular names and other information. This would include the more common kinds and some of the rarer sorts and, from year to year, the nursery might offer smaller, supplemental collections of new or rarer, more valuable species as the collector became more of an expert and connoisseur. There could be similar collections of lindens, birches, pines and other evergreens, etc., so that a buyer could, if he desired, build up plantings of the kinds of trees that associate in nature, thereby developing a practical demonstration of what botanists call ecological relations. Besides the individual collectors, it seems to me that botany departments of high schools and colleges would be interested; also the park boards of many communities, especially now when the establishment of groves and forests as 'living memorials' is receiving much favorable attention. Perhaps I am overenthusiastic, but I am getting a big kick out of the limited collecting I am doing, and after all, there are plenty of stamp collectors, button collectors, jug collectors, and so on. So why not more tree collectors?"

. . . RALPH W. STARK

A sound suggestion, in our opinion, and one which, as conditions in the labor, transportation, and other business fields improve, might well appeal to the nursery industry, to which it is cordially referred.

. . . Horticultural Editor

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.



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| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 cup Mazola Salad Oil | ¾ teaspoon sugar |
| ¼ cup vinegar | 2 tablespoons catsup |
| 1½ teaspoons salt | 1 tablespoon lemon juice |
| ⅛ teaspoon pepper | 1½ teaspoons Worcestershire Sauce |
| ¼ teaspoon paprika | 2 cloves garlic |
| Few grains celery salt | |

Measure all ingredients into a bottle or jar. Cover tightly and shake well. Chill several hours, then remove garlic. Shake thoroughly before serving. Makes 1⅓ cups.



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FRUIT FRENCH DRESSING

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| ½ cup Mazola Salad Oil | 2 teaspoons sugar |
| ¼ cup lemon juice | ½ teaspoon salt |
| ¼ cup maraschino cherry juice | 1 teaspoon paprika |

Measure all ingredients into a bottle or jar. Cover tightly and shake well. Chill several hours. Shake thoroughly before serving. Makes 1 cup.

Note: This Dressing is an extremely versatile one to have on hand as it is delicious with any type of fruit salad.



MAYONNAISE

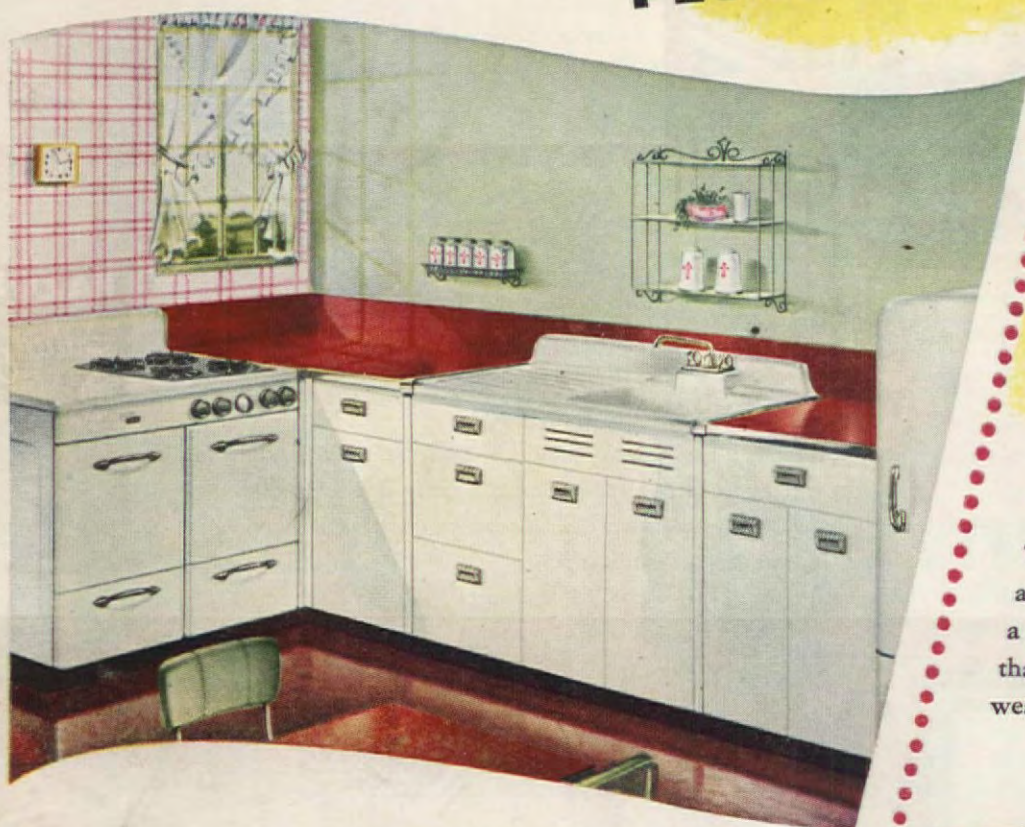
| | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 egg yolks | 1 teaspoon dry mustard |
| 1 teaspoon salt | ⅛ teaspoon pepper |
| 1 tablespoon sugar | ¼ cup lemon juice |
| ¼ teaspoon paprika | 1¾ cups Mazola Salad Oil |

Beat egg yolks, seasonings and 2 tablespoons lemon juice with rotary beater. Add 1 cup Mazola, 1 tablespoon at a time; beat after each addition. Add 1 tablespoon lemon juice. Beat in remaining oil gradually. Add last tablespoon lemon juice. Makes 2 cups. For Horseradish Mayonnaise use 3 tablespoons of horseradish with each cup of Mayonnaise.



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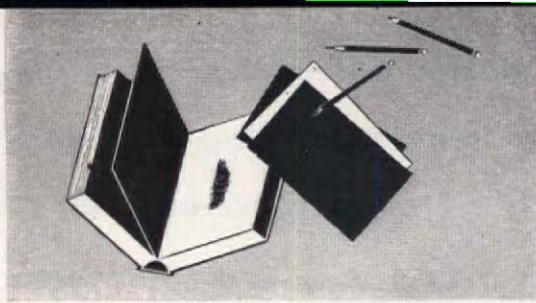


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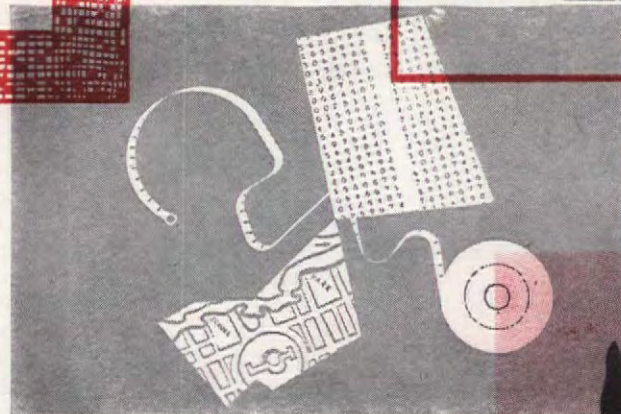
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"I Wouldn't Build Now

FOR LOVE, MONEY, OR CONGRESS"

William Edman Massee

WE want a home. Married during the war, my charming bride followed me about the country until I went overseas. We lived in glumly furnished rooms in Miami, Chicago, San Bernardino, and San Francisco, and for two short months we played at keeping house in an apartment of our own in Greensboro, North Carolina. Since getting out of the Army last November, we've had two days alone together, and they were spent in a New York hotel. Right now, we're living with the in-laws in a six-room suburban house, and our eighteen months old baby doesn't make the whole thing any easier.

I have a good job in New York, we have managed to save over \$6,000, and we know just the kind of house we want. But we wouldn't build now for love, money, or Congress. And here's why.

Being young, we want a modern house, with large glass areas to the south, a terrace, and a sun deck. We want a small kitchen and dining

ell tucked behind the stone fireplace wall and away from the living room, a study which can be made part of the main living space, and two or three bedrooms. We want radiant heating, storage walls, a car port, and divided bathrooms. The house doesn't have to be big, because we know good planning and proportion are more important than size. We figure it would cost about ten thousand to build but, if we live long enough, we can afford it. We want it set on the seashore, or in the country surrounded by a couple of acres of land.

We can't get the land, for profiteers have raised prices to such an outrageous level that good acres cost from five to ten dollars a foot, and usually more. There are places where land is cheap, but to get some you have to buy two or three hundred acres; the owners are holding out to sell to some contractor who will build a clutter of salt boxes on fifty-foot plots. The only alterna-

tive is to buy a couple of small parcels that have been on the market for years, hardly big enough for a doghouse and not fit for much else.

We can't get an architect. There are a few good, functional architects around New York who know how to build a decent house, designed around the lives of the people who are going to live in it.

We want an architect because we know from the experience of others, that it's a ridiculous waste of time and money to build without one. But most of these good architects are smothered with work, doing plans for office buildings, factories, department stores, more expensive homes, and so on. Yet we've still managed to hear of two or three that could design our house and supervise its erection. They could draw the plans for us, perhaps even find an attractive site, but even they can't get the building contractors who could put it up. Seems that the contractors are

"Many architects couldn't design a decent home if they tried . . .

town supervisors get orders to keep building codes so strict that you've got to build a monstrosity that looks like those already there . . ."

HUGH STUBBINS

Assistant Professor of Architecture
Harvard University



"The greater percentage of architects in this country cannot in the traditional sense be called architects . . . they are merely archeologists and promoters of building. Yet there are a considerable number of good architects . . . I know they can and will build a good and 'decent' house. What must be considered is that we always build for people . . . people are human beings, not statistics."

The complete text of Professor Stubbins' reply to ex-Lieutenant Massee will be found on page 50

so busy building the afore-mentioned factories and stores, so tied up with erection of groups of mean little boxes for the building promoters to sell, that they can't find time to build for us.

Homes are expensive and no place for radical experimentation, but conservatism keeps successful new ideas from filtering into general use, and this can be maddening. Good architectural magazines have been filled with splendid modern houses for years. Functional architecture is largely a matter of design; design for use and beauty around the lives of the people who are going to live in the house, their habits, and the particular location they have decided on. Functional construction is expensive because you can't hide cheap building under plaster and wallpaper. In functional design, some of the house shows through. Architects still believe people are more concerned with display of their homes than living in them, so they put all the architecture on the surface in the form of gables, bays, carved woodwork, and wrought-iron initials on the chimney. Architects now give you wonderful frosting and decoration on your cake and think it's pretty to look at, but it's a cinch it's nothing to eat. All their abilities are spent in copying plans that others have designed in the past. More conservative than lawyers, architects refuse to try anything new for fear it might not work. So they never try to educate people about the fine houses they could really have.

Hidebound and reactionary though most architects are, there are many good ones all over the country. And there's one thing nice about architects, no matter who they are, rarely do any of them charge more than ten per cent of the building cost for designing your home. The better the architect the more money he can save you when it comes to planning what you want. It's something like getting Beardsley Ruml to figure your income tax instead of the little clerk around the corner. If they were architects, you could get either one for the same price.

There is an answer to this whole problem, not a simple one, but an answer. Breaking the unions, suing the building promoters, and having tight government control, is not it. Not by any means. Any day in the week, we'd rather have a democracy than have a home. It's possible to have both.

Let's start with building codes, restrictive not only because they're out-of-date, but because people like them that way. People in old

neighborhoods don't want houses built that make their own look silly; and by being silly, they refer to ones in "modernistic" styles. What could be sillier, however, than a Mediterranean villa with snow on its roof, or a heavily bricked English manor house under a blistering summer sun?

The early thirties gave birth to a style in architecture called Internationalism, which Americans quickly renamed "modernism." People still believe that you plan to build a clutter of square plaster boxes when you say you want a modern home. Corner windows, flat roofs, jagged angles, and chromium furniture have nothing to do with modern, functional design, but try to tell that to the owners of a Cape Cod Colonial. If they have anything to do with the local building codes, you're through before you begin.

These people keep their codes restrictive because they're afraid of freaks, and so the town supervisors get orders to keep the building codes so strict that you've got to build a monstrosity that looks like those already there. They're afraid of freaks, but have you ever seen a Swiss chalet designed for clinging to the side of an alp, squatting on a flat, suburban plot?

Many of the newer neighborhoods don't have such restrictions. Their codes merely say that the house must be at least thirty feet from the street, it must have a basement, must be more than one story in height, and the garage must be separate. Attached garages aren't safe, it seems, because of carbon monoxide fumes. The reason for these restrictions dates back to the Twenties when building speculators built rows and rows of oversized dollhouses, crowding them on forty feet of ground, built on a few concrete blocks, with a garage tucked underneath and four twelve-foot rooms shoved jauntily on top. These were bargain houses, built for quick turnover, and actually nothing but apartments placed along a street, rather than in one big building.

People were right to keep such abortions out of their neighborhoods, but new houses which do not have basements and do have attached garages, are not in this category. Good ones aren't, anyway.

The first thing to do so that really livable houses can be built, is to revise building codes. Once that's done, some one should get after the real-estate men. This weird class of individuals still believe that most people want a house as large as they can possibly



HERBERT MIRSCHEL

Mayor, Village of Hempstead, N.Y.

"Building codes and zoning laws cannot control or limit the type or style of architecture. These codes are necessarily based on the proven past performances of the various materials and methods of construction. Naturally, as new materials develop or new methods for using proven or accepted materials, there is a certain amount of lag before code acceptance is accomplished. This is the price of pioneering."

The complete text of Mayor Mirschel's reply to ex-Lieutenant Massee will be found on page 51

"Someone should get after real-estate men . . . this weird class of individuals still believes that most people want a home as large as they can possibly afford, jammed upon a dinky fifty or hundred foot plot . . ."

afford, jammed upon a dinky fifty- or hundred-foot plot. Maybe people do, but I haven't met any in years. Most people today, and particularly the younger ones, want a house that's big enough to house their family well, and no more. What with one thing and another, the servant class has pretty well disappeared, but realtors haven't heard of that yet.

Young people want a yard where the children can play, with a badminton court, a flower garden, a vegetable garden, a barbecue, and maybe a tree or two. Even on a hundred-foot lot all those things would be pretty crowded, hardly leaving room for the house, let alone a medium-sized terrace.

If the real-estate men could be encouraged to change their thinking, it might be possible to get the available large land area broken up into one- or two-acre plots. The owners would still make money, and a buyer might be able to get an acre for the price he now pays for a hundred feet. The catch in this, however, is that there are always undesirable center lots and low spots which nobody would want. A realtor can buy the whole thing and make the undesirable sections into streets for his development, dividing his plots so that many different ones all get a piece of the undesirable land.

Just as restrictive as land prices and building codes, are the minds of the architects and builders who erect our homes. These characters still think that the American dream home is a Cape Cod cottage dripping with honeysuckle. For many older people that's probably true, and perhaps for a majority of the younger ones, but that's only because they don't know any different.

RE-EDUCATING the architects and realtors, and rewriting the building codes does not solve the biggest problem—that of hiring a contractor and workers to build your home. There's a chance we might find enough good materials to build our little house. We might be able to find a carpenter or two who would assemble the wall units in his shop, and then cart them to the site, for we're going to build on a four-foot module to make such construction possible. Incidentally, this has little to do with the current use of



EDWARD G. GAVIN
Editor, The American Builder

"The home buying and home owning public, rather than the building industry, is the conservative element that limits rapid departure from accepted shelter design. If that were not true such a highly competitive industry as the one that designs and builds homes would certainly have accelerated the pace of design change a long time ago."

The complete text of Mr. Gavin's reply to Ex-Lieutenant Massee will be found on page 52



HERBERT U. NELSON
Executive Vice President
National Association of Real Estate Boards

"A family does not live within four walls, but lives in the entire neighborhood. When neighborhoods are full of irregularities such as ragged setback lines, houses of all sizes and descriptions and the like, they do not hold their value. Such neighborhoods depreciate quickly. For most families, the purchase of a home is a lifetime investment, and so the matter of good neighborhood conditions is very important."

The complete text of Mr. Nelson's reply to Ex-Lieutenant Massee will be found on page 55

the term prefabrication. Maybe we could find a few masons and plumbers who could pour the concrete slab, build the chimneys, and install the plumbing. Even if we could do all these things, the unions wouldn't let us. It's against the law.

Even more restrictive than musicians' unions, are unions of the building trades, set up on the ancient craftsmanship guild principles. To the man on the street, these unions are the ones which help give labor such a black eye, and we share the public dudgeon. A painter cannot use a brush that's more than four inches wide, a plumber cannot install pipe that's been pre-cut and threaded at the factory, a carpenter cannot install windows already assembled. Even if they could, that isn't the whole answer to the labor problem.

DURING the depression, and even farther back, construction was a seasonal and hit-or-miss proposition. Jobs were scarce, and work existed for only part of the year, so workers needed high wages to tide them over slack periods. Today, and for the next twenty years at least, there will be no letup in building, yet the high wages still exist. This fact, coupled with the reactionary and ridiculous notion that a house must be tailor-made on the site, is one of the principal reasons why so many people can't afford homes. New types of houses demand new techniques in some cases. Trying to sell a plumber on a new way of installing pipes, is like trying to tell your wife how to do the housework. That plumber has been installing pipe the same way for thirty years. It was the way his father did it before him, and his grandfather, and it's going to be the way he'll do it for you.

Teaching craftsmen to use modern materials in modern ways, such as cantilevering a porch, or a house wing, will be a big job. The building trades take years to learn, and they'll take just as long to change. The fact that a large per cent of present-day construction could be done better and cheaper in a factory, is fighting talk to the workmen. They figure it would cut down on their jobs, and their union regulations forbid it. One unskilled workman, after ten minutes of instruction, could use a spray gun to paint an interior, and finish the job in half a day. By hand, which is the union way, it takes three.

Changes to machine and factory construction would mean revis-

"The building trades take years to learn, and they'll take just as long to change . . . the fact that a large per cent of present day construction could be done better and cheaper in a factory is fighting talk to the workman . . ."

ARTHUR W. MURPHY
Director, Public Relations

Building and Trades Council of Greater New York



"Regarding the revision in factory construction as to on-the-job construction in the hourly wage scale, our stand has been quite similar to the cotton gin stand; that is, where individuals go to a low hourly wage scale section of the country and have products produced there in shops that do not recognize a decent living wage, against a man who will pay the union scale of wages in a shop producing the same item. I believe that even you would bend over backwards in common decency to give the latter the benefit of the doubt."

The complete text of Mr. Murphy's reply to Ex-Lieutenant Massee will be found on page 56

ing union regulations, and lowering hourly wage scales in proportion to other skilled labor. Over the period of a year, a plumber makes about as much as a factory machinist because of the seasonal aspects of his work. Semiskilled workmen, under the guidance of experts could do on-the-site work, while the craftsmen would move into the factory where seasonal changes would not affect him. Permitting manufacturers to perform more work on building materials in their plants, would require the skills of the man who now works at the construction site. He might have to learn a few things in order to take his job into the factory, but the added security derived would make it worth while. This would have the same effect on building that the cotton gin had on the South. Instead of one revolutionary invention, you would have dozens. And the transition would take years.

Such a revolution would cause a furor that would be louder than the noise on Times Square last August 14th. Skilled workmen would probably be demoralized for a while for they would have to adapt themselves to new methods. A more stable income for them would be the result, and a cheaper house for home builders would be possible. But try to sell the building unions on that one.

Suppose these things do not happen, what will be the result? We will go on living in jerry-built houses, crowded on narrow lots, completely unadapted to our modern ways of living. We will go on ruining our eyes because of bad light, catching colds from draughts, paying half our incomes to keep a roof over our heads, and slowly going insane.

WITH more perseverance we might line up a site, an architect and a contractor. We've tried for five months, but maybe we should try harder. Maybe everybody in the building industry is not trying to cash in on the shortage, but even if we could find the people, we couldn't get materials. All the building boys are

swallowing up what's available for use in new offices and stores. Maybe if we cast aside all scruples, we might unearth everything we would need on the black market. That would cost us more, but even there the promoters have managed to corner the market, buying up all the stuff they can find. We'd be muscled right out into the cold. It would cost a couple of extra thousand dollars to go scrounging on the black market, but it might be worth it.

We are desperate, sick and tired of living with the in-laws, even though we love them dearly (Adv.). But black-marketing would end us up with a home made of green lumber, crumbling concrete, and inferior plumbing and woodwork. There would be a two-by-four where there ought to be a two-by-six, iron pipe where there ought to be copper, and tears where there ought to be laughter. Also, the upkeep would be terrific.

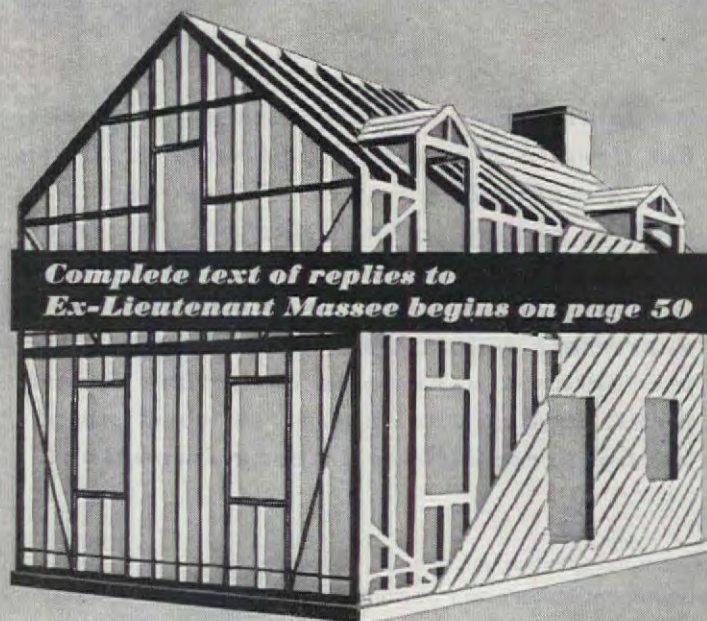
We've thought of buying one of the new houses being built and erecting our own later, but these houses being built by the realtors are gimcrack, thrown together in a hurry to sell fast before the demand is over. Because of the shortages and the scramble for materials that do exist, skimpy construction is a characteristic, resulting in weak beams, wet basements, and peeling plaster.

We've thought of remodeling, but prices for old houses are comparable to prices for new ones. Our in-laws' crowded little nest was on the market for \$6,000 before the war, they've been offered \$14,000 for it as it stands, and they paid \$12,000 to have it built in the early twenties. Assuming we could look harder and find a well-built domicile at a reasonable price, it would still be a compromise, not at all what we want. And we might be stuck with it for the rest of our lives, a situation about which I have nightmares on alternate Tuesdays. The other nights are reserved for nightmares on other aspects of this same subject.

The only alternative is to rent. I can hear you laughing from here. If you do hear of anything, though, wire me collect. We'll take anything within commuting distance of New York. So will several thousand other families.

It is for all these reasons that we won't build now. In five years a few things might change, perhaps. Land prices, stupid architects, asinine builders, bad materials, stubborn workers, recalcitrant unions, and the general confusion in the entire building industry, resulting from their fuzzy and reactionary approach to our modern life, makes it impossible to build a decent house today.

Personally, my little family and myself will go on living with our in-laws. We don't know how long that will last, and there's only one way out. The way my wife figures, she will leave for Reno shortly after the Fourth of July. You see, that's Independence Day.



**Complete text of replies to
Ex-Lieutenant Massee begins on page 50**

The sincere and righteous indignation, as well as the violence of Ex-Lieutenant Massee's article, decided us to publish it and give this housing situation a public airing. Certainly there are many stupidities and abuses, and many of Mr. Massee's accusations are justified. He speaks for thousands of recently returned veterans, we know.

Mr. Massee's straight-from-the-shoulder talk is typically American, yet just as typically American is fair play. There are two sides to every argument. We know that "big business" is not a colossus; we know that the creative professions attract as many keen, forward-thinking young recruits as they support "stuffed shirts"; we know that skilled labor, the decent, clean-living citizen who lives next door, is not altogether the greedy and unreasonable being he is so often pictured. We therefore asked some top-flight representatives in the building trades, industries and professions to state their case.

We sincerely hope that our open forum, or "public airing" will have accomplished a better understanding of the hopes and desires of our readers—the consumer—and the problems of our building trades, professions and industries who aim to serve them.

JEAN AUSTIN



Half a Loaf IS BETTER THAN NONE...

WE had hoped, even as you, that our returned servicemen might rejoin their families and walk right into bright, efficient, new little homes—the kind of homes we have been showing these past few years. Houses in which space has been as skillfully used as it is aboard ship. Houses constructed to give more comfort per dollar spent than was heretofore thought possible. Houses which required minimum maintenance and upkeep. Houses that are clean and forthright and look, as well as live, today's life.

It *should* be possible for all those young marrieds who have fought our great wars to come home and begin living a full life. Young women, who gallantly led the lives of vagabonds that they might have every possible moment with their husbands, should now be able to make a real home for their husbands and children.

It should be—but it is not possible. And, since it is an editor's duty to solve problems, not merely to report, we have gone through our files looking for every possible solution to help those determined young couples who must again put

aside their hopes and dreams and find some sensible, practical solution for a home *now*. Here are no "dream houses," nor are they proffered as substitutes for the home you spent so many nights planning—out there in the foxhole, soldier, or in your lonely room, Mrs. Young-Married. But if beginning your lives *now* is worth postponing dreams for, here are 26 pages of inspiration and practical guidance for you.

All, of course, are "true stories." All are stories of imagination, ingenuity and downright courage. They were originally selected for these reasons—for even way back when we, as you, believed all who could afford a new dream home could have one, there were, nevertheless, many of our millions of readers who could not have one. It was to help and inspire these young couples that we bought these stories for eventual publication. We wanted to open their eyes to new possibilities, stimulate their imagination and prove that what others had done, they, too, could do.

Now, we present them as encouragement or even possible solutions for you. As we stress,

again and again, these are not remodelled revolutionary gems; not impossibly located in inexpensive but remote, deep country so that commuting would be impractical; not expensive temporary substitutes for the home you really wanted, but step-at-a-time building of the ideal-to-be. These are stories of people who went out and with new eyes saw possibilities where others saw only run-down neighborhoods, dated or too-big shells of a house that had in actuality delightful living possibilities. If facing realities is a compromise, then many of these solutions are compromises—but no apologies need be offered in their behalf. All are livable, real homes.

Admit that it enrages you to again put aside your dreams, that something is mighty sour in this country if the young people who fought and saved for a home can't have one—and we'll admit it, too. But concede that half a loaf is better than none, and you're already on your way to some solution of what now seems an impossible situation. We hope we've helped. We wish you luck—and we'd like to hear from you.

The Colonel and His Lady

Though it had been great fun living in a trailer Lieutenant Colonel Robert H. Lewis and his wife wanted a permanent home so they settled down on their own piece of earth



Relaxing in the warm California sunshine on their tiny flagstone patio

LIEUTENANT Colonel Robert N. Lewis, varnishing away at the walls of his living room, paused to nod in the direction of his wife, Ruth. "I was her reconversion problem," he said. "She was so successful with me that I'm thinking of sending her to Washington to take over the reconversion plans there."

Returned from four years with the Army Air Corps, 77th Division Service Squadron in Africa, Sicily and Italy, the Colonel found himself face to face with the housing problem. Up and down the East coast went the Colonel and his lady searching for a home—and at last, when Ruth was very tired and sleepy, he got her to consent to buy a trailer. But after about a year of life in the trailer, the Lewises were now in California. Ruth determined to bring her husband down to earth; that is, a definite, solid piece of earth on which they could build a permanent home.

They found what they wanted up in one of the numerous canyons in the Los Angeles area, and on it they built a prefabricated house, complete with patio and finished on the outside with knotty pine. It was delivered and built in two weeks and Colonel Lewis was putting on the finishing touches when we found him. "This was originally a one-bedroom prefabricated house, wasn't it?"

"That's right, but I had to make some additions. You see, after the house was built, I bought a shovel. I intended to use it around the yard and so on. But there wasn't a single place to store the shovel, so I bought some more prefabricated sections and built on an additional room. I also added a patio."

Directly behind the house, the Colonel's lot

rises in a steep bank, at the top of which is a large level on which he may build a larger house later on. A carpet of thick green ivy covers the slope and clings to the trunks of sycamore trees on either side of the house. Near by stands the trailer that served as a home for Ruth and the Colonel until the house was ready for them.

"But, just as we were moving our things into the one furnished room—a house guest arrived!" laughed Ruth. "So we gave her the room and continued living in the trailer." Construction continued around the house guest, while the Lewises strolled back and forth at mealtimes with coffee-pots, frying pans, and other impedimenta from trailer to house. Glancing around the pleasant, flagstone-paved patio, Ruth said, "But now we're completely in the house and settled. Confidentially, it's a great relief to me. When first we started planning a house, we tried to get regular building materials. It was a struggle, and there were times when my husband was ready to

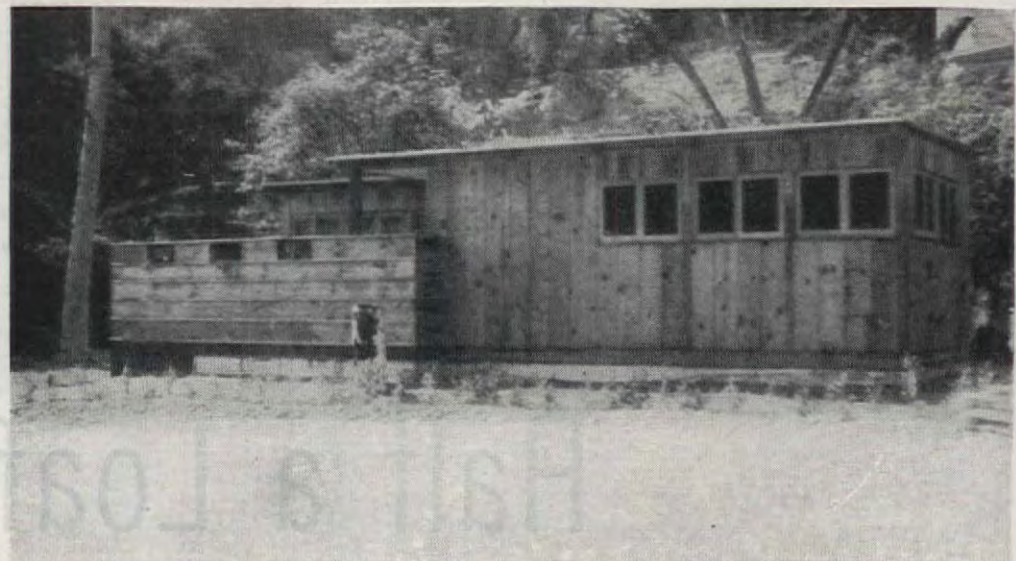
swap me for four hundred feet of lumber."

On January 12th the sections of the one bedroom, prefabricated house arrived at the Lewises' home site. Wall material in the house is three-ply, weatherproofed plywood and the outside walls are soundproofed. Flooring is five-ply, termite-treated, pressure-treated, waterproofed, and equal in strength to a two-inch board.

Just before its arrival, the Colonel was in the throes of plumber trouble. Because of a delay, the plumber got there before the house, and the Colonel, knowing he'd never get the man back again under three weeks, asked him to install the rough plumbing before even the concrete foundation had been laid. "Oh, no!" exclaimed the terrified plumber. "It wouldn't do at all—I—I couldn't possibly take such a risk."

"I'll take the risk—go ahead," said the Colonel. He did, and everything turned out perfectly.

The living-room windows on one side extend from the ceiling to within a few inches of the



Natural plywood walls contrast warmly with the towering sycamore trees



Lt. Col. and Mrs. Lewis ready to greet visitors at entrance to walled patio

Built a Home in 2 Weeks

Anna Hunger and Margaret Proctor

floor, making almost one entire wall of glass. This is one of the good features of this particular prefabricated house—large glass areas. No linoleum or carpeting is included in the contract, however, and the homeowner must provide these. But if, instead of painted walls, one or more papered rooms are desired, the contractor will leave these and the owner can put up the paper.

Prefabricated houses have travelled to many different parts of California. Shipped by truck and trailer, several have been erected in different beach towns along the Pacific Coast. One of these prefabricated houses is being planned for the top of Look-Out Mountain with windows around three sides for view. If you enjoy working puzzles, you'll find plenty of scope for it in these houses. The sections may be switched to a certain extent; so if you'd rather have a larger living room and only one bedroom, you can have that by rearranging the sections in that manner. "Perhaps I've got the jump on a great many potential homeowners," remarked the Colonel, "at least in connection with putting together one of these prefabricated houses. You see, before the war I did mechanical engineering and designing."

On the second trip to the canyon we found the Lewises' home further developed. The beamed living-room ceiling blossomed in large, pale yellow roses and the walls had been covered with varnish, then paint, which was rubbed down, and then a second coat of varnish. Off of the entry hall, walls and ceiling of the powder room were papered in dark gray-green with small pink and white flowers. An unusually interesting paper brightened the entry hall, creamy white background with stylized bamboo stalks and Chinese figures in yellow. For the kitchen, Ruth had used black linoleum to cover the floor and lower half of the wall. The upper half was covered with paper in broad yellow stripes. Three walls of the bedroom were stripes of dubonnet color while the third is a-bloom with large roses of dubonnet.

Both the Lewises were glad to help people who made inquiries about the house and how to get one like it. They answered questions and let visitors look around all they wished, but finally they reached a limit. "One very loud-voiced, militant lady strode in while I was putting up paneling," said the Colonel. "After taking up a good deal of time firing questions at me, she asked, 'Is this

going to be a house or a night club?' So I told her, 'It's going to be a night club, lady—but you won't do, our talent is much younger!'"

Next on the Colonel's program is making furniture for the house. Having once done it as a hobby, he intends to put past experience to good use. With a wistful, faraway expression, he murmured, "And I know where I can get a beautiful electric saw—for only \$400. . . ." He glanced at Ruth, noticed her eyebrows lift a trifle, and continued, "Only I don't feel it's fair to Ruth for me to spend that much on a saw."

"Um," remarked his wife, poignantly.

"But I've got it all figured out. She can go and buy \$400 worth of cotton house dresses. They'll last forever and she'll only have to launder once a year! Then I can buy my saw. . . ."

So, within a few weeks, the Lewises moved from the trailer into their prefabricated home. Their conversion project had been completed in record time. No more must the Lewises roam the country in their automobile with their house tagging along behind. They have a comfortable, permanent home now. Later, if they wish, they can build a larger home and use this one for a guest house.



The Colonel puts the finishing touches on his new home, a reconversion project completed in record time

Had You Thought of Building a Part

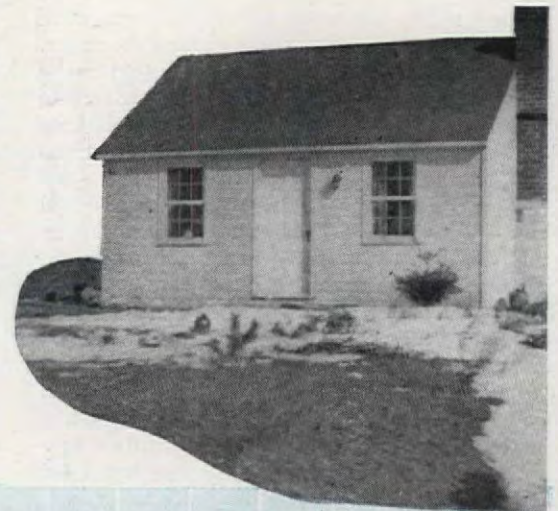
Lucy Robinson Kmetko

THE depression was never like this! In those seemingly far-off days we struggled along with little money. When we managed to collect an extra dollar, it went toward the most essential thing on the long list of things we needed. There were no queues in front of the stores either. Then, money was the only scarcity. Now, with the situation just about reversed, we find we have nothing to buy and much more money with which to buy.

The housing problem existed in depression days, too. There was plenty of material, but it was hard to scrape up enough money to buy any of it. Again today, we are faced with a housing shortage; this time it is a shortage of materials that is the affliction. It's feasible that the medicine of one era may measurably help the ills of another.

We were children of the depression, turned out of school in the era of breadlines and unemployment. I begin the story in this vein because I think perhaps there is a moral in it for the veteran who has been dreaming all during the war of a little home of his own and, now that he has returned, finds that it is going to cost him twice as much as he can afford. These dreams needn't be all stardust if a lot of elbow grease, sweat of the brow, and willingness to sacrifice are active ingredients in the formula for realization.

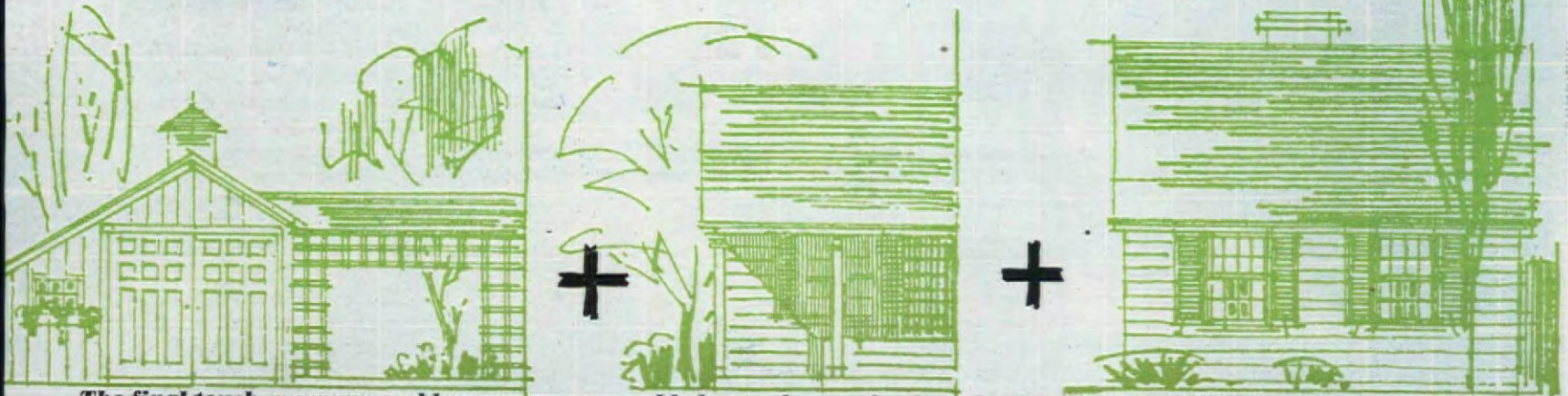
We, fortunately, did not belong in the category of "ill-fed" or "ill-clothed"; but to be "ill-housed" was the unfortunate necessity on many pay checks of the thirties. Furnaceless homes with only partial plumbing, if any, were our lot. We were already weary of making a landlord's



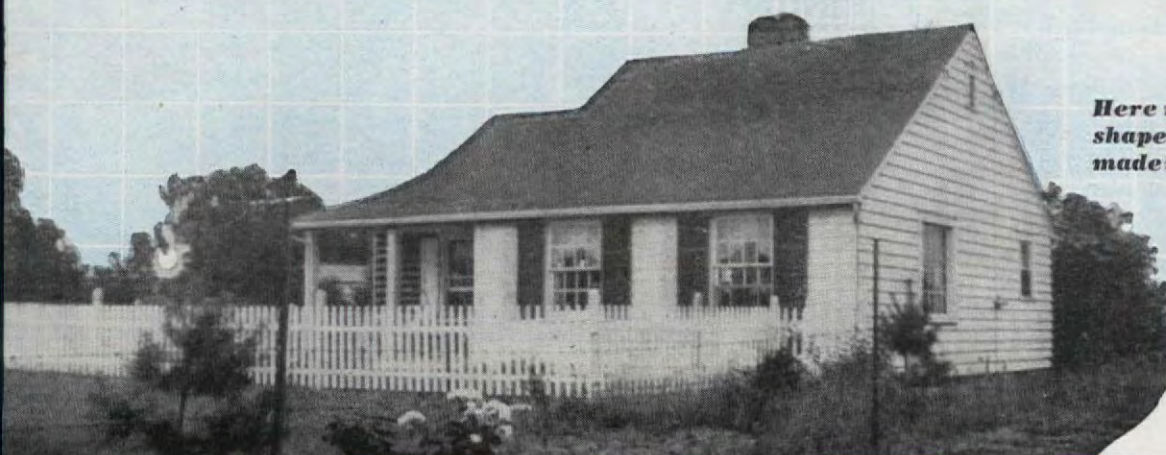
The Kmetkos built this simple 18 foot by 20 foot structure for \$500 to begin a five-year building plan



The second year brought many changes including the addition of a wing and a new chimney, permanently located

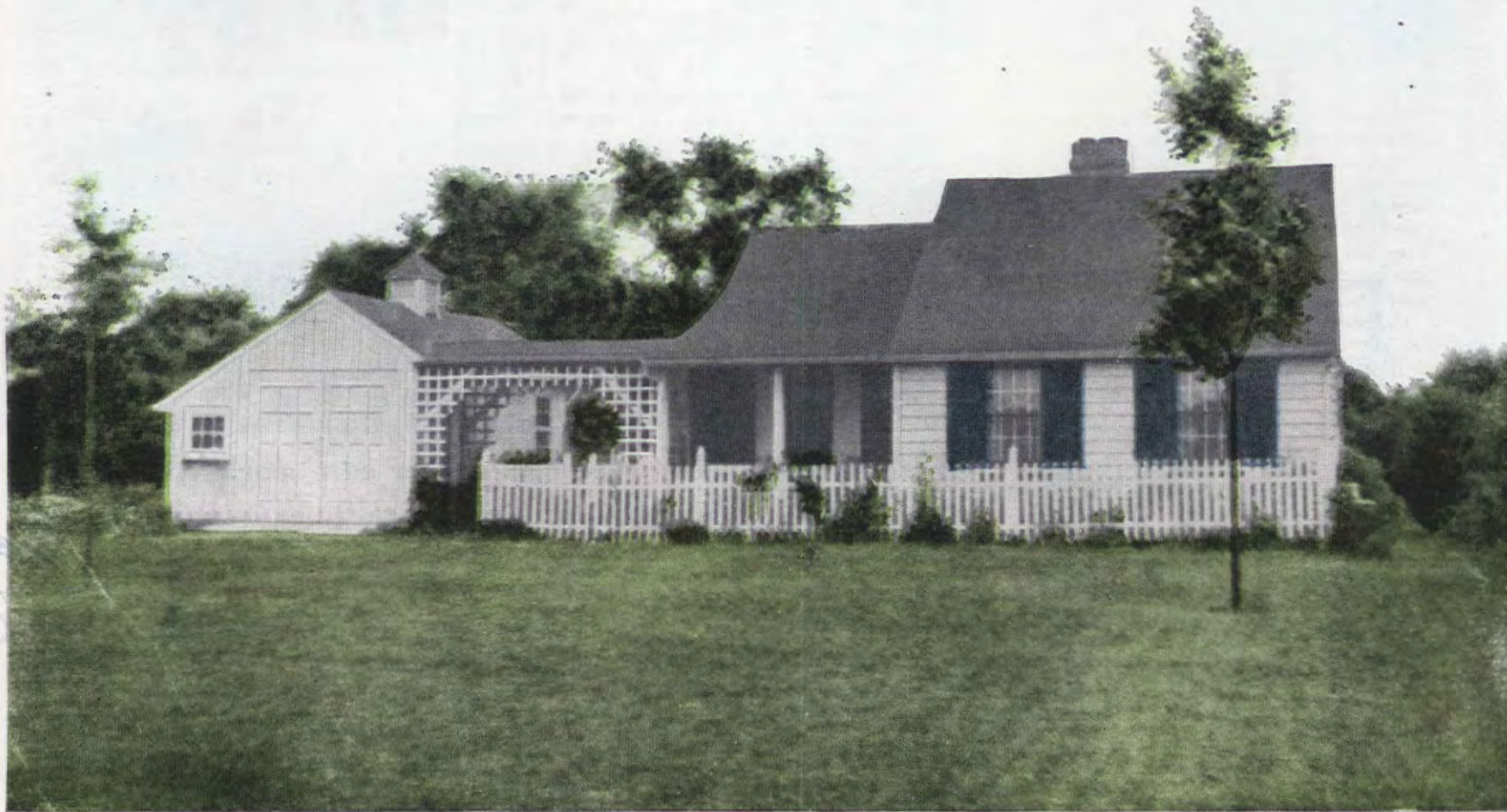


The final touch, a garage and breezeway were added onto the porch wing, the second-year addition to original small house



Here we see the house beginning to take shape. The pickets for the fence were made in the sawmill of an Amish neighbor

of it Now?



This attractive home in Atwater, Ohio, is the result of the Kmetkos' Five-Year Plan

property livable only to have it sold from under us when it happened again for the umpteenth time. This proverbial last straw was responsible for the conception of our Five-Year Plan (apologies to the Soviet Union). Our plan, like theirs, will be extended. This is the story of the original five years. We did accomplish what we originally set out to do in that time.

We acquired an acre lot in the country surrounded by rolling farm land. However rural in aspect, the R.F.D. mailbox in the front and the story-book brook in the back yard, our property had the advantages of electric and telephone service and of a centralized school "just up the road a hitch." We got in touch with a contractor who agreed, for one hundred dollars down (doggedly saved) and a mortgage on the property, to build a sturdy, one-room 18 foot by 20 foot building for \$500.00. We were ecstatic.

For one year we carried water for drinking and cooking from the village well; for washing, from the creek in back. We heated by stove and carried coal from an outside pile. Carrying water, icy and splashing, through winter blizzards from that distance is a rugged undertaking—the whole project was, but we were living in and for the future. Every hardship was a steppingstone to the rainbow's end. We cleared the loan the first year. Those who know no other than today's income scale may find it difficult to realize that *that* consumed fifty per cent of our total income.

The second year we got our well, drilled by hand by ourselves with local assistance and the rural equivalent of "sidewalk superintendents" to spur us on. The second year we spent looking through copies of *THE AMERICAN HOME*, collecting clippings and using reams of paper for sketches, building up our scrapbook of ideas. The

second spring, armed with final blueprints for expansion, small savings, present land and building as collateral, we stormed with apprehension the portals of the bank. To our amazement, we found, not ogres, but kindly, interested persons. The same obliging contractor built the additional rooms. We dug the cellar excavations and trenches for plumbing pipes (sometimes by lantern light). We also did all the interior and exterior painting with prerequisite sandpapering and puttying. We laid the linoleum with the exception of skill-demanding kitchen counters and back-splash boards. The interior white woodwork and panelling is stained to blend with early Ohio furniture. I had acquired many pieces during pre-war days by road combing, at farmhouses, in barns and outbuildings. I learned to cane chairs and spent many happy hours refinishing them. I also wired the kerosene lamps for electricity and made cotton curtains and slip covers. All the furniture is rock-sturdy maple, pine, walnut and cherry, bought for a song and loved for every hour spent in its finding and restoration, and loved also for its association with Ohio country history.

The third year we installed interchangeable screens and storm sash and doors of the same type. We also added finished topping on the driveway and put up the picket fence.

The fourth year we built the salt-box garage. The great hardwood planks for this building were hauled from the sawmill of the neighboring Amishman who had cut out the pickets for our fence. The weather vane and dovecot were also fourth year additions. They were products of the workshop under our garage.

The fifth year saw the completion of the plan according to schedule. The breezeway was added, tying the garage and house together. The garage-

basement, besides housing my husband's workshop, also serves as a storage place for winter apples and sundry garden products. The landscaping plan was carried on along with the building program over the five-year period.

The old saying that a house is never finished is true in this case. Even before the first Five-Year Plan was completed, we had our dreams, dreams of our second Five-Year Plan. But, come what may, we are snug and safe from uprooting.

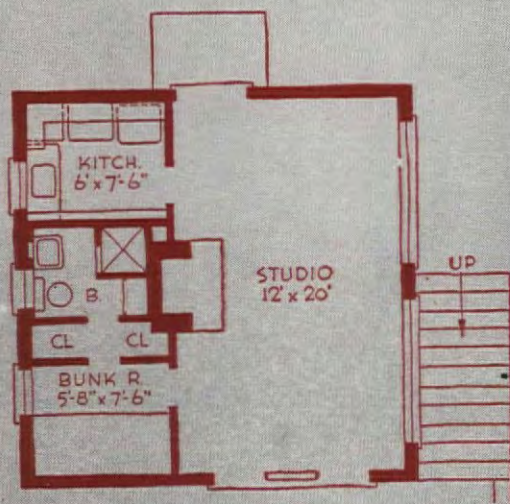
If I seem to have hit a somber note, I haven't meant to. It certainly wasn't all drudgery and privation. It was fun, a challenge and an invigorating one at that. Each milestone passed, had us walking on air; every obstacle hurdled was a glorious victory. Week-end guests rolled up their sleeves and work was play. Our friends will always be remembered for the part they played in helping us with the building of our house.

A house like ours, located in the country, becomes a natural terminal for friends out for a Sunday drive. Many come out to help us enjoy our barbecue pit and to let their children get a taste of the fine country air.

Perhaps you are faced with a housing problem. If so, don't despair if you can't make all your dreams come true at once. Why not work out your own Five-Year Plan. It will amaze you how quickly the time will pass, and I'll wager you'll be dreaming about and planning for the second five years before the first five have passed. The most threadbare axioms are the truest or they wouldn't have lasted so long. So pick the corniest for your banner. Here are a few right out of the secondhand shop, "Where there's a will, there's a way," "Faith movest mountains," "All things come to he who works (and waits)," "Tall oaks from little acorns grow."

The combined living-dining-room-studio of the Menabonis' house in Georgia. Bird paintings are work of Athos Menaboni, artist owner

Home of Mr. and Mrs. Athos Menaboni
Valle Ombrosa
Atlanta, Georgia
Richard L. Aeck, architect



**Well-known artist and writer wife work
and live among the birds in their sanctuary**

They Built a

THE birds had bought five acres, at Atlanta Georgia, which we call Valle Ombrosa. They had seen the protective wire fence erected around their sanctuary-to-be and had watched us work daily for a year to make Valle Ombrosa what they desired for nesting purposes, with ample food and good shelter. For years the birds had been helping us, in every way they could, in the bird painting career of Athos, my husband, and providing me with data for writing and talking about them. But the birds stubbornly refused to move into Valle Ombrosa until we moved in—and just what was preventing us from doing so?

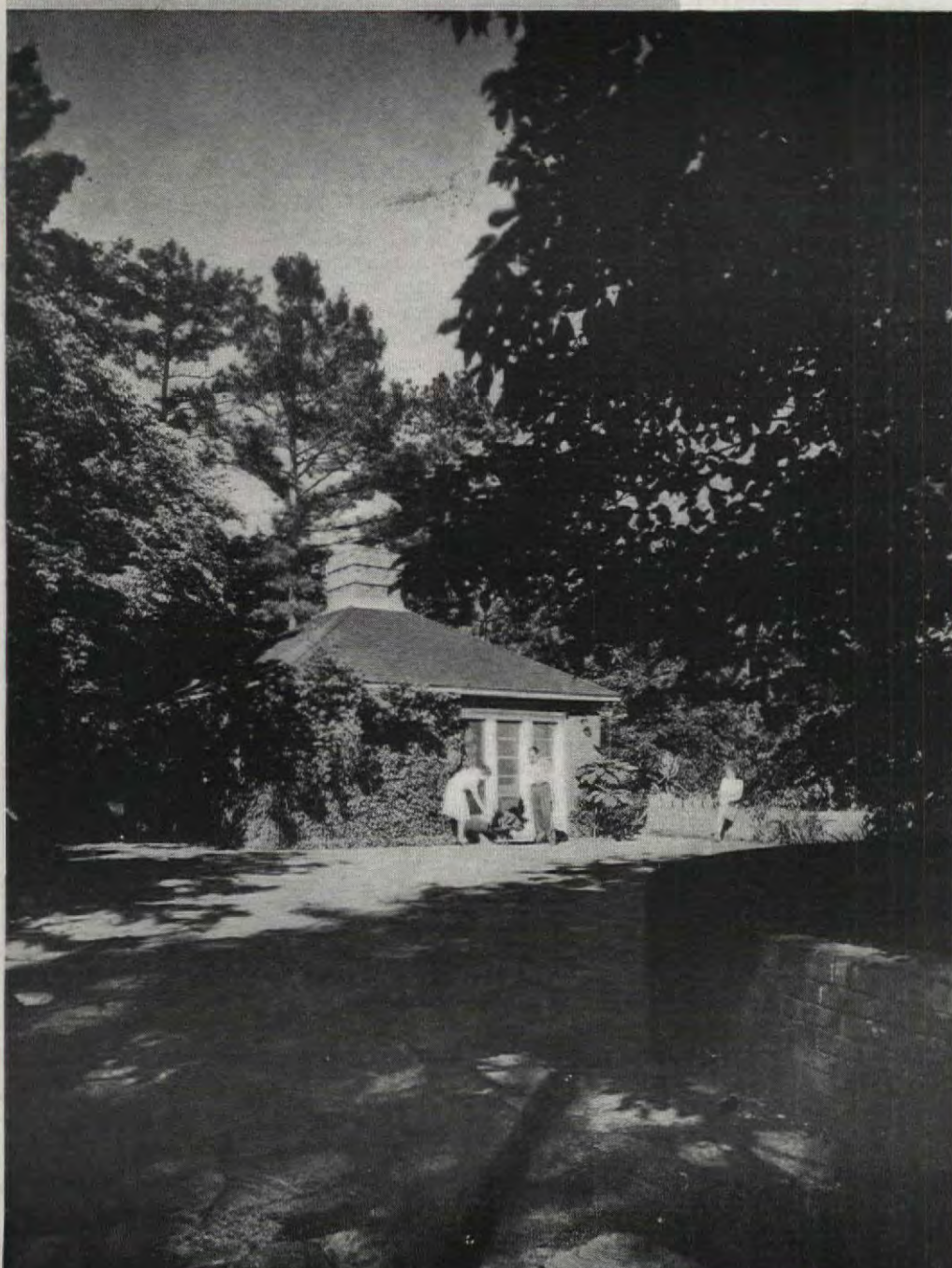
On that December 7th, the birds did not hear over the radio the staggering news about Pearl Harbor. They did not know that this vitally affected them, but Athos and I knew that it meant we would not be able to build the house we had planned. With what grace we could muster, we received the blow that shattered our dreams.

But the birds kept fluttering around in our brains until finally a little bird said: "Why not abandon the plans for the big house? Why not build a very small house now and later, when you can get materials to build the other larger house, you can use the tiny one as a guest house?"

Why not? It was ten o'clock at night when the little bird settled the matter for Athos and me. We were so excited over it that we telephoned our architect friend, Richard L. Aeck, and he caught our enthusiasm immediately. Thus was born the guest house you see pictured here.

In January the postage-stamp-sized house was started, and on the night of May first, we moved in. The birds started moving into Valle Ombrosa at the same time. I suppose that twenty-five feet by twenty-five feet outside measurements are rather large for a postage stamp, but for a house size those few feet are little. Yet, there is no feeling of cramped space. Look at the drawings and the photographs. You see that there are two large windows from floor to ceiling on the wall of the living room, the back door is glass, the front door is in three sections which can be folded up to open the

This view of the Menaboni house shows full-length windows which open the house to the out-of-doors





Sara Menaboni

Guest House FIRST ...and Live in it!

wall entirely. The panes are placed horizontally, giving the illusion of breadth to the room. There is the effect of living out-of-doors. Hearth and fireplace trim is Crab Orchard stone. Furniture is blond wood, the upholstery in brown tones.

The chimney comes out of the center of the roof, and inside the living room the fireplace appears to be in the middle of the house. The fireplace furnishes heat for the house, which is also insulated. The bricks in back of the fireplace warm the bathroom, except on very cold days when we use an electric heater, too. This heating seems satisfactory for the Georgia climate.

The living room is in truth a *living* room. We eat and entertain in it and Athos paints in it. Zulu, the marmoset, has plenty of living room space and Charlotte, the sparrow, who flies outdoors in the daytime, comes indoors every evening. She likes one particular shelf beside the fireplace. There she sleeps behind her favorite coffee pot. The bunk room is ingenious. Under the lower bunk are two deep drawers for bedding. At the end of the bunks are seven drawers for clothing, and one of the drawers is built as a seat. In front of this seat, built to my specific measurements, is a drop-leaf desk, with my typewriter stowed under the drop leaf when not in use. We each have reading lamps and there are, built into the wall beside each bed, niches for books and ash trays. On either side of the passage from the bunk room to the bath are convenient clothes closets.

Every inch is utilized in the kitchen, painted a cheerful honey color. An apartment-sized stove is placed next to the flat-topped electric hot-water heater, which is at the same level. Under the sink is storage space for pots and pans. Behind the door is a broom closet. In the other wall spaces

are rows of shelves built right up to the ceiling.

There! You have seen the inside of the house. Let's go outside, for we are lovers of the out-of-doors, and our guests do not long remain in the house, as there is so much to see in the bird sanctuary. From about May first until late November, when we sit, you will usually find us those seven months on the back terrace, overlooking our valley. (Valle Ombrosa, translated from the Italian into English, means "Shady Valley.") The terrace accommodates many guests and we eat our meals there, also, in good weather.

The front terrace is flagstone, for it serves as a parking space and turn-around for automobiles. Let me account for the curving brick walls, surrounding this terrace, which are functional and not intended only for beautiful lines. These are retaining walls; when the earth was dug out of the hillside in one place, the dirt was dumped down the slope to fill it, until it all came out even and we had our level building site. But those curves? Simply because I, a sentimentalist, would not let anyone cut the native dogwoods and the walls had to be built that way to save the trees! Since then, those dogwoods have held nests of blue-gray gnatcatchers, red-eyed vireos and, twice since we have been here, summer tanagers.

I have given the birds their just due for this house, and a lot of credit goes to the paintbrush of Athos and to our sympathetic architect. But I have not mentioned someone else, who is surely the guiding spirit for everything at Valle Ombrosa—St. Francis, the Patron Saint of the Birds. So, we feel it appropriate that on the most prominent wall outside of the house, draped by Paul Scarlett roses and trailing ivy, there is a Shrine to St. Francis. He has a smile on His face.



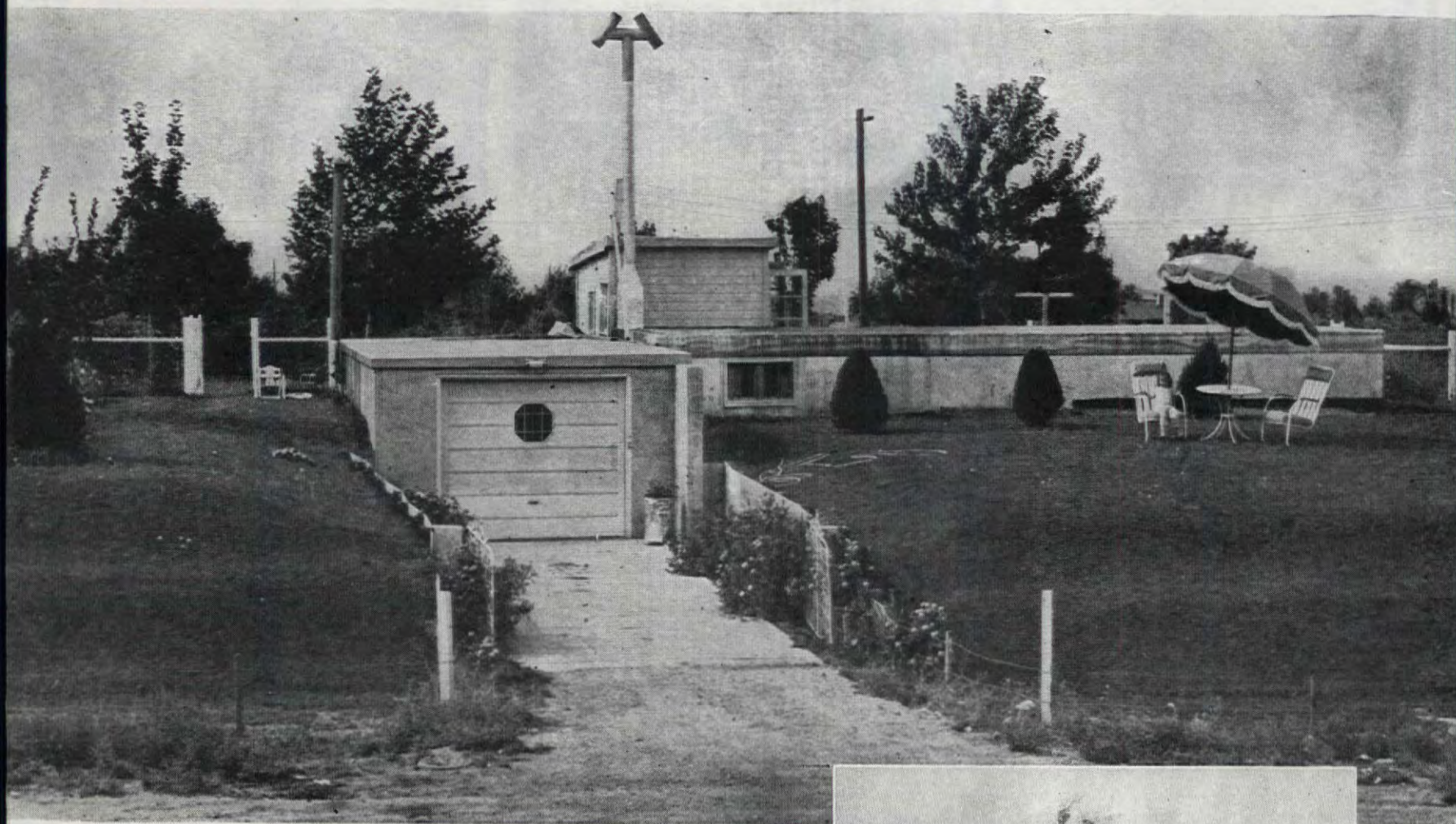
Photographs by Rodney McGay Morgan



**On the right is a view looking into the bunk room.
Other views show kitchen, fireplace and living room**

PAY-AS-YOU-GO.

Has Long been a Practice in Utah!



Georgia Long

BROUGHT up by their elders from early childhood to believe that they should make every effort to own their own homes, and at the same time, forbidden by their religion to go into debt, many Utah citizens begin their houses by constructing a foundation only. Upon this they place a roof and here they live until they can afford to build another story. After procuring his plot of land which he has probably inherited, the prospective homeowner digs a cellar and stores it up with lumber. This work goes quickly since the true pioneer spirit still exists in the West and neighbor helps neighbor. Trained to use his hands, he knows a great deal about carpentry and plumbing, and can do most of the work himself. The thickness of the foundation is determined and more lumber added to form a mold into which the cement is poured for the walls. When the cement has set, he adds his roof which will be the floor of his second story. This is then covered with tar paper or shingles and, if possible, raised a little to form an air space for coolness in summer. The walls of this foundation usually rise from three to four feet above the ground level and contain windows which are almost ceiling high inside, in order to give plenty of light and ventilation.

Interiors are made very comfortable. The simpler houses have running water only, but the majority provide for the future and the plumbing is planned very carefully. A bath and kitchen sink are installed and also a good furnace, and the pipes are set so that they may be continued with small expense. Stairway entrance at the back will eventually be the cellar door.

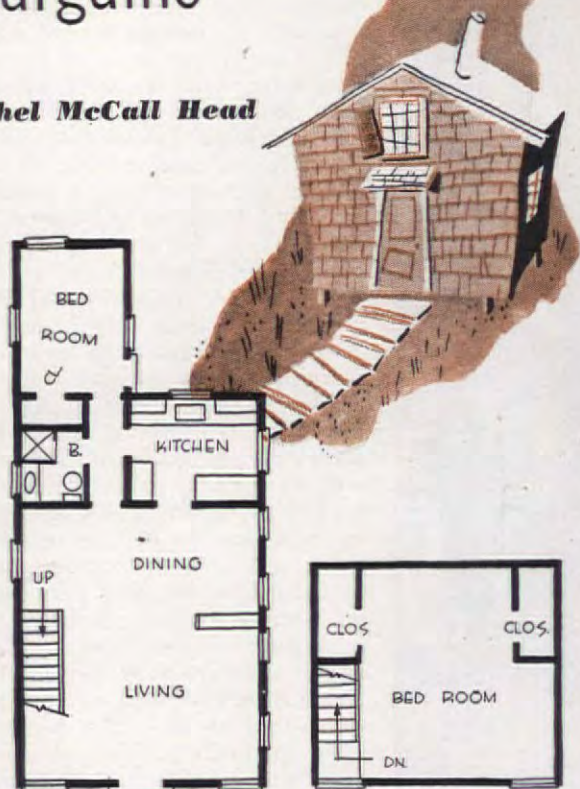
At a distance the exterior view of one of these houses shows nothing but a brick chimney which may be smoking, and seems to rise from ten to fifteen feet from the ground with no reason for existence. It is even more startling to see a skeleton scaffolding rising around the smoking chimney. On closer view the low structure resembles an underground magazine. Basement houses were supposed to be temporary makeshifts only. But they have become a tradition and often whole families live in them for generations. So for those who find the home-building tug on their pocketbooks a little severe, why not take this tip and pay-as-you-go when starting to build that "dream home"?



By careful planning, these Utahans find it simple to add another story to their basement homes when time and money permit

There are Always Unfashionable Neighborhood Bargains

Ethel McCall Head



Who would dream this charming summer house was once just a beach shack? But that's the story!

WHEN Mr. and Mrs. George Lake bought a tumble-down old brown house at Balboa Island, California, their friends sighed and thought it just too bad. But Mrs. Lake knew what she wanted, and without losing any time started to revamp the old shack into a pleasant beach house that would make happy summers for three children and their parents.

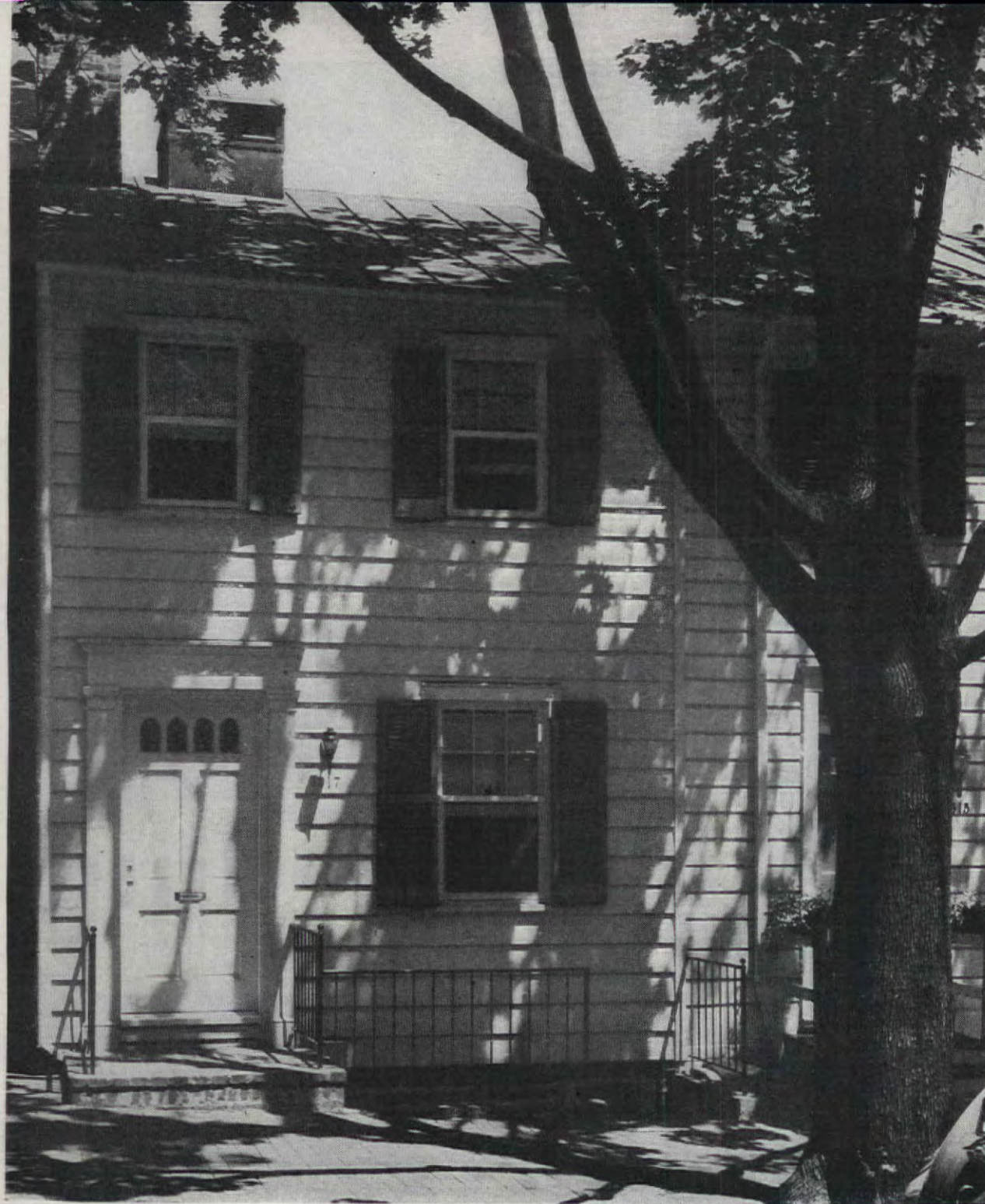
The outside of the old dwelling was covered with shingles and painted warm white with a little scalloped moulding added along the roof lines to give soft charm. The door was painted a gay, bright yellow with blue peasant designs; attractive big windows with glass shelves were added, and good functional windows for plenty of fresh air put into the upper story, which boasts a bedroom for the parents. The children are tucked into a small but compact bunk room on the first floor.

A trim little picket fence plus colorful petunias add sparkle to the sandy beach-front yard. Inside, two tiny rooms are thrown into one spacious room. The front portion is a living room; the back becomes the dining room. Soft gray-blue denim covers a couch and chair. Curtains are unbleached muslin with bands of strawberry-patterned chintz which is repeated in the chair seats. A soft gray-blue linoleum makes an attractive and practical floor covering for a house dedicated to summer living—where small fry with sandy feet and wet bathing suits provide constant traffic. Here's proof that lots of imagination, a little money, and much color can quickly transform an ugly brown shack into a charming small house for happy summer vacations.



Robert C. Cleveland





William J. Hennessey

DURING the overcrowded war-time days in Washington, D. C., even this old dilapidated frame structure offered a roof over one's head. Its fourteen-foot frontage blended dully with other stepchildren of its ilk. Except for water, its public services were nonexistent. The problem for the new architect-owner was to evolve a livable home within the limited confines of narrow walls, a job taking both imagination and courage in the face of the growing scarcity of labor and building materials.

The building originally had two floors and a semi-excavated basement. There were two rooms on each floor separated by a stairway running across the middle. First of all, the basement was excavated fully in order to provide headroom. Then the stair was placed against one retaining wall, permitting at least one room on each floor to have a sense of spaciousness. Since doors contribute to a shut-in feeling, they were omitted wherever possible. Except where brick partitions were used as buffers against sound around the heater room and kitchen, walls were made as thin as possible, just $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick in places. Color, too, was wisely enlisted to give a further sense of openness to rooms; wherever possible, one wall was painted a different color than the other three. The closet side of each bedroom, built of plywood, was painted to match the woodwork, adding contrast to the plaster walls.

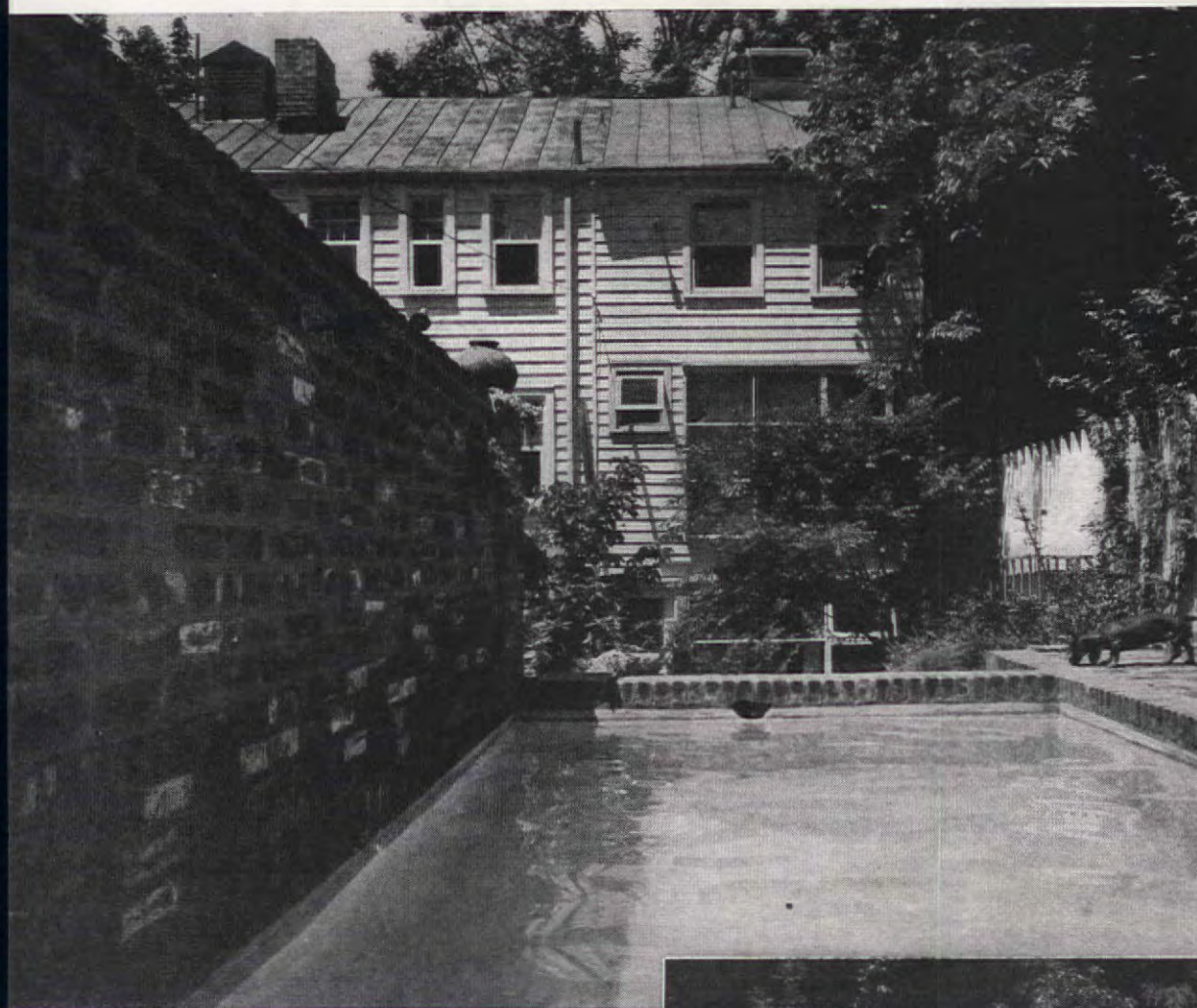
In order to increase further the feeling of greater space, the garden walls of living and dining rooms were

Slum Clearance...Personal Version



built almost entirely of glass. Other rooms were allowed to flow into one another, each borrowing space from its neighbor. Since too much furniture was bound to give a cramped feeling to the bedrooms, built-in dressers and dressing tables, together with low bureaus, resulted in a maximum of usable floor area. The bureaus do double duty as bedside tables. The net result of this clever planning is a series of rooms, flexible in appearance, that produce a spatial feeling far greater than one would think possible under such restricted conditions.

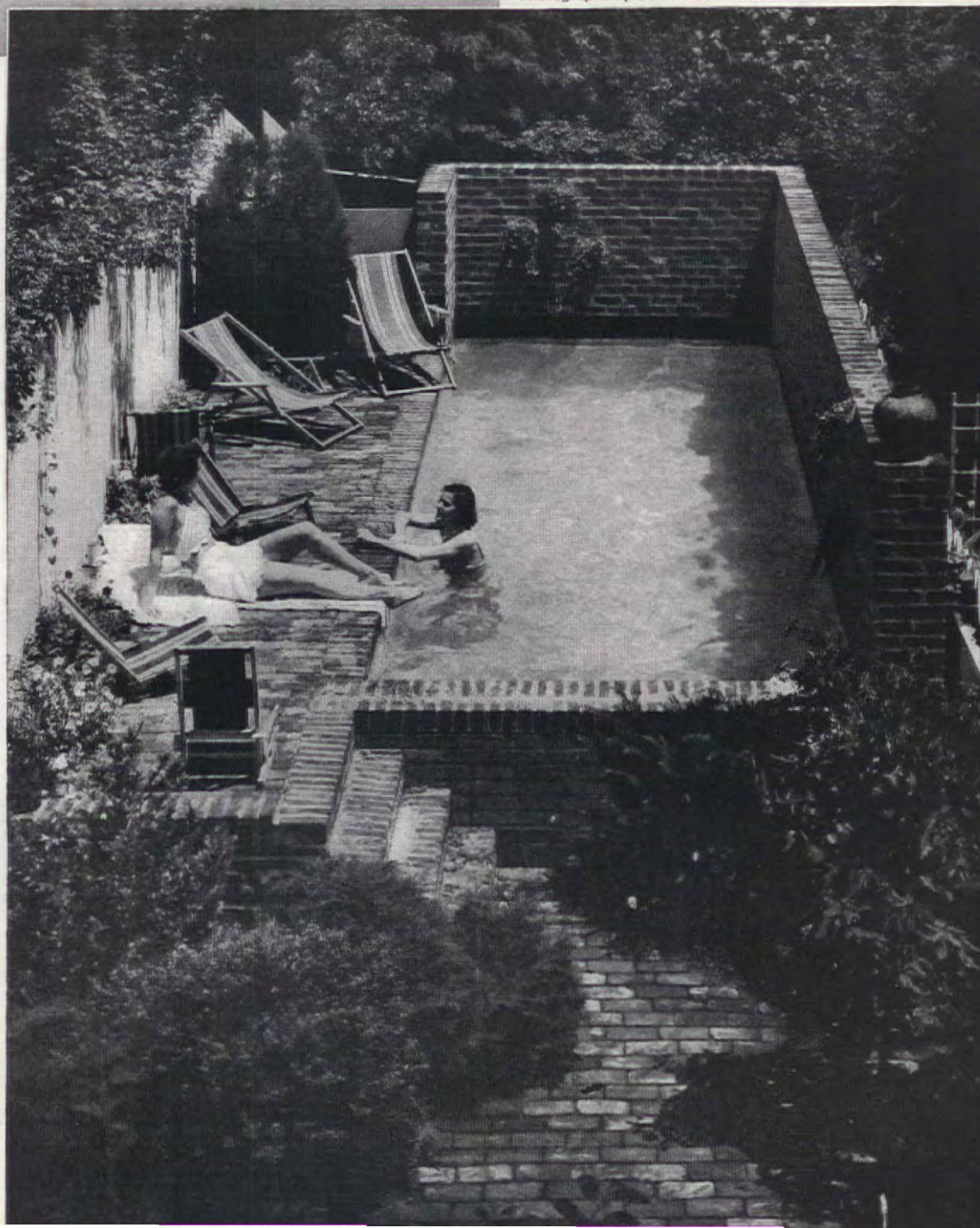
Though discouraging at first glance, one of these neglected row houses in Washington, D.C., was changed by careful planning into the attractive home above



A far cry from the original dingy back yard is this charming garden spot, built on three levels with its swimming pool offering relief on hot days

Photographs by G. E. Kidder Smith

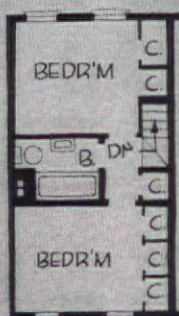
**Home of Grosvenor Chapman
Owner-Architect
Washington, D. C.**



BASEMENT

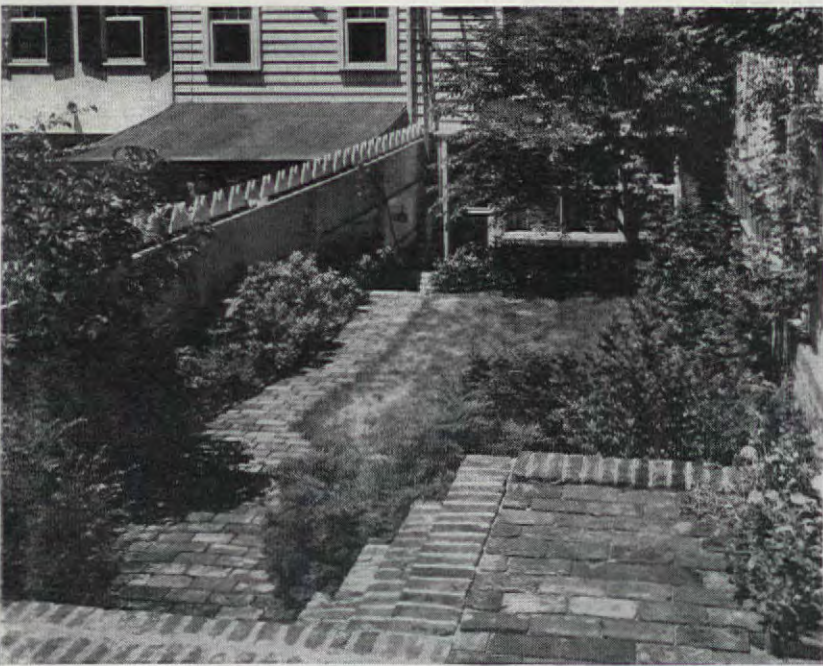


SECOND FLOOR



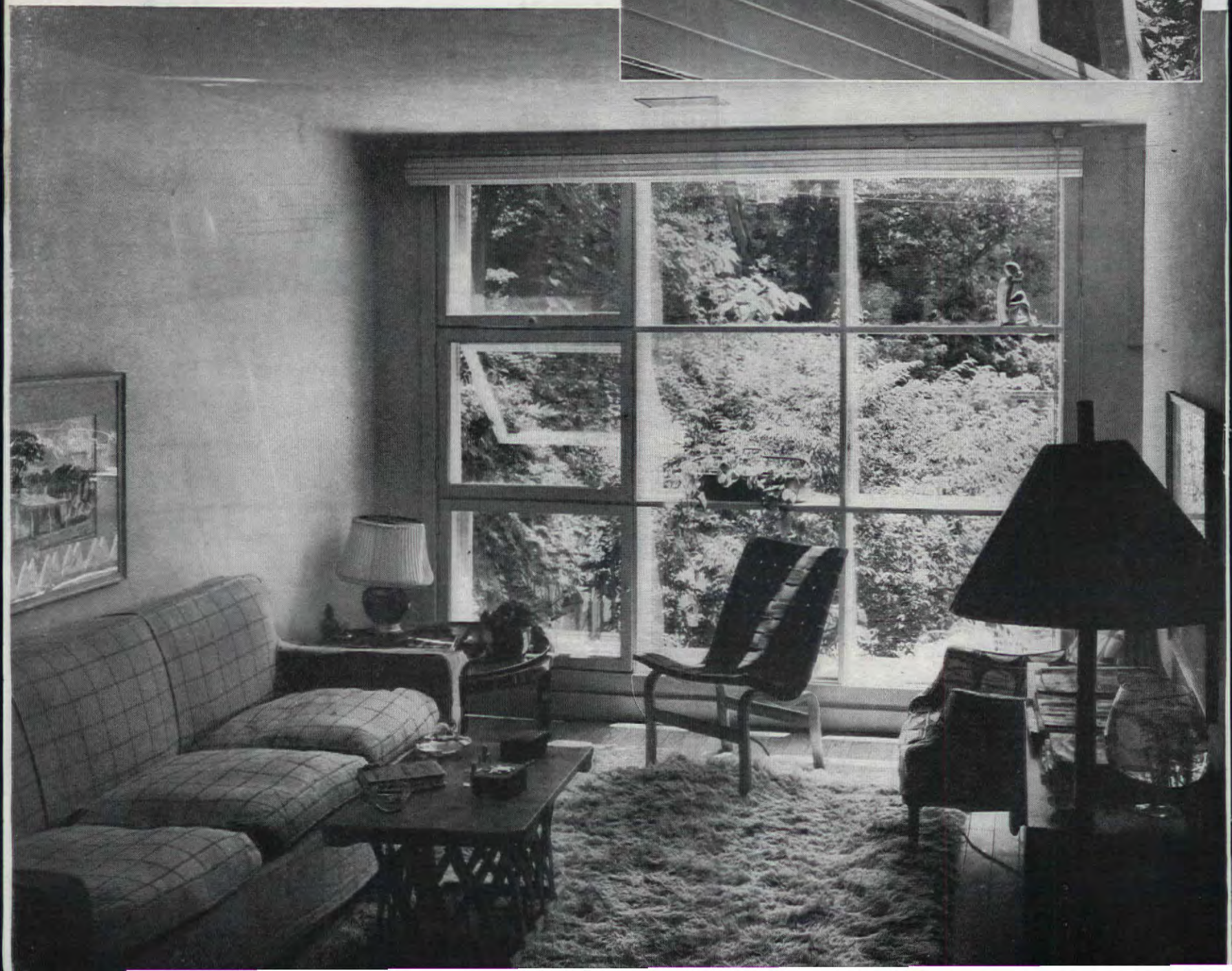
FIRST FLOOR





Rear wall of glass in living room of Chapman home not only adds stature to room itself but seems to bring coolness of picturesque garden into the very house itself. Interiors of fourteen-foot-wide house are given air of spaciousness by wise use of low modern furniture, allowing maximum floor area

In order to give an appearance of roominess beyond the fixed limits of its walls, outdoor living space had to supplement the living space inside. Originally, the back yard was four feet below street level. The part nearest the house was deepened in order to bring the dining room above grade and provide a courtlike extension at this level. The swimming pool excavation was used to raise the back of the garden to street level. Since this is in direct line of vision from the living room, the new grading eliminates a second-story feeling and makes the garden seem much more accessible. The original yard was long and narrow; dividing it into three parts as well as different levels, did much to overcome this feeling. As for the house itself, its original framing and siding were covered with new beveled siding. Of course, the principal feature of the garden is its swimming pool, offering relief during hot Washington days.



AN ENTERPRISING PAIR TAKE OVER THE GUEST COTTAGE ON AN ILLINOIS ESTATE AND MAKE IT INTO A BRIGHT AND HANDSOME HONEYMOON HOUSE

Ruth W. Lee and James M. Wiley

LIKE many parallel cases of follow-the-leader, Mrs. Arthur Halle, Jr., obediently and lovingly followed her lieutenant husband in his wartime peregrinations from Michigan to New York posts, making a home for him wherever he was stationed. Their temporary quarters, always rented and usually makeshift, they euphemistically called "home," keeping close to the heart a belief that someday they would have a real home of their very own together.

Now that he is out of service, the Halles have plans all drawn for the home they want to build, but in the meantime they, like everyone else, are faced with the old bugaboo of building shortages. However, they have been more fortunate than many; their present house is more than just adequate and contains more than a semblance of home. It is the original guest house on the property of Mrs. Halle's parents at Highland Park, Illinois, which they have redecorated to suit their own taste.

In their four-room menage they have comfort and convenience, and they have made it personal by using all their pet wedding gifts. Both of them definitely prefer modern furnishings, colors and accessories. Even their choice of china and glassware patterns attest their love of simple modern designs in fresh, subtle colorings.

In their new home, Mrs. Halle has found time to work on her favorite hobby: making ceramics. She has bought a small kiln in which she does her own firing. True to her interest in contemporary design, she molds cups, bowls, plates and vases in simple modern forms, then glazes them in solid, clear colors of various hues.

During her college years, Mrs. Halle majored in art. Now she is using her college training in many ways. Besides pursuing her ceramics project, she is a painter and designer. In her daily flower arrangements in their living room, she also shows her flair and originality for using unusual colors and unconventional forms. She always selects the uncommon garden flowers which best harmonize with her fabrics and arranges them in charming table settings.

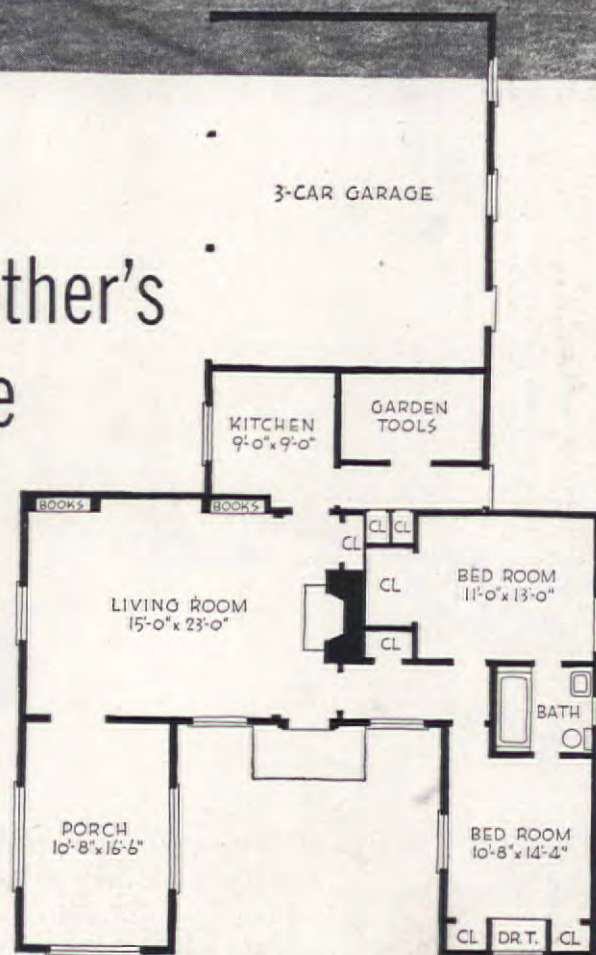
The war took a big slice out of their time together, since many days were spent apart. Sensibly, they have used, at every opportunity, the fine things they possess—wedding silver and china, furniture and accessories, in the belief that these things should be shared while they are young, and not stored away in trunks and boxes until the final day comes when they at last move

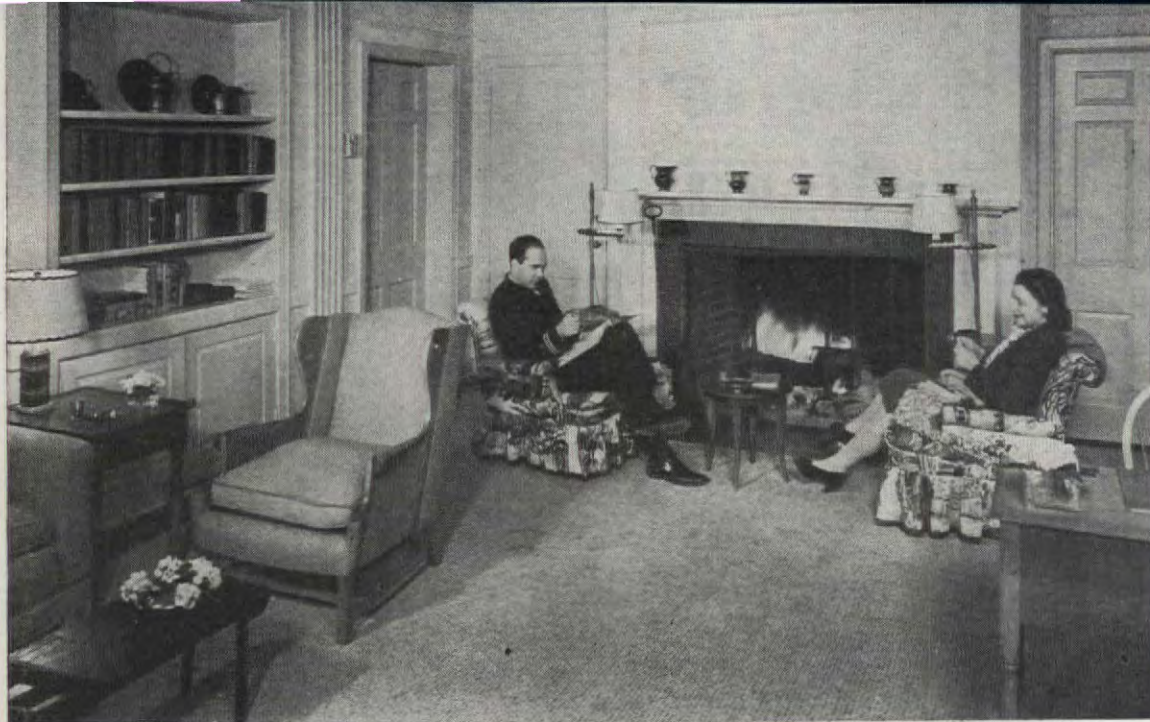


Nowell Ward

Lt. and Mrs. Halle Take Over Her Mother's Gardener's Cottage

**The home of
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Halle
Highland Park, Illinois**





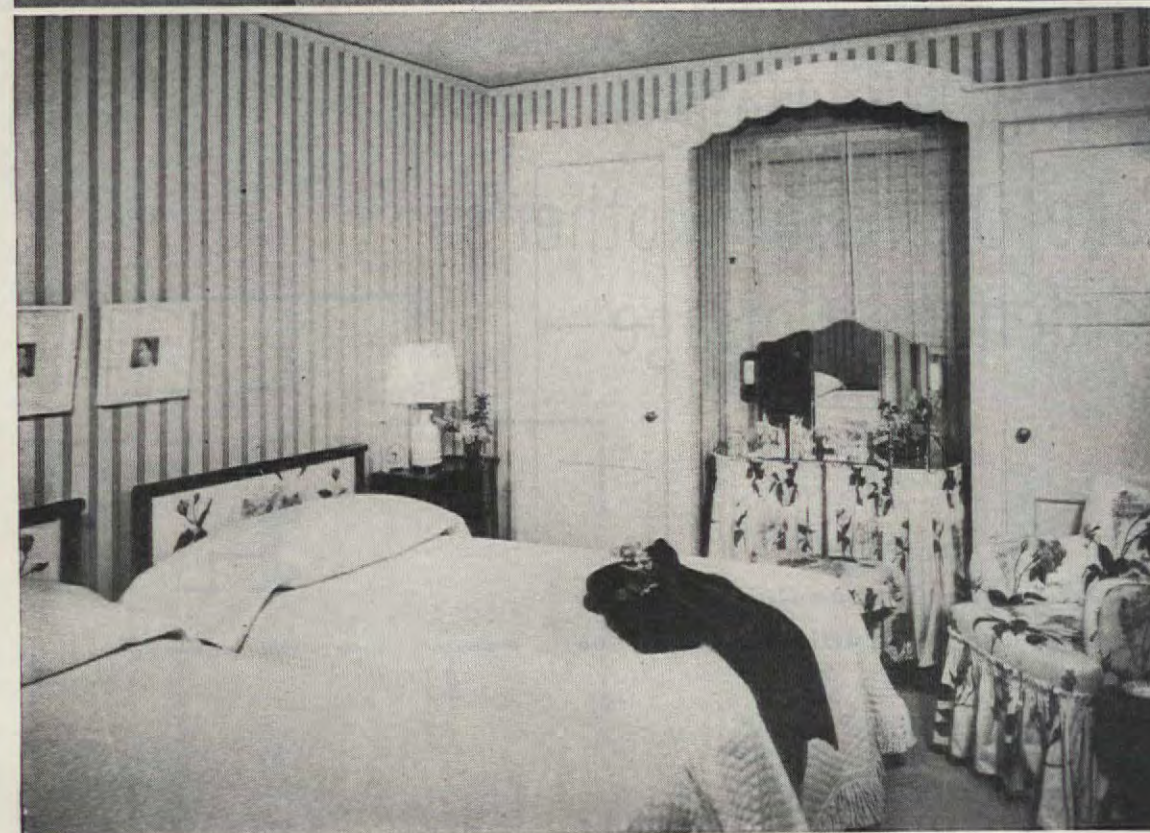
The Halles plan eventually to build, but in the meantime they do better than most couples in their first civilian house. They combine modern and traditional in a fine blend of country pieces melded with high, racy colorings

into their dream house. Occasionally, Mrs. Halle sets the table at one end of the living room with her own experiments in pottery set on place mats of strange new fabrics which she ravel out. At other times they dine from their wedding collection. With a fine, free air for trying out new things, they are using the present house as a sort of domestic testing laboratory to find out just what they really want and don't want in the house they will build.

Now the four small rooms have been delightfully furnished in provincial style with a definite modern flavor in treatment. The living-room walls were painted white and enlivened with a stunning, overscaled hunter chintz done in a water-color technique. The bold reds and greens on a white ground add great color and an informal style to the room. Over the green textured sofa on the long wall is a pair of quilted chintz horse heads, framed, and hung from old brass stirrups. In front of the sofa an old, rough pipe cobbler's bench makes a comfortable coffee table. On the opposite wall a fine knotty pine cupboard houses their favorite tea service and a collection of rare English china. Opposite the simple fireplace with its row of copper lustre jugs on the mantel shelf is their maple dining group. Here they use their modern glassware and Winfield pottery in gray and beige. Near by in the corner on a small table is a huge copper watering can filled with red snapdragon and wild cherry blossoms. For accents, Mrs. Halle uses low bowls of yellow jonquils, daisies and calendula. A tweedy rug in beige, gray, and white adds a provincial-modern feeling in keeping with the room's appointments. Books of their growing library line the shelves flanking the sofa.

The master bedroom repeats the living-room colors in a bold red and white striped wallpaper—no fraidy-cat color scheme, you may be sure. The chintz which makes the dressing table skirt, upholders the bed headboards and a chair is a whimsical, modern print like a water-color sketch, with brilliant scarlet flowers and green stalks scattered on a white ground. Quaint Victorian lettering in black spells out "Victoire d'Amour" among the blossoms. White quilted chintz overspreads cover the beds. The entire end of the room was built in to provide twin closets flanking a recessed niche for the dressing table. Coarse white net, gathered quite full, is used at the windows over white Venetian blinds.

The small second bedroom serves as a guest-music room. The green and white of the other rooms finds its repetition here in the fresh-as-spring clover leaf white chintz of the bedspread and the framed bed valance. The scalloped wood of the bed valance is also repeated in the window frame with its ruffles of colorful clover chintz.



There Are Always "Dated Houses"



Even in These Times

Ruth W. Lee

UNDAAUNTED by the fact that their present house was only a temporary move the Howard Lubliners set to work to decorate it with color and personal charm galore. To their astonishment, they had to buy very little. Everything they had in their apartment fitted into their first rented house, as though it belonged there. In fact, the only new purchases they made were two love seats for the living room and new curtains for living room, master bedroom, and nursery. Actually what they accomplished with paint and wallpaper, transformed an ordinary suburban house into a delightful, individual home.

The exterior required the least effort. They left the gray shingle facades alone, painted the shutters white, and the front door lipstick red.

In the living room, they had fun. First they painted the walls a deep plum color, which harmonizes with their mauve pink shaggy wool rug. They stained the floors to match the walls. At the windows, Mrs. Lubliner draped white twill (58 cents per yard) over white knobs made out of tin gelatin molds mounted on white circular wood blocks.

The two new love seats, used in front of the fireplace, were slip-covered in an overscaled rose and blue petunia chintz on a white ground. Beside them are two old end tables and giant lamps made out of hurricane shields with white paper shades. The former red brick fireplace was painted white, while the overmantel was treated in plum color like the walls. Opposite the fireplace was just the spot for their spinet piano with mirror panel above, flanked by two modern water colors.

Next they converted an old-fashioned sunroom into a smart, combination guest-sitting room. A multicolored Monte Carlo striped paper over a cream dado with natural color faille curtains and brush fringe valances provide a modern background. A studio couch with three pillows does double-duty as guest bed and sofa. This couch is flanked by bleached chests which store bedding and hold amusing white pottery lamps.

The dining-room wallpaper is designed to resemble bamboo fretwork



Drawing by Leonard Weisgard

Some people are just born lucky. That's the way Howard and Muriel Lubliner felt when they found an old house for rent on Chicago's north shore at the height of the housing shortage. Here's what they did with it!



A covey of decoy ducks decorates a wall of the den; fishing flies nest above corner fireplace



Fresh-as-paint nursery has white rugs on a fire-engine red floor, red and white curtains



Larry's plaid coffered ceiling repeats the dado

Photographs by Nowell Ward

applied in vertical panels. Green bamboo shoots on a mauve ground blend with the mauve draperies and rug. Because of the pleasant view, they pushed their table close to this window. Back of the table at the side window, they added three glass shelves for plants and glass bottles.

Upstairs, Mr. Lubliner has his special sanctum designed around his hobbies. Instead of a master bedroom, they have a second sitting room, which reflects his interests. Walls were painted a leaf green, with the corner brick fireplace painted white. Draperies and slip covers are a stylized print of rose leaves on a white ground.

Five-year-old Larry's room has a blue, green and white plaid wallpaper and twin beds placed back to back along the wall. The nursery is as gay as a nursery rhyme with a fire-engine red floor spattered in white paint.



Living room's ugly overmantel was cleverly proportioned by accenting fireplace, painting overbody into the wall



A sunroom becomes a modern third sitting room. The color scheme is bronze, chartreuse, gold and mauve



...And



CAPRICORN

Three talented and successful young artists—two are composers, one an author—find room to live and privacy for work in this house planned by a famous architect



3 Modern Young Men Lead a Modern Life in this "Swiss Chalet"

Robert Horan

A FRENCH witticism runs—"He would burn your house to the ground just to fry himself a couple of eggs." It seems to me that there are a number of people who have built and furnished an entire home just to be able to fry themselves a couple of eggs. Of course, many houses are built more or less as small, private sanatoria to dispel a day's gloom in an office. But it is pleasant, I think, to find houses that can be worked in, that are the scene of some activity beyond eating and sleeping. So many living rooms are cluttered with chairs too valuable or insecure to sit on; corners with bookshelves and no books (or what is even worse, books and no readers); playrooms for people who are irritated at games; sun decks for those who are unhappy with freckles; fireplaces that burn red glass; pots without geraniums; big, wasted dining rooms, and tiny, crowded closets. The only things that seem to function in these houses are the kitchen stove, the mattresses, and the sink. The remainder is built on, or added to these contrivances, and the whole house has the atmosphere of an afterthought.

I make these remarks because I spent two months looking over the landscape with two composers, in search of a house that might house their temperaments and their work along with my own. The photographs here are pictures of what we finally found, and made of what we found, after peering into hundreds of charming old revolutionary houses that looked as if they had been in the exact center of the revolution, in that condition of melancholy collapse which real-estate agents describe as "needing a little fresh paint."

We were looking for a house that would hold three people at an amicable distance, the composers demanding a studio apiece, each large enough for a grand piano, and far enough away from each other so that they would not be



Samuel Barber plays a passage from a new symphony



Gian-Carlo Menotti works on his brilliant new ballet



Robert Horan corrects manuscript of new book

hearing double when both were at work. In the middle of this maelstrom, I required a studio to write in, with a desk and some room for papers and books, preferably with windows that were not overlooking a steel foundry or someone else's kitchen. To make it worse, we preferred it quiet, somewhat isolated in beautiful country, but near New York, not too difficult to clean or maintain, and not ornamented with many antique and breakable objects. It seems to me one of those rare gratuities of fate that we found, on a beautifully uninhabited hill outside of Mount Kisco, this particular house.

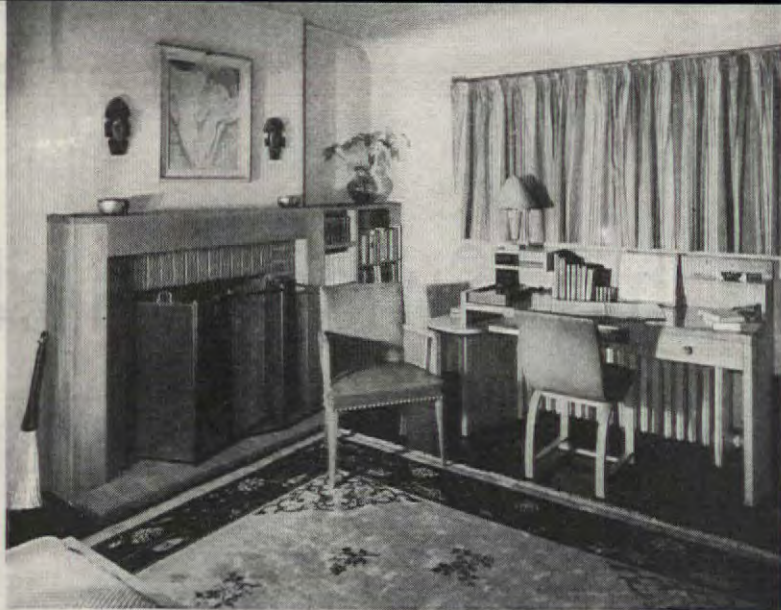
It was, I believe, the first house to be designed by Lescaze in America, and perhaps resembles, from the outside, a modern but not "moderne" chalet set into the side of a mountain and overlooking Croton Lake and the far hills. I think it is eminently practicable, and before describing some of its more personal features, I should point out that the plumbing and the oil furnace function with minimum eccentricity, subject, of course, to lightning and our own inattention; the roof does not leak, the windows rattle only in March, the floors are not uneven, and space is used with a fair balance of economy and proportion. Inasmuch as I did not build the house nor lay out the surrounding grounds, I hope I am free to boast of its attractions and exploit its privacy immodestly.

The outside of the house—alternating widely spaced and irregular planks of wood with foundation and chimneys of brick, natural stone for terrace and steps—accents, by this use of separate materials, colors and textures, the structure of the house and its wing formation. There is a small, raised, stone terrace at the front of the house bordered with flowers or weeds, depending on our industry and

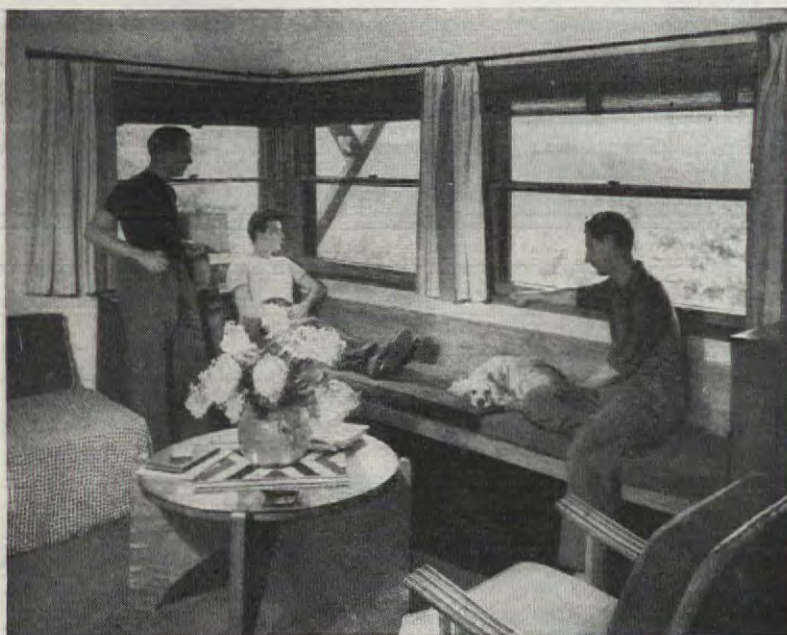
Photographs by F. M. Demarest



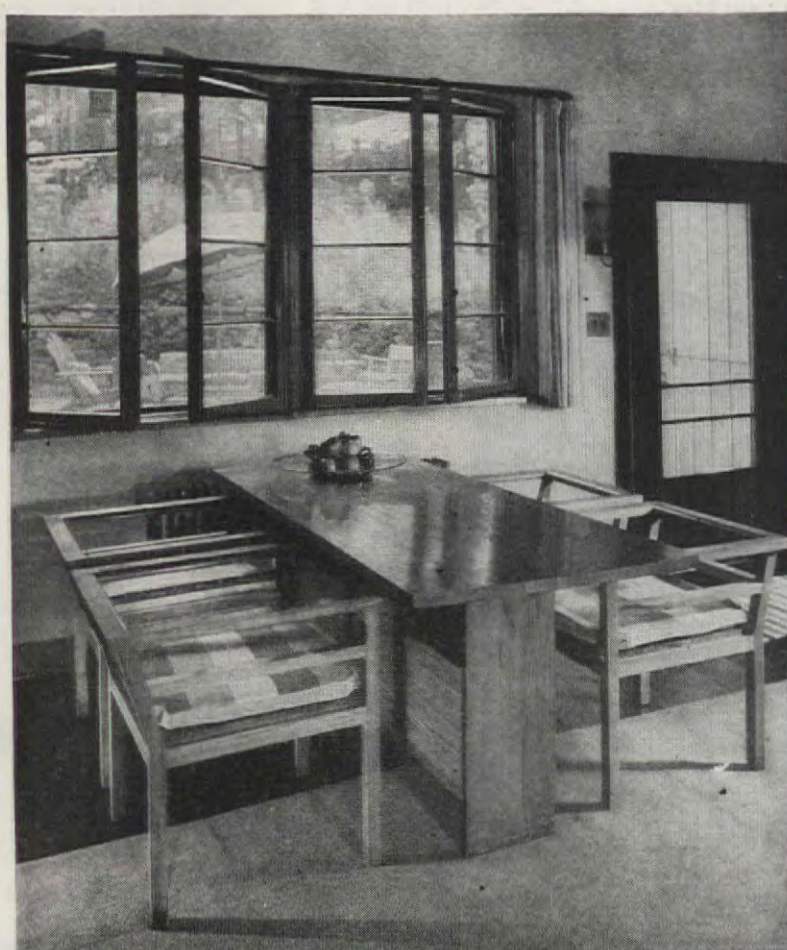
Rolling hills and lawns lead up to the front entrance of this house, designed by William Lescaze, and built into the side of a hill



In Samuel Barber's bedroom modern furnishings contrast effectively with a pale old Chinese rug on the floor



Well-designed and built dining furniture has a clean modern look. Window overlooks hemlock covered hill



the mysteries of the weather. At the back of the house, leading from the living room by half-doors (through which I always imagine deer or wild horses stretching their necks), is a large flagged terrace built around a white birch tree. Here, as can be seen from the photographs, one can eat in the summertime, or even work on particularly humid days. There is a roof deck over one of the studios reached from this terrace by an outside staircase, and this makes possible long, indolent sun baths.

Inside, it is a private house and a triple workshop simultaneously. All built on one floor in wings from a central, two-storied living room, it makes three-or-four-story-heart-failure obsolete and cleaning less of a burden. There are slightly raised levels going into the bedrooms, separating them from the main room. The living room is just that. It is a general refuge when work is going badly, serving intermittently as a dining room and a library. In the summer, the half of the room nearest the windows, where there is a long bench built into the walls, is generally in use. In the winter, we migrate to the fireplace side. The wide, whitewashed brick chimney is not hidden or plastered over, and the mantel part of the fireplace, in smoother material, is nicely asymmetrical. A tiny window high in the wall next to the fireplace seems at first charming but irrational. But I have often noticed how it admits winter sunlight and elm beetles. The floors are wide planks in almost all the rooms. In two of the bedrooms large Chinese rugs set off these floors well, I think, and provide that contrast in style and texture which we have tried to emphasize elsewhere with a Florentine leather screen near whitewash, or a Venetian mirror reflecting an attractive modern lampshade.

The generous windows and the planning of the land outside make it possible to live out-of-doors half the year, and at least look out the other half. I think the dining table (which is photographed) is well placed for those who like to watch the squirrels eating the bird seed at breakfast or the lamp-lit snow drifting to the windows in December. The kitchen is long and narrow and quite ample, I believe, for a house of this size and kind. A little skylight here admits extra light and the sound of rain. The housekeeper's quarters lead off from this wing. The front bedroom and studio running narrowly across the front of the house above the drive, are full of sunlight. The rear of these rooms is the studio, being at the most remote point from the other music room, and is devoted to the piano, the composer, and his disorderly wealth of paper. These rooms are painted in mustard and gray with materials brightening the spare color. The other bedroom at the opposite end of the house juts out less into the light and is less open. There is a brick fireplace here (as well as one in my own studio). The ceiling curves slightly into the wall at the windowless end, relaxing the stricter planes of the rest of the room. It is painted a deep but not dark gray, with walls of a Giotto-blue color, which match one of the paintings. The studio reverses this same color scheme: walls gray, ceiling blue. Closets here, as elsewhere, are spacious and of cedarwood. The studio, which looks out into the wooded side of the hill, is built around a piano and music desk, with shelves especially built in for books and music manuscripts. Almost all of the existing bookcases in the house were simplified and enlarged after we moved in, and many others, suitable to particular needs, were added, along with large working desks. The bedroom and studio here go together as a unit.

My own studio, which is a combination work-and-bedroom, is off the main room and faces the back terrace, with a glass door leading onto it near my desk in case the morning looks happier outside than within. In making some minor redecorations, each planned his own rooms, battled with the painters for certain colors and with the carpenters for certain lines. In a moment of extravagance that I have never regretted, I thought the ceiling of my room should be quite red with oyster-colored walls. The painters were wheedled into mixing it, and notwithstanding their consternation, it is a very nice, very red ceiling. There is, too, a small guest room, which we call a "Pullman" for obvious reasons, panelled in wood. Each unit has its own bath. Laundry room, storage space for garden furniture, toolroom and garage fill the basement. The attic space, which also serves to store trunks and various white elephants, makes the house cooler in summer.

Several hundred feet down the hill from the house is a separate cottage or guest house with a small living room, bedroom, kitchenette and bath and, although insufficiently heated for winter, is very livable for half or two-thirds of the year. A screened-in porch under the pine trees is a refreshing place to take a book or one's work. The cottage provides guests and hosts with that privacy that both secretly desire, making it possible to have "company" and carry on normal working conditions at the same time.

It is this aspect of the house, what you might call its "working potential," which was so admirable in theory and so rewarding in practice. With each wing widely separated from all others, providing quiet for concentration and privacy, each studio of a different character and reflecting a different necessity and taste, it made it possible for three people to abandon crowded, noisy and depressing apartments in New York for this amplitude of space. For in a house that is properly built into its landscape, with respect for what is outside as well as for what is to be inside, no matter how small may be the dimensions, there can still be a feeling of breath and openness and vitality. To some degree, of course, it is what you do in a house as well as what you do to it, that gives it its character. In this sense, "Capricorn" was not put together just so someone could fry himself a couple of eggs.

Even Outmoded Pseudo-Spanish Has Possibilities



Louise Price Bell



THESE ROOMS WITH THEIR PEEKABOO ARCHES BEAR THE STAMP OF THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE 20'S



SEE HOW THOUGHT AND SOME INEXPENSIVE REMODELING BROUGHT THEM INTO A CONTEMPORARY SCHEME

If you happen to have a small, dingy dining room or sun porch opening directly off the living room, then here's an idea you may want to snatch. There are hundreds of houses with similar floor plans and the inevitable arched doorways, and most of them have an open-to-the-public dining room just opposite the front door. Eating in a goldfish bowl couldn't be any less private. But look what these enterprising homemakers have done to solve the problems.

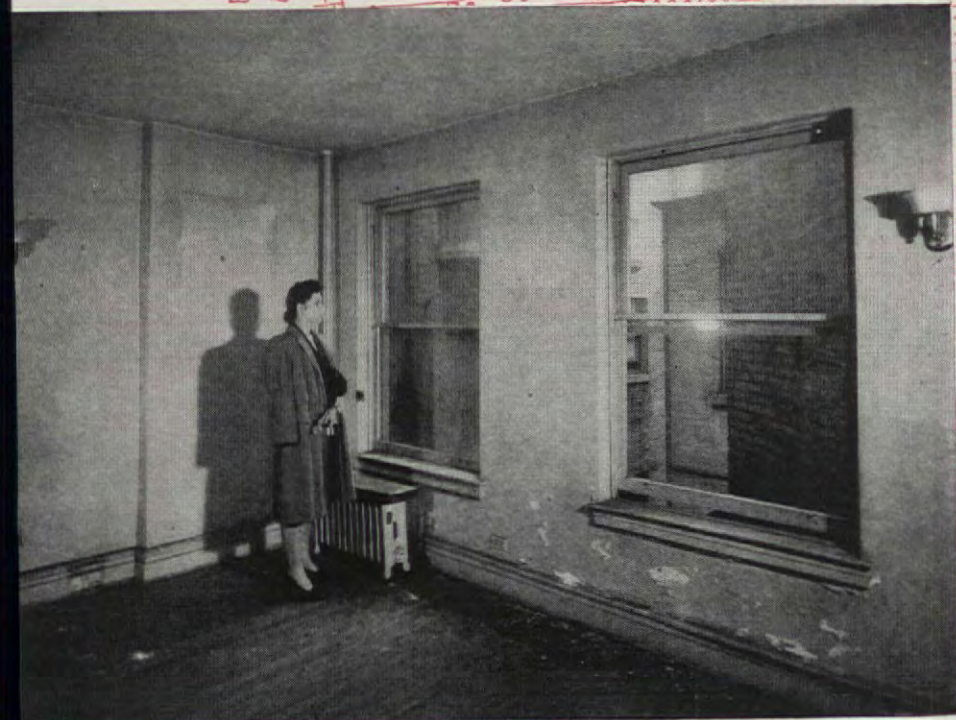
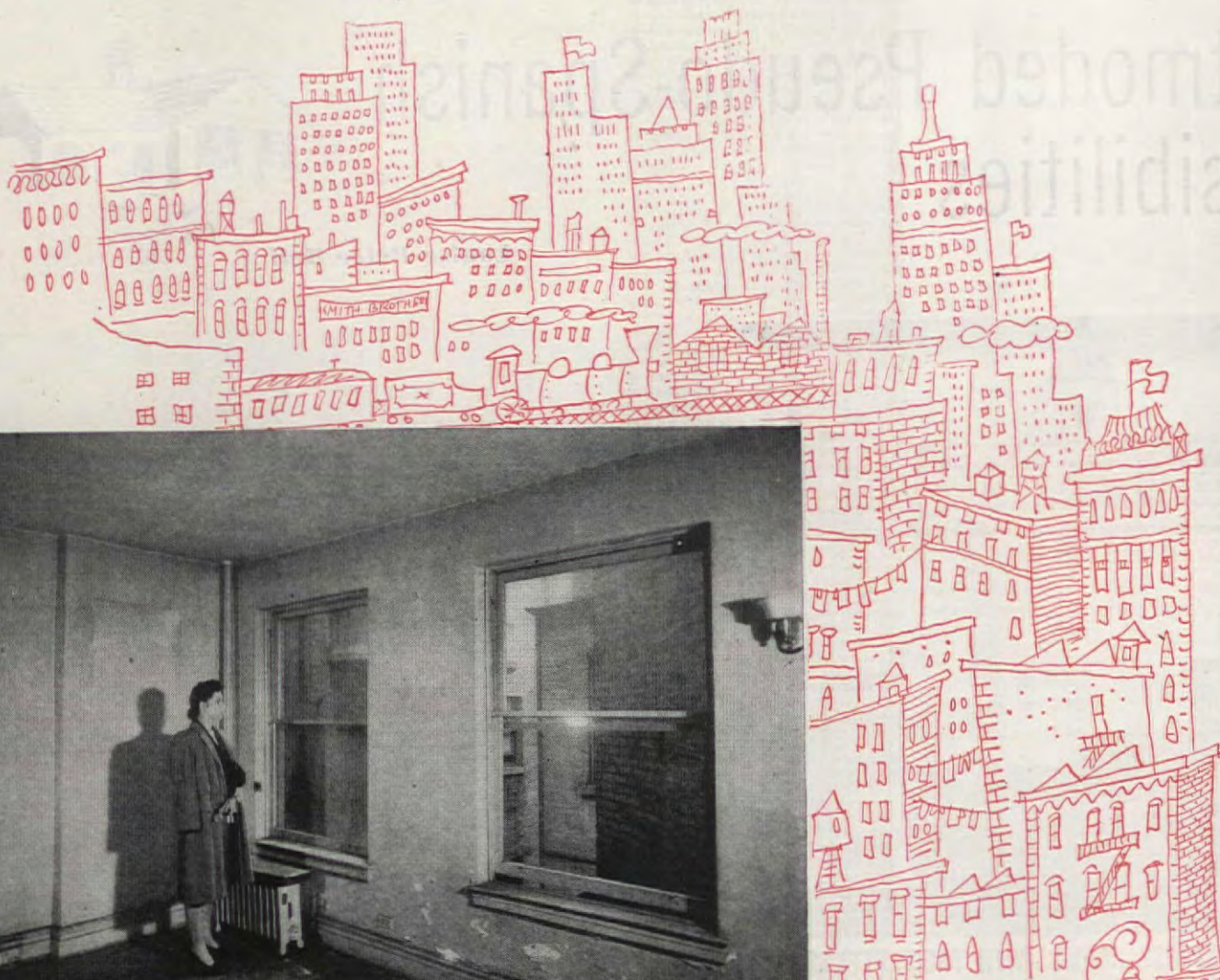
The dining room at the top, left, is of pseudo-Spanish architecture, a little horror of a serving nook with a tiled shelf built into a niche

in the wall. The two typical wall lights above it are suspended lonesomely in space. The also typical French doors were supposed to admit light to the room. The picture below shows an excellent, inexpensive remodeling job which consisted primarily of removing the French doors, thereby opening up the entire wall, and building in cabinets and shelves around the serving niche.

Alfred Messner was the consulting decorator. The removal of the doors opened a handsome vista and gave considerably more space for furniture arrangement. Now the area is a combined sitting-dining room with comfortable furniture

for lounging and reading. A smart paint job, using light tones, helped to unify the rooms.

A similar trick was engineered in the room at the right above. It is a painfully familiar sight to you and me. This architectural nightmare was originally a living room and dining room. Notice the preoccupation with arched openings—you can count five in the before picture. The removal of a portion of wall with its nonsensical windows made the space into one large L-shaped room. Carpet, a pleasing paint scheme, and a sensible arrangement of furniture converted these mistakes into a comfortable living-dining room.

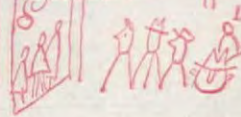


Dreary outside as well as inside, muses Chloe

Same room after decorating was completed



RED CROSS WORKER MAKES HOME



LIVE in this dismal and hopeless looking place? A railroad flat? With peeling paint and gaping windows? But what if you had weary feet from hours of searching New York apartments for even a possible shelter? What if it were the only place to be had? Of course, there was only one answer—grab it and redecorate! So Chloe Denham, a Red Cross worker, once on the staff of THE AMERICAN HOME, took it, drawbacks notwithstanding. A cursory glance would tell anyone it was pretty grim, but our decorating staff assured her it could be made livable—even pleasant. But redecorating costs money, Chloe despaired. And we answered, cease your worries immediately, for we'd see that the job was done within the amount Chloe had put aside for it.

The color scheme was to center around Chloe's favorite chintz, a beautiful apple pattern in shades of green and yellow on a white ground. The owners, bless them, agreed to paint. So we chose a light yellow-green for the walls, continued to use it as an over-all color for woodwork and ceiling. The paint on the floor was scraped off, sanded down, and the floor refinished in its natural, light color, then covered with a center rug of neutral tones. The chintz went on the large lounge chair, and was particularly decorative as a covering for the back of the corner cupboard that forms a dividing line between the dining entrance and living room.

Straight, full curtains of striped green and white chintz

completely covered the windows, shutting out the view of full, crowded walls of adjoining buildings. The curtains were unlined, hemmed and headed, and hung from a rod just as one would hang a casement or glass curtain. This simple treatment brought the desired feeling of seclusion and lightness.

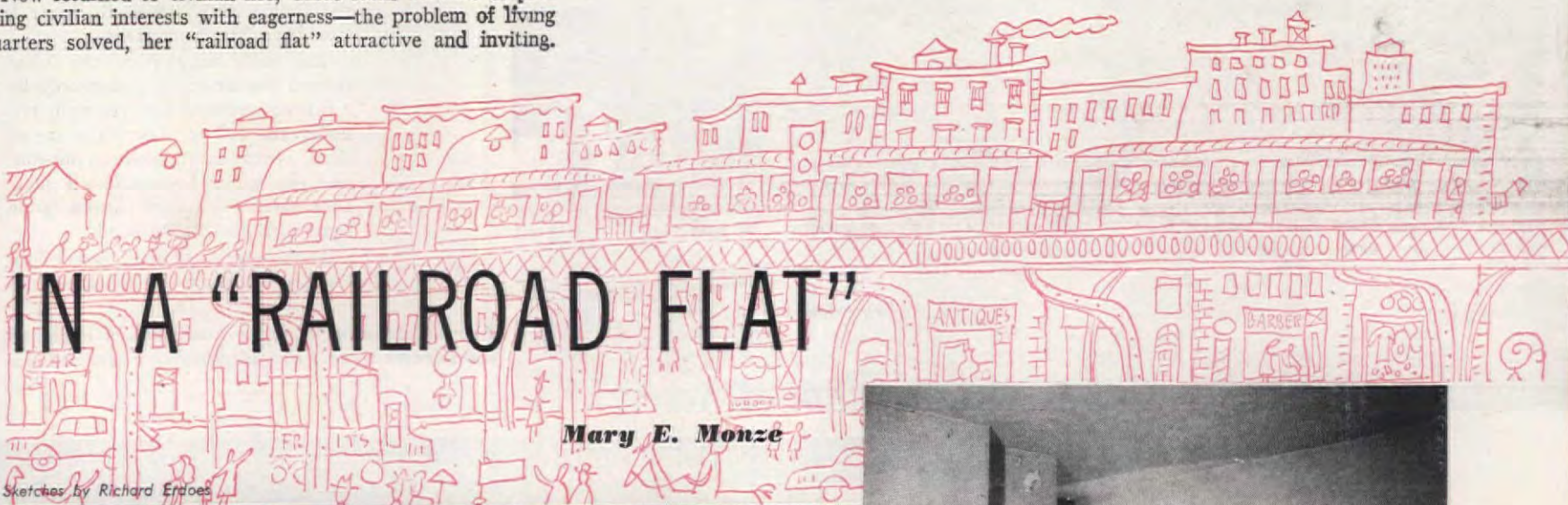
The furniture was collected from various sources. Second-hand stores and auction rooms yielded some, but a few of the best pieces like the little desk and French Provincial table came from Chloe's mother's home in the country. Most of the china and glass displayed in the corner cupboard was donated by Mrs. Denham, too. An old wooden mantel which was bought at auction for practically nothing, was attached to one wall and painted in the wall color, helping to furnish the room, and making a decorative picture with the old clock, framed map, and small objects on its shelf. A massive jar of green leaves and white pots filled with green ivy are kept on the hearth floor. A mirror fitted to the narrow, recessed wall to the right of the mantel made the room seem wider by reflecting the windows on the other side. A softening effect was gained by the pleated ruffle of the striped chintz at the top. Over the little wooden box in front of the mirror and the two upholstered chairs went covers of a bright coral fabric.

The second room, opening out from the living room would of necessity carry over some of the color from the living room. The walls and fitted bookshelves were painted a soft dusty pink, then the same coral fabric that slip-covered the living-room chairs was used for the pull-curtains across the window. The floor and rug match those in the living room. A pair of studio couches with green covers were placed end to end against the wall opposite the desk.

Now returned to civilian life, Chloe looks forward to pursuing civilian interests with eagerness—the problem of living quarters solved, her “railroad flat” attractive and inviting.



Mary Lou Witt, Chloe's roommate, painted the water colors over the desk in “second room,” a combined study-bedroom



Mary E. Monze



Photographs by F. M. Demarest

One long wall and a short broken one present one of the major problems in the living room

Solution of above problem shown here. Corner cupboard with sides covered in chintz divides long wall. Mirror fitted to short wall reflects window side of the room

Who Would

OUR home is fundamentally a box around a view. The architectural style is early American packing case and the material is waterproof plywood, varnished. All the New York side and the easterly ends of the north and south walls are glass. We have no curtains. The whole end of what was the first garage has been replaced by factory sash and two French doors, one pair leading to the terrace and the other out into space. In midwinter we eat breakfast there in pajamas with no other heat than the morning sun.

Over the south window we have one of Oscar Fisher's clever "eyebrows" which keeps the summer sun out but lets it enter the rest of the year. We took out the walls of the next three garages and ran a great beam across to hold up what was left of the roof. Then we built a shed-roofed wing with a casement bay for the "home office" of K. B. White & Co., Industrial Consultants.

The wall away from the view, toward the street, is broken only by a row of basement sash set high, just under the ceiling. The walls are of duali, as near natural color as possible, and the ceiling is "unselected gum" with streaks of dark brown grain against its pink background.

At the end of the path leading into the house and in the center of the

Large picture window commands view of wondrous New York skyline across Hudson

K. B. White

Genuine all-purpose room includes not only complete kitchen, homey fireplace, dining area but bathtub, too



Think of Making a Home in a Row of Garages?

living room is a blue concrete pool with a low brick coping. Usually, there is a large Mexican earthen platter full of fruit and vegetables on one corner and a pair of decoy geese floating cheerfully about. This is the bathtub! Once you have enjoyed a bath in an enormous tub with a warm cement bottom, an ordinary tub seems cold, slippery and cramped.

In the center of the south wall, quietly in shadow, is the fireplace. The whole southwest corner forms a kitchen area. Our fireplace was designed on paper, modeled in soap, and finally built by having the mason add a course of brick, then take it away, then add another until it looked right. It is raised, like the fireplaces in Brittany, and opens at one end. You don't have to cut the firewood; just let the long ends stick out and as the logs burn through, just push them up. The floor is concrete, therefore no fire screen need come between you and the blaze. The kitchen is built in the brick pier at one end of the fireplace. If Denise were in the kitchen before and after breakfast and before and after dinner, half of the waking hours that we might spend together would be lost. An electric refrigerator is

hidden in a closet behind a pair of doors at right. Heat thrown out by refrigerator dries pots and pans above.

The furniture is Gothic, most of it from the Hearst, MacKay, Bache, and Wanamaker collections.

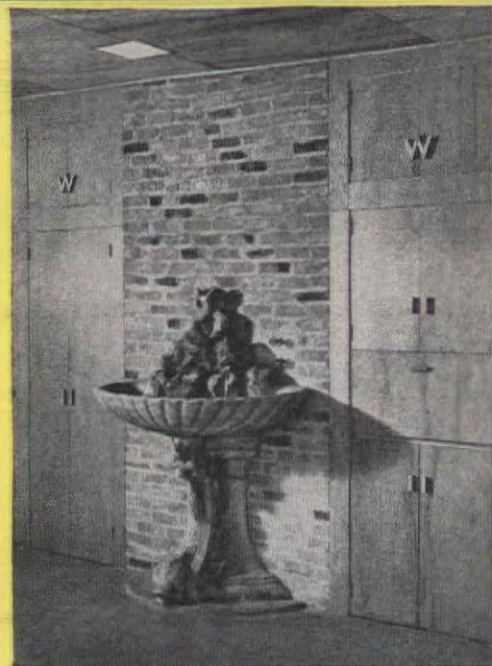
We also have two gas space heaters and a big pot burner kerosene stove. These hibernate in the garage during the summer. No architect can be blamed for all this. The likes and dislikes are Denise's and mine. I drew the plans over a week end and had them copied by an architect. Our friend Oscar Fisher suggested the shed roof and made me change window sizes to make tops line up.

We were able to carry out many crazy ideas because Joe Lochte, our contractor, and his carpenters and masons were artisans of humble European origin. They didn't rebel subconsciously against the lack of shiny kitchen and glistening bath.

We are about ten minutes by car, via the Lincoln Tunnel, from Times Square. If the house intrigues you and you want to come out and see, don't stand outside and look in, but gather up your courage and rap on the front door with your own good knuckles—you won't find a doorbell or knocker—and then come right in.



Modern stove would not have fit in with artistic setting, so we use brick stove at right



Stone fountain by Sculptor Pinchetti

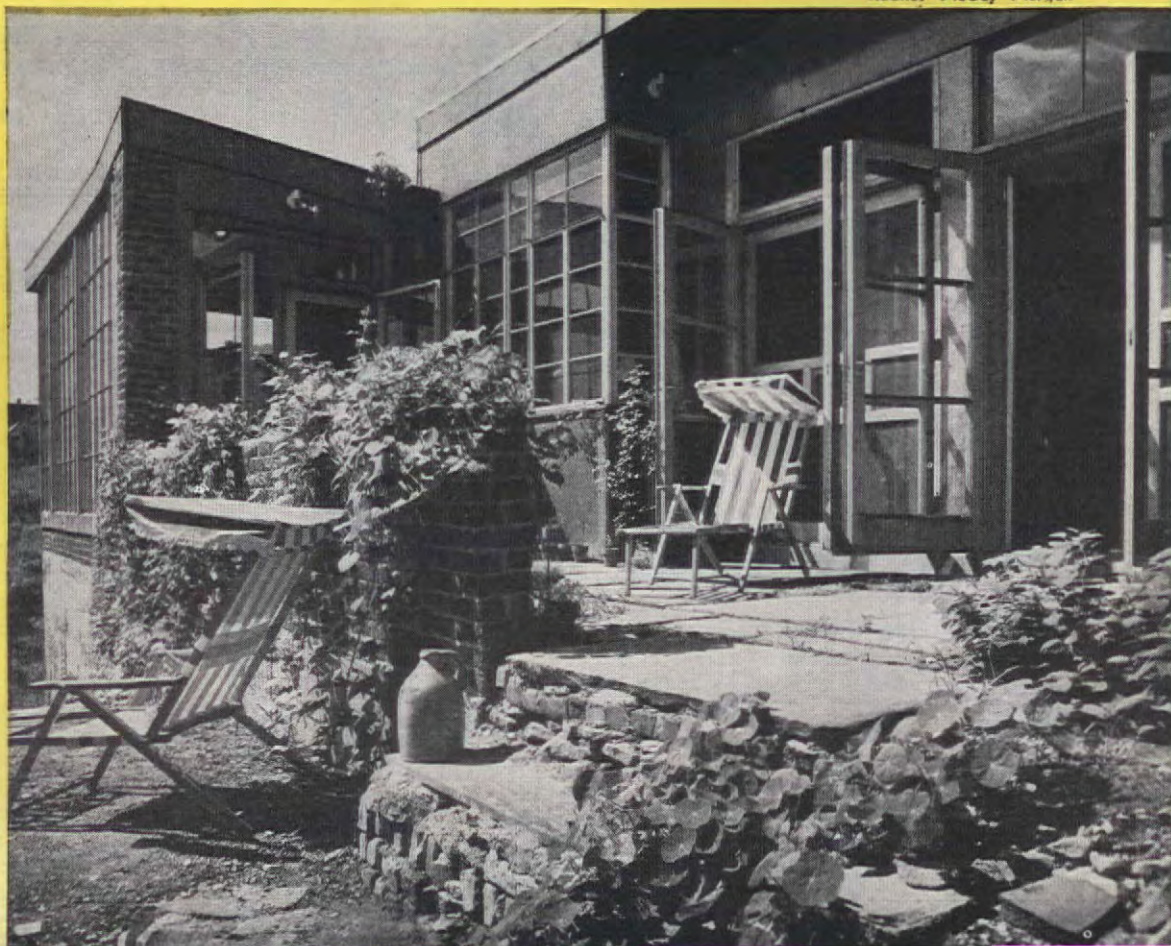


Rodney McCay Morgan

The Whites started with this garage



Shed-roofed wing houses "home office"





Photographs by the author

And Here's Another "Ex-Garage" Home

Eugenie Bingham Cassiday

IF you'd just been graduated from college, and he'd coaxed you into saying "Yes," but there wasn't a house, an apartment, or anything that resembled living quarters available, what would you do? On second consideration, what if there were an old garage in the rear of your parents-in-law's bungalow? Would you tackle the job of dreaming up a home out of a twenty-year-old automobile boudoir, and go at it, tooth and nail?

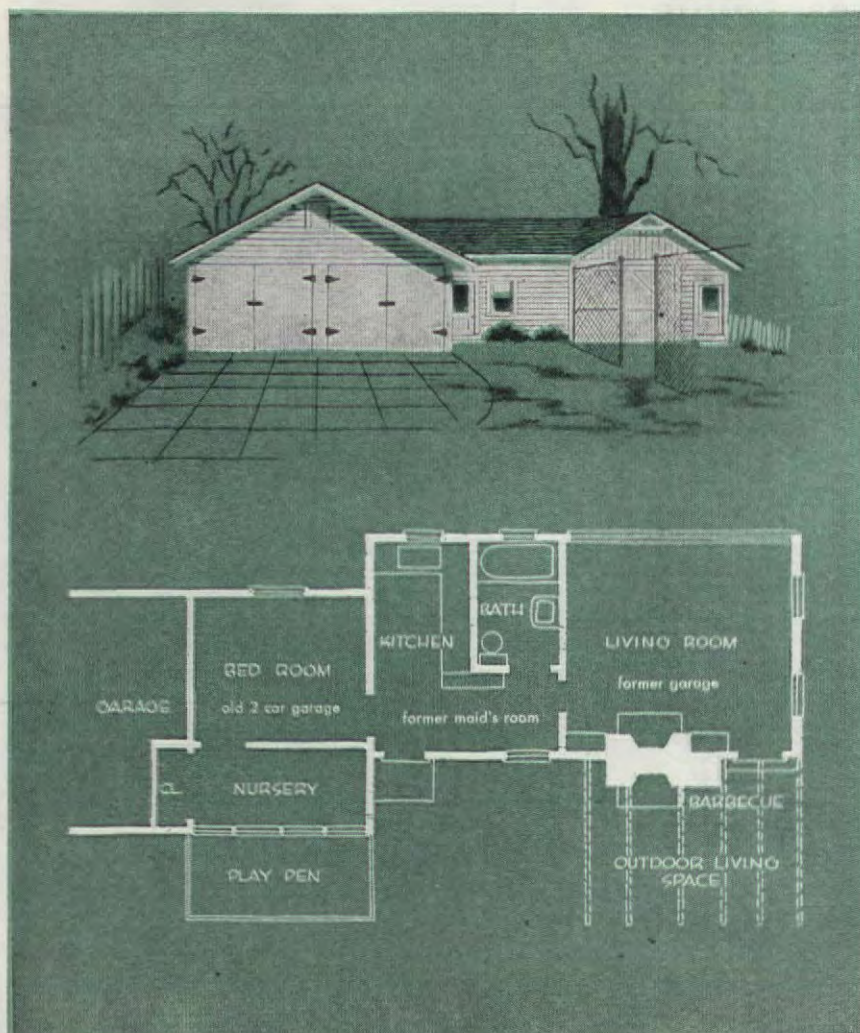
Connie Benkasser, art major and assistant instructor at U.C.L.A., Los Angeles, looked such a situation over and decided to accept its challenge in spite of the war and rapidly diminishing building materials. She's the enthusiastic, energetic kind of art major who believes in making practical use of her art. Aided by her husband, Stuart Stengel, she planned and created the sparkling indoor and outdoor home illustrated here. It took four years to attain the color and comfort of this attractive home, for in that time the Stengels also added two children to their family.

The Stengels' outlay in cash was \$666.66, but the cost in planning, scheming, evolving and searching for outbuilding materials and furnishings could not be measured by a cold, prosaic yardstick like money, any more

than one could measure the thrill of making something out of nothing. The supreme satisfaction of having your own furniture and belongings around you are as invaluable as the fun of inviting in your friends to enjoy with you your steadily expanding enterprise as it takes shape.

When Mrs. Stengel took over, the old garage had already acquired an adjoining bath and large clothes closet, and had been used as a maid's room by some former tenant. Mrs. Stengel made the old garage into a living room, the closet into a kitchen, left the bath "as was," and conjured up a bedroom out of one-half of Father Stengel's new double garage. Before the bedroom was well underway, it was necessary to push out the front wall to make room for the nursery, and later it became necessary to push the side wall into the garage to make the nursery still larger.

Living-room walls were panelled in plywood. The old beams were left in place. Roof sheathing was covered with heavy insulation board. At one end of the room, a triangular glass sky window was installed in the roof gable. Beneath this runs a bright red shelf on which red, blue, and yellow Mexican glass pieces echo the dominant colors of the room. Entrance to





and Mrs. Stengel made end table and coffee table themselves



ilt-ins in the nursery are handy to Heidi's b. Curtain border of hand-painted flowers

the living room is through a screened Dutch door, which is an appreciable aid to fresh air and light.

The fireplace is strictly modern. All mortar joints are horizontal and vertical in-a-line, with not a broken joint across the entire face.

"I thought the man who laid the bricks appeared a bit nonplussed when he looked at the fireplace as I wanted it," Mr. Stengel said, "but he was game to the last joint. I've since learned that bricks are usually laid with broken joints for strength in holding themselves together."

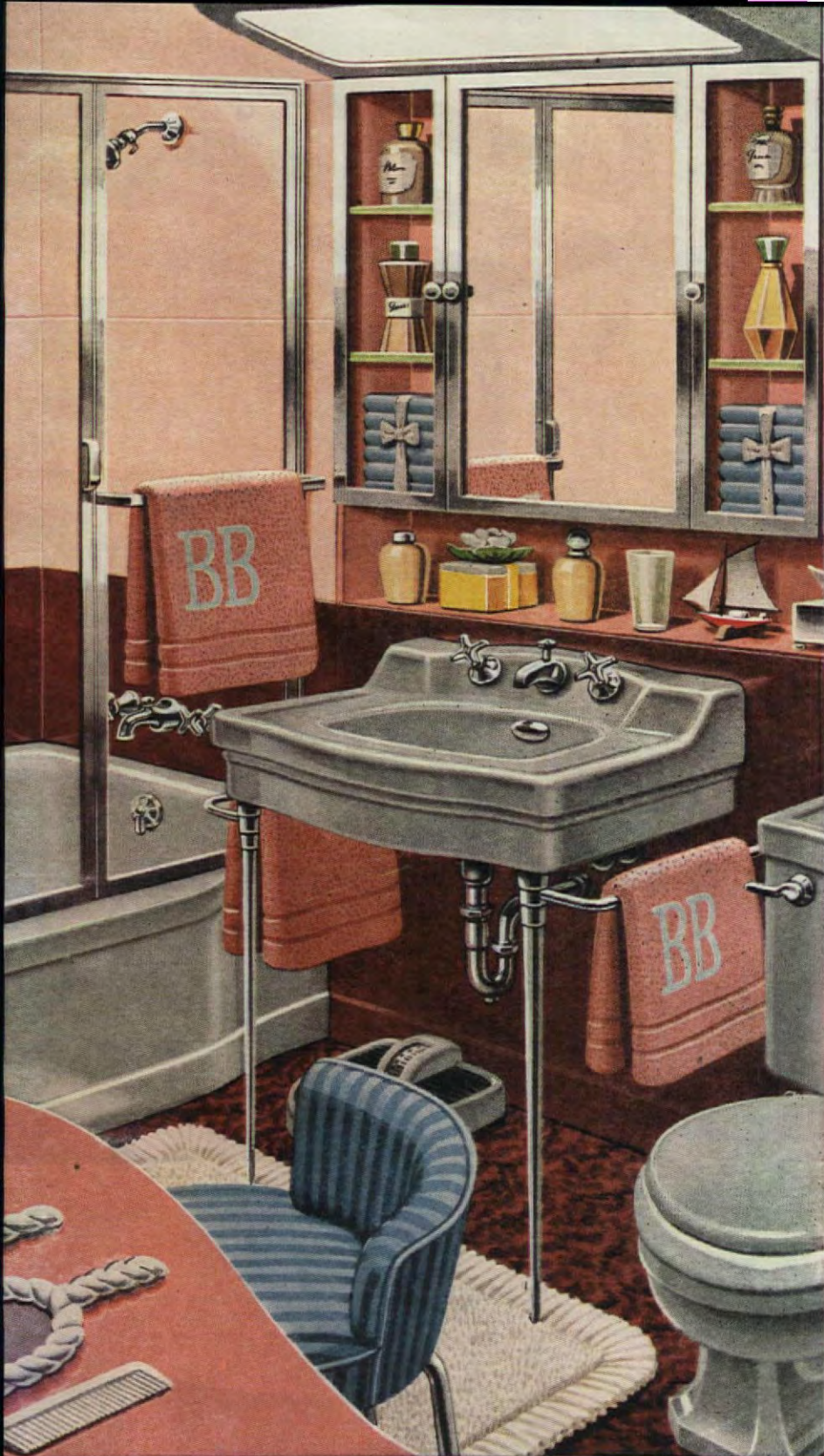
Transforming a clothes closet into a kitchen couldn't be anything but a mark. It was doubly so in this instance because the kitchen door is used more often for entrance and exit than the living-room door, so the less the room looked like a kitchen the better.



The outdoor-living area opens directly off the living room. Warm red bricks are used for the chimney to make a very convenient barbecue fireplace. Friends often drop by during the evening and spend many pleasant hours here talking

A bed is recessed into the wall of the bedroom which is paneled in vertical pine boards. Mrs. Stengel painted decorations around the stool, chest and mirror herself





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Horizontal striped curtains, shelf table, give living room a modern look

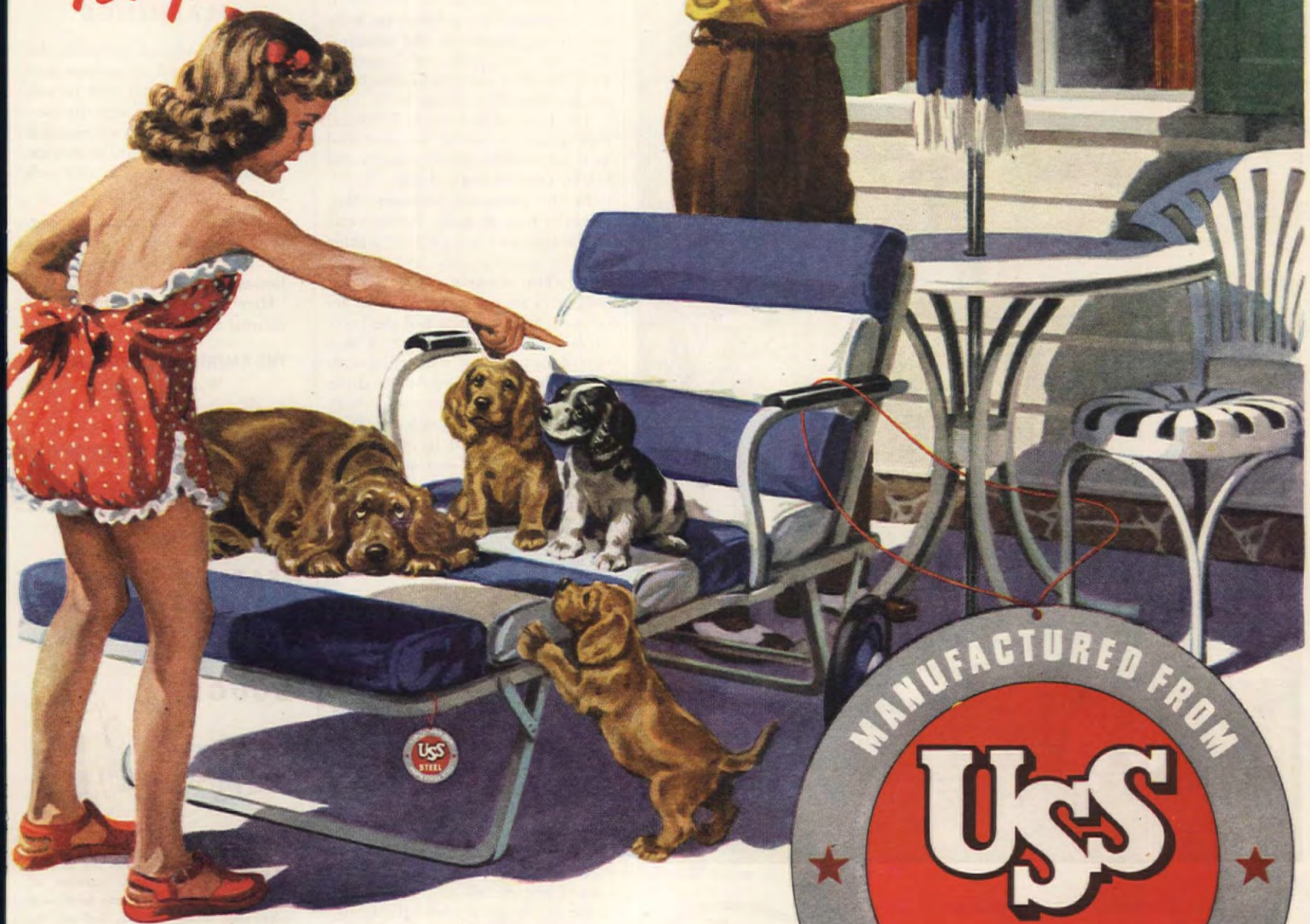


Mrs. Stengel designed and directed the laying of every brick in her fireplace



Printed fabric is pasted onto the walls of the Stengel bathroom

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Dress by Clare Potter

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Bamboo screens were hung on the walls and a Chinese-mat lamp shade harmonizes with them. Hanging plant containers break the usual straight cupboard appearance above the drain-board and open circular end shelves accomplish the same trick below. A high, open china and glass cupboard so fascinates you the minute you step into the room that you don't realize you're in a kitchen at all. In fact, of the many kitchens I've seen, this one seems least like one.

Bathrooms, as a rule, don't lend themselves to much change unless the size is altered, so this one had to content itself with new color on the walls and fresh curtains at the windows. The two side walls are "papered" with the same material of which the window draperies are made.

The front of the tub and the end wall of the bathroom are decorated with sea designs, billowy waves and bright, colorful tropical fish.

In the pint-sized bedroom, Mrs. Stengel's love of early Pennsylvania Dutch is everywhere evident, making it a delightfully cozy and efficient room. Two drawers under the bed hold extra linen and quilts. Walls are of painted knotty pine and the lower edges of rafters are decorated in a neat design by her own paintbrush. The bed curtain is burgundy, and the ruffle between bedroom and nursery is of Japanese obi sash material.

There is one *must* in every small house in California—an outdoor living room with barbecue and accommodations for outdoor eating. In addition to these, the outdoor portion of the Stengel home has a play pen and sandbox so that the youngsters can both play and eat outdoors.

Even the most cursory glance at the outdoor fireplace and barbecue reveals the thoughtful planning and studious care with which each brick has been placed. Shelves are recessed for plants, candles, plates, and even for salt and pepper shakers. A counter is provided for steaks and food about to be prepared. Notches have been made for pergola beams. A friendly lantern lights the patio on warm summer evenings when guests can sit outside for conversation after dinner.

Rustic furniture, gay table linens, colored pottery, all add to the sunlit charm of the patio where the family does so much of their living.

Mrs. Stengel put much of herself into this intriguing home. When I asked her if the tremendous amount of work and energy she'd expended had been worthwhile, she said, patting three-year-old Karen's curls and looking to see if Baby Heidi was trying to swallow her new ball, "If I'd done anything else with my time, I'd have felt I was wasting it."

While some young couples were debating whether to get married or wait until after the war, Mr. and Mrs. Stengel had made up their minds and started their home. Now they have rich memories of four years of accomplishment and fun they will never regret, even though their home did start from an antiquated garage.



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**Hugh Stubbins, Jr. answers
Ex-Lieutenant Massee**

"I HAVE only seen excerpts from the article by Lieutenant Massee. As an architect, I heartily agree with most of the statements made; I disagree with some. The greater percentage of architects in this country are well labelled by Mr. Massee and so are the builders. They do lack imagination and they do generally copy details of the past. In fact, I do not believe that they can, in traditional sense, be called architects. They are merely archaeologists and promoters of building.

"If it is admitted that the great proportion of architects are improvising archaeologists, then it is easy to see why they, as a profession, have not attempted to educate the people about the 'fine buildings they could have'. On the other hand, some architects have spent the better part of their time in preaching the gospel of true architecture and in trying to demonstrate the real and only reason for the existence of an architect—to improve the environment in which we live.

"I disagree with the statement that 'there are only a few good architects around New York'. To my knowledge there are a considerable number of really good architects in this country and they are scattered from East to West, and I know that they can and will build a good and 'decent house'. I also disagree that the architectural journals such as *Progressive Architecture*, *Architectural Forum* and *Architectural Record* have published nothing but expensive houses. On the contrary, if a close inspection is made, one will find that the majority of houses published in these magazines over the past six years are predominately under the \$30,000 class. Furthermore, I have never read in an architectural journal a discussion of beautiful woodwork or proportions, though comments on proportions would be quite appropriate.

"There are many things wrong with the building industry today. They have been discussed at length many times and still certain groups prevent changes in a better direction.

"Most of our cities and towns have antique building codes which do not in any way take into account modern development in building techniques. There should be a national building code which could be adapted to geographical sections of the country—which is not a static thing—but one which would give impetus to modernization of the whole building industry.

"The labor unions in the building trades erroneously think that by maintaining hand labor methods in all processes, they assure themselves of better and more pay. These practices are totally and wholly against any development of new, quicker and less expensive building and construction techniques and they are, therefore, against more and better

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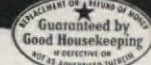
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"The Real Estate fraternity in this country has done more harm, has caused more slums, has raised the cost of land more, and has forced more people to live in small restricted lots and in poorly built and exceedingly dull houses than any other group. It is the architect's business to contribute ideas—sound and economical as well as imaginative—they are to blame for not having done so.

"I personally believe that until planning and housing are approached with some amount of idealism instead of how little we can do and how much profit can be made, there will not be much progress. People build houses, buildings and cities for economic reasons, but what has been lacking, and what must be considered is that we always build for *people*. People are human beings, not statistics.

"I will build a house and I will build it now, or as soon as Mr. Wyatt will let me, regardless of whether there are the latest materials and the most advanced techniques available. It will not be everything that I could imagine or could wish for, but it will be a good house. Architecture is developed from need and materials at hand."

**Herbert Mirschel answers
Ex-Lieutenant Massee**

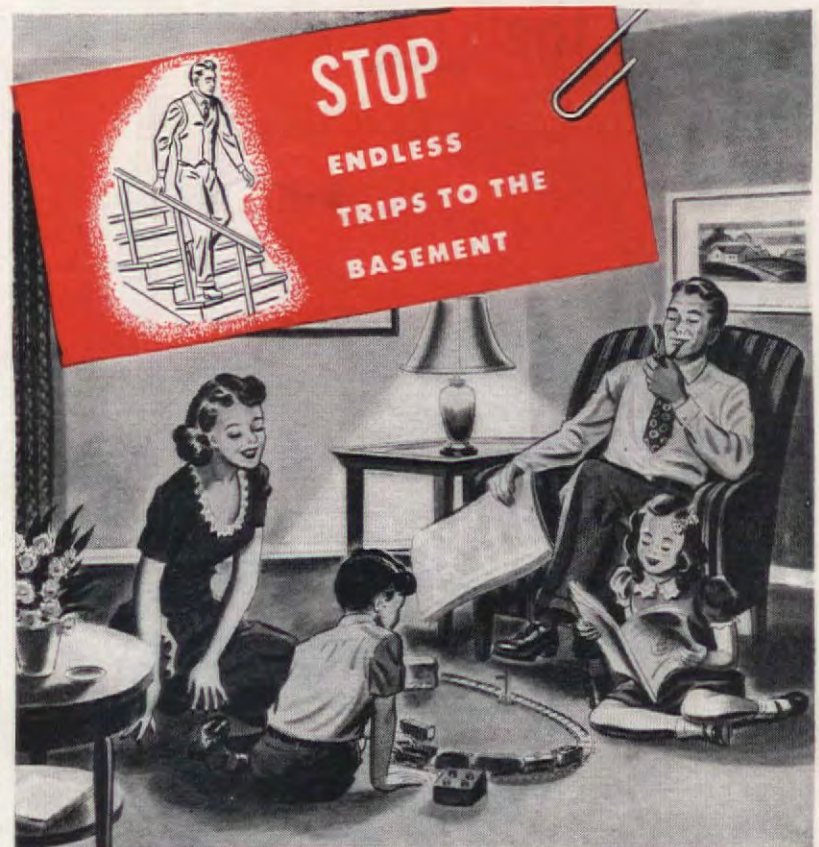
THE excerpt from the proposed article 'We Wouldn't Build Now for Love, Money or Congress!' follows the general pattern of the irresponsible misinformation which is currently given out by radio commentators, columnists, feature writers and their ilk.

"This wordy gentry, posing as experts on every question of popular interest, pretends to know all the answers on subjects ranging from the care of babies to winning wars and preserving peace.

"Just now, their attention is focused on the building industry. They are confusing the public mind with statements that have no foundation in fact or are true only in the exception. Building codes and zoning laws have become a favorite target for this sniping.

"The basic reason for building codes and zoning laws is to provide sound and safe construction surroundings which maintain the intended character of various neighborhoods or zones with due regard to public health, safety, and fire precaution.

"Building codes and zoning laws cannot control or limit the type or style of architecture. Within the prescribed requirement of safety, public health, and fire prevention, any prospective homeowner may build the kind of house his or her fancy desires, whether it be one of the traditional styles. Mid-Victorian, modernistic, futuristic, stark functional or any bastard combination of some or all of these. And on the question of



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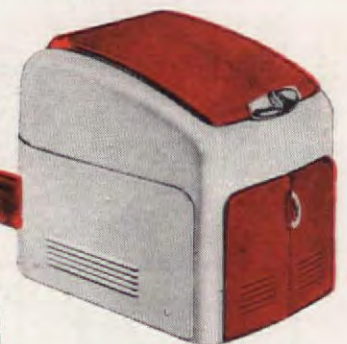
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architectural design (or lack of it) there isn't a building code or zoning law that can prevent it, although we wish there were some legal way to stop the monstrosities that people conceive and build. After all, good design, whether along traditional or modern and functional lines, is just good taste.

"Building codes are necessarily based on the proven past performances of the various materials and methods of construction. Naturally, as new materials or new methods for using proven and accepted materials develop, there is a certain amount of lag before code acceptance is accomplished. This is the price of pioneering. But every building code has provisions for establishing the acceptance of new materials and new methods of construction. Experience has proven that building departments are very 'Missouri minded' in regard to new materials and methods. If they can be shown that a new material or new method is safe and sound, approval is just a matter of form.

"One thing is certain. The housing shortage will not be solved by the scrapping of traditional design and proven materials. Modernism, functionalism or revolutionary design and construction will not go very far in providing more homes in less time. Any person who allows a building code to frustrate his desire for a home can't want one very badly.

"A building code is no more restrictive in the field of building than are the ten commandments in the field of morals, yet plenty of people are irked by both. Municipal officials are not disdainful, unapproachable bureaucrats. They want the housing shortage solved in the shortest possible time. Home builders can expect the fullest co-operation from municipal officials to expedite the construction of homes."

Edward G. Gavin answers Ex-Lieutenant Massee

"I HAVE read excerpts from 'We Would Not Build for Love, Money or Congress' in which Mr. Massee attempts to reason his way out of the dilemma which confronts many a couple who want a home, particularly a new home. His comments have a familiar ring because, although interesting, they represent what is obviously a stranger's artless view of an industry which has through the years given this country—his country—the finest homes to be found anywhere in the world—and at lower cost.

"True, the industry is being viciously attacked by certain groups of public officials—whose motives are suspect, and by certain organizations who hope to see revolution where evolution has worked constantly to produce more for less.

"Mr. Massee's charges are not unique to those of us associated with the home building industry, and like

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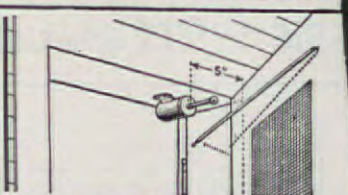
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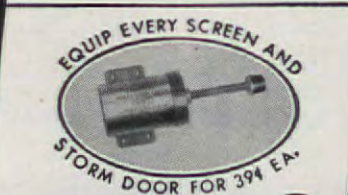
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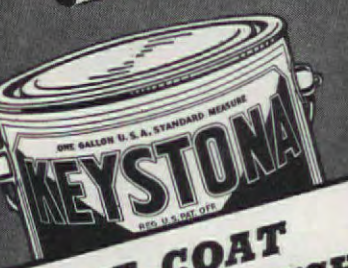
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most other criticism from those not completely acquainted with full facts, are based on incomplete and erroneous data. He states, for example, that land prices and building codes are restrictive. The statement as it regards land prices and building codes does not square with the fact, and he should inform himself on it. Land prices are subject to innumerable factors, the least of which is not taxation by political bodies. But in the end, parcels of land, like most other commodities, bring what the law of supply and demand establishes as a fair price. The statement on building codes is neither all right nor all wrong. A home can be an extremely hazardous place—a little palace of perils to the health, safety and welfare of its occupants if it is improperly designed or constructed. Because of this, building codes were devised to protect the morals and general welfare of persons in and around buildings, as well as to assure safety and health.

"Labor unions, in theory at least, and in a majority of cases, really select, train and supervise their members carefully. In certain localities there are restrictive practices. Mr. Massee might have mentioned local prohibitions of such elements as ready-mix concrete, dry-wall construction and others. It is true also that there are what appear to be arbitrary union rulings against time-saving techniques. Here again, however, there are both sides of the question, and evolutionary progress has tended to eliminate the restrictions. Perhaps the only way to determine whether many apparently outmoded codes, prohibitions of factory-made parts and arbitrary time-consuming union practices are indeed what they seem to be, is to subject them to the light of full public scrutiny.

"The building industry as well as Mr. Massee would welcome this and unquestionably profit by intelligent modifications.

"In his denouncement of architects, Mr. Massee displays an almost complete ignorance of home-building developments and the reasons for them. He states that there are only a few good functional architects in New York who know how to build a decent house, designed around the lives of the people who are going to live in it. Then he bemoans the fact that most of these good architects are smothered with other kinds of building work. Architects, like most other professional men, have found that specialization in a half dozen fields is beyond human capacity.

"If an architect is going to specialize in the design of small homes, it must be understood first that such specialization has required a good many years of study and preparation. The same applies to medicine, law or the other professions. Obviously, anyone who wants the services of a trained specialist qualified to produce the best possible results must expect

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to pay for it, whether it be legal aid, medical treatment or home design. It is axiomatic that very few prospective home builders in the lower-price ranges can afford to pay the fee that an architect is justly entitled to if he is going to spend the time studying the individual needs of a given family, and then designing an individualized home for the housing of that family.

"And, since the market for that kind of costly custom service is extremely limited in the small home field, very few architects can afford such specialization. This need not, however, be a handicap to any family who, for reasons of income or choice, want a small home. After all, the design and layout of a house has much less to do with its character as a home than the people who live in it. There have been thousands of houses, new and old, which have been given personalized character by young families who have purchased them. In spite of this limited market for specialized service in the small home field, however, there are a number of architects throughout the country whose practices are exclusively in the design of homes in the moderate price range.

"Mr. Massee rightly says many architects could not design a decent home if they tried, but he doesn't seem to appreciate that many of them have not been trained to design homes and are not interested in trying. Their talents lie in the design of other kinds of structures. When he says, however, that architects refuse to try anything new, for fear it might not work, the statement is inaccurate. The architect who designs a custom home has a great responsibility and one which he takes seriously. He has to realize first that most people who build a home will never build another one because they are providing shelter for themselves which they expect will last a lifetime. Thus, an architect is faced with the problem of being neither the first to embrace the new nor the last to use what has proved to be sound and economical. He cannot afford to risk his client's capital in something experimental, either in design or in materials and equipment. Very much the same thing applies to operative or merchant builders. Every time a new type of material or a new technique is developed, changes in the co-ordination of building trades on a job, and the possibility of unknown contingencies that have to be ironed out over a period of time, are likely to add costs which the owner of a small home cannot afford.

"The result is that the proving ground for new techniques and materials generally has to be the higher priced houses where new increments of cost, or time-and-money-consuming experiments in new techniques and co-ordination principles represent only a relatively minor percentage of the total cost of building. When all of these problems have been solved, the new materials and techniques can then be applied to the

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small homes in the form of economical added living comfort, without asking the small homeowner to bear costs that he can ill afford.

"Thus, there is a justifiable and necessary time lag in the application of new architectural and building principles to small homes, a lag that is in the interest of the utmost economy and best value to the owners of homes in lower price ranges. Another element that enters into what I consider to be necessary conservatism in architects is a fact which Mr. Massee recognizes. It is the need to design homes consistent with living habits and needs of the families that will occupy them. Living habits are not subject to revolutionary changes in this country, and therefore, home design of necessity is limited to a slow, evolutionary development to meet the demands of a vast majority of home builders. Mr. Massee says that while the Cape Cod cottage might best fill the needs of many older people and perhaps the majority of young ones, the reason is that both these groups don't know any different. That is an unfair statement, as ample publicity is given to all new developments in home design through such popular magazines as THE AMERICAN HOME.

The home buying and homeownership public, rather than the building industry, is the conservative element that limits rapid departure from accepted shelter design. If that were not true, such a highly competitive industry as the one that designs and builds homes would certainly have accelerated the pace of design change a long time ago.

Mr. Massee complains of the 'reactionary and ridiculous notion that a house must be tailor-made on the site.' Evidently he is not aware that the transition of manufacturing processes from the job site to the factory has been continuous for the past 150 years, and that today less than one-fourth of the operations necessary to build a house are performed at the site. A study of the subject demonstrates this.

"The fact is that so-called site building today is far removed from site building as it was 50 years ago and even 15 years ago. I have to take issue with Mr. Massee when he uses his criticism of on-site, tailor-made processes as one of the principal reasons why so many people can't afford homes. The truth is there are very few people who can't afford homes. It all depends on whether the desire and the pocketbook can be reconciled. There are very serviceable small homes available even now for \$3,800 to \$4,000. They are not, of course, what many people want. It should be remembered in this connection, however, that standard low-priced automobiles and standard low-priced clothing likewise are not what many people want. Thus, for instance, when a family wants to buy an automobile, it gauges its choice somewhere between the second hand

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or third-hand, low-priced automobile and the new high-priced vehicle. Much the same is true of clothing purchases in the sense that we buy quality and quantity contingent upon what we can afford. Not everyone can afford to buy a new, ideally conceived, custom-designed home. Many buy old homes. These homes have a distinct advantage over old automobiles and limited wardrobes. The old home, with the application of a little money and a lot of imagination and some pleasant work on the part of the owner, more often than not, can be transformed into a habitation that embraces the personality of its occupants, is equipped with all modern conveniences, and has living comforts equal to those of any new structure.

"I am sure that if Mr. Massee takes the time to look around, he will find a new functional design that possibly with a few minor alterations will suit all his needs, or that he will find a well-built used house that he can alter and modernize into a home that will provide him with all of the living comforts, conveniences and individuality that he wants."

**Herbert U. Nelson answers
Ex-Lieutenant Massee**

"It is not true that cities require thirty-foot setbacks. Very often city codes do not require basements, nor do they require separate garages. Building restrictions of this type are sometimes included in the old subdivisions and in some of the new ones also. They are restrictions that run with the land.

"The purpose of these restrictions is a good one which anybody who thinks a moment will approve. It is simply to create a pleasant and harmonious neighborhood. A family does not live within four walls, but lives in the entire neighborhood. When neighborhoods are full of irregularities such as ragged setback lines, houses of all sizes and descriptions, and the like, they do not hold their value. Such neighborhoods depreciate quickly. For most families, the purchase of a home is a lifetime investment, and so the matter of good neighborhood conditions is very important.

"In most new neighborhoods there are no restrictions requiring basements nor against attached garages.

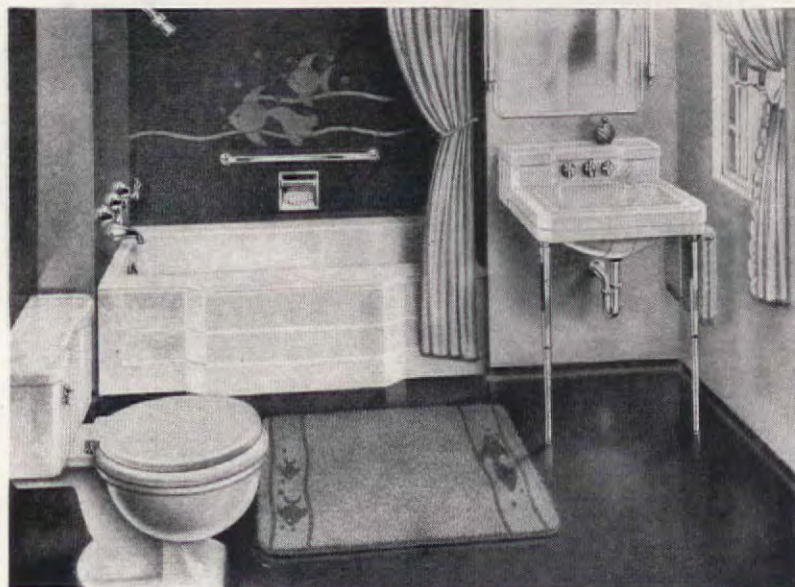
"It is true that the building codes should be revised. We have worked on this for years, but the evils that exist in the codes are old and hard to change. In many places, it is the trade unions which are the chief supporters of 'make work' provisions in the codes.

"I am not aware that real-estate men try to sell people bigger houses than they need. In fact, this is almost the only time I have heard such a suggestion. It is true that today it is so hard to get houses to sell that a buyer has a very narrow choice. This is something that can be cured only after we have had a good deal more building.

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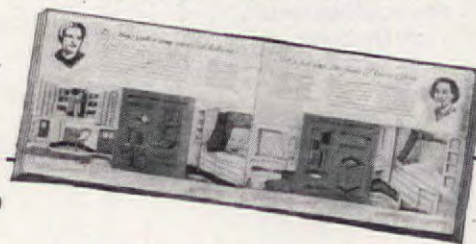
"Sure thing...and what woman wouldn't be proud of having two beautifully designed bathrooms...so smartly equipped with Eljer fixtures? What's more, my enthusiasm bubbles over when I realize how easy it is to keep the glass-like surfaces of Eljer fixtures clean and new looking.

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"Many years ago lots were small because of difficulties with transportation and the extension of public utilities such as city water and sewer. This has changed and now most new developments are laid out in at least 50-foot lots and many of them in 60 or 65-foot lots. There is one difficulty in making lots very wide and still keeping costs low, and that is that it costs now between \$15.00 and \$20.00 per running front foot to install paving, sidewalk, city water, and sewer. These costs have to be included in the lot. You can readily see, therefore, that a wide frontage runs up into a considerable sum in relation to the house itself.

"We have learned also through experience that one and two-acre lots are not very practical for most people. An acre of ground is more than is generally realized when you come to take care of it. If you travel about the country a bit, you will see many thousands of such large lots now growing up to weeds and very unsightly. For present living conditions, about the best kind of urban lot to build a small home on is one that is about 60 feet wide and perhaps 120 feet deep. This leaves plenty of space for a good garden, space for the children for play, and for a setting for the home itself.

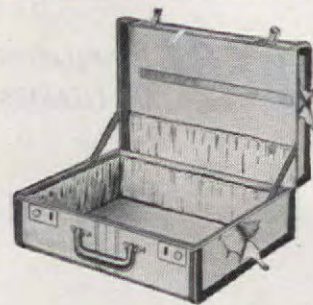
"The suggestion about making good use of undesirable topographical features is always followed in modern planning and is perfectly sound. As a matter of fact, rough land or land not fit to build upon usually makes the best kind of a small park.

"The whole matter of neighborhood planning has become a complex and highly professional job. It isn't as hit-and-miss as many people seem to think when they look at some of the mistakes of the past. One government agency, the FHA, has been especially helpful in setting up sound requirements for land use and for neighborhood harmony that make for good value."

Arthur W. Murphy answers Ex-Lieutenant Massee

"MR. BRENNAN of our Council has turned over to me the article which you are writing for THE AMERICAN HOME, for my opinion. I would first like to say that your main problem would be to find any material, as we have been protesting as far back as two and a half years ago to the powers in Washington, and recommended at that time certain corrections, which if they had heeded the advice of the building employer's group and the Building Trades Council, the condition which we find ourselves in today would not have occurred.

"As you no doubt are very well aware, we have signed a four and a half year agreement with the employer's group of New York. This group is comprised of one thousand of the foremost contracting firms in the country. The wage agreement



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"Getting down to the use of modern materials in modern ways, the craftsmen and mechanics which are members of the unions—A. F. of L.—have always followed the methods devised by our foremost engineers and architects, and I believe that if you just look up into the sky around New York City, the product of their workmanship will be seen.

"We have had quite a bit of discussion with groups before, pro and con, concerning prefabricated materials. To the A. F. of L. this is not a new story, as after the last war, Sears Roebuck, and a number of firms of that type turned out prefabricated houses, and any architect or engineer can give you the answer as to the results. I do not know whether you are an engineer or architect, but if you will take a qualified member of either of these professions and make a survey of these prefabricated houses that are being sold to the veterans, and compare the price over all with the price that the veteran can build his own home for, I am afraid you would be rather amazed at the results you would get. Our contention and the changing methods which we have used in our trades to meet the advancement in science and progress in the building field, even to the point where our master trades offer prizes for the devising of new methods in order to increase the production on any job, I do not see how you can say that we are against progress when you state that a spray job is just as good as a brush job, and that in the plumbing and heating end of a job, that the same method is used that was used thirty years ago.

"I am rather in a quandry as to whether you are familiar with radiation through air-conditioning and other methods which our unions have been installing—naturally under the guidance of the architect or engineer.

"Regarding the revision in factory construction as to on-the-job construction in the hourly wage scale, our stand has been quite similar to the cotton gin stand, and that is where individuals will go to a low hourly wage scale section of the country, and have products produced there in shops that will not recognize a decent living wage, against a man who will pay the union scale of wages in a shop in producing the same item. I believe that even you would bend over backward in common decency to give the latter the benefit of the doubt.

"I do not mean to take you to task with this letter, but I know that you would much rather be equipped with the proper information, and I am available at any time to help you give the true story to THE AMERICAN HOME readers, of which I happen to be one."

The preceding answers to Mr. Massee's criticisms of the building industry on page 15 are the opinions of the individuals or their organizations and in no way represent the opinions of The American Home.

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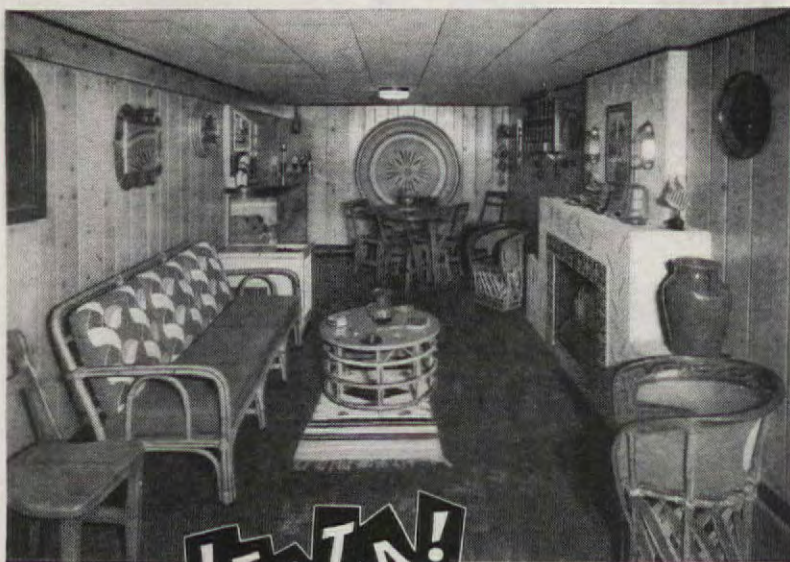
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• "Western Pine Camera Views," a handsome picture book that is chock-full of ideas, will illustrate our words. Western Pine Association, Dept. 211-F, Yeon Building, Portland 4, Oregon.

THESE ARE THE WESTERN PINES

- * IDAHO WHITE PINE
- * PONDEROSA PINE
- * SUGAR PINE

STENCILED CHAIRS

THE FAINTEST TRACE
OF A DESIGN ON AN EARLY
HITCHCOCK CHAIR CAN OFTEN
GIVE ENOUGH DATA
TO RESTORE DECORATION

Peg Hall

CONSIDER yourself fortunate indeed if you come across an early Hitchcock chair with decorations intact. For outside of museums, such a find is uncommon. Therefore, even the faintest trace of a design should be carefully saved, for the least scrap of painting or stenciling often can give you enough data to restore or redecorate such a chair with the type of decoration originally planned for it.

The Hitchcock chair is a certain type of a group of American Empire style, painted and then stenciled, dating about 1826 to 1845, acquiring its name from the originator, Lambert Hitchcock. His chairs were so popular that other furniture makers in various parts of the country soon copied them. However, the name Hitchcock persisted as indicating the same type of chair rather than that of the particular maker. The original chairs had rush seats but were later made with cane and solid seats. Front legs often



AMERICAN HOME

PATTERN No. A-790 15¢

Designed for the American Home by Peg Hall



A-692



A-692



A-692



AMERICAN HOME

PATTERN No. A-692 25¢

Photographs by George H. Davis Studio

THE AMERICAN HOME, JULY, 1946

bent outward at the bottom, frequently tapered and ended with a small ball foot. The Hitchcocks follow the style of some of the painted chairs in the later Sheraton style, especially in top rails, permitting good proportion for impressive stenciling designs. In these early days men made the furniture and women were hired to do the painstaking stencil work.

Backgrounds were usually streaked with a thin coat of black or brown over an undercoat of red. Earliest 19th century Sheraton painted chairs were done in gold leaf or skillfully painted by hand on oyster white, soft green, black or brown. Delightful little washstands with turned rungs on each side for towel racks and center drawers, dressing tables, chairs, Boston rockers were often painted in canary or Eastham (mustard) yellow.

The Boston rocker type seems to have developed from the Windsor rockers; large top rail, six spindles in the back, one spindle under each arm, and solid wooden seat. The rolling seat curves up at the back and down in the front, curved portions being separate pieces attached to the flat portion. Neither regarded as an object of much elegance or beauty, it has one important feature not often found in older chairs—its solid comfort.

Stencils were cut in separate units and carefully fitted into the space to be decorated. Beautiful shading gave depth and character to the work. Only gold and silver powder were then available, and apparently because the gold did not flow evenly,

all striping was done in yellow or white paint. When factories produced these chairs in quantity, stencils were still fitted in separate units and shaded, but in order to lower costs, an urn or cornucopia was often cut on a stencil with the leaves, stems, and flowers. The fruits and veinings were then fitted into place and separate leaves tucked in to fill the empty spaces. Yellow painted furniture circa 1834-1845 had melons, plums and grapes stenciled in dark bronze powder with painted olive green leaves and bandings, and grotesque black scrolls. Occasionally a few pieces of fruit were stenciled in silver. The chair seat was often painted mottled brown or feathered in brown. About 1840 colored bronze powders came on the market. The stencils were cut in one piece for further lowering costs of production and delicate shading of the earlier work was seldom used. Back splats and top rails were sometimes ornamented with fountains and birds in colored stencil powders. Roses and leaves, cut in one stencil, were done in red, green, gold, and silver.

Chairs were put on carts and were peddled from door to door. Many a farmer's wife, deep in the country, bought bright new chairs for her dining room for a dollar or a dollar and a half. They undoubtedly treasured them, dusting and carefully using them only on state occasions until the vogue in furniture changed, and they were replaced with the elaborately carved walnut Victorian chairs. Then they were relegated to the attic, the bedroom, and everyday kitchen use, painted green for the front porch or left in the yard or the barn until the weather had stripped away all semblance of paint. When covered wagons opened up the West, many of these chairs went along for the new homes, so they may still be found in almost any part of the United States.



AMERICAN HOME
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Designed for the American Home by Peg Hall

THE AMERICAN HOME, JULY, 1946

AMERICAN HOME ORDER FORM

- ☐ A-790 Thumb-back Chair 15¢
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☐ A-791 Yellow chair, dressing table and footstool 15¢

* A-790 and A-791 contain tracings and color separations to simplify stencil cutting.

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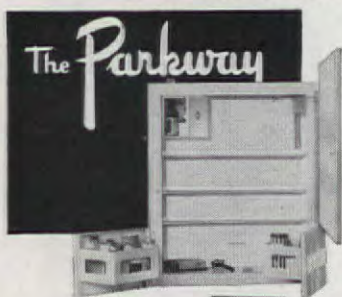
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THE AMAZING NEW WEED KILLER

Made by **THE SHERWIN-WILLIAMS Co. Cleveland, Ohio**

Midsummer Garden Notes and Notions



U. S. D. A. photo by Mead

THIS is the season when gardeners relish, as well as deserve, a chance to ease up now and then, and really enjoy the fruits of their earlier labors. Also, in performing the unavoidable chores, they seek those methods that combine efficiency with a minimum of physical effort.

Take lawn mowing, for example. It is as persistently repetitious as dish washing; but systematize it, and you can take it, too, in your stride. First, keep your mower sharp, in good repair and proper adjustment; if you don't know how to, have it serviced regularly. Oil it every time it is used or, better, every half hour when it is in use. Says Palmer Harmon, of Pennsylvania: "Your mower is a powerful but delicate tool. The drive is transmitted from wheels to cutting blades by cogs and pawls—small parts that wear out rapidly and perhaps break under rough treatment. So don't jump right into high speed, no matter how fine you feel. Start slowly, speed up gradually, then go as fast as you like. Remember, though, that it cuts just as well when moving slowly and evenly."

"Before you start mowing, study the area, visualize the largest unobstructed rectangle it contains, then cut back and forth the long way, to minimize stops, turns, and short cuts. When the main block is finished, clean up the small irregular areas around the edges one by one."

To keep plants growing during hot weather, we cultivate or mulch (see Elias Beach's article in June), feed them, and water them as required. With row crops, irrigation in the furrows, as illustrated above, is effective and less wasteful of water than sprinkling. Do it in late afternoon or evening to conserve moisture and pre-

vent the ground from baking as it dries. By letting the water run from the hose on to a piece of board or heavy canvas, you can keep it from cutting gullies in the soil. Or use lengths of porous fabric hose.

Sometimes you can get someone to do the necessary cultivating for you. In this connection, Deda Rae Gamble writes: "When spring found you far from the sylph you used to be, and you were reminded that gardening improves the figure, your resolution mounted. But comes hot, dry July, with the garden seeming to need dynamite rather than a hoe and weeds zooming up with tropical fervor, and you yearn for the porch rocker, vaguely-resentful of the calendar makers who put thirty-one days in each of the hottest months of the year. Your March-born resolutions melt faster than the ice in the sweating pitcher at your elbow. Then, belatedly, the boy who promised to do the weeding yesterday arrives. His dignified pace and gentle agricultural motions convince you that vicarious gardening flattens you nowhere but in the pocketbook. And you decide that next year's garden will be of such size that it can be kept free of weeds by not more than a leisurely ten minute workout each morning."

"And that pair of rayons, whose life expectancy when de-dandelioning the lawn is a whole hour, lasts all of ten minutes when you start thinning carrot rows. So, for gardening, wear those hardy, hated perennials you have blossomed out in each spring for what seems like aeons; by first frost, they'll not be fit for even a self-respecting scarecrow to wear. . . . Like a tree ring, they form another row in the braided rug, indicating 'My Peace Garden, circa 1946'."



CYANO GAS
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INSTANTLY

If you have a lawn or garden, keep a can of Cyanogas on hand. This gas-producing powder will solve your ant problem. The spouted can is specially designed for treating ant nests. A pinch will kill all ants in nest—Instantly! **SPECTACULARLY EFFECTIVE!** Easy to apply. A little goes a long way. Drug, hardware, seed stores carry Cyanogas or can get it for you.

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KILLS
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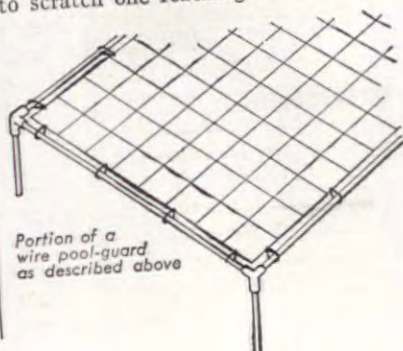
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Make that Pool SAFE



Carl H. Blank

For many homeowners, the charm of even a small garden pool is overshadowed by the danger of children falling in with fatal results. This hazard can easily be eliminated by means of a screen of heavy 6 x 6" galvanized wire mesh fastened to a steel pipe frame and supported by pipe legs an inch or two beneath the water. It can cover the whole area of a small pool, at a cost of around 25 cents per square foot, or merely extend out for three or four feet from the margin of a larger one. It will support anyone who might fall in, without being conspicuous or interfering with gold fish or waterlilies or other aquatics. A local hardware or plumbing supply store will make the frame of half-inch galvanized pipe and the necessary fittings on the basis of a simple sketch with dimensions. A rectangular pool will require only lengths of pipe and some right-angle tees; for a circular or irregularly shaped pool, some lengths of pipe will have to be bent to fit the contours. Have the wire mesh cut so that, when stretched, it will be an inch or so smaller all around than the frame, to which it is fastened with No. 12 gauge galvanized wire with the ends carefully coiled and fastened so no sharp points remain to scratch one reaching through.



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This New Oven Unit Revolutionizes Outdoor Cooking!

Enjoy the carefree pleasure of holidays in the open . . . the thrilling tang and flavor of outdoor cooking . . . right in your own garden or back yard. This wonderful Outdoor Oven Fireplace opens a sparkling new chapter in home entertainment.

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Kills lawn weeds without harming lawn. Simply spray weeds with any spray equipment... or sprinkle with watering can. Weeding takes minutes instead of hours.

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Water... Birds...and Joy in the Garden

Karen Foss

THERE is an art to giving even so small and common a thing as water. New homeowners, unfamiliar with suburban ways, take great delight in their fine lawns, bright flowers, and beautiful shrubbery. And, to show their "love" for the birds, they often—all too often—place a birdbath smack in the middle of their expanse of lawn! They mean well, but that's why you hear new homeowners deploring the "lack of gratitude" shown by the birds in refusing to come near that nice, new birdbath. Actually, the whole trouble is—lack of shade. A bath kept supplied with water will soon become the gathering place for all the feathered folk in the vicinity if it is placed in a shaded, somewhat protected place. But shade is not the only thing needed. Wings weighted with water make it difficult for a bird to rise quickly on the sudden approach of danger—such as their greatest enemy, a cat. Unable to make a quick take-off, it is much more likely to become cat food. That calls for a location close to the reassuring protection of a tree or tall shrub into which the bird can mount to safety while its wings dry off.

However, if you are providing a bath close to the ground—either a portable one or a built-in pool—remember not to locate it too close to underbrush or low-growing shrubs in the shelter of which cats can lie in wait for the newly bathed birds.

As to the details of the bath itself, it stands to reason that a glaring white object appearing suddenly somewhere in the garden is going to be an object of suspicion and doubt for some time. So it is advisable to "weather" a new birdbath to a soft, inconspicuous tone by leaving it outdoors prior to the bathing season;

Exciting New LAWN SPRINKLER

*Actually
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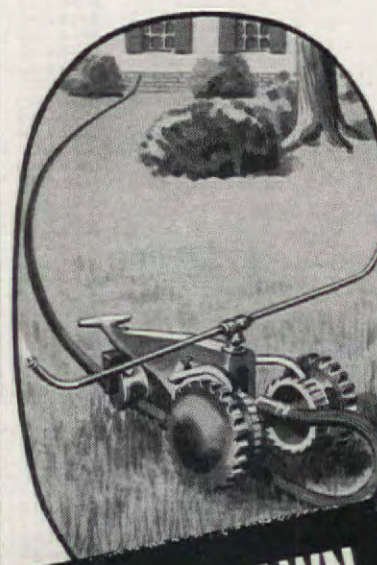
Gives every home an automatic sprinkling system. Single setting waters a lawn up to 100 ft. long... adjustable from 15 to 50 ft. width.

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Operates entirely by water power at ordinary house pressure. No special piping necessary—just your regular garden hose and TRAV-EL-AWN.

Relax this summer—and keep your lawn greener and healthier with TRAV-EL-AWN. Ask for TRAV-EL-AWN at better appliance, hardware, or department stores. If your dealer can't supply you, use coupon below.

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*Mail this coupon today...
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Please send me information and price on TRAV-EL-AWN.

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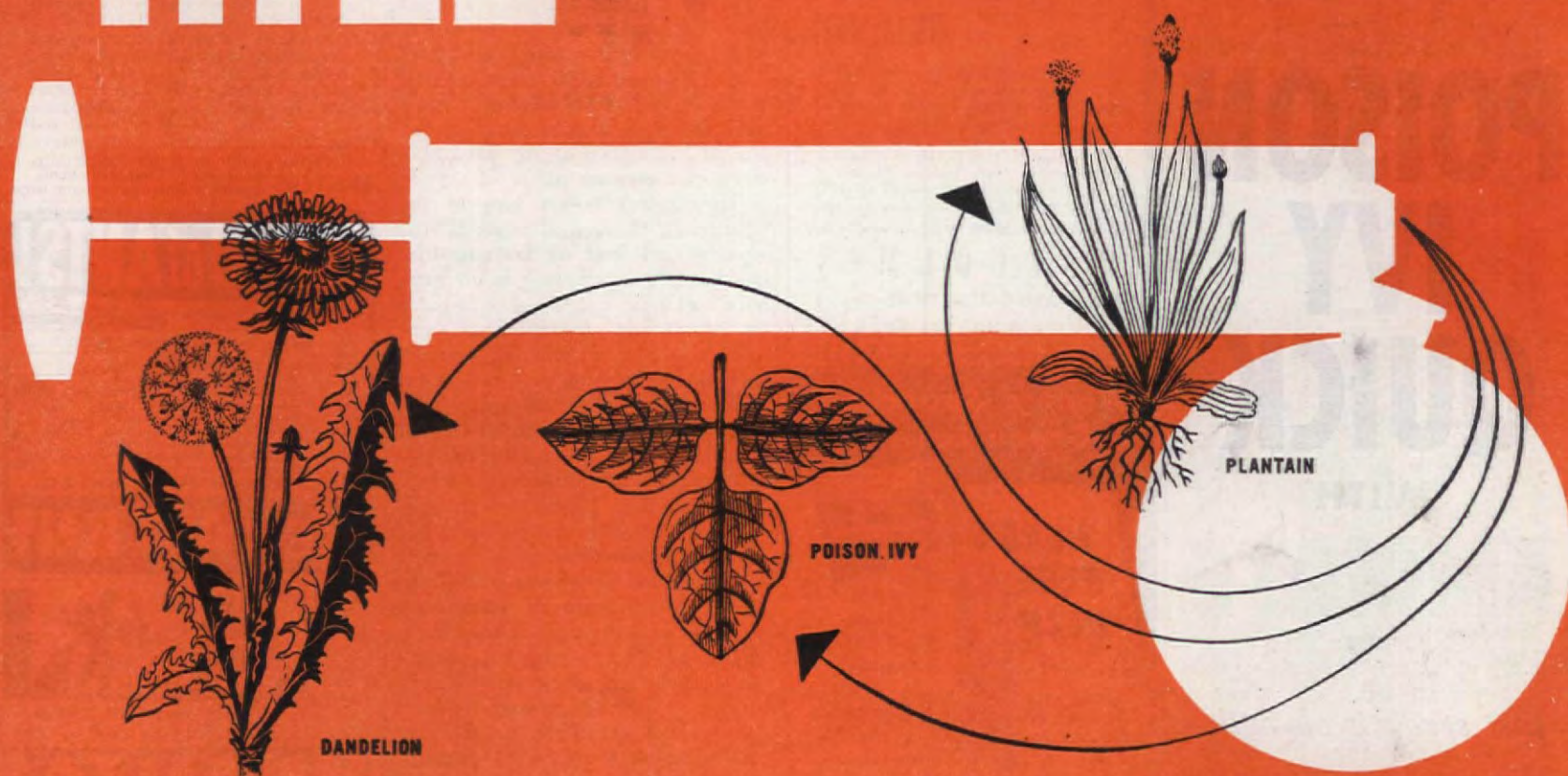
or, better, choose one of such material, texture, and color that it blends into the garden surroundings. It doesn't have to be anything fancy, but it should be provided with one or more "landing rocks" that the bathers can perch on where the water is too deep for them to stand on the bottom. Even in the shallow parts, it is desirable to have pebbles or coarse gravel on the bottom if it is smooth and slippery. If you are making your own birdbath, see that the edges provide gently sloping "beaches," not abrupt banks with sudden drops into deep (for the birds) water. They like to wade in—like most children and some grownups,—and don't go in for fancy diving.

Incidentally, bathing is only one of the reasons for providing birds with a constant supply of fresh water. The hot days of summer are hard on us humans; but for the feathered friends that cheer our gardens, if they have no access to fresh water, the heat means more than that. It becomes a matter of life and death. Have you ever felt the water in an exposed birdbath at high noon along about July or August? Well, frankly, would YOU care to drink it? . . . They are just as dependent for frequent drinks of cool water as we are, perhaps more so, as you will probably agree if you have ever seen a robin or a thrasher sit with open beak, panting in the torrid heat of a summer day, or have observed the obvious and enviable delight with which, on such a day, a bird will thrust its bill deep into a pool of cool water and then, raising its head high, let the refreshing drink trickle down its throat. Nor should you forget that for those birds that stay around all winter, the need for man-supplied drinking places is just as great, if not greater, than in the summer. With no succulent, dew-laden vegetation to be had, with natural pools and puddles ceiled with ice, and with all the nice, juicy worms in frozen soil cold storage, they are wholly dependent on you. There have been on the market bird fountains electrically heated to prevent the water freezing; lacking one of those, you shouldn't find it too much of a task to refill the bath every now and then. You will be repaid for such thoughtfulness not only by the friendly presence and daily song of the birds, but also by their generous efforts in keeping your garden enemies under control. Birds, you know, eat (and feed to their young) each day insects and weed seeds totalling several times their own weight. (You might tell that to the next friend who exclaims, "Why, darling, you don't eat any more than a bird!") So, remember, when the day has been particularly hot, to freshen the water in the birdbath. The vesper sparrow's benediction will sound even sweeter as it floats on the evening air. And tomorrow—are you going to the beach for a swim? Well then, before you go, just ask yourself: Did I remember to fill that birdbath this morning?

KILL

lawn weeds with

WEEDONE*
(TRADE MARK)

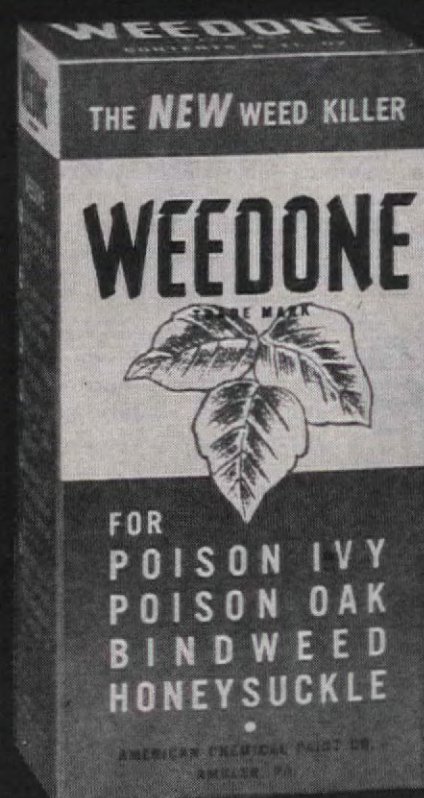


Now you can spray the weeds off your lawn. No more backbreaking digging. Don't be afraid to spray grass as Weedone picks out and kills the weeds *without killing grass*. Weeds dry up and eventually disappear, while, at the same time, grass slowly covers the places where they grew. • Weedone kills, *right out to the root tips*: Dandelion, broad-leaf and narrow-leaf plantain, chickweed, hawkweed, pennywort, heal-all, ragweed, pigweed, poison ivy, Queen Anne's lace—and many others. • Weedone is less poisonous for humans and animals than common salt; it does not corrode metal spray equipment; it does not hurt the soil or stain the skin; it can be applied with regular spray equipment, a spray gun, or even a sprinkling can. Buy Weedone where you buy your seeds. • 6-oz. bottle (covers 1,000 sq. feet) . . . \$1.00 • 1-qt. can (covers 5,000 sq. feet) . . . \$3.00 • 1-gal. can (covers one-half acre) . . . \$10.00 • American Chemical Paint Co., Ambler, Pa.

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*Just spray it on—kills
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Du Pont's fast-acting weed killer is easy to use—just mix it in water and apply with any sprayer. One application of AMMATE usually gets rid of tough weeds permanently! Do not use on lawns.

AMMATE kills poison ivy, poison oak, sumac—also wild blackberry, chokecherry, persimmon and sassafras sprouts, and many other weeds. Ideal for cleaning up driveways or clearing out brush.

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Nothing else like it! This sensational, new rotary trimmer cuts in all directions at same time. 5 times as fast as usual scissors-type. Not for pruning—but the most effective hedge trimmer yet developed. Has 12 sets of tempered steel cutting teeth instead of only 2 blades. Very sturdy, yet weighs only 13 1/4 lbs. Immediate delivery. Order now! Send Check or Money Order—None C.O.D.

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TRUMPET Daffodils**
4 BULBS 25¢

Large flowers on long stems—yellow, white and bi-color. A special mixture, all guaranteed to bloom. 4 Bulbs 25¢. 17 Bulbs \$1. 100 Bulbs \$5. Postpaid. Fall Bulb Book Free—Tulips, Daffodils, etc.

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When Your Man Has Growing Pains

Miriam Carlock

We started out with a three-in-one apartment and a sweet-potato vine and wound up eight years later with a six room home of our own and more bulbs, shrubs, flowers, vines, and trees than you can squirt a spray gun at . . . all because my Ideal Man developed growing pains.

They didn't bother him in the apartment. He seemed to get all the exercise and fresh air he needed by playing golf once a week in the summer, and going hunting once or twice in the fall and winter. I had reconciled myself to becoming a perennial cliff dweller until we were forced out of our apartment by the arrival of a baby. But once we were established in our house (it was rented, but still a house), I began to notice the symptoms. The first, I think, was a vague dissatisfaction with the quality of our grass as compared to that of our next door neighbor. Ours was a pale, sick

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Prevents Disease
4 Products in 1**

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Instant 2-Way Action! The DDT and Rotenone kill insects—the Du Pont "Zerlate" and "Fermate" Fungicides control many diseases. Send for free Garden Dust Folder, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. (Inc.), Semesan Div., Wilmington 98, Del.

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DOG ANCHOR

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fooling me. He was looking for the grass he had planted. When, in due course, some of it did come up, it was so sparse, so frail, and so ill-equipped to struggle for a foothold in the packed earth that he could not conceal his disappointment.

"Why don't you ask our neighbor, Mr. K—?" I suggested. "By next summer, Jane will be out of her pen and I'd like a nice, grassy back yard for her to play in."

That night he interviewed Mr. K—, and the next day, Saturday, he got home at noon. "Going to do a little work in the yard," he explained, as he staggered in under a hundred-pound bag of fertilizer which he dragged out of the back seat of the car. "Bought some tools to work with, too. A man's gotta have the right equipment."

Out came a spade, a fork, two rakes, one steel and one bamboo, and a number of parcels of assorted sizes, which, I was told, contained grass seed of three different kinds. Then out from the luggage compartment of the car came an oversized, rubber-tired lawn mower for cutting the, as yet, unborn grass. If any piece of machinery ever deserved the term "de luxe" that mower did.

"I suppose you think I'm crazy or something," said my husband truculently, or was it a bit bashfully?

"No, darling, I think you're wonderful." And I meant it. Noticing a familiar look in his eye, I knew that he would have grass in our yard if it had to be grown on concrete blocks.

All that afternoon he was busy. He scraped and dug and leveled and beveled. He pulverized and fertilized, pausing briefly to read from a grass-grower's guide which he had propped up on the back fence. I had to call him twice before he came in to dinner, but once at the table he consumed nearly twice his usual amount of food. And that night my grass-lover went to bed not long after dinner.

He awakened me early the next morning by announcing that he thought he had some terrible disease. His arms ached and his shoulder muscles were sore. As he described his symptoms, a look of wonder spread over his face.

"It's been a long time since I was down at the gym for a workout, or played golf or anything," he said, between groans. "You don't suppose I actually got that much exercise just putting in a little grass seed, do you?"

Remembering how he had looked the day before, spading, raking, crawling around on his hands and knees, and later spreading fertilizer with all the abandon of a discus thrower, I said that I thought it was barely possible.

That night one of those gentle spring rains fell and a few days later, Bob's grass was up. Not pale, sickly grass either, but thick, green, glossy and well rooted. I thought that would satisfy him, but he still wore a thwarted and melancholy expression that puzzled me. Then, one morning after breakfast when he walked out in the yard to look at the grass—which was all there was to look at

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since the removal of the rock pile—he said, "What are those yellow things over there in the K's garden?"

"Jonquils."

"And that bluey-purple stuff?"

"Sweet william, the wild kind."

"They look real pretty together, don't they?"

I swallowed my astonishment and merely said, "Yes."

Several days later Bob announced that he had decided that with all the dirt we had in our yard, it was a shame not to grow a little something besides grass, and that he'd bought a few seeds, just a mere fifteen or twenty packets, for a start. The first batch he planted so firmly and with such zeal that they didn't come up at all. And in the meantime our neighbor's garden grew apace and Bob watched it jealously. When Mr. K's tulips bloomed, Bob said he'd kind of like to have a few tulips. Then the peonies came on and Bob wondered if it was any trick to grow peonies. And those white lilies with a wonderful smell; and those tall spikes with purple, dusty blue and pink flowers on 'em . . . delphiniums? Is that what they are? O.K. Write down delphiniums.

Then the roses started to bloom. I'll always think it was the roses that did it. The Paul's Scarlet Climber on the white garage, the hybrid teas, the big white roses that looked like gardenias, the yellow roses on the picket fence. Anyway . . .

"If only we had more room," Bob said, one day. "Maybe, with the baby growing up and all, we ought to kind of start looking around for a house to buy . . . you know, one with a little more ground. . . ."

Yes, I knew, and sure enough we moved that fall, just in time to get the peony roots in, also the tulip, narcissus, and lily bulbs, some rose bushes, and a dozen or so other shrubs and small trees that Bob bought in a fervor of planting. I wish I could tell you that all went well with the garden, but I can't. If there was a plague, a blight, an insect or a disease that did not visit our growing things, I do not know what it is. But we licked them, all of them, in time. As Bob advanced, the pests retreated. Nothing could have withstood him.

Then the news went around that the Ancient and Honorable Society of Moles would hold its annual convention in our back yard. They opened

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their solemn conclave one night in the bed of annuals and by the next morning our seedlings were dry and withered, each perched on its private little Mount Olympus. Although Bob insisted that it ought to be a cinch to catch a mole, the moles apparently had other ideas. For no matter where my mighty hunter set traps the moles managed to elude him. Bob took to gazing wistfully at the stuffed moose head he had mounted over his desk in the study and remarking that it was darned funny that a man could stalk a stag and shoot him but he couldn't catch a little mole. I don't know how the moles looked all this time, but I do know that Bob wore a distinctly hunted look as the creatures continued to do their spring plowing. Then Bob made his first catch and I actually believe he seriously considered having the little creature stuffed and giving it the position of honor above the moose. (Incidentally, I am convinced that Bob must have caught the newly elected president of all the moles, for immediately the burrowing ceased and our back yard resumed its normal contours.)

After the mole episode came a rainy spell when everything washed out. Next came a dry spell when everything dried up. And finally came the rabbits. A lesser man would have given up, but, as Bob said, it takes a really "rugged" man to be a gardener. Although I didn't tell him so, I agreed with him! For it took a really "rugged" man to drag in those slabs that he used for the stepping stones. It took some brains, as well as the well-known brawn, to terrace the bank so our good black dirt wouldn't wash down into the neighbor's garden (the way it did the first year). It took a strong back and an iron will to grub out the crab grass brought on by a trial of ill-advised top-dressing of part of the lawn with coarse stable manure. And it took patience to wait for the winter to pass and the spring to come again so he could correct the mistakes of the year before. More than that, it took imagination and enthusiasm to experiment with new flowers, new colors and new groupings. And likewise, a sense of humor when Janie followed her daddy, digging up the new tulip bulbs as fast as he put them in!

I suppose I could go on at considerable length, but it all adds up to this: take a rugged sort of fellow to begin with; add some brains, some patience, some imagination and enthusiasm and a sense of humor; season the mixture with experience (eight years of it come this fall!), and give it a bit of garden to ripen in—and you'll get my idea of an "ideal" man.

The Emergency Food Collection on behalf of UNRRA needs your aid. Both foods canned in tin and money to buy food are sought. All of it will be distributed free to starving victims overseas. Take your contribution to your food collection depot, or if more convenient, send your check or money order to Emergency Food Collection, 100 Maiden Lane, New York 7, N. Y.



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in our series on
NO. 7
child health care

Morris Fishbein, M.D.

Editor Journal of the
American Medical Association



Ruth Alexander Nichols

The Baby in Summer

ONCE great numbers of babies, nursed successfully at the breast during their first summer, died during the second summer because of infection from contaminated food, water, or milk. Mothers believed that the second summer was somehow destined to be fatal to babies. Now we know that summer is no more dangerous than any other season of the year for a baby that is properly protected against infection, properly fed with food and drink that is clean, properly clothed to meet the heat, bathed often and given sunlight and rest.

FOOD. Children do not require quite as much food in summer as in colder weather. With very small babies the concentration of the feeding is lessened by adding more water. The total amount of the feeding of older babies may be reduced one fifth to one sixth. In hot weather babies need more liquids because of increased evaporation of water from the surface of the body.

The food of the child in summer should contain less fat because fats are particularly heat producing foods. If the baby is receiving eight ounces of whole milk at each feeding, the strength of the mixture may be changed by adding two ounces of boiled water to six ounces of whole milk. Of course, the mother who is being guided by her own doctor will follow his advice. The intelligent mother consults the doctor at frequent and regular intervals about the care and feeding of her baby. That is good sound preventative medicine.

The first signs that the baby may be having difficulty with food are such symptoms as diarrhea and vomiting. When this occurs, all food should be stopped immediately, the physician should be consulted, and plenty of plain boiled water given until the symptoms stop. Then milk diluted with half to two thirds of the amount with plain boiled water may be used. Remember also that milk must be kept in the refrigerator. In summer it is safer for the health of the baby to boil all milk even if it has been pasteurized. Boiling will more certainly

destroy any harmful germs that may be in the milk.

CLOTHING. A baby is much more sensitive to high temperature than is an older child or adult. Babies should never be overclothed, particularly in summer. In very hot weather the thinnest type of cotton undervest and diaper are sufficient. If the child is wearing too much clothing his skin will be constantly moist, soft, easily macerated, and therefore subject to irritation and infection. During cool mornings and evenings the baby should be protected against chilling. Sudden chilling is associated with congestion in the nose and throat and with colds. During cooler periods of the day additional clothing may be used and the baby may be protected with a light blanket. If the child is going to play outdoors, he may be put in a playpen with a floor. The child should not play on the bare ground but may be kept on a blanket, a rug, or a large towel.

BATHING. On hot days the baby should have his morning bath and usually one at night also. In fact, the baby may be refreshed by bathing several times during the day. If everything is in order for the purpose, this will take only a few extra minutes of the mother's or the nurse's time. The best time for the bath is just before the second morning feeding. Never bathe a baby until at least one hour after his feeding has been completed.

When undressing the baby, clothing should be drawn off over the feet rather than over the head. The reason for doing this has little to do with the baby's physical health but is concerned instead with his mental health. A poll taken among leading specialists in the care of babies failed to reveal a single instance of infection of the nose or eyes from pulling garments over the head. However, this may frighten the child, and there is always the risk of twisting his arms or head when the neck band is too tight. As the soiled clothes are removed, they should be deposited in the container that is kept in a handy place and used only for them.

How good are your breakfasts?

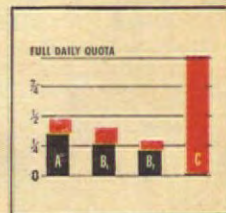
Do they follow this important health rule?

This chart shows the vitamins you get from a breakfast of cereal with milk, buttered toast, and an egg. Without orange juice, even this substantial breakfast falls way short in vitamin C. That's true of most foods, and this is the very reason why health authorities say we should get our full daily share of vitamin C at breakfast. Oranges are your best practical source of C. So—

Without California orange juice, breakfast supplies this much of day's vitamin needs:

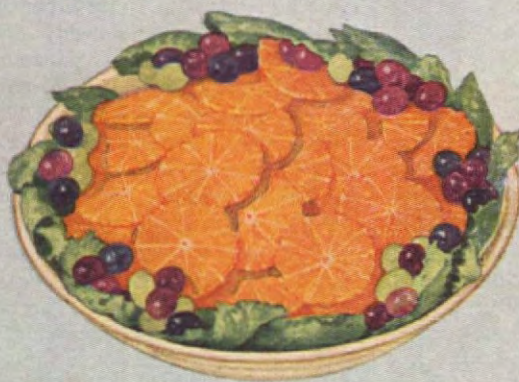


With California orange juice, breakfast supplies this much of day's vitamin needs:



Start with California orange juice. Besides supplying many added health values, it fills your day's quota of vitamin C. You need C every day to fight fatigue and infection, protect teeth and gums, and keep feeling young. Enjoy California orange juice every morning—even when you have other fruit. There's no brighter, cheerier, more delicious way to start the day.

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And so simple to prepare and serve. Just soak gelatin in cold water. Dissolve in hot fruit juices. Add sugar, salt, ginger ale, lemon juice. When slightly thickened, add fruit. Stand a small bowl in center of salad bowl. Pour gelatin mixture into salad bowl. Chill until firm. Fill small bowl with flavorful Real Mayonnaise. Garnish with watercress and maraschino cherries. And watch the family dip in. This is a very popular dish with the menfolk because they can help themselves to as much Real Mayonnaise as they want—it's right there—a part of the salad. Best Foods-Hellmann's Real Mayonnaise has a way of giving salads that well-put-together taste—there's something so just-right about its flavor. So rich and pure that even

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BEST FOODS
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Real Mayonnaise
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IN THE EAST
A PRODUCT OF THE BEST FOODS



The mother will have assembled the materials that are to be used for the baby's bath so that they will be readily available. The baby should be bathed in a room with a temperature of around 80°F. in winter, and the temperature of the water varies according to the age of the baby. Up to three months of age water of 100°F. is used. Then the temperature is gradually reduced to 95°F.; and after a year 90°F. is considered satisfactory.

The baby is placed in four or five inches of water in the tub. Mothers should be careful never to add hot water to the water when the baby is in tub. Far too many babies are seriously burned by carelessness in this regard. Very small babies should be sponged with a piece of absorbent cotton or a soft washcloth wrung out of warm water. Soap should be applied only to the body and not to the face. The skin of the face is tenderer than that of the rest of the body and therefore usually chaps more easily unless care is taken.

Begin the bath by applying soapy water sparingly to the body of the baby from the neck down, washing the creases and folds carefully. A well-soaped baby is hard to handle, and mothers must be especially careful not to let the baby fall when removing him from the tub to the table. The safest method is to hold the baby by one shoulder and one thigh, with the weight resting on the mother's arms. Even when a baby is able to sit up, he should never be left alone in a tub of water. The soapy water is rinsed from the body of the baby with a soft cloth. Then the baby is removed from the tub, wrapped in a bath towel and dried on the table or in the mother's lap. Drying is accomplished by patting the skin dry with a clean, dry towel. Special care must be given to removing all moisture from folds and creases in the skin. If these portions of the body are thoroughly dried and powdered, secondary inflammations and irritations called intertrigo are not likely to occur. If the body creases look inflamed or red, oil may be applied after drying and powdering discontinued for the time being.

When sponging the child, a solution of one teaspoonful of baking soda to a pint of water helps to prevent irritation of the skin. The bran bath is also a helpful preventative of prickly heat. A large handful of bran added to the water will serve the purpose. The baby should not have a cold bath even in exceedingly warm weather. A lukewarm bath is just as cooling. After the skin of the baby is dry, it may be powdered liberally with any of the many good baby powders. Then the child can be dressed in his sun suit or in a light cotton undervest and diaper and play under suitable conditions until time for his nap later in the day.

SUNLIGHT AND FRESH AIR. Sunshine is not only beneficial but absolutely essential to healthful growth. However, sunlight, like every other influence on health, has possibilities

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of harm with overdosage. I have
seen children seriously sick with red-
ness and blistering of the skin, fever
and even delirium and prostration
from too much exposure to the sun.

On hot summer days the best
hours for airing the baby outdoors
are in the morning and late in the
afternoon. Usually, exposure of the
child should be restricted to five
minutes of reflected sunshine. Do not
put the child in the direct rays of
the hot sun. Gradually the amount
may be increased by two minutes
daily until the baby is receiving from
one-half to one hour of exposure to
reflected sunshine each day. Older
children, suitably dressed in sun suits
or play suits, may play in the sun-
shine for a longer time. Children
seldom suffer from sunstroke because
most of them have sense enough to
get away from the sunshine when
it begins to be uncomfortable. Many
a grown person falls asleep or dozes
on a beach while the sun insidiously
burns and blisters the skin. Gradual
acquiring of a sun tan helps to pre-
vent sunburn and blistering.

TRAVEL WITH THE BABY. The best
advice about traveling with the baby
is not to do it unless it is absolutely
necessary. But, of course, most moth-
ers will travel anyway. I see them
on the trains and even the airplanes
with tiny infants in baskets. Porters
wander up and down the aisles carry-
ing bottles of formula which were put
in the refrigerator of the dining car
when the trip began. Mothers make
up large amounts of the formula—
sometimes enough for two or three
days—and hope the refrigerator will
keep it safe for the baby until the
end of the trip. Some mothers even
take a chance without refrigeration.
Such hazards often result in serious
illnesses and hardships for the child.

The chief risks of travel are the
difficulties of controlling temperature,
food, and water. Next is the hazard
of exposing the child to contact with
great numbers of people who may be
infected, or who may be carrying in-
fections easily transmitted to babies.
Finally, there is the danger of dust
and accidents of many kinds.

When traveling, mothers relax their
discipline and are likely to give the
child anything he asks for or any-
thing convenient to keep the child
quiet. This means exposure to all
sorts of undesirable foods and play-
things. The child, who may soil
himself, is allowed to go for longer
periods of time without changing.
Bathing or even sponging is inconven-
ient, if not impossible. Flies and in-
sects get access to the baby and
cause discomfort or even infection.
Think twice before traveling very far
or very much with the baby at any
time, and particularly in the summer.

*Note: Dr. Fishbein will answer per-
sonally and free of charge questions
on child care. Address letters to him
c/o THE AMERICAN HOME, 444 Mad-
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Letters should be accompanied by a
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Cleveland 15, Ohio



Eat, Drink and be Cool

Julia Bliss Joyner

"**S**WELTER; melt'er!" That's a certain small boy's description of July, the hot, fast-beating heart of midsummer. Yet we can be cool in spite of stifling humidity and sizzling sunlight. The best way to achieve this is from within, by quietness of mind and by proper food and drink. Throughout these torrid weeks you can serve chilled main meals—as cool and refreshing to taste and sight as water cress growing in a mountain brook. Such cold dinners, luncheons and suppers can be as satisfying as the heaviest hot meals.

One of the sweetest bounties of summer is its seasonal fruit. At this moment peaches, plums, berries, cherries and other orchard delights are begging to be picked from tree and vine. Bananas, scarce for so long, are a little less so now. And don't forget our year-long standby, the citrus group, with oranges as the winner of every handicap, bless them. Canned or frozen grapefruit segments are as popular now as the fresh fruit is in winter and spring. Fruit juices such as pineapple, grapefruit and grape juice are available in cans or in bottles. Rings of lemon and lime are used to garnish salads and drinks and every drop is squeezed out as a dressing. Mint is summer's own garnish for all fruits and every family with a pocketful of soil can have mint. It adds flavor as well as beauty to salads and drinks:

Summer catering would indeed be poverty stricken without another noble food, gelatin, the holder together of so many delectable treats. These can be prepared in the morning and put in the refrigerator until the moment they are to be served.

And now that precious gift without which we could not enjoy the food and drinks which make summer heat endurable—ice itself. Use it liberally all summer. Put blocks of ice in party punch, the size depending, of course, on the size of the bowl. Use plenty of crushed or chipped ice in cold drinks. When serving ice cream put the platter



Glassware, courtesy of Cambridge Glass Company. Photograph by F. M. Demarest



BERRY ICE CREAM

that's smoother, smoother, smoother!



Quick! Easy! Foolproof recipe for STRAWBERRY ICE CREAM

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup Eagle Brand Sweetened
Condensed Milk
 $\frac{1}{3}$ cup water
1 cup crushed strawberries
 $\frac{1}{4}$ cup sugar
1 cup chilled cream

Set refrigerator control at coldest point. Mix Eagle Brand Sweetened Condensed Milk and water. Add strawberries, sweetened with sugar. Chill. Add cream. Mix well. Freeze rapidly in freezing unit of refrigerator until half frozen. Scrape from freezing tray into chilled bowl. Beat until smooth but not melted. Replace in freezing unit. Before mixture is completely frozen, beat again until smooth. Finish freezing. Serves 5.

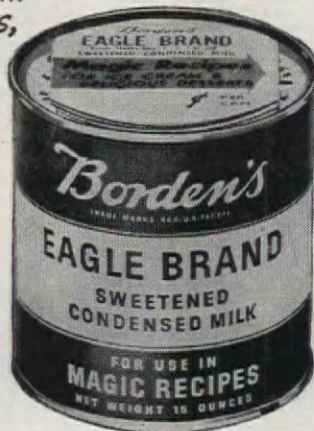


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or dishes on which it is served on a larger one of crushed ice.

"I just couldn't get through 'dog days' without iced tea and coffee," we hear people exclaim as they sip these friendly drinks along with food, whether hot or cold. It is important to make both these beverages strong enough to endure the diluting that necessarily results from melting ice. Powdered coffee and decaffeinated coffee may also be used for the iced drink. Directions are on package.

In all this coolness you must avoid the shivers. Don't forget that at every cold meal in summertime you should serve one hot item—whether soup, beverage or vegetables.



At your next luncheon party serve lemon, lime or orange ice in iced tea. Put it in at the last minute



Small paper cups may be used for freezing fruit salad or mousse. Fill and put in the freezing tray



Save sugar by sweetening cream for berries and fruit with honey. Add sugar and vanilla for iced coffee



All the tools you will need for making cool drinks are assembled in this compact Johmar Ice Caddy

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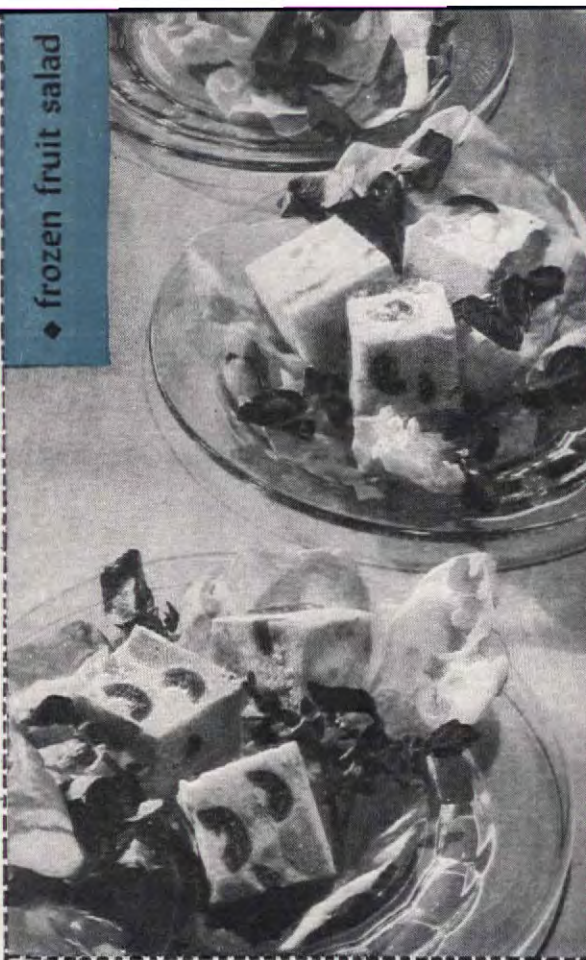


THE SANDWICH SPREAD
OF THE NATION

won't always
be as scarce
as it is
today!

Meanwhile
JUST GRIN
and
SPREAD IT THIN

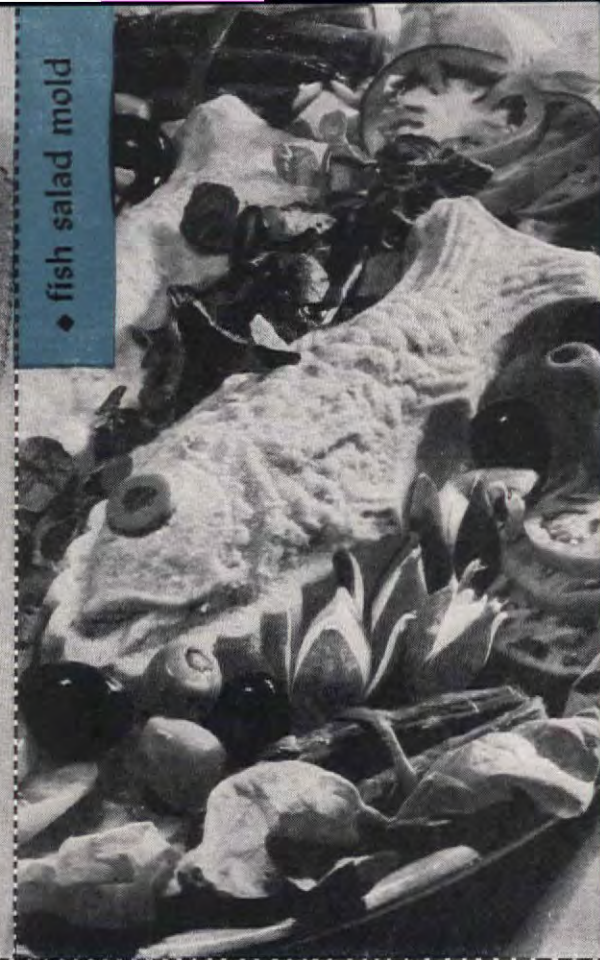
◆ frozen fruit salad



◆ berry sherbet —
meringue rings



◆ fish salad mold



Cream of Corn Soup

* Jellyed Chicken Loaf Salad Dressing

Potato Chips

Rye Bread

Fresh Berries with Honey

Iced Coffee or Tea

* Fish Salad Mold

Olives

Tomatoes

Radishes

Oatmeal Muffins

Fresh Blueberry Pie

Hot Coffee or Tea

* Asparagus-Egg Mold

Cabbage Slaw

Sour Cream Dressing

Sliced Tomatoes

Hot Corn Muffins

* Fresh Fruit Cup

Cookies

Hot Coffee or Tea

◆ jellyed chicken loaf



◆ fruit—cheese ring



◆ asparagus—egg mold



◆ asparagus—egg mold

Preparation time: 20 min.
(2 hrs. to chill)

- 1 tbs. unflavored gelatin
- 1/4 cup cold water
- 1 cup hot asparagus liquor
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/8 tsp. pepper
- 1 tbs. minced onion

SOFTEN the gelatin in cold water and dissolve in the hot asparagus liquor. Add salt, pepper, onion and lemon juice. Cool. When the mixture begins to thicken, fold in the asparagus, 3 of the hard-cooked eggs, chopped, celery and sour cream. Slice the remaining hard-cooked egg and place around the sides of the mold which has been rinsed in cold water. Pour the asparagus mixture into the mold and chill until firm. Unmold onto a large plate and serve with French dressing. If desired, garnish with sliced tomatoes.

Serves 4-6 278 cal. per serving

Source of vitamins A, B complex
Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

Preparation time: 25 min.
(2-3 hrs. to chill)

- 4 tsp. unflavored gelatin
- 1/4 cup cold water
- 2 cups apricot or peach pulp
- (Use canned or stewed fresh fruit)

SPRINKLE two teaspoons of the gelatin over the cold water, dissolve over hot water and add 1 2/3 cups of the fruit pulp. Pour into a ring mold which has been rinsed in cold water. Place in the refrigerator and chill until firm. Sprinkle the remaining two teaspoons of the gelatin over the apricot juice, dissolve over hot water and add to the remaining 1/2 cup fruit pulp. Add cottage cheese, salt, and almonds. Pour into the mold over the apricot mixture. Place in refrigerator and chill 2-3 hours. Unmold onto a large plate and serve with marshmallow dressing made as follows: Combine 2 egg yolks, 3 tbs. vinegar, 1/4 tsp. dry mustard, 1/4 tsp. salt and a dash of paprika in the top of a double boiler. Place over hot water and cook, stirring constantly until the mixture thickens. Add the 12 marshmallows cut in quarters and stir until the mixture is smooth. Cool. Fold in the 2 egg whites stiffly beaten and 1/2 cup sour cream. Stir dressing before serving.

Serves 6-8 238 cal. per serving
Marshmallow dressing recipe submitted by Mrs. J. M. Cremin
Source of vitamins A, B complex
Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

◆ jellied chicken loaf

Preparation time: 30 min.
(2-4 hrs. to chill)

- 2 tbs. unflavored gelatin
- 1/4 cup cold water
- 1 1/2 cups hot chicken stock or bouillon
- 1 tsp. salt
- Dash of pepper
- 2 cups diced, cooked chicken
- 1/3 cup chopped celery

SOFTEN 1 tbs. gelatin in cold water and dissolve in the hot chicken stock. Season with 1/2 tsp. of the salt and a little pepper. Cool. When the gelatin mixture begins to thicken fold in 1 cup of the chicken, celery, carrots and green pepper. Pour the mixture into a loaf pan which has been brushed with French dressing. Chill and allow to stiffen before adding the second layer. Soften the remaining 1 tbs. gelatin in the cold tomato juice and dissolve in the hot tomato juice. Season with the remaining 1/2 tsp. salt and Worcestershire sauce. Cool. When the mixture begins to thicken, fold in the remaining 1 cup chicken, peas, and onion. Pour into the loaf pan over the first layer. Chill 2-4 hours. Unmold onto a platter of greens and serve with salad dressing.

Serves 6 185 cal. per serving
Source of vitamin A, C, B complex
Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

◆ fish salad mold

Preparation time: 20 min.
(2 hrs. to chill)

- 1 tbs. unflavored gelatin
- 1/4 cup cold water
- 2/3 cup sour cream
- 2 tbs. chili sauce
- 1 1/2 tbs. lemon juice
- 1 tsp. salt
- Dash of pepper

SOFTEN the gelatin in cold water and dissolve over hot water. Cool slightly and add to the sour cream. Add chili sauce, lemon juice, salt and pepper. Mix together the fish, celery, onion, green pepper and olives and combine with the first mixture. Pour into a fish mold which has been rinsed in cold water. Chill until firm. Unmold onto a platter of crisp greens.

Serves 4-6 188 cal. per serving
Source of vitamins A, C
Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

Preparation time: 25 min.
(3 hrs. to chill)

- 1 qt. raspberries, strawberries or blackberries
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 cup milk
- 1/4 cup lemon juice

SPRINKLE berries with sugar, cover and let stand two hours. Mash berries well or put through a sieve. Add milk and lemon juice. Soften the gelatin in cold water, dissolve in hot water, add to the berry mixture and mix well. Place in the refrigerator tray and freeze to a mushlike consistency. Remove from tray and beat until smooth; fold in the egg whites beaten until stiff but not dry. Return to the refrigerator tray and freeze until firm. If a smoother sherbet is desired, refreeze to a mushlike consistency. Remove from the tray and beat again until smooth. Return to the refrigerator tray to freeze until firm. Serve in meringue rings made as follows: Beat 4 egg whites until foamy. Add 1/8 tsp. salt. Gradually beat in 1/2 cup sugar and 1/2 tsp. vanilla flavor. Shape into rounds about 3 1/2 inches in diameter on unglazed paper on a baking sheet. Build side up about 1 1/2 inches using a pastry tube or spoon. Bake in a slow oven 275°F for about 50 minutes.

Serves 6 242 cal. per serving
Source of vitamins A, C
Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

◆ frozen fruit salad

Preparation time: 20 min.
(3 hrs. to freeze)

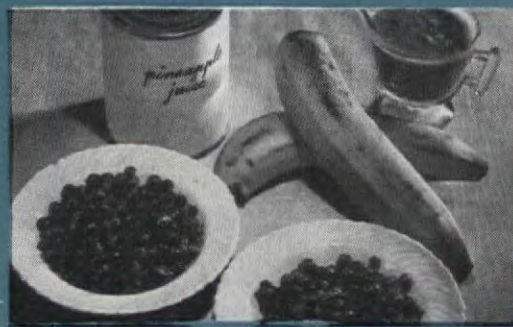
- 1 tbs. unflavored gelatin
- 1/4 cup cold water
- 1/2 cup orange juice
- 2 tbs. lemon juice
- 1 tbs. maraschino cherry juice
- 12 marshmallows, quartered

SOFTEN the gelatin in cold water and dissolve over hot water. Pour the orange, lemon and cherry juice over the marshmallows and let stand until the marshmallows soften. Combine the cottage cheese, sour cream and light cream. Add the dissolved gelatin and mix well. Fold in the marshmallow mixture, cherries, peaches and nuts. Pour into refrigerator tray and freeze until firm. Cut in squares and serve on lettuce with French or salad dressing.

Serves 6-8 186 cal. per serving
Source of vitamins A, C
Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN



Mixed cooked fruits:
Cook fruit separately, combine, add honey to sweeten and chill

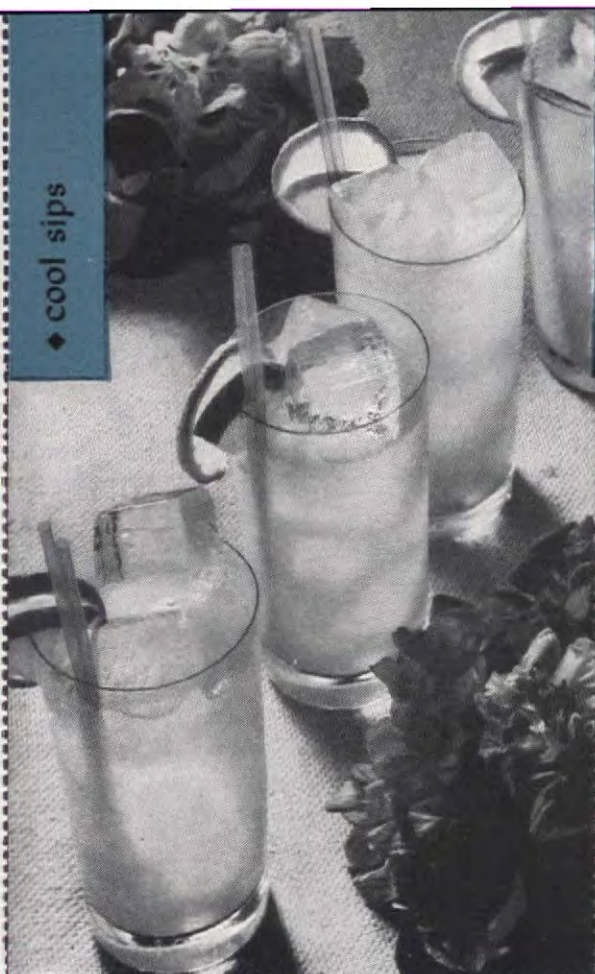


Fresh blueberries are delicious with cream but for a change try serving them with pineapple juice mixed with mashed banana

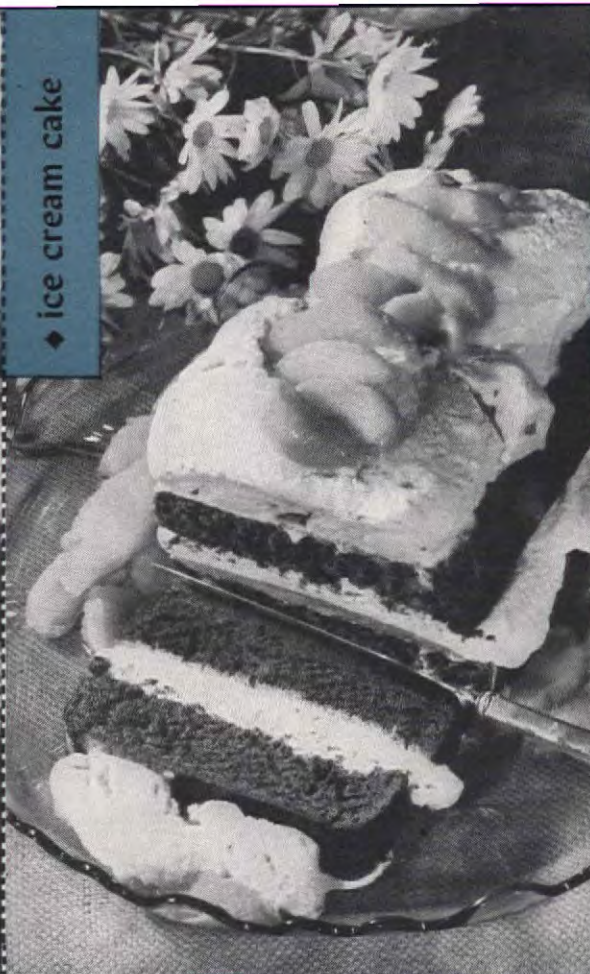


Easy dessert: Cut marshmallows in small pieces, add enough cream to moisten and stir in fresh blueberries. Chill several hours

◆ cool sips



◆ ice cream cake



◆ shrimp appetizers



Spinach Soufflé

Glazed Carrots with Mint Fresh Corn

Baked Potatoes

* Fruit Cheese Ring Marshmallow Dressing

Iced Coffee or Tea

* Shrimp Appetizer

Roast Chicken Cream Gravy

Lima Beans Swiss Chard

Green Salad

* Berry Sherbet in Meringue Rings

Iced Coffee or Tea

Hot Consommé

* Fruit Plate Cottage Cheese

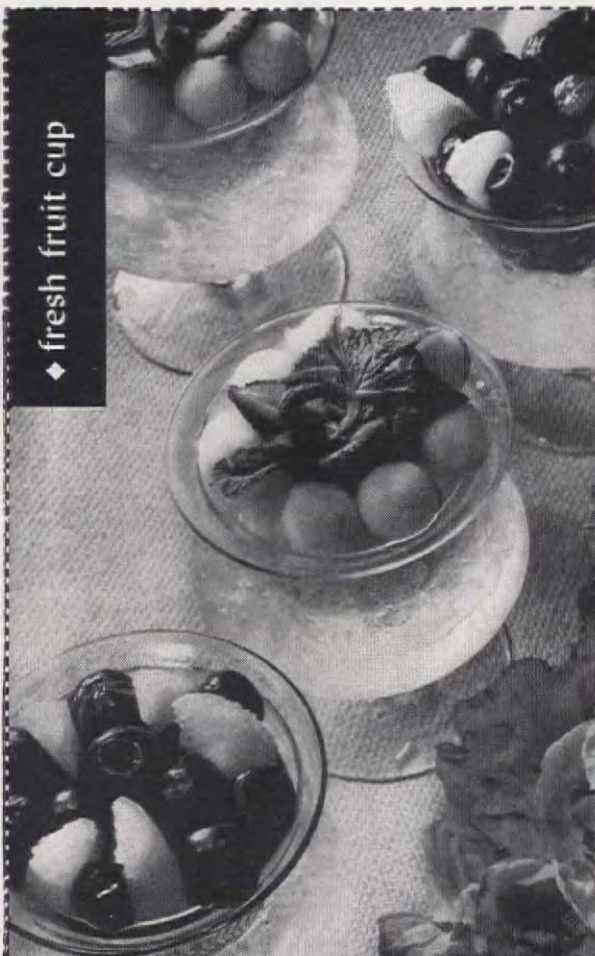
Salad Dressing

Popovers

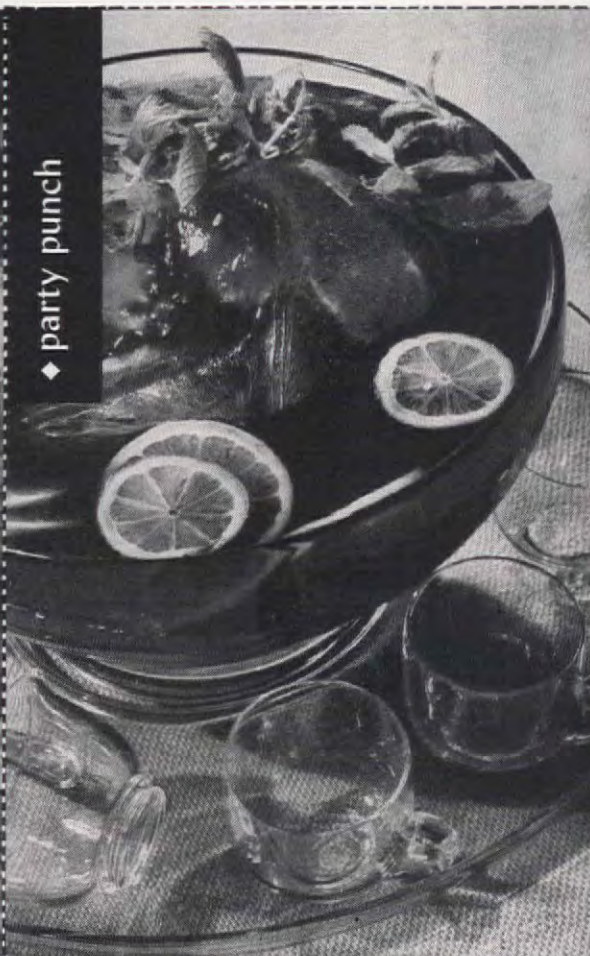
Baked Custard Chocolate Sauce

Iced Coffee or Tea

◆ fresh fruit cup



◆ party punch



◆ fruit plates



◆ fruit plates

PLACE lettuce leaves on dinner plates to form cups. Arrange fruit in lettuce cups and serve with French or sour cream dressing. Suggestions for fruit plates:

1. Cottage cheese, sliced strawberries, raspberries, sliced peaches, plum halves.
2. Banana cut lengthwise, filled with peanut butter and sliced crosswise, blackberries, orange sections, pineapple wedges.
3. Whole strawberries, fresh, canned or frozen grapefruit sections, apricot halves, cream cheese and chopped nut sandwiches.
4. Blueberries, pear half rolled in chopped pistachio nuts, raspberries, slices or wedges of American or blue cheese.
5. Diced apple, chopped date and celery, cherries, orange sections, cream cheese balls.
6. Prune or fresh plums filled with cottage cheese, watermelon balls, sliced banana, sliced peaches.
7. Seedless grapes and chopped walnuts in avocado halves, blackberries, sliced apricots, bread and butter sandwiches.
8. Pineapple wedges, raspberries, diced pear, orange sections, peanut butter sandwiches.

Preparation time: 15 min.

◆ party punch

1 qt. grape juice
 1/3 cup strained lemon juice
 1 pt. strained orange juice

1/2 cup sugar
 Block of ice
 4 (12 oz.) bottles ginger ale

COMBINE grape juice with the lemon juice, orange juice and sugar and blend well. Pour over the block of ice in a large punch bowl. Just before serving add the ginger ale and stir well. If desired, garnish with fresh mint, orange and lemon slices.

Makes 24 punch cup servings 149 cal. per cup. Source of vitamins C, B complex

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

◆ fresh fruit cup

USE any desired combinations of fruit in fruit cup and serve either as an appetizer or a dessert. Prepare fruits carefully and chill thoroughly. Allow about 1/2 cup of the mixed fruit for each serving. Suggestions for fruit cups:

1. Cantaloupe or watermelon balls, berries and sprigs of mint.
2. Orange sections and pitted cherries with orange juice.
3. Apricot halves and blueberries with a sour cream and brown sugar topping.
4. Diced pineapple, halved strawberries, shredded coconut and pineapple juice.
5. Pear halves with fresh raspberry sauce.
6. Chilled sliced oranges, bananas and seedless grapes.
7. Diced apple, diced banana, peaches and orange ice.
8. Orange sections and plum halves with honey.

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN



Dressing for summer salads: Add salt, lemon juice and honey to taste, to thick cultured sour cream and mix well with a fork



Add color and flavor to slaw or a fresh fruit salad bowl by adding jellied cranberry sauce cut in spears, cubes or balls



Orange juice brings out the flavor of many fresh summer fruits. Try serving it with berries, melon, pears and pitted cherries.

◆ shrimp appetizers

Preparation time: 20 min.
(2 hrs. to chill)

SOFTEN 1 tbs. unflavored gelatin in 1/4 cup cold water. Combine 2 cups tomato juice, 1 bay leaf, 1/2 tsp. salt, dash of pepper and 1/4 tsp. Worcestershire sauce and simmer for 10 minutes. Remove bay leaf. Add the hot mixture to the gelatin and stir until the gelatin dissolves. Add 1 tbs. vinegar and 1 tbs. minced onion. Cool. Rinse 6 individual molds in cold water and place a whole shrimp in the bottom of each mold. When the gelatin mixture begins to thicken, fold in 1/2 cup chopped celery and 1 cup shrimp cut in small pieces. Pour into the molds and chill until firm. Unmold into cocktail or sherbet glasses and serve with slice of lemon.

Source of vitamins A, C

40 cal. per serving

SOFTEN 1 tbs. unflavored gelatin in 1/4 cup cold water. Dissolve over hot water and cool at room temperature. Combine 1 1/2 cups shrimp, cut in small pieces, 1/2 cup chopped green pepper and 1/2 cup chopped celery in a large bowl. Mix together 1 cup sour cream or mayonnaise, 2 tbs. lemon juice, 1/4 cup tomato catsup or paste, 2 tbs. prepared horseradish, 1 tsp. salt and the dissolved gelatin. Add the shrimp mixture and pour into molds which have been rinsed in cold water. Chill until firm. Unmold into cocktail or sherbet glasses and serve with salad dressing.

Source of vitamins A, C

188 cal. per serving

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

◆ ice cream cake

Preparation time: 1 1/4 hrs.

2 cups sifted emergency flour
 2 tsp. baking powder
 1/2 tsp. salt
 1/2 cup shortening
 1 cup sugar

1 egg, well beaten
 2 sqs. unsweetened chocolate, melted
 1 cup milk
 1 tsp. vanilla

SIFT together the flour, baking powder and salt. Cream the shortening. add the sugar gradually and cream together until light. Add the egg and beat well. Stir in the melted chocolate. Add the flour alternately with the milk, a little at a time, beating after each addition until smooth. Add the vanilla and mix well. Pour into a greased 9x5x3 inch loaf pan and bake in a slow oven 325°F for 1 hour or until done. Cool. Cut cake in half lengthwise and put ice cream between the layers and on top of the cake. Garnish with sliced peaches. Slice and serve immediately.

Serves 6-8

412 cal. per serving

Source of vitamins A, B complex

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

◆ cool sips

ORANGEADE: Combine 2 cups orange juice, 1/4 cup lemon juice, 1/4 cup sugar or corn syrup and 1 pt. ginger ale or sparkling water. Pour into glasses over cracked ice. Garnish with fresh mint and orange and lime slices. Makes 5 (8 oz.) glasses.

COFFEE REFRESHER: Add 1 tbs. corn syrup to 1/2 cup strong coffee. Pour into a glass; add a generous serving of vanilla ice cream. Fill the glass with ginger ale and stir. Serves 1.

PINEAPPLE FLIP: Pour 1 cup chilled pineapple juice into a bowl. Add a generous serving of vanilla ice cream and stir long enough to blend. Pour into a glass and serve. Serves 1.

FRUIT ICE COOLER: Add 1 tsp. sugar to 1/2 cup chilled grape juice. Pour into a large glass and add a serving of orange or lemon ice. Fill the glass with ginger ale and stir. Serves 1.

BANANA MILK SHAKE: Pour 1 cup cold milk into a shaker, add 1 medium banana, mashed and 1 tsp. sugar and shake well. Pour into a glass and serve. Serves 1.

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN



Edna M. White

MARY'S dusting off the luggage! Studying the timetables! Getting out her vacation togs, sun glasses and swim suit! *That* rings the July party bell. Seize the chance to give Mary the best, bouncing send-off the neighborhood can remember, for this is strictly a traveling summer, and the first trip in four or five years deserves to be on the party honor list. Here's a traveler's party that is purposely adaptive, and will give the hostess opportunity to toss in a lot of her own original ideas for jolly surprises.

The invitation, as illustrated, can be slipped inside a card made to resemble a traveling bag. Add the date, the hostess' address, and send it out to Mary's intimate friends.

How to decorate for a party like this? The toyshop or the neighbor kids will have everything you want. If Mary is going by plane, you'll use toy airplanes. Hang some by wire, as though in flight. Place others on landing strips on the bookcase or mantel. Use one for a centerpiece, the landing strip flanked by grassy coping and a surrounding fence. Pile the favors in a luggage cart. This will be wheeled from place to place on the table, and each guest will remove a piece of luggage. If each gift is wrapped in a brown package tied with cord or twine, it will look more realistic.

If the trip is to be by water, you can use a lake scene for a centerpiece. Fill a baking dish with water for the lake, and set a small ship in it. Set the dish on a tray, on which you can construct a beach of clean white sand, sloping down to a fringe of grass.

An automobile trip calls for autos, filling station, and toys associated with motoring. Centerpiece is a parking lot, filled with a collection of

amusing little automobiles. Landscape the lot with shrubbery-edged drives. Shrubs can be made from tiny twigs of cedar set in whitewashed thread spools for an attractive parkway.

Rent the electric train from Junior next door, if your guest of honor is to travel by rail. You can make an amusing centerpiece using the toy train, erecting a station stop sign bearing the name of Mary's destination, be it city or resort.

For entertainment, divide your guests into two groups to answer the question, "Where is she going, and what will she see?" For this you will need to hang a world map on the wall, also provide common pins. A player from the first group, goes to the map, sticks a pin in it at random. That's one point Mary will visit. Now a player from the second group goes to an Information Bureau, set up on a table, where she draws, by means of a string, an object from a covered box. She hangs this on the pin the first player has placed, as something Mary will see there. Articles in the box may range all the way from a Mexican jumping bean to a picture of Frank Sinatra. As the tour progresses, the director marks the route

with a blue pencil line, so when it is finished all may see how widely traveled Mary is going to be. Can't you hear them shriek with laughter when they learn she is going to see nylon stockings on the island of Guam?

To answer the question, "What will she hear?", ask one of the guests to play musical selections descriptive of the country, such as *Maryland, My Maryland, California, Here I Come, or Deep in the Heart of Texas*. Or a leader can imitate the dialects peculiar to different sections of the country—Boston, Brooklyn, etc. The team identifying the greatest number of songs or dialects can be rewarded with musical toys of various kinds with which they can form a band to serenade the traveler.

Of course, the answer to "What will she take?" will be answered by Mary herself. Present her traveling gifts in a suitcase tied with lavish bow.

Luncheon can be served on trays, airplane style, the guests going to the buffet set up with a centerpiece and various ready-to-be-served dishes.

Sketches by Clare McCanna



Whether it's a rail, bus, boat or plane trip, give the traveler a rousing send-off!



What's a PICNIC without plenty of HEINZ PICKLES?

Prepared from pedigreed cucumbers, Heinz vinegar and fine spices!



P.S. Heinz India Relish is a peppy, zesty condiment that makes hot dogs, hamburgers or just plain sandwiches something super!

57
HEINZ
Pickles



"BUT MOM! YOU SAID COOLERATOR'S FREEZING LOCKER HELD ENOUGH FOR AN ARMY."

Not enough for a whole army, Teen-ager, but the big 40-lb. frozen food locker *does* hold enough frozen foods for several weeks without interfering with the 5 big ice cube trays—10 lbs. of large ice cubes! That's because the new streamlined 1947 Coolerator* is 40% larger than the typical pre-war refrigerator—with more space for frozen foods, meats, big bottles and jugs, bulky foods and fresh vegetable Crispolators. Plus genuine stainless steel shelves, interchangeable any way you desire. Look for the Coolerator at your dealer's now, or real soon.

Watch for the
COOLERATOR Flavor Saver
THE COOLERATOR COMPANY
Dept. A1-2, Duluth 1, Minnesota
*Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.

Coolerator



PARTY IDEAS

YOUR art club having an outdoors sketching party? For table favors, make a small artist's palette from brown cardboard. Glue on bright-colored gumdrops in the form of a circle to represent paints. Place a small cardboard standard on back to hold it upright. Small paste brushes might accompany the favor.



Any favor with a play element will win the hearts of children—they'll love spinning tops with their names on them. Cut down small wooden spools and paint in bright colors. Sharpen dowel sticks and insert about 2" pieces through spool. Glue cardboard discs with names brightly painted on them on top. This will complete your top favors. Place one of these at each table setting—all ready to spin. Hold a contest to see which top spins the longest, and award prizes to the winners.



CLEVER favors for a baby shower are pastel-colored cradles to hold nuts or small candies at each place setting. Cut the cradle from stiff pink or pale blue cardboard, in rectangular shapes 3½" by 3". Fold through middle so that you have a folded shape 3½" by 1½". Cut a slit from folded edge to within ¼" of top. Cut rockers from cardboard—a circle about the size of a small tumbler. Cut circle in two and insert cut, straight edge through the slits in fold. Cradle may be decorated with tiny flower designs, or in any way you wish. Streamers of pale pink or blue ribbon can be run from each favor to a centerpiece of pink roses or mixed pastel flowers.



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SEAL SAC covers
made of Koroseal



Every home needs this effective protection... food and appliance covers made by SEAL SAC of the famous Koroseal®; the waterproof, odorproof material that resists oils, grease, acids. Soft, pliant, washable.

*Trade Mark, The B. F. Goodrich Co.

SEAL SAC INC. is the only firm authorized to make bowl covers, food bags, and appliance covers of Koroseal®.

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**DOES YOUR DOG
ITCH? SCRATCH?**

**DON'T BLAME FLEAS
... MANGE ... DIET!**

If your dog or cat itches, scratches continually, it's probably not due to fleas, mange or diet. 2 to 1, it's FUNGITCH, grass-borne fungus infection long a puzzle to scientists. It starts as an itch followed by dandruff-like scales or brownish-edged sores with mouldy odor. May start in ears, on paws, underbody, tail or eyes. Can have serious results—costly care—even total loss. Now a noted specialist's discovery—Dr. Merrick's **SULFODENE**—applied externally, stops itching in minutes... clears up scales and sores in a few days. Only \$1.00 in stores or order direct. Money back if **SULFODENE** fails on your pet.

SULFODENE, BOX G-426, BROOKFIELD, ILL.

Dr. MERRICK'S SULFODENE

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NO DRIP TAPE **EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY**

New—for homes! A sure cure for condensation drip from cold water pipes. Pliable, cork-filled NoDrip Tape eliminates wet floors, makes idle space usable! Quick, Clean, Easy to Wrap on—No tools needed. Covers joints as well as straight pipes. At hardware, dept. stores, lumberyards. Roll, enough for 125 7 feet of ½" pipe. **\$1.25** (Liquor west of Rockies and Canada) **FREE CIRCUL CO.** **J. W. MORT CO.** 524 Burch St. Kankakee, Ill.

DETECTO
SCALES and HAMPERS
Worth waiting for
SINCE 1900
DETECTO SCALES, INC., BROOKLYN, N. Y.

FOLEY FOOD MILL RECIPES

60 RECIPES made with the Foley Food Mill to tempt the appetite and add variety to family meals. Enjoy such dishes as Creole Bean Soup, Fish Shepherd's Pie, Potato Doughnuts, Carrot Cookies, Oatmeal Apple Crisp, Pumpkin Bavarian Cream, Apple Sauce, Tomato Juice. Send 10c with coupon for recipe booklet. **FOLEY FOOD MILL** at DEPT., HDWE. stores. (Cannot ship Mill direct from factory.)

FOLEY MFG. CO., 72 2nd St., N. E., Minneapolis 13, Minn.
I enclose 10c ☐ Coin ☐ Stamp
for 60-recipe booklet. "VARIETY in Food with the FOLEY FOOD MILL."
Name _____
(Write address plainly in margin)

**They'll all go for
Pabst-ett's
cheddar cheese flavor!**

Don't be without it! Pabst-ett's rich, mellow cheddar cheese flavor solves more than 100 menu problems. It's a cheese food that melts... spreads... slices... toasts to perfection. Children love it on crackers and in tasty sauces on their vegetables. And it's so good for them—highly nourishing and easy to digest. Two delicious varieties: Golden Cheddar and Pimento Pabst-ett. Phenix Pabst-ett Company, Chicago.

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PABST-ETT—The delicious cheddar cheese food!

*NOW more ScotTowels
than ever before!*



• More being made...and larger quantities going to dealers! Begin now to make fuller use of these towels you don't have to wash!

ScotTowels cut down laundering... save drudgery. Nothing like them for draining bacon, wiping up spills, cleaning grease from pans. Scott Paper Company, Chester, Pa.

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to Work Hard!**

Trade Mark "ScotTowels"
Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.



**YOUR FAVORITE
Chicken
and Noodles**

**Cooked, Seasoned, Ready
in one pound jars**

Tender chicken meat, rich broth, pure egg noodles, sweet peppers... blended by an old Southern recipe. A delicious summer meal prepared in minutes. Keep several jars handy in your pantry... no refrigeration needed. U. S. inspected for wholesomeness.



**OTHER MORTON'S
QUICK-FIX DINNERS**
Chicken a la King
Noodle Chicken
Giblet Dinner

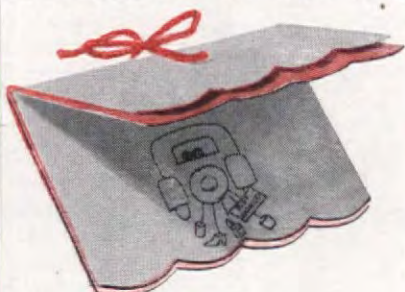
TRY THIS MENU
Morton's Noodle
Chicken Dinner
• Fresh Green Peas
• Sliced Tomatoes
• Cucumbers
• Sponge Cake
• Iced Tea.

Morton's
QUICK-FIX DINNERS

We all consider it a real favor when someone gives us a crackerjack idea for making a party a success. This one for a summer announcement party for Tom and Sue's engagement is really out of the ordinary. It's simple, intriguing, and humorous, this clever, eye-winking announcement. Make the eye shapes on the fold of the paper, letter the breath-taking news under the winking eye, and tie with a bow of colored yarn. All four ideas by **Mrs. J. L. Clarke**



INVITATION to an engagement or bride-and-groom party can be cut from sheets of yellow and blue construction paper. Fold in alternate colors, and cut in small sizes, scalloping the edges. On the first inside page, draw faces of bride and groom, and print, "This is about...and....," with sketches in between. On the second page, sketch the back of a car with shoes, tin cans and "Just Married" signs, and print, "Soon there will be this." On the third, write, "And this": and sketch a sink piled high with dishes. On the fourth a rolling pin and the words "And



this" again. On the fifth, sketch faces of four tiny children, and write, "And even this." And on the next, two hearts, with the words, "And there'll always be this." On the following, write, "So we are giving a party to celebrate the," followed by sketch of engagement ring, "of....." and on the next page, sketch bride's face, write "and," then sketch groom's face. On last page, print time and place. If you cannot sketch, use magazine cutouts.

... **Nancy Judd DeKoe**

OUTDOOR GAMES.....PRICE 20¢
You can just unwrinkle that furrowed brow and settle back with the sure knowledge that you have that Sunday picnic all planned. Our party department has done all the thinking and scurrying around for you, and has just scores of ideas for swimming games, relays, contests, even some suggestions for ice cream tempters in this eight-page folder.

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"YOUR MILK, DUCKY!"



"WITH SWELL
TASTING BOSCO!"



"NOW I'M AN IRON MAN!"

"IT'S EASY, FOLKS! I GET MY IRON
EVERY DAY (VITAMIN D, TOO!)

FROM JUST 4 TEA-
SPOONS OF
CHOCOLATE-
FLAVORED
BOSCO IN MY
DAILY
QUART
OF MILK.
WHAT A TREAT!"



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Spinach —
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LIN-X

SELF-POLISHING WAX

IS ANTI-SLIP EVEN WHEN WET

HERE'S the wax you've been waiting for, ladies... LIN-X Self-Polishing WAX—it's anti-slip, even when water is spilled on it—proved by Underwriters' Laboratories!

And all you do is just wipe it on! It dries in 20 minutes to a hard, lustrous, real-wax finish that's a joy to behold. It protects and it beautifies.



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POLISHES BONE-DRY!

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.



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For linoleum and all wood surfaces. Resists boiling water, sizzling grease, fruit juices, perfume, even alcohol. Easy to use. Easy to clean. "Just brush it on!"

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GET THESE GREAT

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Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

HOME BRIGHTENERS

Made by the Makers of Kem-Tone
The Miracle Wall Finish

G.I. Bandbox

We store the staples after shopping



Cooking utensils stored overhead



From stove to table and dinner's on



Many hands make light of dishwashing



We store the bedclothes down under



Housekeeping

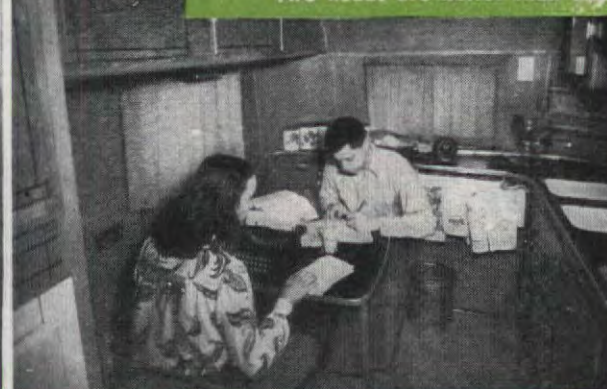
Margaret Della Rizzie

I must admit that it was with a certain amount of hesitation that I came to Syracuse to live with my husband in a trailer. But this was somewhat overcome when I got my first look at our little "home to be." After a couple of visits, I became very curious about the whole thing, and by the time we moved in, in February, I was enthusiastic about it all. After all, this was my first opportunity to carry out my wish of becoming a good housekeeper as well as secretary to my student husband, and a working girl, too.

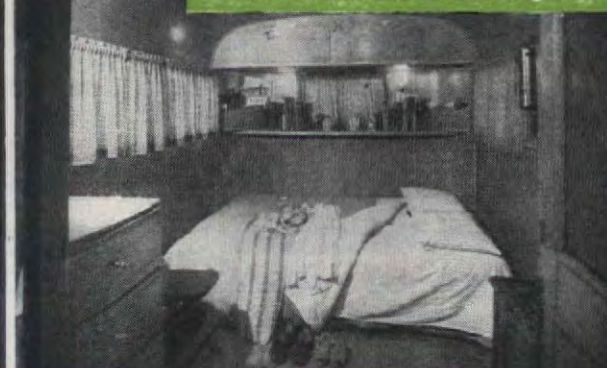
Our trailer measures 7' x 22'. A little less than half of this is divided into the kitchen and dinette, and the larger part, the combined living and bedroom. There is ample storage space in the kitchen above two of the three windows, over the stove, and underneath the sinks and work shelf, also under the dinette seats. I found, after switching things around, that foods and utensils that were going to be in frequent use would have to be placed in the most accessible places. Consequently,

Robert J. Arnold

Two heads are better than one



A comfortable bed in our snug nook





I just got a tip from a porter

The porter flashed a toothful grin at me.

"Sho looks like yo goin' to have a good time, boss. Man, look at that luggage. Plenty of fun in them. Plenty of money, too. Be just too bad to lose that stuff."

That was the tip that brought me up sharp.

Hitting the nearest telephone booth, I called my Employers' Group Agent . . . *The Man with the Plan*.

"Mark," I said, "I've got fifteen minutes to catch a train. Give me the dope straight and *fast*. That Personal Property Floater Policy you talked about some time ago . . . will it cover my baggage, camera and golf clubs?"

"Absolutely," he answered, "also your wife's and children's."

"Even while I'm away on vacation?"

"Yep . . . any place in this world. In fact," he added, "that policy is one of the sweetest forms of insurance protection ever offered. All your personal property . . . your family's, too . . . clothing, furs, furniture, furnishings, jewelry, silverware, linens, sporting equipment, cameras, etc. can be protected inside or outside your home . . . any place . . . against losses resulting from fire, theft, mysterious disappearance, accidental breakage, rips, tears, spots, stains . . . practically any cause."

"Brother, I'm sold," I said. "Write one for me now."

"You're protected," he laughed. "We'll go over the details when you get back."

As easy as that, I was able to leave a load of worries at the station. I had made one more step in my plan for *freedom from worry over financial loss*. I was off to a swell vacation.

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WHISTLE"**

THE FINEST CAN OPENER EVER MADE

Patented double synco-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. Has built-in handy bottle opener. Fully guaranteed.

**THE KING OF CAN OPENERS
FOR THE QUEEN OF THE KITCHEN**

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Use in any of three locked positions. When not in use, swings flat against the wall—out of your way. An exclusive SWING-A-WAY feature.

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CAN HELP
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These two booklets are based on the broad experience of Bell Telephone Laboratories. They discuss the problems of hearing loss and the scientific means of hearing correction.

If you tend to favor your "good ear," if it seems people mumble—these booklets may help you and the people you talk with. Mail the coupon.

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The gleaming whiteness of a Sani-Flush-cleaned toilet bowl means real cleanliness. SANI-FLUSH removes stains and invisible film where germs lurk and odors thrive. Remember—a clean toilet bowl has no odor. The chemical, disinfecting action of SANI-FLUSH, used regularly, ensures a clean, odorless toilet bowl always.

No messy scrubbing—effective in hard and soft water—safe in septic tanks—sold everywhere. The Hygienic Products Co., Canton 2, Ohio.

Sani-Flush

QUICK
EASY
SANITARY



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I have canned goods stored in one of the three cupboards over the dining nook. In the other two cupboards are kept staples. My cooking utensils are in a large cupboard over the work shelf, just to the left of the stove. Food is usually prepared on the work shelf and once it is ready to cook, it is easy to reach for the utensil needed to cook it in.

The stove is small, having just three burners which suffice very beautifully, especially since I now have a pressure cooker. The stove is a little pump-type gas model with a built-in oven. I have found that the glass saucepans and frying pans are very satisfactory, particularly because they feature the detachable handles. I always remove the handles when the pans are placed on the stove, which is rather crowded when all three burners are in use. The kitchen aisle is only two and a half feet wide and, if the handles were left attached to the pots, they could be easily tipped and cause a serious burn.

In the cupboard above the stove, where it is warm and dry, I keep my spices, cereals, and crackers that cannot be harmed by heat, and are used often. My china, glasses and glass baking dishes are kept in the cupboard over the icebox. There is a storage space beneath the double sink where I keep soap and cleaning materials. A corner of this space is reserved for shoe polish and brushes. Under the work shelf are four drawers. Part of the top one is used for silver, and the rest of the space is occupied with can openers, paring knives, and wooden spoons. It is not desirable to have "wall gadgets" such as can openers or other articles hanging on hooks, as they give a cluttered appearance in so small a kitchen. My dish towels and kitchen linens are kept in the second drawer. The third is used for a bread and cakebox, and the lower drawer holds my iron, cord, hammer, shelf paper, and other miscellaneous items.

Above the sink is a small cabinet with a mirror on the door. Shaving materials, toothpaste, cosmetics, and medicines are kept here. Our toothbrushes hang from two little hooks placed inside this door. My cookbooks are kept to the left of the sink on a convenient rack.

The dinette has inner-spring cushions and backs which are placed on built-in seats. These seats serve as more storage space, where we carefully pack our winter clothes and extra blankets. This dinette can also be made into a very comfortable double or single bed by moving the cushions and adding two extra ones.

The last storage places beneath the stove and icebox are ideal for potatoes and onions because they are cool and slightly damp.

Next to the kitchen are the clothes closets on one side and the linen closet with four drawers beneath it. The closet nearest the kitchen is mine. It also serves as storage space for my ironing board and broom. Of, course, I always make sure that the broom is clean before putting it away.

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To Kill ALL FLEAS**

*in Ten
Minutes!*



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with FRESHER ZONE**



The New **ALUMINUM ODOR FILTER** \$4.95 LASTS FOR YEARS
Protects butter, milk, ice cubes from "off taste" Helps keep cantaloup, cheese, fish odors etc. from mingling with other foods. Thin aluminum wafer hooks flat under shelf. Lasts for years, brings your refrigerator up to date.

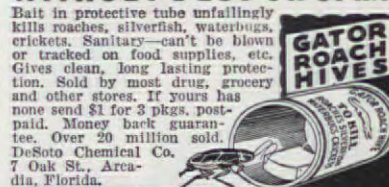
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MORGAN
Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping
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DISH CLOTHS
SOLD IN STORES EVERYWHERE
KNITTED and WOVEN FROM COTTON
MORGAN COTTON MILLS, Inc., LAUREL HILL, N. C.
"FROM RAW COTTON THROUGH FINISHED PRODUCT"



**KILL INSECTS
WITHOUT DUST OR SPRAY**



**See your light switches
IN THE DARK!**

No more fumbling, stumbling, groping, or smudging of walls! Soft-glowing electric bulb in the beautiful ivory plastic LumiNite Switch Plate lights automatically when you turn room lights off! Operates for less than 2c per year, lasts for years! Install it yourself! See your electrical dealer or send \$1.00 for sample, postpaid. Associated Projects Co., 80 E. Long St., Columbus 16, Ohio.



MOTHER, HOW DO YOU MAKE YOUR REFRIGERATOR SO CLEAN AND FRESH?

WHY, I USE CLOROX... IT REMOVES STAINS, DEODORIZES AND DISINFECTS!



AND, TOO, CLOROX DESTROYS MOLD...HELPS PREVENT FOOD SPOilage!

FRESH, sanitary, spotless inside and out...the gleaming pride of your Clorox-Clean Kitchen... that's how your refrigerator can be! It's a wise health precaution to clean all food containers regularly with Clorox, for you can depend on Clorox for hygienic cleansing. Clorox disinfects, deodorizes, removes stains from enamel, porcelain, tile, linoleum, glass, wood surfaces. In laundering, Clorox bleaches white cottons and linens snowy-white (brightens fast colors)...makes laundry fresh, sanitary. Directions on the label.

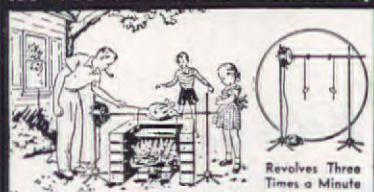
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Years of unsurpassed quality and performance have made Clorox the choice of millions... it's always uniform...it's always dependable!

NO TEDIOUS HAND TURNING!



KASSON
Sturdy, adjustable, it's equipped with 50 feet of cord; 110 V. A.C. Useful indoors too. At better stores or write for literature. \$39.50 each.

Electric Bar-B-Q
GENERAL DIE AND STAMPING CORPORATION
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REMOVES GREASE SPOTS FROM WALLPAPER

Spread it on, wipe it off; grease is gone! Can't harm paper. At paint, wallpaper, department stores, or write to BLOT-X, SPRINGFIELD, OHIO

I SAVE A LOT OF STEPS BY KEEPING AN EXTRA CAN OF

3-IN-ONE IN THE BASEMENT!

MOMMY...



A Product of Boyle-Midway Inc.

My mop is kept outdoors beneath the trailer on a rack Mel made for that purpose. Outside on the rear of the trailer there is also a storage trunk where we keep luggage.

Mel's books rest on the shelf over the bed (couch). Our magazines are kept on one magazine rack on this shelf, and my knitting and sewing equipment on the other. Half the storage space above the couch holds a hatbox, and the other half our typewriter and stationery. There is a narrow drawer between the icebox and the china cupboard for Mel's pencils, notebooks, other school supplies and his camera equipment.

Shopping for groceries is done during my lunch hour. Fortunately, there is a grocery store near the office where I work, and I can buy what I need there and pick it up at five o'clock when Mel calls for me. We buy our meat at a little market on our way home at night.

Upon arriving home, I immediately wash and change into slacks and begin dinner. All preparation is done at the work shelf to the right of the sink. After dinner Mel and I do the dishes together, and the rest of the evening is taken up with homework for Mel and perhaps typing for me. On the nights when I have no typing, I do my letter writing, mending, washing, and ironing. My mending off each week is my all-around cleaning day. I mop the floor, wax it, scrub the shelves, and wax them, too. I have found that wax preserves the linoleum on both the floor and the shelves, and it takes much less time to clean a surface that has a good coating of wax to protect it.

We have a weekly schedule for our chores. We make it a point to empty garbage from the can in the kitchen to the outer can every day. We only empty the outer can every few days, but with warmer weather approaching, perhaps this will have to be done more often. Mel fills the gas stove every third day, and the oil heater, when in use, needs to be filled daily. We have obtained a large can to which a small faucet has been attached. It fits on the oil heater during the winter and supplies us with hot water. There is only cold running water in the kitchen. In the summer, however, it is a simple matter to walk to the laundry for a pail of hot water for cooking or for washing the dishes, and I have become used to the situation.

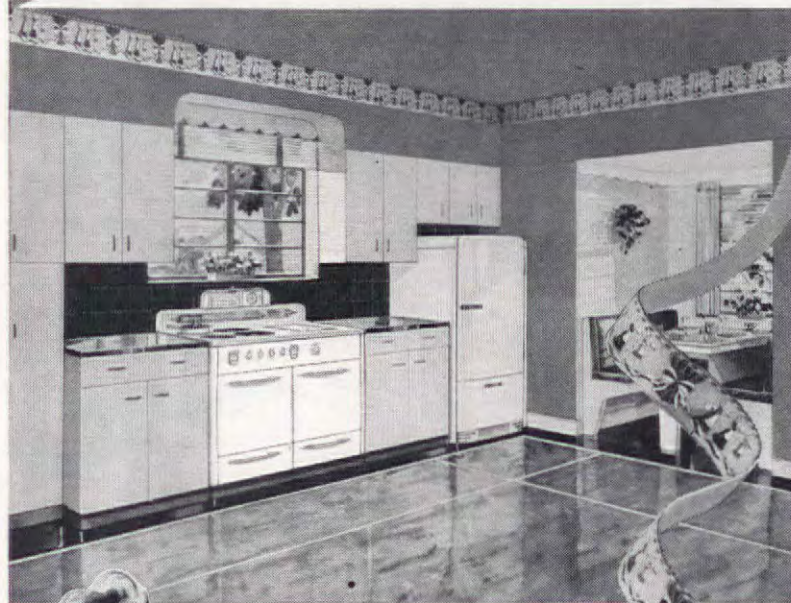
We expect to be here in Syracuse for about three years. When Mel has completed his education, we will return to the Berkshires and live there where he will teach school.

Of course, I am looking forward to living in a house, but I shall never forget the time we have spent here. It has been most enjoyable so far, and I am sure the joys of living here will increase with time. I feel, too, that I have definitely gained rather than lost by beginning my housekeeping in such a novel way.

Both Mel and I love to travel, and you can be sure that there will be a trailer somewhere in our future.

Brighten

YOUR KITCHEN with this colorful Monarch Border!



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.

Adds new charm to plain-walled kitchen.

EXCLUSIVE MONARCH ROASTER RANGE



Surface oven is perfect for roasting, complete meals, casserole dishes.

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Saves stooping, saves electricity.

Washable. Fadeproof.

Just dip in water and apply.

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MALLEABLE IRON RANGE CO. • 476 Lake St., Beaver Dam, Wis.

You can add a refreshing touch of decorative charm to your kitchen with this attractive border—designed exclusively for Monarch. Price is 30c per 12 ft. roll. Use coupon below to order. Please answer questions 1, 2.

Please send _____ rolls of your special Kitchen Border. I enclose \$_____

1. I plan to buy a new range ☐
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My Name is _____

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Drip...
Drip...
Drip...

Basic data

Juel F. Alstad

FEW sounds are as annoying as the regular drip of a leaky faucet. And few household repairs are so easy to make. The cause of this nuisance is usually a worn washer; the remedy, a new one. Anyone can make the change in a few minutes with only two tools: a screw driver and a flat-jawed wrench. A pipe wrench must not be used, as the ridges or teeth

Figs. 1 & 2. Reading from top to bottom we see: knurled collar, knob, bonnet, packing nut or cap, stem, rubber packing ring, brass washer, threaded spindle, seat washer, bolt. Views show compression type faucet. The Fuller type, less used today, uses oval-shaped ball in place of washers

Fig. 5. Removing the washer is a simple operation; simply take out bolt that holds on worn washer. Washers used in cold water faucets are usually of leather, rubber or some rubberoid composition. Those used in hot water faucets are of fiber to withstand continual heat

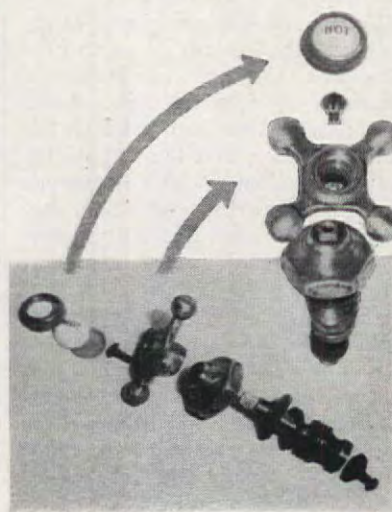


Fig. 3. Removing the bonnet. In the compression type faucet the threaded spindle is raised above the valve seat when the knob is turned on, and allows water to flow out of spout. When faucet is turned off, the spindle is screwed down which forces the washer down against valve seat



Fig. 6. Washers are of various sizes. Commonest are 1/4, 3/8, 1/2 and 3/4 inch. Some are shaped like small domes while others are flat. Also shown is a length of graphite-coated packing cord. Before replacing spindle, examine valve seat in faucet; it may be necessary to smooth seat

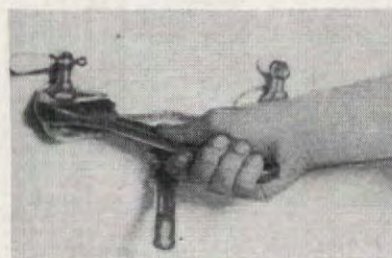
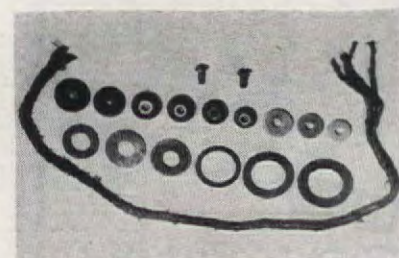
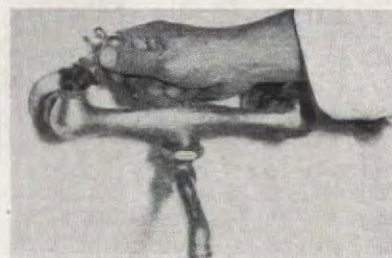


Fig. 4. Entire unit, shown above in Figs. 1 & 2, may be removed by unscrewing bonnet. Worn washer at bottom has prevented proper "seating," thus allowing water to ooze out of spout. Use flat-jawed wrench to unscrew bonnet. Turn counterclockwise as you would any ordinary nut

Fig. 7. If the valve seat is worn, water will leak out along rim of even a new washer. To repair a slightly roughened seat, use length of dowel with a strip of fine emery paper taped on it. Another method is to cut circle of emery with dull scissors. Drill pilot hole, then screw to dowel





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on the jaws will mar the finish. Nowadays almost all home faucets are of the compression type illustrated in figures 1 and 2, although faucets of the Fuller type, shown in figures 9 and 10 are still in active service in some older homes. Of course, the first thing to do when you want to change a water faucet washer is to turn off the water in the main line. The valve seat referred to below is the point at which the seat washer or the Fuller ball comes in contact with the main body of the faucet when the water is off.

Fig. 8. If seat is badly nicked, you'll need a re-seater, or reamer. This inexpensive tool is obtainable in hardware stores. Care must be exercised in using, otherwise you may gouge soft metal. When seat is smooth, remove all chips then replace unit

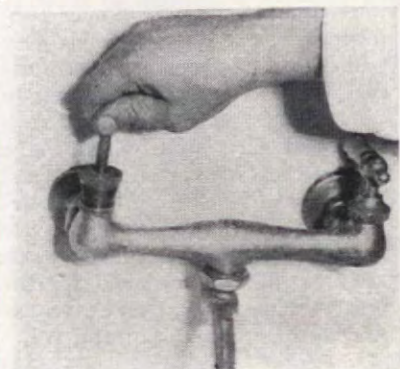


Fig. 9. The Fuller type faucet operates on a different principle. Here, a small rubber ball takes the place of washer. The ball sometimes becomes worn at the inner end where it contacts the seat. To renew, undo the adjusting nut; remove metal cap

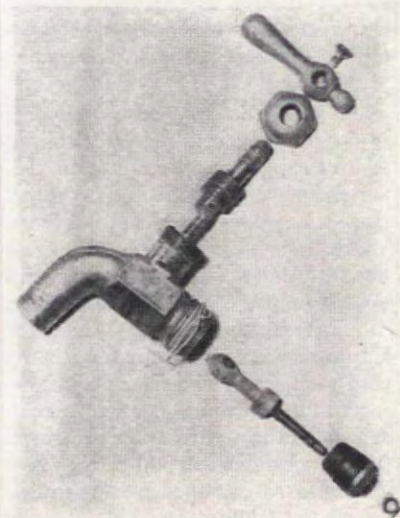
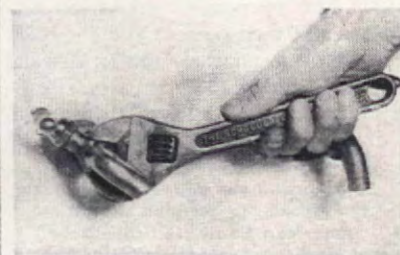
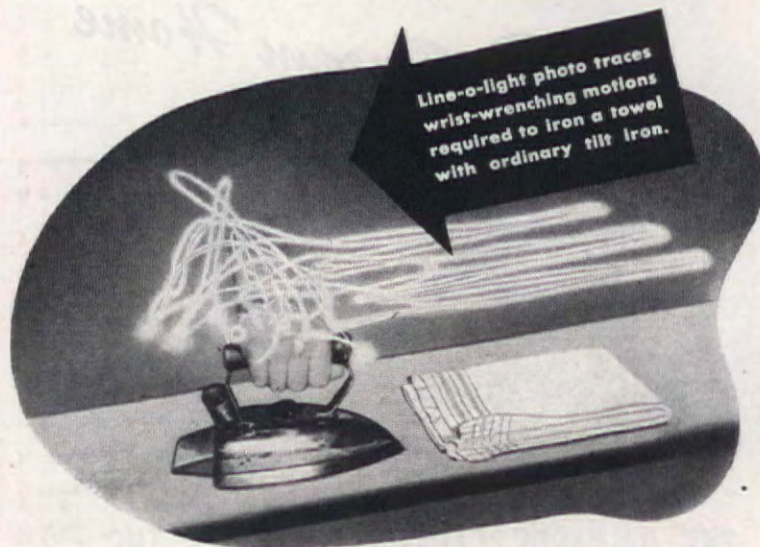


Fig. 10. The Fuller faucet is unscrewed at the water outlet rather than at the bonnet. In both types it is sometimes necessary to replace the packing around the bonnet or at the water outlet. Use waxed string or graphite packing for this purpose



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WHEN IT'S *Suppertime* IN *Summertime*



DOLE PINEAPPLE SHERBET



• Stir together until sugar is dissolved: $\frac{1}{2}$ cup light corn syrup, $\frac{1}{3}$ cup sugar, 2 cups top milk, dash salt, $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups Dole Crushed Pineapple, 2 teaspoons grated lemon peel, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup lemon juice. Freeze in ice cube trays until firm. Beat in chilled bowl until fluffy; fold in 2 stiffly beaten egg whites; finish freezing. Makes about 1 quart.

DOLE PINEAPPLE UPSIDE-DOWN SALAD



• Add 2 tbsps. plain gelatin to $\frac{1}{2}$ cup cold water; let stand 5 minutes. Stir in $1\frac{1}{4}$ cups boiling water, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup sugar, 1 tsp. salt. Drain $\frac{1}{2}$ cup syrup from Dole Pineapple Slices and add, with $\frac{1}{2}$ cup vinegar and $\frac{1}{4}$ cup lemon juice; cool. Pour thin layer in bottom of loaf pan, chill till almost firm; arrange 2 slices pineapple on gelatin, with pimiento in centers, chill till firm. Dice 1 or 2 slices pineapple, mix with 3 cups shredded cabbage, 1 cup diced radishes or cucumbers or celery, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup each diced pimiento and green peppers; fold into remaining gelatin, pour over pineapple in pan; chill. When firm, turn out and serve with mayonnaise. Serves 6 to 8.

CATSUP-GLAZED DOLE PINEAPPLE CHUNKS



• Drain Dole Pineapple Chunks. Melt a little butter or margarine in a skillet; add drained pineapple. Dash generously with catsup, then sprinkle lightly with brown sugar, and heat, gently stirring occasionally, about five minutes, until chunks are glazed and hot.

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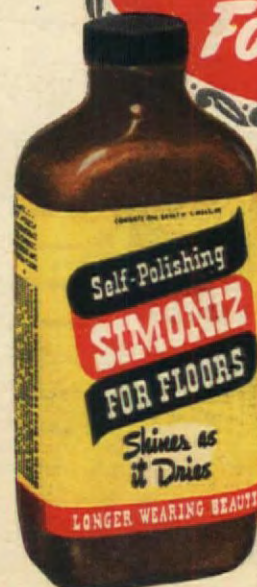
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