The AMERICAN HOMB for July We Redecorate a Small Bedroom



#### "I quit doing my exercises in the kitchen!"

Stooping and bending may be good for the waistline, but I'd rather do my daily dozen some place other than the kitchen.

Before we remodeled, it was stoop and bend all day long. I had to get down on my knees to juggle the waffle iron out of a low cabinet-and of course it was always buried under five or six heavy skillets and the Dutch oven!

Then there was that old floor. Honestly, I was up and down all day long trying to keep it looking passably clean.

Listen, I finally said to myself, this doesn't make sense. You buy appliances that are supposed to be "laborsavers." Then you wear yourself to a frazzle getting them out and putting them away. Why not leave them right out where they're handy? You could keep them dust-free with a flip-up glass door like the ones on the bookcases in Ralph's law office. That idea started me off.

That same day I marched down to Long's store and told Sam Hilborn, "I want a new kitchen floor that I can take care of without turning myself into a contortionist with housemaid's knee.

Sam grinned. We went to high school together. "Guess you'd want something kind of pretty, too, eh, Mabel?"

Of course I did-and I got it! You can see for yourself. It's one of the very newest patterns in Armstrong's Embossed Linoleum. Sam wouldn't let me buy anything but Armstrong's. He said, "You and Ralph are too good friends of mine to sell you anything else.'

You'd never guess it to see him, but Sam's really artistic. He was art editor of our high school annual. It was his suggestion to pick up the cockleshell floor design on the valance.

Sam's clever-but still a little fresh. Suppose I do gain a few more ounces. I'll get my exercise some other way!



this kitchen. Pull-out slides provide extra work space or lunch counter. There's a handy chopping block. A drop door holds a drip dish when you use the grinder. Counter tops are Armstrong's Marbelle Linoleum, Style 021. Floor is Armstrong's Embossed Linoleum, Style 5761. Your linoleum merchant will help you plan an equally smart floor. For free list of furnishings and room plan, just write.



Send for "Album of Room Ideas" by Hazel Dell Brown, famous decorator. It's chock-full of usable ideas for every room in the house and pictures room interiors in full color. If you plan to build or remodel, you'll find this book helpful. For your copy, send 10e (outside U.S.A., 40e) to Armstrong Cork Company, Floor Division, 4707 Pine Street, Lancaster, Penna.

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Even my best friends were surprised to find themselves being bridesmaids for me. (Me—the least-domestic soul in our crowd!) And they were further flabbergasted to find I'd been hoarding a hope chest, complete to the last lovely Cannon Percale Sheet!

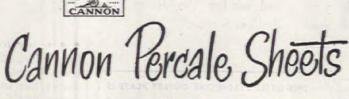


Peg looked impressed. "Want more?" I grinned. "I might add that these Cannon Percales are so fine-woven they have 180 threads to the square inch—25% more than best-grade muslins! And so light weight, for easier bed-making and laundering! Tips for you, Peg—and for the next-to-be-married gal who catches my bouquet!"

Peg, my matron of honor, turned downright green. "Percale!" she said. "That's starting off in style! Gals, feel these luscious things. Smooth, soft...mmmm! Maybe for my millionth anniversary, I'll be able to afford dreamy percale sheets like these!"

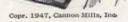


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## CONTRIBUTORS



. . . ANNE WOOD MURRAY has been collecting American antiques and doing historical research in connection with them for the past seventeen years. Her home in Georgetown, D.C., was built in 1820, and she has restored it and furnished it with the old cherry, mahogany, and maple which belong to that period. She has helped to decorate several other old houses, and has assisted in assembling several collections of glass and old china. Always interested in writing, (her first attempt was made at the age of six) she has done research, and assisted in preparing many articles and two books on American antiques. She has made an intensive study of American samplers, designing several. "The Sampler" is on page 25.



· FRED GUND was born and raised in Nebraska, and was graduated from the University of Nebraska with a major in the mathematics of life insurance. He came to New York in 1939 to study photography, and freelanced until March, 1941, when he entered the Army. He served for five years, commanding a photographic company, in Ireland, France, Belgium, Germany, Manila, and Okinawa. He is married, and has a two-year-old daughter who has become an enthusiastic "house scout"—pointing out to him every house they happen to drive past. He resumed his free-lance photographing in January, 1946. Some of his work may be seen in "Wild Goose on the Wing," on page 43.



been writing all her life, and she can prove it. She started with school themes, then letters home; next came grocery lists, feeding formulas, checks and, finally, manuscripts. She has written for newspapers and several national magazines. She does her writing at home, where her children provide both inspiration and hindrance, a situation neatly mirrored in, "Are You a Sunday Failure?" page 20.



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## CONTRIBUTORS



. DOROTHY M. CLARKE describes herself as a redhead whose mind is usually buzzing with ideas on "how-to-do" and "how-to-make" things rather than on her housework. Her husband is a teacher, and she has three children. She began her writing career with an article in THE AMERICAN HOME seven years ago, and since then has become a regular contributor to several magazines. She is a graduate of Oberlin College, has taught arts and handicrafts to school children, Girl Reserve, and Girl Scout groups, and her hobby is water-color painting. She puts some of her "howto-do" ideas into the "Hobbyhorse Party," on page 86.



• • • ANNE HOMER WARNER, daughter of the former Metropolitan Opera star, Madame Louise Homer, is a successful author, having contributed stories to many of the national magazines. Her husband, Robert Warner, is a writer in the nonfiction field. During the war he served with the O.S.S. in the China-Burma-India area. "Quarry House," their New England home, appears on page 39 of this issue.



. . . WILLIAM H. CLARK learned to garden the hard way-on a New England farm. After Harvard, he deserted the soil to become a newspaper reporter and editor, but he did not escape for long. Now, he is back at gardening as an iris and delphinium enthusiast, and as editor of Horticulture, the magazine of the Massachusetts Horticulture Society. He has written articles on agricultural and gardening subjects for newspapers and magazines, and is the author of fourteen books. A recent one is The History of American Agriculture. He is active in horticultural public relations work, and has been associated with the Boston Spring Flower Show for the past fifteen years. He says: "If you've planned right, here's how you can garden in July." See page 21.

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• • • ANTHONY F. MERRILL has been a free-lance newspaper and magazine correspondent in Washington, D. C., for the past twelve years. He became interested in low-cost housing problems and ways to alleviate the housing situation before the war, and wrote an article on rammed-earth houses, as one solution to the problem, for THE AMERICAN HOME of September, 1943. In January, 1947, Harper and Brothers published his book, The Rammed Earth House. His latest article on his favorite subject is, "Earth Blocks by 'Puddling'," page 56. His hobbies include color photography, the theater, public recreation, camping, conservation. He served in the Army Air Forces, and is now attending the London School of Economics.



• • • INEZ RICE describes her family as consisting of "two beautiful but puzzling daughters, and one small and intriguing son." Her husband is an engineer. She was graduated from Oregon State College. She likes to write, but, since she can only work when she's alone, she doesn't get a lot of it done. She says that children "bring back" parents to an understanding of the basic values in life, just as much as parents "bring up" children. And, being brought back can be quite delightful, as in "A Penny's Worth," page 19.



. . . CHARLES L. SAWIN worked his way through college by teaching swimming. Later, he specialized in racing, then took up coaching; his teams won numerous national outdoor swimming championships. In 1939, he also started writing sports articles, free lance, for magazines. Then, as he observed the work of the photographers who were sent out to get the illustrations for his material, Sawin became interested in that phase, and since 1941, he has been illustrating his own articles. His specialty is color photography. He thinks that "Water Sprites," page 24, can be a help to parents in teaching children to swim through play.





MORAL:







# It's New... It's Blended to Stay Bright... "Dutch Boy It's the New Dutch Boy BLENDED Paint!

In Colors or White ...

It's Blended Just Right ...

To Stay Beauty-Bright

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It's a completely new line ... in colors and white.

It's an entirely new kind of "Dutch Boy" House Paint... Blended just right to stay beauty-bright. Blended by the master hand of the "Dutch Boy," with all his years of experience in protecting America's homes with fine paint. Blended of exactly the right ingredients to put a sparkling smile of beauty on the face of your home and keep it there.

## 3 Different Blends for 3 Different Jobs . .

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Because three different types of service are required of house paint. And blending gives you three different types of paint, specially designed for maximum beauty-life in each.

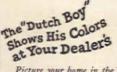
The new "Dutch Boy" Blended Paint brings you these three kinds of paint at their blended best:

- Dazzling White, blended to clean itself and stay white.
- 2. Sparkling Tints, blended to stay fresh and true.

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 Each is specially blended to do its job—blended of the right combination

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Born of more than 30 years of weather testing with all types of house paint . . . the longest continuous outdoor paint testing project of its kind . . . these new "Dutch Boy" Blended Paints are blended to go on easy and stay on long. Blended to prove that, in colors as well as white, "Dutch Boy" is "Good Paint's Other Name."



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BEST FOODS

### Proudly We Announce –

EVIDENTLY THE AMERICAN Home hasn't lost its skill at picking winners. And when we say winners—we mean just that! In selecting the best house built during 1946, judges in the architectural magazine Progressive Architecture's competition felt that two houses were of equal quality, and so awarded two first prizes. And here's where we do a little strutting—both houses had already appeared in The American Home.

One of these winners, the Production Line house, designed by Kenneth N. Lind, appeared in our February issue, while the Gordon Drake residence was our cover house for March. The judges felt that the Lind house was outstanding, because it provides an answer to the present housing problem in the Southwestern states. They liked the Drake design because it definitely proves that a livable house can be built at reasonable cost.

Judges were William W. Wurster, architect and Dean of the School of Architecture at M.I.T.; Eliel Saarinen, architect; Dr. C. E. A. Winslow, chairman New Haven Housing Authority; Fred N. Severud, engineer; Thomas H. Creighton, editor of *Progressive Architecture*, Kenneth Reid, architectural book editor, and Morris Ketchum Jr., architect.

Especially commended by jury for its economical structure, Kenneth N. Lind mass-produced house costs about \$3500



Using veteran labor only, Gordon Drake constructed home with terrace, lily pool, and built-ins for \$4500





IT'S amazing how this charming Nesco "Petite" ensemble helps transform a hum-drum kitchen into cheerful, sanitary "homemaking headquarters" for you.

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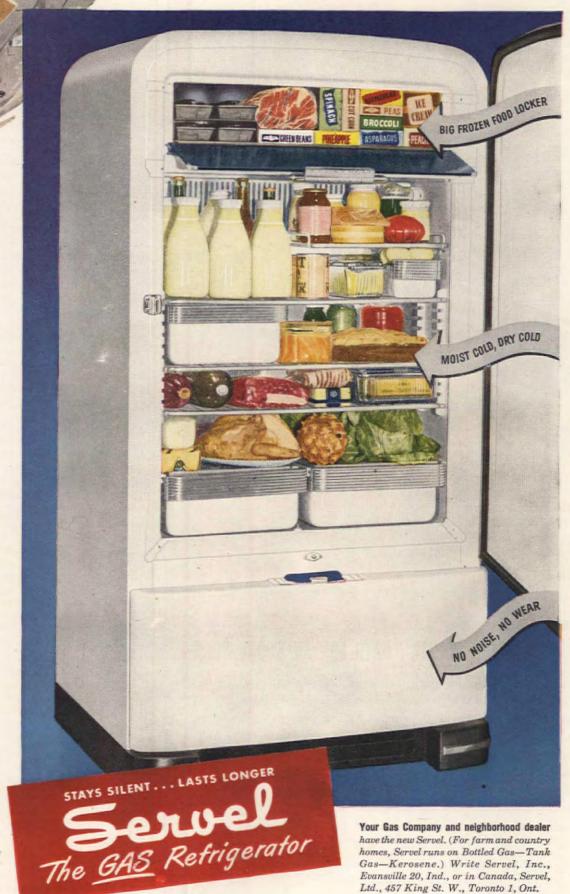


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#### books:

The Cordon Bleu Cook Book by Mrs. Dione Lucas. (Little, Brown and Co.). Price, \$3.00 . . . A Blue Ribbon achievement by the originator of the Cordon Bleu Restaurant and Cooking School in New York. Containing information on the preparation of sophisticated food, the recipes are clearly written, but many are complicated, and only the most experienced cooks could follow them with insured results. There are some fine chapters on fish, meat, and desserts, and a glossary of cooking terms to enlighten both the cook and the epicure.

Painting in the U.S.A., by Alan D. Gruskin. (Doubleday and Co.) Price, \$7.50 . . . In 142 illustrations, 63 in color, the author gives an overall view of contemporary painting in America, and the history of the growth of American painting, its artists' handicaps and aims, its outstanding art movements. Described are such oddities as the old floating gallery which brought art to the people as it went up and down the Mississippi, and Banvard's threemile panorama of the river on canvas.

The Illustrated Encyclopedia of American Birds by Leon Augustus Hausman. The Illustrated Encyclopedia of American Wild Flowers by Ethel Hinckley Hausman, (Garden City Publishing Co.) Price of each, \$2.49 . . . Both these 540-page books aim to give beginners a lot of information, and a quick, easy way to identify common birds and wild flowers. Both hit the first target, but as to the second, the bird book is by far the more successful. A detailed diagram of "bird topography" introduces a 46-page group identification key based on habitats and easily noted characteristics; then comes an alphabetical, descriptive list of 1422 species and subspecies and the 75 families to which they belong. Abundant line sketches and 17 Fuertes paintings, reproduced in full color, effectively supplement the practical text. Mrs. Hausman uses much the same system but, as applied to plant identification, it doesn't seem to us to work out well. Her 60-page "guide to the flower families," presented to give a rough, preliminary identification, follows no apparent order, and each family description is illustrated by only one or two type plants. There is a good glossary, 16 full-page color plates.

Correction: We have been informed of a change of price of The Complete Book of Crochet by Elizabeth L. Mathieson (The World Publishing Co.), reviewed in our March issue. Correct price is \$2.95.

Sorry, we cannot purchase these books for you. They may be obtained through your bookstore. More Comfort in Every Corner of the Room . . .



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The Heatilator Fireplacedraws cool air from the floor, heats it, and returns it to far corners. even into adjoining rooms. Spring and fall, when it's too warm with the furnace going, the Heatilator fireplace drives chill from the house, saves weeks of wasteful furnace fires. Proved for more than 20 years in homes and camps all over America.

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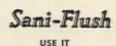
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REGULARI









Inez Rice



buying a world. That is something one does only after careful thought. I must wait with patience. If he needs my advice, he will ask me. But I do not expect it.

Whatever he chooses from that candy case will have the charm and beauty of childhood dreams. But there is so terribly much from which to choose—trays and trays of choice morsels made especially to tempt a little boy.

My little boy is only four, and still very chubby. His blue-striped overalls fit him more tightly across the back than they were intended to. There is a round smudge on the glass before his face where he has breathed on it.

I must wait with fortitude, because there are other customers in the store—all grown-up and waiting, too.

"Decided yet, sonny?" The clerk's voice is pleasant, although there's just a hint of annoyance that my little boy should take so long to spend a mere penny. Naturally, he thinks only the young can be stupid. And yet, I feel my little boy is wiser, in some ways, than any other customer in the store. If all of us were as careful in our selections, how much happier we might be.

"I imagine he has a whole penny to spend," laughs a customer. To her, a penny is a trifle. She has forgotten just how much a penny actually can buy.

As yet, my little boy doesn't realize how insignificant a penny is. He thinks he has a fortune!

An old man standing by the door, calls cheerfully, "Take your time, boy." Perhaps only the very young and the very old know in what ways time is important.

Now his chubby fingers tap on the glass, a merry little tune. "I've decided! I've decided!"

The clerk starts wearily over to the case. He isn't a bit interested in the decision. Since it is only a penny decision, it is practically the lowest decision possible in any store. My curiosity pushes me a little closer to the case, I can feel the excitement in my little boy.

The other customers are glancing at my little boy impatiently. Of what significance is a little boy's purchase? If only they could remember!

His little forefinger is pressed hard against the glass, pointing through it and down to the jelly beans, the sugar-coated nuts, the Cellophane-wrapped caramels. Which is his choice? The clerk bends over pointing to each tray in turn. "This?" he questions three times, and three times my little boy shakes his head.

I am close to tears now. Perhaps a penny is nothing but a nuisance after all. We should never have tried to spend anything so insignificant.

"Then what?" The clerk is rearing up from behind the counter like some angry monster. But my little boy shows no fear. He is still pointing in the same direction.

"What in—in thunder—ation do you w-w-want?" stammers the clerk. His little mustache twitches vigorously.

"There," says my little boy, pressing ever harder with his forefinger. For a moment I tremble lest his finger go right on through. I stand on tiptoes that I may see.

The clerk is bending away over again. His face is very red. Below is a beautiful tray piled high with tiny red cinnamon candies, not much bigger than dots. They are not the biggest things in the case that his penny could buy, but they have the most color and flavor.

The clerk grabs a little spoon and scoops up a bright heap. "Hold out your hand." He speaks more pleasantly, because he knows we'll be leaving soon. My little boy eagerly extends his chubby hand. Into it fall the tiny red dots—or sparkling rubies—or exotic berries. His little fist closes slowly but tightly over them.

"The penny, if you can spare it." The touch of sarcasm in the clerk's voice doesn't bother my little boy. He is rich now, rich and happy! A perfect combination. In return, he drops his penny in the clerk's hand.

At once he turns to leave. Our mission is accomplished. Proudly, I follow him to the door. As we pass the old man, he pipes. "A wise choice, boy."

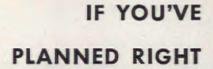
My little boy nods, and very solemnly offers him a dot of cinnamon candy. And solemnly, the old man takes it. He pops it into his mouth, winking at my little boy.

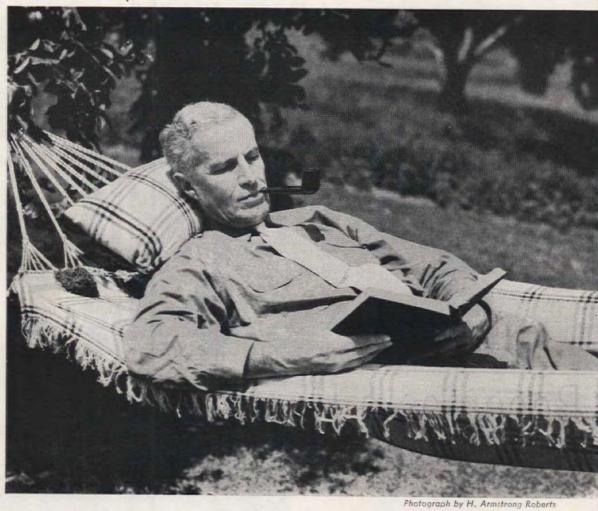
I realize it's all a matter of time. Next year it will take two pennies, or maybe five pennies to buy an equal amount of happiness for my little boy. Yet, as I follow him through the door, I am yearning to taste one of his candies. Why am I so eager for him to offer me one?



William H. Clark







## Here's How You Can Garden in July!

To put it another way, Do you want to cut your garden work in half? . . . I thought as much. Then take a tip, as we did, from the plants that outlive the ruined houses on abandoned farms. Now, we sit at ease on hot, humid summer days and enjoy our garden, while neighbors go right on sunburning their necks and noses and callousing their knees. Oh, of course, we do work at times. But it's mostly during the cool of spring and the freshness of fall. In summer, we have little to do.

How come? Well, the abandoned farms taught us that there are garden plants that will practically take care of themselves if you give them a chance. And, over the years, we have developed a garden of just such hardy plants, Also—and equally fundamental—we plan carefully. Yes, I know that's old advice. But have you ever noticed how few gardeners heed it, and how many gardens grow like most of our cities did, with much the same congestion and confusion?

A basic principle of good planning is to give every plant or clump plenty of room, so it can get the sun, air, and water it needs. Crowd them, and they steal from each other. Few prosper, and in weak, weary plants, insects and diseases find fertile fields for action. Well-spaced plants leave room for maintenance; you can care for them standing up, and do in an hour what it would take you all day, on your knees, in a crowded border. Sardines should be packed, not plants.

Another principle is to anticipate your garden's food requirements by putting them into the ground ahead of the plants. This, of course, means some hard work at the start. If the soil is very poor, replace it with good loam if you can. Work in humus (manure, if you can get it)

and fertilizer so the plants can get what they want without your having to be constantly feeding them. And whenever you transplant or lift and divide clumps, prepare and enrich the ground well before resetting them. Another laborsaving device is knowledge. Find out in advance what conditions your plants are going to need, provide them, and stop fussing around all season trying to make up for basic deficiencies. Remember, for example, that you don't have to be constantly cultivating. Its main purpose is to get rid of weeds, so rid the ground of such things as witch grass before you plant and, thereafter, rout out all newcomers while they're small, as soon as you see them. As to watering, the typical, evening suburbanite sprinkle is practically worthless. When your garden needs water, soak it thoroughly by letting the hose run freely, moving it occasionally-and relaxing between times.

A close second to good planning is simplicity. Decide what you want in your garden (and what you will take care of); plant enough to give a good effect as it becomes established; and then refuse to be tempted by any well-intentioned neighbors bearing gifts (of material they cannot use). Go further. Remember that, desirable and valuable as a lawn is, it is one of the most difficult of garden features to maintain in top-notch condition. So keep it small; make it carefully; build it up in the spring by feeding it well. A good lawn not only looks better, but is more easily cared for than a thin, weedy one. If you habitually sit in one part of it, don't be continually trying to cure or prevent the resulting bare spots. Instead. pave that portion of the lawn and forget it. In shady places, where grass never grows well anyway, put in a hardy, evergreen ground cover. Reduce the grass edges that need constant attention by planting flowering shrubs that droop gracefully down and hide them—and which, themselves, require a minimum of care.

Careful arrangement goes hand in hand with simplicity, for as you limit your material, you must see that the bloom is well distributed as to both location and season. This may take some rearranging until you get things just right. But, as we have proved in our garden, you can have some color somewhere from early crocus time until the last chrysanthemum is cut down by frost. Again, select your plant material for hardiness (to prevent ugly holes appearing every now and then), and for independence, so it will be happy with a minimum of attention. . . And now, I'll list, as suggestions, a few plants that serve us well here, near Boston:

Shrubs: Lilacs; flowering crabs; hawthorns; Forsythia intermedia; Philadelphus (the old coronarius); Lonicera tartarica; flowering-quince; spireas; beautybush; snowberry; coralberry.

Bulbs: For spring, mainly trumpet and poeticus narcissus; lots of tulips (though about one-third go each year); crocuses, snowdrops, scillas, etc. For summer, gladiolus (tucked into borders and left there); lilies, henryi, regale, speciosum, canadense, candidum, superbum, umbellatum.

Annuals: Alyssum and cosmos from seed; calendulas, marigolds, petunias, snapdragons, and zinnias, mostly bought as plants. Not many, for —

Perennials are the backbone of our garden: Day-lilies; plantain-lily (Hosta); phlox; peonies (superior new kinds); and perhaps half a hundred others, including Oriental poppies, peach-leaved bellflower, yucca, beebalm, gypsophila, iris (bearded, Japanese, Siberian), heuchera, etc., etc.

## An Old Red Barn



## Becomes a Home...

uncovered except for a few throw rugs and a large braided oval by the fireplace, and the livingdining room has an uncluttered spaciousness. Mrs. Leighter is a tiny creature, but her husband is well over six feet, and she felt the house should have a comfortable openness that would not induce in him an inclination to claustrophobia.

Mrs. Leighter did all the decorating and planning of the reconversion from barn to home. She was, as well, a free soul who felt there was no discrepancy in mixing with care good pieces of furniture of different periods and woods. A comfortable footstool, upholstered in material woven by John Kachel in 1838, is a good neighbor to the modern leather couch. While the dining table is of fruitwood, the chairs are old mahogany covered in a warm red fabric. From Pennsylvania came an old butter tub to be converted into a useful lamp table. Under the north windows a dough bench, used by the hardy women of Colonial days for breadmaking, has now become a table.

In the guest room, trim four-poster mahogany beds stand on either side of a Victorian night table on which is a gay 1890's lamp complete with red roses. Pink-and-blue chintz is used at the windows and for bedspread tops with flounces of unbleached

Ethel McCall Head

Jackson Leighters one day came upon a simple barn with good lines, tucked at the back of a pleasant piece of property some hundred and fifty feet back from the street! That barn, for all its sheds and stalls, did something to the Leighters.

It had an air! It was hidden by trees and shrubbery from the street. It had possibilities. They bought it. Not being of the school of thought that believes in streamlining an old building to remove every vestige of its origin, the Leighters were determined to keep the essential, rambling character of their abandoned barn. As a result, they let the plan of their house follow the original lines of stalls and tack rooms, and now they find the oddshaped kitchen and living room have an interesting charm. While the house rambles, it is not large.

When the Leighters first purchased the place, they thought that, possibly in the future, they would build a new house on the front part of the property. But now that the barn has turned out so successfully, they want to stay put! The front section may be developed into a garden. And when one sees the board-and-batten red house with fresh white trim, spread under gnarled old pepper trees, then it is easy to understand why the Leighters have no further desire to move up front!

At the far west side of the property, a heavily planted driveway leads from the street back to a motor court. The bricked path widens to become a cool north terrace with benches and chairs grouped under the trees. A hedge divides a plot of grass and colorful shrubbery and flowers from the unused front portion of the land, so that the house seems to be really in the country.

A Dutch door gives direct entry to the living room where the west and north walls are opened by banks of windows. While the dining space is actually part of the living room, it gains a sense of separation by its angled walls, which are of knotty pine with natural finish as a contrast to the white boarding of the living room.

The whole house has a pleasant, woody feeling. The wide pine boards of the floor are left largely



muslin below. Soft-pink vertical boarding is a pleasant wall material for contrast to the knotty pine floors and ceiling of the guest room.

The master bedroom goes all out Victorian with a huge bed, dresser, and a rocking chair that belonged to Mrs. Leighter's grandmother. The boldpatterned cabbage-rose chintz is a natural with the heavy furniture. A small area that did not seem to mean much was turned into a pleasant sitting room adjoining the bedrooms. Banks of windows look out to the garden, old pieces and new are carefully put together, and the result is charming.

One wing, at an angle, became the kitchen of the house, and this left an unlighted passageway which was turned into a combination pantry and breakfast room by the addition of a single window and a generous skylight. Here there is plenty of storage space for dishes and a colorful spot for quick meals. The skill with which odd pieces of furniture nave been combined is well exhibited in this room, for the Queen Anne table, Pennsylvania Dutch chairs, and English prints are effective.

By respecting the innate good lines of the old building and adding the amenities of comfortable, nformal living, this barn of another era has become a charming home for a modern young couple.



Beamed ceilings, pine walls, deep leather furniture, give a cozy, safe, secluded feeling to these rooms. Above, looking over one of the fireside wing chairs, you see the angled board wall of the dining room with the provincial table. Grandmother's old black-walnut bed, right, finds its complement in the cabbage-rose chintz. Below, right, a pleasant spot in the living room: a pine bench, crisscross curtains, and an old hooked rug





Above, the living room: solid, masculine comfort, a cottage atmosphere. Walls are white-painted pine boards, upholstery is leather, except for the old quilt covering the giant footstool. A butter tub beside the wing chair holds a student lamp, reading and smoking accessories. A second bedroom, right, is livable, comfortable. Walls are pink painted boards





sweet vista into the garden through the Dutch door. An old dough able, unbleached muslin curtains, and a rush chair have native charms



Charles Sawin

FRESH air, sunshine, and water-there is a combination that every child loves. My three-year-old son is no exception. When we began his swimming lessons, his five-year-old sister, Ginny, led the way. Children being natural imitators, Buddy, in a few weeks, was paddling happily about.

Learning to swim can be all play for a little tot, though an adult may find it an embarrassing ordeal packed with fear. A child is born without fear of the water, and should not be deprived of the fun of playing in it. Guided properly, such play will lead to an early swimming career, before fear is felt.

The first objective is to get the child to hold his breath. While some do this automatically, others will attempt to breathe under water. To prevent this, demonstrate how to hold the breath out of water-open your mouth wide, quickly inhale, then puff out your cheeks with mouth closed tightly. To help Buddy, we let him play with shells, first in the onefoot-deep baby pool where it was easy fun for him to pick them up off the bottom. After a few days, we made a game of his picking them up with his face under water. At this point, he began to hold his breath, and soon he was scattering the shells in deeper water and boldly ducking under to recover them, with no worry about water in his nose and mouth. Praise of such ducking efforts will lead to their being repeated.

Buddy's second step toward swimming was learning to float face downward while holding his breath. With sisterly demonstrations and some encouragement, he was soon doing it. Next, we talked about boats and engines while we taught him to kick while clinging to 24 the edge of the pool. The scissors kick should be done with the legs fairly straight but not stiff, and the feet extended. When Buddy had learned to "kick like an engine," he tried it on a flutterboard, Ginny accompanying him on hers. . . . More play-but results, too.

With no fear of water, knowledge of how to hold his breath, and unlimited energy, Buddy was more than anxious to learn to dive. Again sister Ginny demonstrated the easy way to dive without making much splash, first from a low step, then from higher ones. Buddy quickly followed her lead, without any form, and with plenty of splash. However, he did get into the pool, took a few short strokes-and more progress had been made. Thereafter, we constantly encouraged him to take long, slow strokes and swim easily "like the champions do". We want him to copy their style of lying in the water and allowing their own buoyancy to hold them up, as they breathe rhythmically and use all their energy in propelling themselves with long, loose, relaxed strokes.

After only a few weeks of this training, Buddy can now dive into the pool and swim about as far as he can hold his breath. Next, Ginny will encourage him to "blow bubbles" in breathing. This is simple. The child opens his mouth, gasps in lots of air, then ducks his face under water and blows bubbles slowly through nose or mouth, whichever seems easier. Before all the air is exhaled, he lifts his face out of water to take another deep breath. This simple exercise is the basic principle behind the breathing of our great swimmers.

When should you start your child swimming? The answer is, "As soon as he likes to play in shallow water." And that is usually before the sixth birthday.

To dispel fear of water play in it. Ducking for shells, at increasingly greater depths, is a jolly and teaches one how to hold one's breath



Taught, in shallow water, to "kick like an engine," children soon are ready for the fun of propelling a flutterboard. From this they rapidly progress—



To free swimming and the gradual perfection of arm strokes and swimming form. Remember-keeping it all fun leaves no opportunity for fear to enter in



With two years head start and experience, sister Ginny demonstrates shallow diving, first from a submerged step, then from successively higher one:



And Buddy soon follows suit. . . This, his first dive into deep water, may lack form and finesse, but it's full of confidence, enjoyment, enthusiasm . . This, his firs



## THE SAMPLER ++++ FIRST RECORD OF DESIGN



Sampler on silk, courtesy of Museum of the City of New York

No one knows the age of the first sampler, but it probably goes back to the beginning of needlework.

None earlier than the 17th century has been preserved for us

Anne Wood Murray

HE word sampler, which has descended from the Latin "exemplar" through the old French "essemplaire" and the Chaucerian English "samplere" to its present form, is defined as a "pattern of work, an example." It is reminiscent of the first age of the sampler when no pattern books existed, when the sampler was a notebook of design, a space of linen on which were recorded the embroidery stitches and designs, painstakingly gathered from many sources, and handed down from mother to daughter. During the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries, the sampler was a personal art education considered essential for every woman and girl. Today, these records of early embroidery methods and designs are sought by antique collectors and gathered for museums.

In speaking of samplers, Marcus Huish says that the art displayed, whether it be in the design or dexterity with the needle, improves as we retrogress until, in the exact center of the 17th century, we arrive at a moment when little is left to be desired; the samplers show great variety of stitches, admirable design, and the materials of which they were made are fresh and well preserved. The earliest authentic sampler on record is that of Anne Gower, spelled Gover on sampler, wife of Governor Endicott of Massachusetts. No doubt this sampler crossed the Atlantic with her in 1628, and is in the possession of the Essex Institute, Salem, Massachusetts. It is a beautiful example of drawn work, with lettering the color of the linen. Since the earliest sampler we know indicates the art of sampler-making was already fully developed, it

must have been the descendant of a long line of progenitors. The earliest mention of a sampler occurs in the account book of Elizabeth of York, where an entry of July 10, 1502, tells us that she paid 8d for an ell of linen cloth for one. The first age of the sampler, when odds and ends of decorative designs, both for embroidery and lacework, were scattered without any order over linen, gradually gave way to the second age, when the designs were placed in more orderly rows and formed, in themselves, a harmonious whole. Its first completed form was one of narrow breadth and considerable length, owing to the narrow hand looms of the day. These early samplers, which are sometimes called "samp cloths" or "samplettes" in Old English references, were always on linen, and had no names or dates upon them. They could not be dated, since new stitches or designs were constantly being added, making the performance a continuous one. These long samplers were usually kept on a roll for convenience.

Needles were invented to help women become more proficient in making samplers. They were first made by a native of India who died in 1545. The art was lost at his death, but in 1560 an Englishman named Christopher Greening recovered the process. In 1595, all needlework was again stimulated by the invention of the first thimble, which is said to have been made by a Dutch silversmith, Van Reneselar, as a gift for his wife.

No doubt the Tudor sampler, of which we have no example, was the same long, narrow sampler that the 17th century shows. The needlework on the older English sam-

Photographs by F. M. Demarest

plers is most exquisite. The upper portion of the very long and narrow piece of linen was always given to elaborate running designs in color, of conventionalized roses, tulips, strawberries, trefoil, Indian Pink, the "Tree of Life," and geometric designs, either alone or in combination. Beautifully executed drawn or cutwork designs in white often filled the lower half. Experts believe that many of these early patterns originally came from Italy and other foreign sources. According to one book of the time, Catherine of Aragon taught the women of Bedfordshire cutwork or reticella made of linen, an art practiced both in Italy and Spain. A type of figure called "Boxer" often decorated the older samplers. After appearing with a companion almost constantly for over a century, one misses them after the middle of the 18th century. These little classical figures, sometimes referred to as "Cupids of the Renaissance," were probably adapted from the Italian embroidery after the appearance of the Italian Venetian Pattern book.

EARLY samplers had cross borders instead of framing borders, and ornamentation was chiefly confined to flowers and geometric designs, the pink or carnation, that flower of ancient times, without which a Persian ornament is scarcely complete, occurs even oftener than the rose in 17th century specimens. The strawberry motif appears again and again and, occasionally, the honeysuckle was used. Crowns and coronets, the Greek fret, and the trefoil helped to make up the geometric designs. On some of the 17th century samplers, as many as ten cross-borders of floral motifs were executed in almost as many stitches. The framing border was a natural outgrowth of the cross border. The earliest English border of this type recorded by Huish, is one of trefoils, dated 1726. But according to Bolton and Coe, in 1721, a little American girl, Mary Daintery, age 8, embroidered a sampler broader than it was long, and put a border all around it. There is a record of an English sampler with a framing border of pinks in 1738, and one in 1771 with the rose. The strawberry must have been beloved by sampler makers, for after appearing in almost every one of the 17th century long samplers, it still held its place as a favorite motif for the later framing borders. The Spaniards brought the art to Mexico, but neither the early Dutch nor the early Germans seems to have brought a particular form to this country. It was the English sampler which provided the model for the American samplers for over a century. It is notable that practically all the examples of New York samplers which have come to us, were made on Long Island, where the English and not the Dutch influence prevailed. In the 17th century and first half of the 18th, New England furnishes the largest number of samplers, followed by Long Island, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

It was not until the 18th century that samplers began to take on a development of design, reflecting the life of that day in America. Before that time, when England had been producing her mest beautiful samplers, American samplers had been mostly copies of English models. The colonists were faithful to the flowers appearing on the English samplers, and the wild strawberry was transplanted to the American sampler and cherished as tenderly as it had been by the English. It was Mary Webb, in 1760, who gave the first hints of the genealogical sampler to come, but this type of sampler did not arrive in all its glory until late in the 18th century. The first real genealogy recorded

seems to be of the Olmsteads of Connecticut in 1774.

In considering the development of the American sampler, one would be drawn into a study of the schools of those early days, for most of the samplers that have come down to us, were made in those schools. First came the Dame schools, where very young children were taught, but the more complicated samplers were made by the older girls in finishing schools. We do not know exactly when the first one was established, but they were in existence as early as 1706. It is touching to think that often a bit of stitchery is the only record left of an unknown school or teacher of that long-ago educational system.

Judging by the number of samplers dated between 1800 and 1810, embroidery had a revival after the Revolution. As has been said, the development of the American sampler by that time had begun to reflect the life of the day in America. Conditions would naturally make American and English samplers of that time different. Pattern books were scarce here. The practice of making samplers in schools grew, but many children lived in remote villages. Their lack of instruction in drawing led to many amusing inaccuracies in perspective and proportion. Often the design was drawn directly on the linen with pen or pencil, but sometimes the outline was drawn on thin paper and placed under the scrim, the design showing through, and the paper torn off when the work was finished.

The human figure, with the exception of the famous "Boxers," had seldom been portrayed on samplers, owing perhaps to the difficulty of showing the face, a situation overcome in the later samplers by painting the face, However, about 1730, a school, evidently near Boston, conceived the idea of using Adam and Eve and the apple as a subject for the religious enlightenment of pupils. Enormous apples grew upon the apple tree, and the serpent, looking like a fat angleworm, coiled around it. After 1783, Adam and Eve became a favorite theme, "clothed or unclothed, fat or lean." This was the period, too, of pictures of "workless shepherds courting with pipes," while flowers as large as cabbages bloomed near by.

to appear without the pious verse which had been used after 1760. In the half century preceding the use of pious verse, the gloom of death and the grave had pervaded the sampler verse. It was Loara Standish, daughter of Captain Miles Standish, who began that long line of pious verse that was to decorate both English and American samplers for so many years. In addition to the 19th century samplers done with neither verse nor alphabet, we find many where the borders seem to have been worked as fancy willed instead of the old repeating designs.

Two types of samplers that were much in vogue in England never became popular in America. One was the map sampler, a product of the later half of the 18th century, and the other the darning-stitch sampler, probably originated by the Dutch. The English made a thing of beauty of the darning sampler, but the idea never appealed to American sampler makers.

In spite of the period of gloom, and the pious period in sampler verse, there are numerous instances of humorous and rebellious verse, as well as cheerful sentiments. Most sampler workers seemed to take pride in telling when they finished their work. "Wrought by" was used in Great Britain, but many and varied were the ways in which the American child told of her accomplishment.









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## The House that Music Built

Photographs by Julius Shulm



Rags in living room's immense rug were dyed and braided to pick up room's color scheme

EVERY Thursday night, Meredith Willson, one of America's finest composers, walks up to an NBC microphone and gets into a discussion with George Burns and Gracie Allen. He gets great fun out of convincing listeners that he is a dope, and yet-he can conduct a great symphony orchestra through compositions by Bach or Beethoven.

Meredith has finally achieved that "home of their own" that he and his wife dreamed of for years. It's a friendly place, and furnished with old treasures picked up around the country, and fine old pieces brought from Iowa. Authentic wallpapers and fabrics assist in effecting the richness and homeyness that antiquity can give. In every room, there's a musical memento. Meredith is an enthusiastic collector of miniature orchestras and conductors. One tiny band is formed from a collection of china cats. Another group features flute players. And around the walls of the den are ranged music plates, with portraits of Liszt, Chopin, Grieg, Schubert, Beethoven and Mendelssohn, carrying the opening bars of their most famous compositions.

In the den, the colors are predominantly red, green, and white. The long couch beneath the corner window is upholstered with a checked fabric; the same fabric covers the wall.

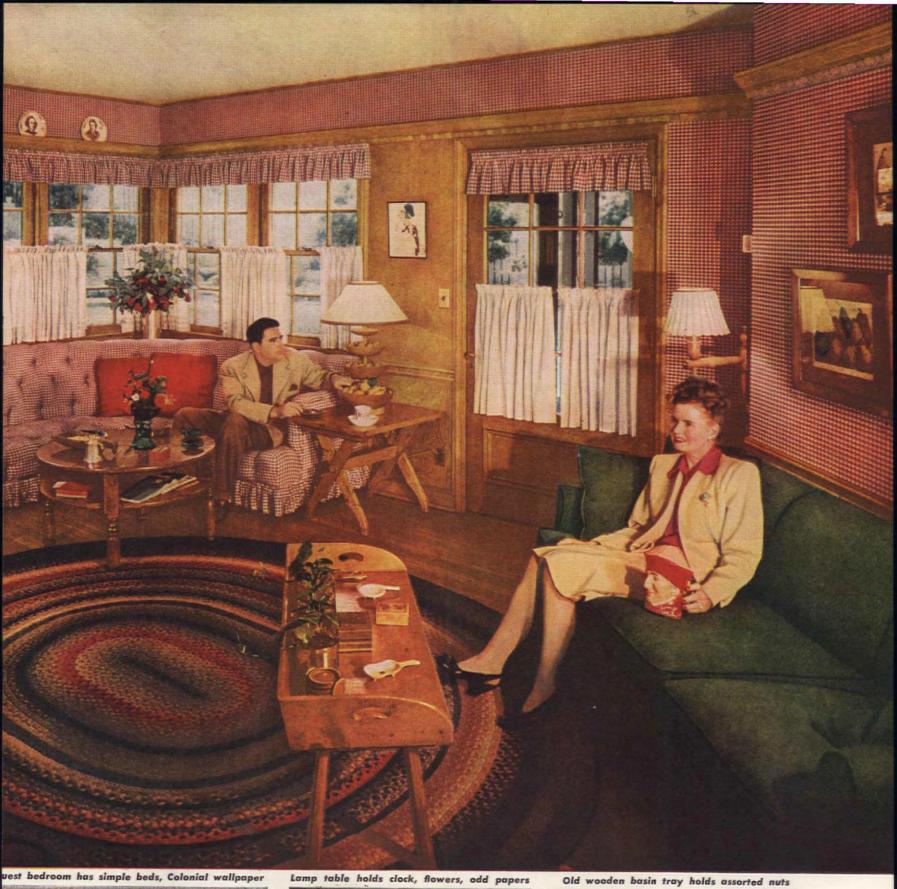


Dining table of English prototype is fine example of Colonial Americana



Headboard in master bedroom was made from two French provincial settees











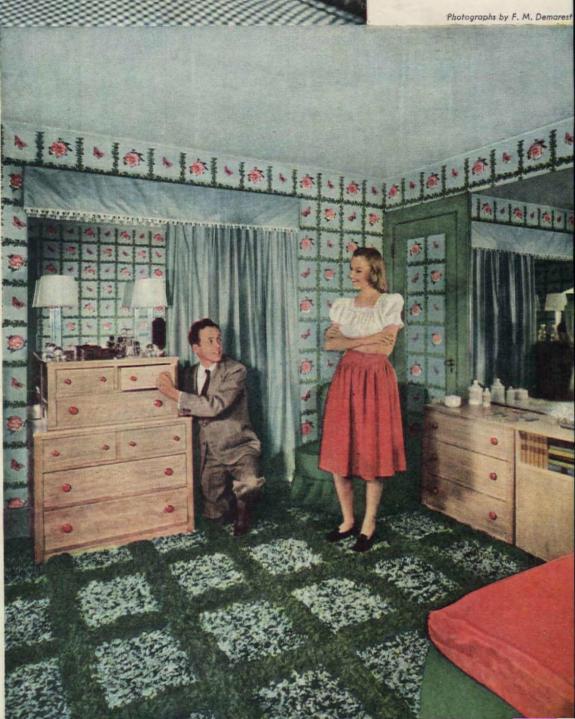


The room was nice enough before, but Jane had other ideas for bringing it upto-date, like generous use of mirror and streamlining furniture. The latter was sanded to a soft honey-beige and rubbed with pigment to give it a pickled effect

This is the story of Jane and the camellia—or camellias, plural. It is the story of how one girl changed flowers (and rooms) in midseason, and thereby hangs the tale.

Jane is an attractive girl with a handsome and enterprising husband. They live in a small two-story cottage in Forest Hills, New York, which name you have heard, because of its association with tennis.

In an upstairs corner of Jane's house is a small guest bedroom. The room was furnished all right, but it never received much attention, or decoration for that matter, because nobody ever lived in that room, except on the occasions when Jane and Jim had overnight guests. The wall-paper was "nice enough." It blossomed with red roses, and the blossoms had their fair share of green leaves. There were a couple of hooked rugs on the floor that had long since lost their original color and were faded to a go-with-anything taupe. The furniture, too, was "good enough," and had been for some time. It was of oak-"solid oak," as the furniture men always say, rapping their knuckles on the firm wood—and had a brownish stained finish. The simple, short, ruffled organdy curtains were



## A Camellia for Jane . . .

-being the story of a small bedroom which, by redecoration, became more purposeful and achieved the illusion of greater space

Mary E. Monze and James M. Wiley



fresh and crisp over the Venetian blinds. There was a great, comfortable chair in one corner which had been leftover when Jane refurnished her living room; she had relegated it to the bedroom, because it was still too useful, she thought, to throw away. But it wasn't appropriate

enough for the new living room. So into the bedroom it went.

The bed was a single one, and one year Jane had made a spread of green-and-white checked gingham which looked very pretty, indeed, with the rose-patterned wallpaper.

That about sums up the room. It was an "average" room, and comfortable enough. It wasn't as pretty as the rest of Jane's house, but she told herself that many a person would be glad to call it home. That thought, in itself, made her feel just a bit guilty. Why shouldn't the room be put to work to house some unsheltered and lonely head?

There were several other things that influenced Jane. It was early spring, and you know what notions spring can put into a young lady's head. New issues of her favorite Compare the crowded corner above with the view at left. Bed and furniture placed along the wall open up center of room, mirror gives illusion of still more space. A cabinet beside bed holds lamp, books, pillow, and an extra blanket

magazines had just arrived in the mail, and Jane was intrigued with all the pretty rooms she saw. On Sunday, Jim had bought her a corsage of fresh camellias, her favorite flower, which she pinned to her new blue dress and wore to church. In an advertisement in one of her magazines, Jane saw a handsome room which (it said there) someone had redecorated, rented to a friend, and the income from the rented room paid for all the new decorations.

So, when Jane turned to us for help, we saw a good chance to help some lucky person find a room for his lonely head, a chance to help Jane achieve the pretty room which she obviously (to us) wanted, and also get the good "before" and "after" picture story which you see here.

The clincher came when we were showing Jane some samples of wall-papers. She spied the one you see on our cover, a soft-blue ground latticed with green garlands, with large pink camellias and butterflies spaced in the blue squares. It seemed to synthesize everything Jane liked—

the blue of the paper, the pink of the camellias, and the butterflies, which somehow heralded spring and a fair summer. It also gave us our key to the decorating scheme.

We built the room around the paper. But first, there was a great deal of groundwork and preparation which had to come before the room could be finally assembled. This was where Jim, Jane's husband, came in.

Jim has a small workbench in the cellar, and enough tools to make him classify as more than a handyman. The furniture was hauled downstairs to the cellar "workshop" and, under our direction, Jim set to work. The legs were sawed off the dresser and the bureau, and the mirror was removed from the dresser. The dresser then became the bottom part of a chest-on-chest which we fabricated. The bureau was sawed in two. just two drawers down from the top. This top segment was later placed on the dresser, screwed into place, to make the new chest-on-chest. One operation, which seemed rather minor. but did much to modernize these two

Top section of old bureau, sawed off, becomes top of new chest-on-chest at right





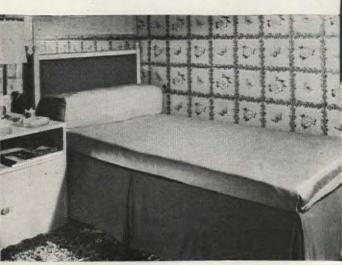
Dresser base, with legs and mirror removed, has now become base of new piece





Bottom three drawers of old bureau became the low chest at left, above. New cabinet of same height was made to hold bed pillow and extra blankets

The footboard of the bed was ripped off just above rail. Piece of plywood was upholstered and then slipped into the recessed panel of the headboard



pieces, was the removal of the twoinch overhang on the top edge of both. You will note this in the before pictures at left; then please look at the finished chest-on-chest which, without this overhang, has taken on a modern, streamlined appearance.

The footboard of the bed was ripped off just above the rails, and the top half was discarded. Jim went to work with an electric sanding machine and, in due time, reduced the furniture to the original wood color—a soft honey-beige. White paint was applied, and part of it rubbed off, which gave the wood a sort of pickled finish; a coat of shellac sealed the wood, and two coats of flat varnish protect the tops from water marks and stains. The knobs were painted the camellia-pink.

From oak planks which he bought, Jim also constructed a cabinet with an open shelf for books, and a cupboard beneath for the bed pillow and extra blankets.

A paper hanger came one day and, when he left, the ceiling of the room was a cerulean blue, and camellias bloomed on the walls. The wood trim was given another coat of paint, the same shade of green it was before. But the panels of the doors were papered, as was the entire interior of the clothes closet.

Contributing as much as anything to the garden look of the room is the rug, which was a find. It is all cotton, not half as dear in price as it looks, and you sink into it up to here! Thick tufts of green divide it into squares, and the centers are filled with green and blue mixed together.

Because the room is quite small, and there is a window off-center, Jim and Jane decided to splurge on the mirrors. One panel of mirrors, placed on the wall alongside the window, makes a centered grouping on that wall. The group is further tied together with a valance which extends over both the window and the mirror, making a really important feature of it. Floor-length draw curtains of inexpensive blue sateen, unlined, are effective whether they are drawn as shown on page 30, or pulled apart.

One large panel of mirror was set above the chest of drawers (originally the bottom half of the bureau) and the cabinet which Jim made. It is continued, in effect, by the clear glass which covers two Dufy drawings (reproductions) in black and white on the wall above the bed. This side of the room is shown on page 31.

It was a comparatively simple matter to upholster the panel in the headboard in an emerald-green fabric similar to serge. A tailored skirt of the same fabric was made for the bed. It was designed with inverted pleats at corners and center and covered entire box spring. A simple tuck-in spread and square bolster were made of camellia-pink faille.

The large, overstuffed chair was replaced by a slipper chair, better suited to the size of the room, and this was slip-covered in the same emerald-green fabric as used on the headboard and for the tailored skirt.

To modernize further, the two wall light brackets were removed. Adequate light was provided by a pair of lamps on the chest, and a large lamp placed beside the bed.

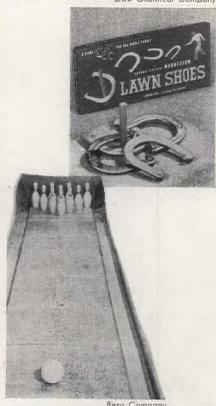
Now, Jane has her new room, the room has a tenant, and we have our story which we hope has provided you, too, with ideas for doing over that neglected room in your home. Just as our concept of the term "gardens" includes the entire home environment, so our idea of "what a garden is for" includes not only growing and enjoying plants, but many other outdoor-living activities. Herewith, some game suggestlons

Pitcher's Box

GARDEN GAMES . . .

Handsome magnesium "Lawn Shoes" (full size, but only 9 oz.) and hardwood pins are easy on lawn and players.

Dow Chemical Company



"Lucky Strike" home bowling set, of 10" x 3" pins and 4" maple balls, is for any smooth surface in or out

ASEBALL in your back yard? If you cringe at the thought of broken windows and irate neighbors, relax. For here is a game that closely resembles real baseball yet can be played—and safely—in the average small home garden. It was originated by two lonely boys who grew up without companions of their own age in a neighborhood with no sand-lot leagues or public playgrounds. The result they called Bounce Ball, and they have been playing it, with minor changes, ever since. True, they are now grown men, with children of their own, but in the back yards of their homes are replicas of the original bounce-ball box. It isn't an unusual sight to see some other neighborhood father inspecting

the equipment, measuring, jotting down notes and, later, hammering away in his own basement or garage. Thus another box is made, and the popularity of the game spreads. Many a tired businessman finds as much relaxation, stimulation, and entertainment in it as does his growing son or daughter, for it is no more exclusively a child's game, than is handball. It provides good outdoor fun (one can play but two players are preferable) and it is an effective developer of muscle co-ordination.

As to equipment, the ball should be a standard hollow handball; anything that will bounce well and not jeopardize windows, hotbed sash, etc. For efficient fielding practice, a regular fielder's glove may be worn.

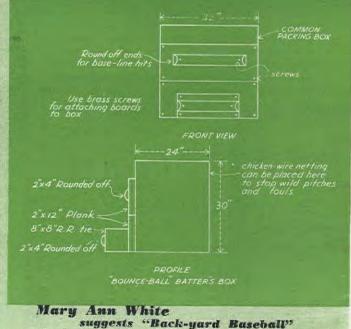
The "bounce-box" is easily made of easy-toget materials, as shown in the drawings below. The layout of the field, suggested in the sketch above, at the left, can be modified as to size and shape to meet the restrictions and requirements of any particular back yard, lot, or garden space available. A scoreboard (made of an old blackboard or piece of wallboard, plywood, etc.) is a useful addition and adds realism to the game. If a large chart of a regulation diamond can be provided, also 18 pieces or men (to represent two teams) equipped with thumbtacks or suction discs so they can be attached to it, a game's progress can be reported play by play most excitingly, making the scorekeeper's job important, enjoyable, enviable.

As in regulation baseball except as follows—
Number of players: One or two (pitchers only).
Fictitious line-ups may be used for scoring.
Put-outs: All fly balls, wherever caught. All fair balls fielded on first bounce inside Zone 1, except those that simulate bunts; these must be fielded while still spinning.
Strikes, strike-outs: There are none in this game.
Balls: Wild pitches count as balls, as do pitches that strike the ground before hitting box.
One-base hits: All fair balls stopped within Zone 1, but not caught on the first bounce.
Two-base hits: All fair balls fielded (or fumbled) outside Zone 1.
Three-base hits: All fair balls that reach either hedge line or hit garage sides, or other previously agreed upon objects.

RULES OF THE GAME

Home runs: fair balls hit over either hedge or onto garage roof (or elsewhere as agreed).

Base running: Runners advance one base on each wild pitch, and on every out except the third, or on a caught fly. They advance two bases on a double. (Thus, with a man on third and one out, the pitcher should try to force a fly by hitting the top edge of the 8 x 8, or that of either of the 2 x 4 strips.



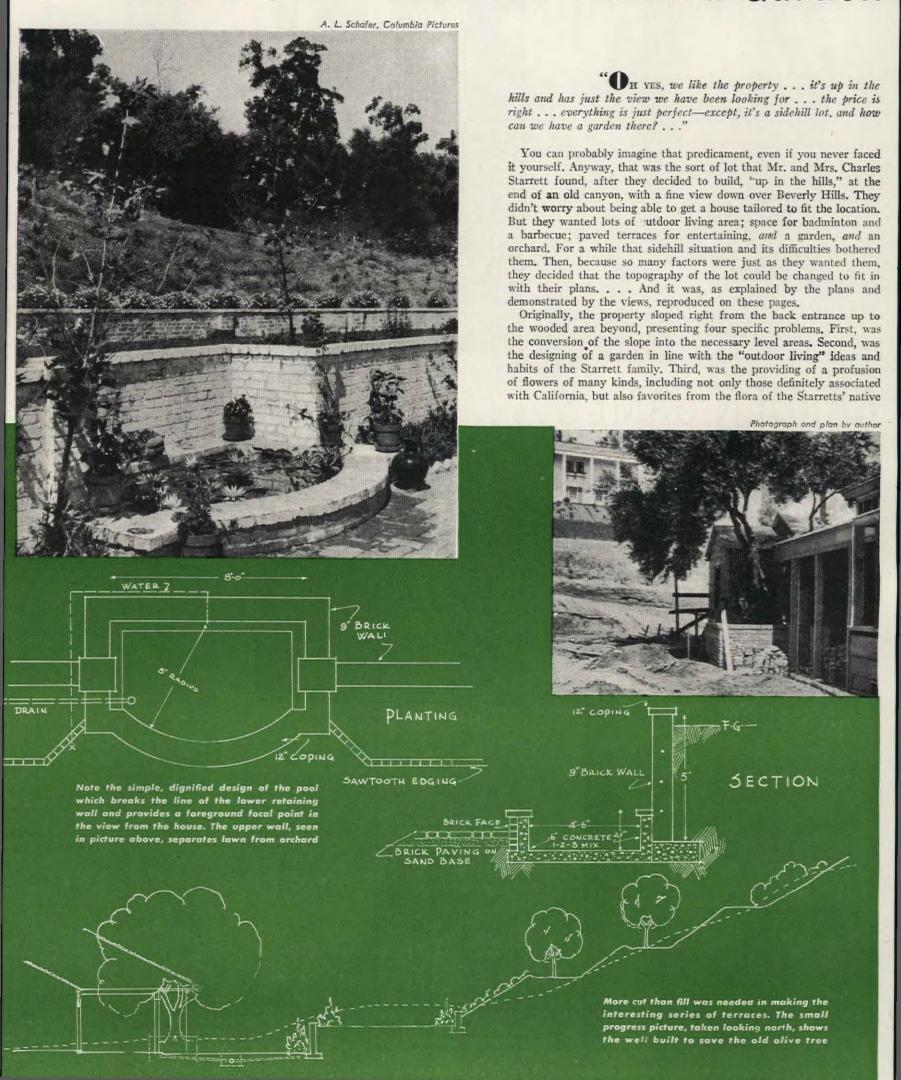
Mastercraft Products

One of the control of the con

In this "Portable Golf Range," the captive ball tees itself; the target tests your skill, and your game benefits

Harold Wallis Steck

## "Can We Make a Garden

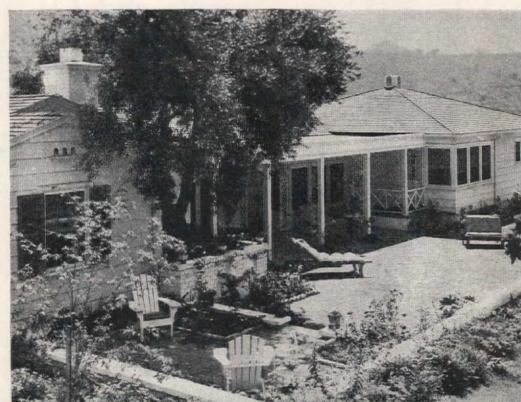


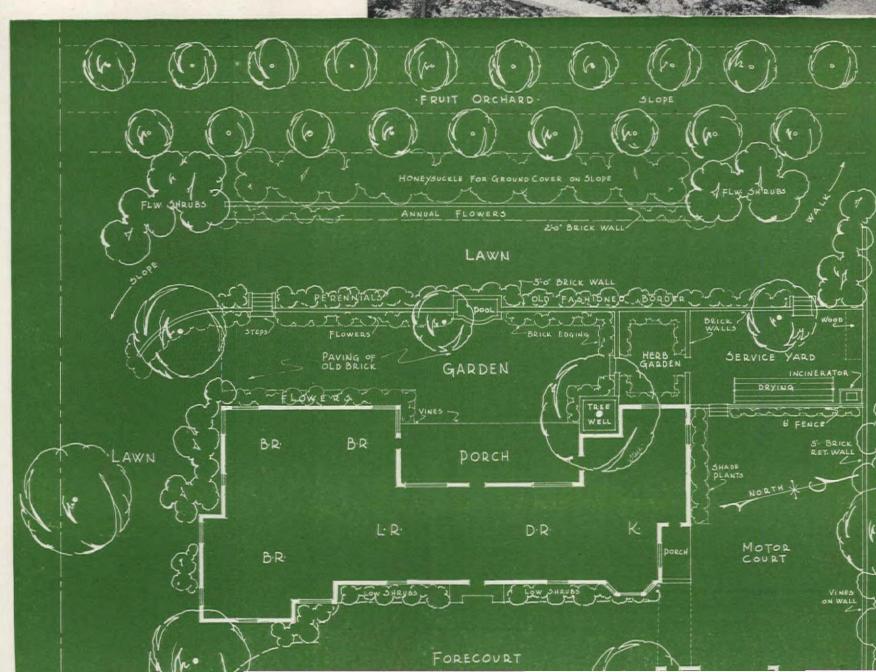
## on a Sidehill Lot?"

Yes, you certainly can, and if you doubt it, observe what Mr. and Mrs. Charles Starrett accomplished in Beverly Hills, California

New England-lilac and snowball, peony and iris, apple and pear among them. Fourth-and an important detail in view of labor trends-was a garden scheme that would require "minimum maintenance." All this called for long nights of careful study and planning, but the results justified the effort, and the hillside was gradually transformed into a charming group of closely related outdoor living areas. They are bordered, but not crowded, with old-fashioned perennials and new varieties of annuals. An old olive tree, close by the line for one wall of the house, was threatened by the excavating, but saved by the building of a large, brick-walled well around its base, so that it lends its welcome shade for many a barbecue picnic. The five levels blend so well that they seem always to have been there, and the retaining walls that were planned as definitely functional essentials, were so designed and constructed that they have become decorative features, too.

How does one plan and go about the face-lifting of a hillside lot, you ask? The first step is to consider it as a sort of outdoor house, without a roof. Level areas floors for the several "rooms"—must be devised, each suited to its particular purpose, but all pleasantly and practically integrated. In the Starrett layout, the main





garden area is on the same level as the porch. For entertaining, the two merge into one big room. Directly opposite the porch, the long, 5 ft. high retaining wall along the west side is interrupted by a simply designed but attractive pool (see plan, page 34). Two steps higher than this garden living area, at its northern end, just beyond the shadow range of the olive tree and enclosed by a low brick wall, is the small, appropriately formal herb garden filled with pungently aromatic subjects. Beyond it is the all-important service yard, also enclosed. An oversized incinerator is built in as part of the retaining wall across the north end, which extends from the front of the motor court up into the hill where it disappears behind a group of shrubs. Steel cross-armed posts support ample clothes-drying lines beside the 6 ft. lattice fence that screens this yard from the house side and the approach. There is space for storing fireplace logs, for rubbish receptacles, and for housing garden equipment, bicycles, and other daily necessities.

The third level, reached by steps at either end of the garden, is a long grass panel that invites one for a game of croquet or darts or a try with the long bow. It is bordered with flower beds and, beyond the two-foot brick wall to the west, the long slope up to the orchard is massed with fragrant, old-fashioned honeysuckle. The first year, this stretch was planted to white alyssum and pink petunias which reseeded and maintained themselves there until, gradually, the honeysuckle crowded them out. The fruit trees, in rows on two terraced levels, are protected by higher land from the north and west winds, and get the first rays of the morning sun.

The function of walls in the sidehill garden is that of walls in a house; they separate areas and serve as backgrounds and supports. In the Starrett gardens they are kept low, never extending above eye level. Generally, two low walls are preferable to one high one, and the cost is usually less because large structures call for wider, deeper concrete footings. Steel reinforcing rods, both horizontal and vertical, in both wall and footing, are recommended. These walls were built of economical secondhand brick, which has an aged look and a texture variation that gives character. The 12-inch coping casts a pleasant shadow line and relieves the severity of the top. Ordinary whitewash brush-coated on soon weathers pleasantly.

To make floors of the outdoor areas suit the usage to be given them, the main garden and the herb garden were paved with brick laid on sand in basket-weave pattern. Seed of dwarf white alyssum and portuiaca was broadcast and came up in irregular patches where it germinated in the soil between the bricks. In about six months, moss began to appear in the shady corners to add to the "old garden" effect. All the flower beds are edged with brick, whitewashed and set on end "sawtooth fashion." the brick floor provides an ideal all-purpose surface. A hose and a heavy barn broom clean it up quickly after parties; after washings (and heavy showers) evaporation dries it off quickly. Of course, a paved area should be sloped toward carefully located catch basins leading, like the rain leaders, to tile drains.

With modern earth-moving equipment, the actual grading of such a lot can be easy and inexpensive, if properly planned. Often, as here, all or most of the soil removed from one part can be used to fill in somewhere else. If there should be a surplus, it is usually possible to find neighbors who will be glad to get it, thereby cutting the cost of hauling it away.



N A survey made recently near the Arctic Circle, it was discovered that 100% of the igloos, in which the Eskimos live, were insulated. A similar survey made in the United States showed that two-thirds of our people live in uninsulated homes. Now, it may be argued that the Eskimo needs insulation more than we do but, on the other hand, it can be said that we have ever so much better materials with which to insulate. The snow blocks that the Eskimo uses for his igloo provide a sturdy building material and, at the same time, provide insulation. Millions of air cells are bound together in the snowflakes, themselves, and these air cells set up a barrier to the passage of heat and cold through the walls. We are more fortunate than the Eskimo in many ways and, as far as insulation is concerned, we have materials of a permanent nature, unaffected by changes in temperature. A good spring thaw and the Eskimo would lose not only his insulation but his whole house.

Insulation and the heating plant work together in winter to keep us comfortable. The job of the heating plant, actually, is to make it possible for our bodies to dissipate heat at a rate which involves as little effort as possible. There are three different ways in which our bodies lose heat. If the walls are cold and we touch them, we lose heat by conduction-that is, our bodies are forced to help heat the cold walls. Similarly, if we are sitting near a cold wall, our bodies will try to help warm the wall; this time we are losing heat by radiation. The third way our bodies lose heat is by convection. In this case, cold drafts in the room remove the heat unevenly by blowing across our ankles or across the backs of our necks. Insulation is an important factor in keeping the heat in our houses at an even, comfortable temperature from floor to ceiling. There are other important aids to the efficient operation of the heating plant; these include storm windows, weather stripping, and automatic controls.

Thermal insulating materials depend on density for their value, and these fall into four major classes: rigid, semirigid, flexible and fill. Rigid insulation, as the name implies, comes in solid board form; the sheets vary in size. This insulation must not be confused with wallboard. which is often made of the same material but in a more compressed form. Rigid insulation often is used for the sheathing of houses directly under the finished siding or shingles, and as a base for plaster on the interior. Semirigid insulation is not strong enough to use for sheathing, but is sometimes used with metal lath as a plaster base. Since it has no structural value, semirigid insulation is used as insulating material only. Flexible insulation is manufactured in either blanket or batt form, the difference between the two being one of length. The width of flexible insulation is made to comply with general building practice; that is, it is made to fit between the studs of an ordinary house. Fill insulation is especially well adapted for use in the walls of houses already built. This type of insulation comes in granulated, nodulated, or shredded form, and can be blown effectively into the hollow spaces between the studs, between joists under finished floors, and between rafters in a ceiled attic. Of course, any of the thermal insulating materials can be used in existing houses in attics where there is no floor or ceiling to interfere. Many materials are used in the manufacture of insulation, including mineral wool of rock, glass or slag, paper pulp, gypsum, asbestos, cork, vermiculite, diatomite, cotton and other animal, vegetable and mineral matter.

No matter what the material used to make insulation, the principle upon which it operates is the same. Like the snow the Eskimo uses, our thermal insulating materials contain innumerable tiny air cells which keep the still air entrapped and prevent the heat from escaping

#### TO INSULATE..

and the cold air from entering our houses. The igloo also takes advantage of another of the qualities of snow-the fact that it is white. Cold and heat are reflected or absorbed in somewhat the same manner as light. We have a type of insulation which works on this principle, too. This is known as reflective insulation. As white clothes keep us cool in summer by reflecting the heat away from us instead of absorbing it, this type of insulation makes use of thin sheets of metal such as aluminum, steel, or copper to reflect heat into the house in winter and away from the house in summer. Dead air spaces, however, are used also with reflective insulation. The sheets of metal are placed inside the walls of the house with from one to three or four air spaces separating the sheets. The insulating value of a thin sheet of metal inside a wall, with two reflective surfaces and two air spaces, has been estimated to be about equivalent to 1/2" of bulk insulating material. As additional thickness increases the value of bulk insulating materials, so does the number of sheets of metal and number of air spaces increase the value of reflective insulation.

All insulation, of course, should be enduring. It also should be fire-safe, odorless, and unattractive to vermin. In choosing the insulation best suited for any particular installation, efficiency in relation to cost is of first importance. In other words, the material that offers the greatest fuel savings at lowest cost, would be the logical choice. After all other factors have been considered, actual estimates from reliable applicators and builders will help in making a decision as to which type of insulating material would do the job most efficiently in your own house.

The two-thirds of America's houses that are not insulated are depriving their occupants of

a lot in comfort, for, without this important factor, a house may be frigidly cold in winter, ovenlike in summer. To many people, insulation means additional expense—expense they feel they can't afford. Happily, though, in many cases it has been found that insulation pays for itself in a relatively short period of time in fuel savings. What the saving will be in any individual case depends on how expensive the fuel and how efficient the heating plant in the house. In some cases, fuel savings are as great as forty per cent.

Insulation has other advantages, too. An insulated house is a cleaner house, and thus saves a lot of work as well as decorating costs. Dust patterns on the wallpaper and disturbing alternate light and dark strips along lath and beam locations are seldom seen in wellinsulated houses. This is because there is less condensed moisture on the surface to catch dust and less movement of air to carry dust particles along unevenly heated surfaces. Insulation will keep a house as much as fifteen degrees cooler in summer. Where summers are swelteringly hot, insulation may spell the difference between living and just "existing." Insulation also acts as an effective fire retardant; recent tests at the National Bureau of Standards have proved this. Add all of these factors together, and you'll see why an insulated house has a higher resale value. Though few are worrying much about that today, it is always an important matter to consider when building a house and, of course, insulation also enhances a house's rental value. Full-thick bulk insulation also provides a degree of soundproofing for your house-an important factor in urban and suburban areas.

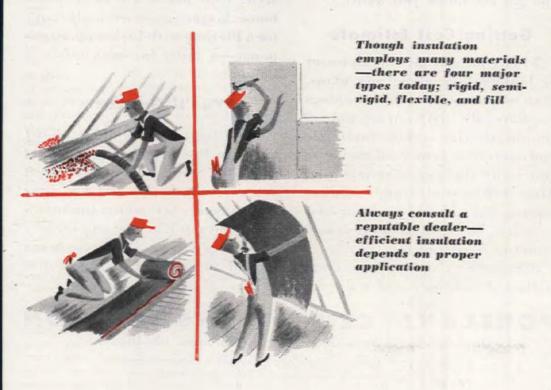
So, if you are building a house, plan to insulate it well. All outside walls, the roof, and in many cases, the floor, should be inYou'll find that greater comfort. health, and fuel savings will follow when proper insulation is installed in your home!



Short-sighted homeowner hasn't yet discovered that good insulation will keep him warmer in winter, cooler in summer at lower fuel cost

sulated if you will have your house airtight in winter. There is a type of insulation, these days, for every purpose. Fill insulation, as explained, is ideal for houses that are already built, because it can be blown between the structural members. Blankets, batts and various rigid and semirigid types, including reflective, are ideal for any new construction. There are even types of insulation which can be used as lightweight aggregates for concrete floors! These are especially valuable where radiant-heating installations will be made. Where dampness is a problem, vapor barriers of metal or various especially prepared papers are available. For homes already built, vaporproof wall coverings and special paints may be used as vapor barriers.

THE insulated house, provided it is properly equipped with storm windows and weather stripping, will prevent our bodies from having to work overtime adapting themselves to changing temperatures and unhealthful drafts-this means comfort. So it would seem that insulation and comfort go hand in hand and, along with winter comfort, we get, absolutely free, additional fire protection, a cleaner house, a more valuable house, a house that is cooler in summer, a degree of sound insulation against outside noises-and, we get it at a saving in winter fuel costs!





To BE of greatest possible service to the thousands of you folks who write us every month about concrete homes, we send helpful literature explaining the advantages of firesafe concrete construction. And then to help you get information on plans, builders and costs based on local conditions, we suggest that you telephone or see a concrete masonry manufacturer serving your community. He is as close as your telephone.

#### Information You Need

The concrete masonry manufacturer can tell you why firesafe concrete homes generally cost little if any more than houses of less durable construction. He can give you the names of designers, builders or financing agencies who can help you get the house you want.

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When you call on the architect or builder take along any plans, sketches or scrap book clippings you have collected from any source, showing the size, architectural style and room arrangement of the house you feel fits the needs of your family. After they've studied your requirements, they can give you a cost estimate, based on local prices and building regulations.

Remember that with concrete walls and subfloors and a firesafe roof, regardless of architectural style, your house will be a better house, keeping its charm and beauty for a lifetime with little upkeep expense—a truly low-annual-cost home.

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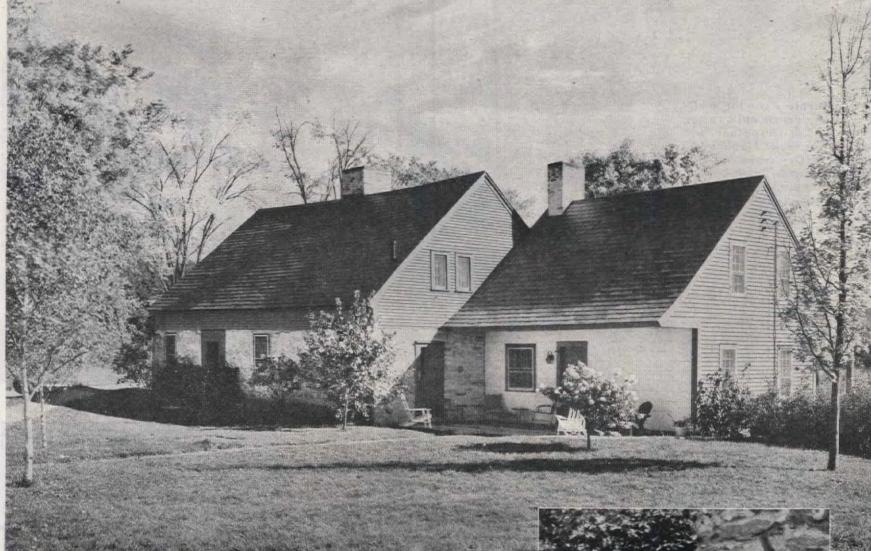
Send for a free booklet about concrete houses, distributed only in United States and Canada. When you've read the booklet see your nearby concrete masonry manufacturer and you'll be well on your way to owning a firesafe concrete home suited to your family's specific needs.

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Dept. A7-5, 33 West Grand Ave., Chicago 10, Illinois

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

#### 5 AMERICAN SUMMER HOMES



#### Vermont

THOUGH it is now used as an all-year-round house, we feel that the little marble home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Warner logically belongs to our summer house group. It was originally restored to be just that -a vacation retreat among the lush, green Vermont hills. Little wonder that the new owners soon fell under its spell. Like so many New York writers, each year they fled from the big city as soon as the first buds of spring appeared, to return only at the first signs of frost. Such divided allegiance proved most unsatisfactory, and it was not long before the Warners packed lock, stock and barrel to settle permanently in their adopted Green Mountain state. For the past few years they have taken an active part both in the social and political life of the community. The master of the house not only writes a weekly column for a wellknown Vermont newspaper but finds time to run a small factory as well. Mrs. Warner. too, is a successful author, having contributed to many nationally known magazines. Who says that life in the country is dull!

When this ingenious couple first set eyes on the little marble house, it was all but obscured by an ugly, barrackslike structure of wood. This had been added long after

#### Ethel M. Eaton

the house had been built to provide living quarters for quarry workers. When this eyesore was torn down, the simple, sturdy lines of the original house were revealed. Long empty, it was practically falling into its own cellar—but the solid, marble walls, three feet thick, helped hold it in place.

"Quarry House", so named by the Warners, is the oldest marble house in America, having been built in Dorset, Vermont, around 1780 by Deacon Manley's son—so say the records. The Manleys were one of the first four families to settle in those parts, the deacon's wife being a sister of Benedict Arnold. She and the good deacon raised a family of six sons and five daughters, and the family was living in this house at the time of Deacon Manley's death in 1803.

To the casual observer, the house might be built of field stone since the exterior is of so-called surface marble. This is rough in appearance, quite dissimilar to the polished surface long associated with marble. At the time of its erection, there was no equipment available for finishing marble, and the material was used just as it came hacked from the quarry. The two quarries from which this marble was taken have long since been abandoned, and the upper one, half filled



Time out for adventure—Anne Homer Warner and ten-year-old son, Jonathan

Remodelled marble home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Warner Dorset, Vermont Marble exterior walls
reach only to top
of first floor, are
capped by avood clapboards.
Difficulty in hacking
rough marble from quarry
may be reason for
this example of early
American economy

Heavy overhanging eaves of new wood wing cast dramatic shadows on terrace

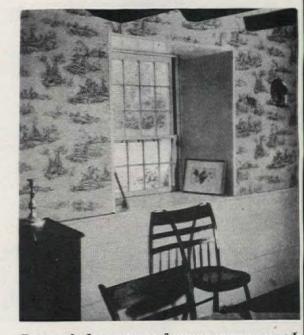
with clear water, provides a swimming pool for the owners and their friends.

Under the expert supervision of Samuel R. Ogden, an architect specializing in restoration work, all original features have been carefully preserved and restored. On the section where the old wood structure stood, a new two-story wing of wood has been built. It sits back a bit from the main house and, on the first floor, houses a modern kitchen, maid's room and bath. There's another bedroom with bath on the upper floor. Where this addition adjoins the marble wall of the main house, it has been painted white; otherwise all exterior woodwork is a lively red with white trim. A marble vein, discovered when the workmen were excavating the new section, provides a solid foundation. In the main house, the cellar was originally paved with marble tombstones—perfect example of Yankee thrift! It is interesting to note that all gable ends are of wood halfway down, and that all marble walls extend to the top of the first floor only. The reason for this is

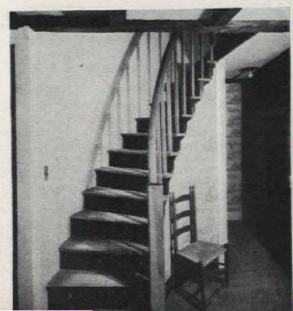
not known; perhaps the pioneer workmen grew tired of hacking out the marble.

In restoring the interiors, all outside walls were removed right down to the marble. Over this was placed a layer of mineral wool insulation, covered by a coat of plaster applied to rock lath. The present living room was formerly a kitchen, and the extra large fireplace had been bricked up so that a stove might be used. When the defective plaster ceilings were removed, massive beaded beams came to view. The end of the living room near the front door was originally a hall with stairway to the second floor. Partitions and stairs were torn down and a charming winding staircase built near the outside wall of the present dining room.

Though you wouldn't guess it-the chimney-wall paneling in the living room is new, hand-carved by a Vermont woodworker. It replaces an old, cracked plaster surface with its layer upon layer of dirty wallpaper. A rear room, probably a kitchen bedroom originally, is now used as library. Its warm, mellow, inviting atmosphere is largely due to natural pine paneling. The room is not yet finished to the Warner family's tastes but, we felt, was too attractive to go unphotographed. There's a raised hearth at the fireplace, marble, of course, and we find, displayed in the room, part of the Warner's fine pewter collection. On the second floor are three bedrooms and bath in the main house. The room in the new wing is used by Anne Warner as a studio. Just in case you don't know, Anne Homer Warner is a daughter of Madame Louise Homer, former Metropolitan Opera star. No, Anne doesn't sing! Writing and taking care of active ten-yearold Jonathan occupies her very full days. In fact there's never a dull moment at "Quarry House"-its 46 acres offer all kinds of activities-fishing, tennis, skiing and swimming-a year-round resort, family style.



Deep window recess frames many paned sash. Below: new graceful winding stair





Wood wing with deep shadowed porch is happy combination of red and white exterior walls. Similarity of gable and dormer details help give cottage-type house uniformity—accentuate its horizontal lines

Photographs by Paul Davis, George H. Davis Studio



Removing old plaster revealed sturdy beams in dining room Marble quarry on property is now family swimming hole



Unfinished library has pine paneling, pewter pieces New living-room paneling work of Vermont craftsman







#### HIGH ON A SAND DUNE

William J. Hennesse

A LONG many of the coastal regions on the Pacific, the ocean has formed long sand dunes. High up on one of these, Dr. and Mrs. Harry Blair have built a beach house. Now a vast expanse of blue rolling water can be a magnificent thing, but architect Van Evera Bailey realized, too, that an overabundant amount of light and glare can be most disconcerting. In order to keep glass areas at a maximum, he provided a large sheltering overhang beyond the upstairs balcony. This casts a welcome shadow when the sun is high and bright.

It is not an expensive house, its exterior being of wood construction faced with shingles. These have been stained a salty gray with cool, crisp-white trim as accent. The inside finish is all of natural fir. Interest was added to the surface by the addition of a rubbed coat of white, painted with a protective coating of wax. The effect is most pleasant, with pink undertones acting as charming background for the

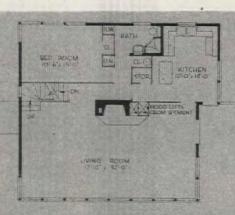
beach furniture. The Blair family is large, an numerous guests come and go throughout the summer months. Accommodations upstairs in clude four bedrooms and a bath, with another bedroom and bath conveniently placed on the floor below. Two of the upper rooms oper onto a sun deck. Bedrooms are colorfully furnished and decorated with nautical motifications.

In keeping with the character of the rest of the house, there's no formal entrance. Cars an parked near the road, at the bottom of the dun and visitors climb the switch-back to the lowel level door and thence up a flight of stairs to the living room. The centrally located chimne boasts two fireplaces, one on the east wall of the living room, the other in the largest second floor bedroom. Two lifts from the basemen one for each fireplace, make it unnecessary to carry wood through house. A door on the sout end of the living room leads to a terrace, neather kitchen, too, for outdoor entertaining

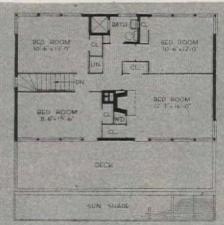
Data and photographs: P. A. Dearborn







Home of Dr. and Mrs. Harry Blair Van Evera Bailey, Architect



#### Wild Goose on the Wing

Frances H. Flaherty

Seldom do we receive a letter as heartwarming and revealing as this one from Frances H. Flaherty, wife of Robert J. Flaherty, whose documentary films, Nanook of the North, Elephant Boy, and Man of Erin, have received world-wide acclaim. We had asked for a simple description of her summer home in Vermont. Her reply was comparable to a personal visit. We are, therefore, publishing her letter just as it came to our desk so that you, too, may enjoy fully the neighborly, just-dropped-in-for-a-chat tone which permeates every phrase, every sentence. Architectural Editor.

As you know, we are a far-faring family—a family of wanderers, gypsies. We have owned no more than we could carry on our backs or on the backs of porters. Wherever we have stopped for our motion-picture work, we have made a home of sorts out of whatever was at hand. This ranged from a two-room trader's shack in Samoa to a Maharanee's palace in Mysore. I think the idea that we should ever have a permanent place of our own hardly occurred to us. How could we possibly afford to have a home? And if we did, what kind of a home could we afford? But I felt the war coming on and decided that now, at last, the family had to have a roof, and probably a garden and chickens. I left the rest of them in England, and breathed not a word of my intentions, for I was too jittery about the whole adventure to stand the chorus of doubting Thomases I knew I should raise.

I landed in New York in a lovely September equinoctial storm—it was the year of the New England hurricane—and I remember the sharp, bracing feeling it gave me to come back to this, my own tremendous sun and sky and rain. A friend drove me to Putney, Vermont, where there was a youth hostel where we could stay. We called a real-estate agent, and I told him, haltingly, what I might perhaps like to find, if . . . etc. Without further ado he took us along a winding, wooded road to an open hillside overlooking a breathtaking view. And there I was . . . and I

Gypsy emblem flies above remodeled barn of Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Flaherty of Brattleboro, Vermont



Firm determination to have a home for her family wrought "before" and "after" miracle shown here





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knew it by the almost suffocating turmoil of my feelings . . . straight as a homing pigeon had I come to this hillside home! No one had bought the place because no one wanted such a nondescript house and barn, so much in need of a good cleaning. But for the next two years this was my job.

We began with an outbuilding—the "chicken house", though I'm not sure that chickens ever lived in it. A rough board floor and wallboard walls were all that was needed to make a room to live in while we worked. Indeed, we could make a second room out of the corncrib—and did; then gave it a verandah to enjoy the view better. The chicken house is still one of the houses I love best on the place. The corncrib became the perfect castle-of-their-own for my two young grandsons.

The Little House, as we called the nondescript four-room structure, was to be our center. It would be there for any member of the family needing to dig in for a while, for a rest or holiday or "just because"—a pied-à-terre, summer or winter, for any one, two, or three of us. But in summer we would burst out into spaciousness, bigness—the sheer luxury of room and to spare! This would be the Barn, with a big attic, a big basement for workshop and a darkroom. There'd be a deep freezer, farm size, the biggest we could buy. The hayloft would be our living room with one wall-all window, open to the view, and the opposite wall all



Son-in-law, Don Burns, Guggenheim Fellowship winner, paints view seen through window wall



In well-equipped basement workshop, Don Burns makes frames for his recently completed paintings



Opposite window wall in living room is mammoth stone fireplace . . . furniture collected from all parts of world



fireplace for the four-foot logs we would bring in from the woods. This was our dream, and the miracle was that it came true! We are greatly indebted to Sam Ogden, the architect, for this. Sometime, perhaps, you'll do a story about Sam and the Vermont village he bought and remodeled for himself and his friends. (We already have. See AMERICAN HOME May, 1947. Editor's Note.) His methods are those of a craftsman. He works along with his local carpenters and masons, designing as he goes, trying out ideas and materials. There is, for instance, the paneling of our big barn living room-just old weathered boards, salvaged from broken-down sheds and barns, but weathered to a lovely silvered gray. Nothing could be more fitting, more restful to live with, or make a better background for our photographs or my son-in-law's paintings. Above the boards, the almost white wallboard between the dark beams brings out the room's essential structure and fine proportions. But the gray boards had a surprise for us. Wherever we touched them, we could feel them vibrate to sounds in the room. Our whole room was one big sounding board. For our music. which is our recreation, it was, as you

may well imagine, magnificent. To the furnishings of this large room, the family added its ten cent's worth. It's size was not the headache we had feared. A concert grand piano was going begging because of its size. A local junk shop had three large, useful pieces, but I had to wait a year before the owner was finally induced to part with them. One piece we did treat ourselves to the luxury of having -was made especially from a pair of oak planks we happened to pick up. The design of the table was taken from an old Bavarian peasant table. Rude benches, to push under or pull out, were made from planks found under the barn. The legs had been stanchion posts in the stable.

As war deepened, our family gathered from near and far. From three we became nine or ten. We needed the house for both summer and winter. So the barn got a coat of shingles and a big Vermont furnace—the kind used in churches. At last and in truth, we were at home. An inscription over the fireplace announced and adjured us in beautiful Gaelic—"Wander No More". But alas, over the peak of our newly remodeled barn flew a different emblem, the old gypsy emblem—a wild goose on the wing.



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#### Family Project-in the Sun

**Ethel McCall Head** 

THE Henry Mayerses and their daughters, 17 and 19, for a long time had wanted a beach house in "the worst way". Laughingly, they admit, that is exactly the way they got it for, by waiting until the war had started, their dream cottage had to be built of assorted oddments and ends of pipe and lumber, and entirely by their own eight hands! But the hard way turned out to be a wonderful building project-family style!

The girls now consider themselves roofing experts. Father did the plumbing (no mean task for an advertising man who had not even a speaking

California

acquaintance with decrepit secondhand fittings) and Mrs. Mayers, in a sprightly manner, sawed her way through packing boxes and reject lumber to prove once and for all that women can do anything a mere man can! It was not easy accomplishing even a house with only one bedroom, a bath and kitchen, but the Mayerses are long on ideas and strong on cooperation and now, quite justly, they are filled with pleasure and pride in the result of their labor.

Balboa Island is a charming small island of many tiny, short streets, usually ending at the water, and its tiny 30 foot lots are not conducive to great privacy. The Mayerses felt the need for a greater chance to live out-

side, without feeling exposed to the view of every neighbor and passer-by, so they bought two 30 foot lots. This gives them a width of 60 feet and a depth of 85 feet for their seashore estate. They were fortunate in that on the east side a neighbor's attractive split redwood fence provided privacy, and, by luck, they were able to get some lumber in odd lengths, refused as worthless by the lumber yard. With this they closed in the remaining three sides of their land. The result is a wonderful fenced-in "beach" and a small, grassy plot by the house, and so much room for outdoor living that no one notices that the tiny house has no living room or dining room. That will come later! This fence was painted a

Designed by the owner. Photographs by Bob Cleveland



Top: the Mayerses are now planning their indoor living room. For the present they live outdoors

Bottom: two living rooms and both of them outdoors! Here umbrella and beach chairs provide lounging spot

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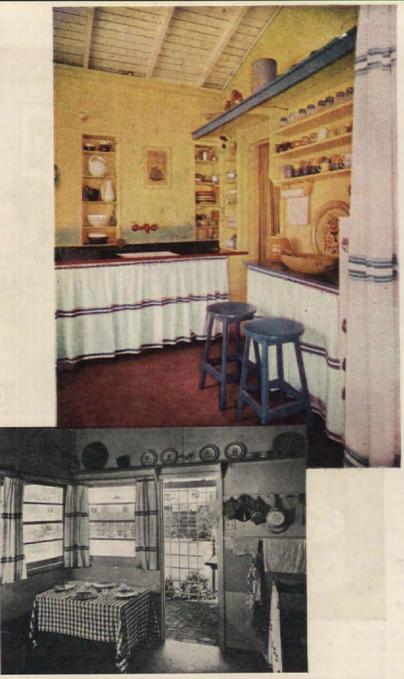
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lovely green and "planted" on the street side to create a charming feeling of greenery to offset the glare of the sun and of the sand.

But come, let's go through the gate at 119 and see what can be done when a family of four gets ideas! The brick path, which winds through the sand, is bordered by ice plant. At the right of the property, the whole area is devoted to sun bathing and beach activities-why worry that the water is a block or two away? Beach umbrella, lounge chairs, a low table for eating while sitting on the sand, all help to make this a favorite spot for the girls and their friends.

For those who find hot sand and sun less alluring, there is a spacious open porch with a red concrete floor. The underside of the roof of the porch is painted a cool green. Here one may lounge in comfort and look out to the patch of grass which Mrs. Mayers insisted was her landscape idea to create a sense of coolness near the terrace.

From this pleasant living terrace with its adjoining dining area, there are two doors-one leads to the kitchen, the other to the bedroom. The latter is a masterpiece of built-ins. It contains two pairs of double-decker beds, separated by a curtain in the center of the room, and serves as a dormitory for the family of four. The bathroom is off the bedroom, and can be reached from a path at the back of the house, so one can step from the



Much-used workbench is now used by Mrs. Mayers for potted plants. Gues room, below, is open to the blue sky and stars, but canvas-covered bed and hanging space behind curtains provide all the comforts of home





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sand or a swim directly into the shower without tracking up the tiny house. Adjoining the bathroom and also accessible from the back path, is an amusing version of a guest room.

There is a bed with a canvas cover, a hanging space for clothes, and a rack for a suitcase. Here is a place for visitors to change into swim suits.

The kitchen has a concrete floor, yellow walls, and cream-and-white ceiling with the roof rafters exposed. There is little casework. Open shelves for china save constant cleaning of woodwork, and make it easy for guests, when they help with the dishes, to see where everything belongs. A three-burner stove with no oven is tucked away in a corner, and all handy kitchen utensils hang on the wall next to it. Dark-blue linoleum is used for the drainboards. Since Mr. Mayers couldn't get plywood or lumber for any case doors, crisp blue-and-white tea toweling is used to hide shelves, and is also used at the windows.

In a tone of "now it can be told," the Mayerses relate the first visit of the building inspector. At this point, Mr. Mayers grins, as he admits the whole house was planned around a bunch of secondhand windows which had been a windfall. But the building inspector, quite obviously, had never heard of such tricks and, shaking his head, he turned to the anxious-looking owners of the little frame skeleton of a house and said, "Now tell me, whatever made you and Mrs. Mayers think you could build a house?"

THAT remark became challenge for the whole family. Build a house, indeed, and why not? Of course, there were moments when they had found the courage, because the plumbing fittings just didn't fit, and the nails were too long and now show through the bedroom ceiling. Besides these difficulties, there were many bashed fingers and much paint in the hair. Long trips had to be made on the interurban cars when there were no gas coupons left, and short vacations had to be spent camping in the sand while long days of labor were spent building the house.

Was it worth it? Ask the Mayerses. We really loved every minute of it. As a family we never had more fun, and now it is good to sit and purr over the fact that we did it alone, and to plan when we will start the livingdining room addition."

Ask the hundreds of soldiers who came to lie in the sand, to sun themselves and eat and relax as part of Mrs. Mayers active USO program. "This is a swell place; you unwind as soon as you walk in the gate."

Ask the friends who are given a key to the cottage for a week end when the Mayerses won't be there. "This is a heavenly place after a week of strenuous work in the city. The best part is you can come here without worrying about housekeeping; the house is planned to minimize housework."

Was this beach house—family style—worth the struggle? I ask you!



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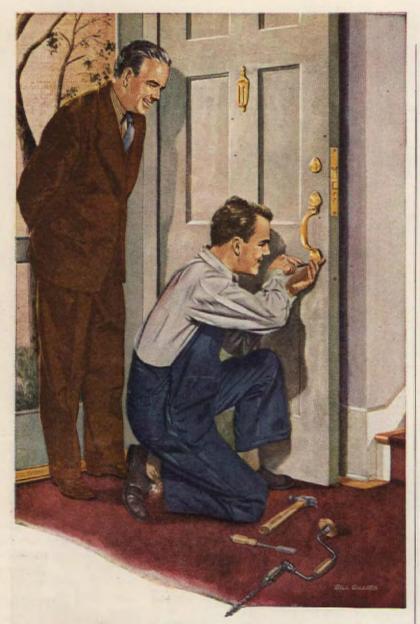
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#### A Place To Play-and Swim

Ethel McCall Head

ONLY a short block from the Pacific is this white-and-yellow beach cottage owned by Mr. and Mrs. William McKenzie. A low brick wall separates it from the sidewalk, and a spacious window with a pot shelf, in place of the more conventional window box, extends across the front window to make the house attractive from the lane. The cottage is built on a narrow lot on Balboa Island, a short distance from Los Angeles. The island nestles between the mainland and the Balboa Peninsula-is connected with the mainland by a bridge. Here, the McKenzies have a delightful place to relax all summer long. Unlike many beach cottages, this house is attractively furnished inside and cute as a button from the outside.

It would be hard to realize how much room for living there is in this cottage if one were just to walk by it, for it extends back on the lot nearly three times its width. And remarkably good use is made of the small lot, too. A door opens from the back of the living room onto a closed patio, which is surrounded on three sides by the house itself and on the fourth by a high fence. Rather than an enclosed passageway leading from the living room to the two bedrooms and the combination study-bedroom, the house has an open porch. However, on cool nights when the family is gathered around the living-room fireplace, it is possible to get to the two bedrooms, usually used by the family, by going through the kitchen and the study-bedroom in back of it.

A family-style counter separates the living room from the kitchen, and it has become such a popular spot for quick meals and snacks that the Mc-Kenzies have dubbed it "Ye Olde Coffee Shoppe." The kitchen can be separated entirely from the dining end of the living room when occasion demands, however, by simply lowering the bamboo screen in the opening. Regular meals are served on the trestle-type table which is right next to "Ye Olde Coffee Shoppe."

Knotty pine was used for the woodwork, and was used also for the wainscot where it is laid horizontally. Above the wainscot, a boat-pattern wallpaper adds a nautical note. The McKenzies are enthusiastic sailors and even have named this summer house "Rowmac" after their boat which is moored in the bay, a short distance from the house.

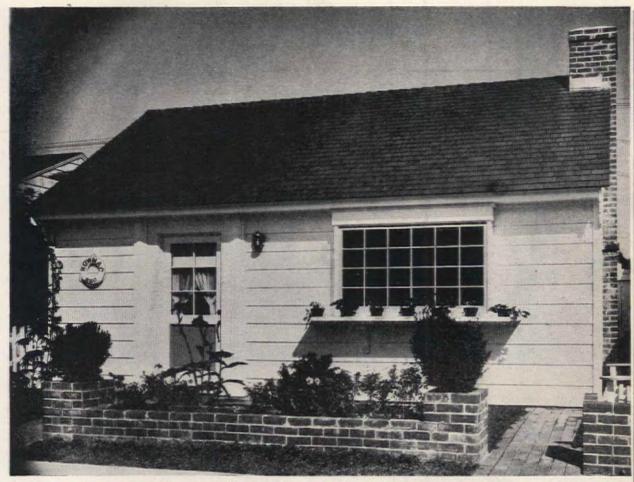
A pleasant view of the brilliant blue water and the barren hills in the distance may be had through the large window at the back of the living room. A canvas awning provides protection from the sun in the patio.

Everything about the house is arranged to keep summer housekeeping to a minimum; at the same time, there is no feeling of "camping out" for the summer because the furniture is upholstered with attractive striped and print material. The floor covering is linoleum, which is easy to clean and very practical for a beach cottage. The bath is located so that the shower may be reached directly from the outside without having to track through the entire house. Bedrooms are small, in keeping with the plan to cut down on housework. Even so, each room has its own ample closet, and there is

Photographs by Bob Cleveland

The large window at the back of the living room looks out on the patio

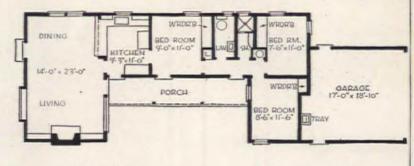
THE AMERICAN HOME, JULY, 1947



Narrow lots aren't always a drawback—and the McKenzies' beach house is proof of it

a linen closet in the hall besides. Each bedroom, even the emergency studybedroom, is provided with cross-ventilation—a superior bit of planning.

The McKenzie beach cottage is an excellent example of a house that has the things we are used to in a year-round house, and yet has all the advantages, as far as easy housekeeping is concerned, that we might expect in a vacation house. A house like this would not be any more expensive to build than many of the rough-and-ready cottages that we repair for vacations—but see what imagination can do to make vacations comfortable!

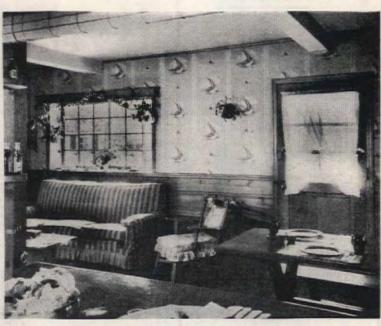


Mr. and Mrs. William McKenzie Balboa Island, California

California



"Ye Olde Coffee Shoppe", an ideal spot for quick meals and snacks



View of living room from kitchen shows front door and dining table at right. Fireplace is at left end of room

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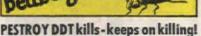












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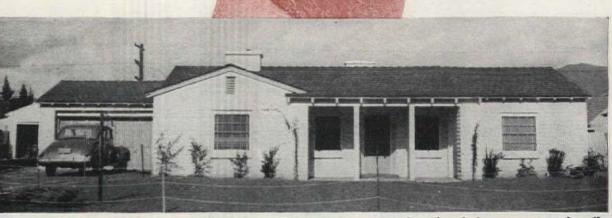
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#### EARTH BLOCKS BY "PUDDLING"

Anthony F. Merrill



A stabilized earth house can be built anywhere if proper proportions of sand and clay are present in soil



Three examples of earth houses. Note interesting textural effects; houses may be left natural or painted

THE AMERICAN HOME, JULY, 1947

HAVE you ever wished that the charm and simplicity of the adobe brick weren't limited to the arid sections of the American Southwest? Are you one of those Easterners or Northerners who wishes he could build these economical earth bricks in his own back vard, and use their interesting texture for house walls or for just a small bit of garden wall or tool shed, or some other outbuilding?

If the simple craft of adobe is your desire, and the form and texture of the adobe brick your aim, then you may thank the technicians of the Portland Cement Association for their recent experiments with earth building materials and their tests of "soil-cement." The Association made numerous tests with puddled soil-cement which indicated its fitness as a building material in any section of the United States.

Soil-cement is nothing but raw earth to which a small percentage of Portland cement has been added for the purpose of stabilization. In use, the earth material is generally tamped into shape. For roadway and airstrip beds, it is tamped right onto the ground. For use as a wall-building material, it is tamped solidly into a wooden form, after which the form is removed, and a soil-cement block results.

But there is another variety of soil-cement, not at all well known, which parallels in many ways the making of adobe bricks, and produces an end

- A form of proper size, shovel, mixing bin and stout stick will be required for the puddling
- Proper soil must be chosen, free from roots and foreign 2 matter-no more than 50% clay
- Testing soil; cut V through soil sample, continue moistening un- 3 til sides of V lose their shape
- Puddling first layer; note that mix is worked up carefully into 4 all four corners of the form

- A simple, easily constructed "slip-form" used for molding puddled soil-cement blocks
- Finishing an earth block; two or three layers are required with puddling between layers
- Using a straightedge to level the block after the puddling process has been completed
- Three completed soil cement blocks; form may be removed two or four hours after molding



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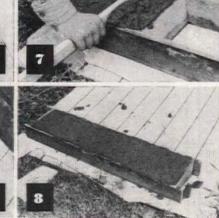
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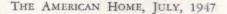


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product which almost exactly re-sembles adobe. This is the process known as puddling; the product being rather lengthily entitled, "puddled soil-cement blocks."

Puddling necessitates virtually the same mixture of earth and cement required by the tamping method, but a puddled mixture is not tamped. It is moistened until it becomes plastic enough to flow, at which point it is poured into a form the size of the desired bricks, just as a cook pours batter into a pan the size of a cake. The mixture is allowed to hardenwhich it will do very rapidly, the form is removed, and, lo, the end product: an earth brick small enough to be handled by one man, interesting enough in shape to form an unusual wall material, reasonably high in insulating quality, and strong and weatherproof enough to meet the necessary requirements for small, satisfactory home building.

The artistic appeal of earth bricks is obvious. But more advantageous to the individual is the practical attraction of a building block which may be home-manufactured by a nonskilled amateur, using no other tools than those commonly found in every garden, and a homemade form which can be quickly constructed in a few minutes.

But there are other advantages in the use of puddled earth bricks. They are very cheap, costing less than ten cents per cubic foot. They require, in comparison with tamped earth, no laborious tamping. The puddling is just an easy pouring into the mold, and then a gentle stirring with a stout stick-the puddling, itself. Then, too, the forms may be constructed of fairly light wood, instead of the heavy timber required in a tamping operation, where there is tremendous lateral pressure set up by the compaction.

A further advantage in the use of





Blocks should not be moved until two days after form is removed to allow for hardening

Close-up of hardened blocks Stand on end for curing which 10
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THE AMERICAN HOME, JULY, 1947





puddled soil-cement blocks is the fact that any errors in manufacture will show up long before the bricks are ready for use, so that faulty bricks may be rejected before they are placed in a wall. With tamped earth, a wall may be completed before cracks appear, and with other earth bricks, failures sometimes occur long after bricks are manufactured and in place.

There are drawbacks which, though slight, are worth mentioning. In the first place, a layman desiring to build with bricks must realize that, simple though an earth brick may be to manufacture, the fabrication of a brick wall requires a fairly expert knowledge of the use of a trowel and mortar. Proponents of the monolithic rammed-earth will point out that the tamping method requires no mortar. The other disadvantage seems to be the time-consuming characteristic of puddled brick making. For, while the bricks, themselves, may be molded fairly rapidly, they require oncedaily attention for at least a week, and then should be stored for curing for a minimum of three more weeks. The daily attention consists of no more than moistening the bricks with a garden hose, but there is a time element which delays them en route to the wall, for which they are ultimately intended. They have to be made a month in advance.

Any average earth may be suitable for puddling, provided it is not too high in clay content, that the stones in the earth are kept small. and that the soil is taken from a subsurface source which is free of roots and foreign matter. It is important that the maximum limit of silt and clay, which any builder should allow in his earth-mix, never be permitted to exceed fifty per cent. In wet weather, clay soaks up water like a sponge, while in dry weather, it turns water loose very rapidly. This characteristic causes a great deal of mechanical action in a highclay soil which results quite often in cracking and shrinkage. On the other hand, a high content of sand and gravel acts as a stabilizing factor in a puddled brick, and reduces the cracking possibilities, while adding to the brick's strength.

There are two ways of choosing a proper soil. Either one of them should be dominated by the construction of test blocks, but for the small garden tool shed construction. nothing more than "home test" bricks may be necessary. In contemplating the use of puddled soilcement blocks for house walls, however, it is advisable to apply the U. S. Public Roads Administration (USPRA) soil gradation tests to representative samples of the earth. On the basis of these tests, make bricks only with earth which falls into one of the following USPRA groups: A-1, A-2, A-2-4, and A-4-2.

Any state highway soil laboratory should be able to perform the USPRA tests, and their use is urged upon the



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prospective large-operation builder. When sending samples for testing, be sure to ask for figures on the "liquid limit" of the sample soil. This term denotes the limit of saturation, for any given soil, at which it will lose its normal solid shape, and begin to flow as a liquid. In the laboratory, it is determined by cutting a V through a soil sample, and moistening the sample until the sides of the V lose their shape and begin to flow toward one another. The liquid limit is important to the puddled-earth user in helping him judge how much water he will need to achieve plasticity with his earth.

For simple projects, a home test involving the construction of a few sample blocks should be sufficient. As a preliminary, any soil which can be shaped in the hands under manual compression to the form of a snow-ball—a form which it should maintain down to the marks of the fingers—will probably be a satisfactory puddling earth. But test blocks are necessary, not only to prove that a given earth will lend itself to puddling, but also to assist the builder in arriving at a correct cement content.

HE Portland Cement Association has found cement percentages ranging between six and ten per cent of the total compacted mass will ordinarily make a soil-cement under the tamping method. This same percentage is also sufficient for puddled soil-cement, but tests have shown that, while the strength of puddled bricks is satisfactory at these low percentages, an addition of four per cent above optimum is necessary to bring a puddled brick up to the same comparative strength of a tamp-compacted brick. Thus, it may be said that puddled soil-cement demands the admixture of ten to fourteen per cent of Portland cement.

In figuring these percentages, remember that they refer to the total finished mass, not a mixture of so much cement to so much loose earth. There is a great difference, not only because the volume of loose earth varies with various earths, but also because they don't all lose volume equally, when moistened. So loose earth is not an accurate measuring gauge, and for this reason, the percentages have been worked out to apply to a finished segment of puddled soil-cement. Since puddled earths are not as highly compacted as tamped earths, and cement is inexpensive, the additional four per cent is not a serious added expense.

The manufacture of soil-cement blocks requires only a firm, flat working space, suitable soil, Portland cement, water, and the forms for molding the blocks. A shovel or hoe serves for a mixing instrument, and any stout stick will be satisfactory for puddling the mixture into the forms. The accompanying illustrations show the plastic mixture in an old wash bucket, while this is all right for small back-yard experimental work, a low-sided mortar-



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board, for mixing and moistening the soil-cement, will be more efficient when turning out blocks in quantity.

The form illustrated, is probably the simplest multiple block form possible. Modeled exactly after a form used by the Indians, it is merely a bottomless mold for three bricks, made with four-inch, light-weight lumber, carefully measured to provide eight-inch by twelve-inch openings, and then nailed securely together. Tabs stick out at the ends to provide handles for removing the forms from completed blocks. Since the forms must remain on the bricks for about two hours, production up to a certain point is limited by the number of forms available.

There are many variations for forms. A single brick form may be built with three corners hinged and the forth hooked together. Thus, when it is time to remove the form, it may be unhooked at one corner, and "unwrapped" from the brick.

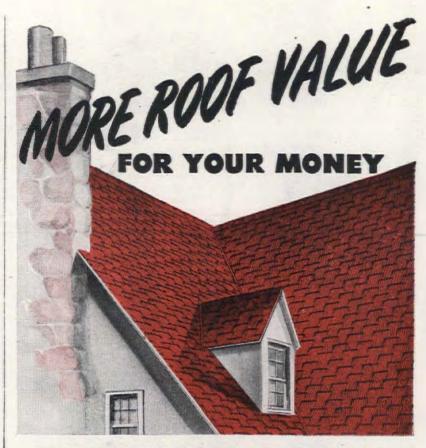
A rigid form is sometimes difficult to free from fresh bricks without damaging the sharp corners and edges, in which case some method of extrusion will have to be evolved. Here, again, simplicity is obviously the best choice. A thin board or piece of plywood, shaped just under the length and width of the brick size. can be used to hold the brick firmly down along its top surface while the form is being lifted off. In effect, then, the brick has been extruded in a downward direction, and the board, fitting close to the form walls, overcomes any tendency the moist brick might have to stick to the sides. However, there is generally enough shrinkage at the edges of the brick to free it so that the form may be slipped off easily after about two hours of setting.

Form size is dictated by the desired brick size, and this, in turn, depends upon the thickness and height of the wall to be built. A twelve-inch wall requires a twelve-inch brick, of course, and it may be eight inches by twelve inches, or twelve inches by eighteen inches, whichever is preferred. But earth bricks must be at least four inches thick, to prevent cracking and damage in handling.

In determining earth-brick wall widths, it is best to follow U. S. Bureau of Standards recommendations for these special materials; to wit, wall heights should not be more than ten times wall thickness.

The best method of measuring ingredients is to use a "bottomless box" of predetermined cubic dimension. If experiment with your soil shows that it takes four cubic feet of loose earth to make two cubic feet of finished brick, for example, and if two cubic feet of brick at one time is what you wish to mold, then build a bottomless box which will hold four cubic feet of loose earth. Fill it level with earth on the mixing platform, then remove the box.

Assuming that ten per cent cement



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may be the ideal admixture for your particular earth, add to the pile ten per cent of two cubic feet, not ten per cent of the loose cubic measurement. Measuring cement is not too difficult, for the industry has simplified things by putting cement out in standard sacks of one cubic foot capacity. These sacks weigh only ninety-four pounds, the cubic foot weight of cement, and with sack size and pounds, the builder may calculate by volume or weight, as he sees fit. So, ten per cent of two cubic feet works out at just under nineteen pounds. (For small mixtures, a standard measuring cup is about 1/12oth of a cubic foot.)

When mixing cement into the earth, work it through the pile with a hoe or shovel, until the whole mix becomes an even color with no streaks of earth or cement showing. Break up all the little clods of earth that may be encountered, so that the cement mixes with all the granular elements of the earth. Also, throw out all foreign matter, and any stones which are so large that they might settle in a plastic mix to the bottom of the brick, or might interfere with the ease of puddling.

The water is not added until after the cement has been thoroughly drymixed with the earth, and then it must be added carefully. What is desired is a plastic mix, not a watery one. An estimated two per cent too much water will turn a plastic earth mix sloppy and runny. So add the water slowly. It will require surprisingly little to bring a mixture up to correct plasticity. Water is worked in with a hoe or shovel, and when the mixture is correct, it may be placed in the forms. The plastic limit may be easily observed by running a stick or spade blade through the mixture as it is being worked up, and observing the side walls of the groove that is left behind. When these close up rapidly, the mixture is saturated with moisture to its liquid limit, and is ideal for puddling.

Never mix more wet soil-cement than can be used within an hour, and if a mixture remains unused for much longer than this period, throw it away. Cement action begins very soon after moistening, and soilcement, after too long a wait, will not be satisfactory.

THOUGH shrinkage of a puddled soil-cement brick is much less than that of adobe, it is advisable to place something under the forms which will give the bricks a supple surface to lie on, and do their shrinking unimpeded. Some adobe workers use burlap which contracts as the brick shrinks, but soil-cement seems to work satisfactorily on a surface of wrapping paper or building paper.

Pour the plastic soil-cement into the forms in two or three layers, pausing in between each layer to work the mixture well up into the corners. When the form is filled, work a stick gently up and down through the mixture so that it is all

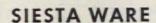


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of one piece, and has been well shaped in the form. This is puddling, and its object is to free the brick of voids which might weaken it. The puddling action should not be overdone, particularly in a very wet mix, as too much working may float the cement to the mixture's surface.

Finish off the bricks by leveling them smooth with a straightedge. No troweling is necessary, as it is desirable to have a slightly roughened surface for the mortar to grip later, when the bricks are in the wall.

Though the forms may be removed in a comparatively short time, the bricks should remain untouched for about two days, before they are handled. When they are very fresh, careless handling may cause them to crumble at the corners or edges, but once they have hardened a little, they may be stood on end for curing, drying, and storage. It half bricks are desired, the fresh bricks may be cut in half with a knife or taut wire, when they are first freed from the forms.

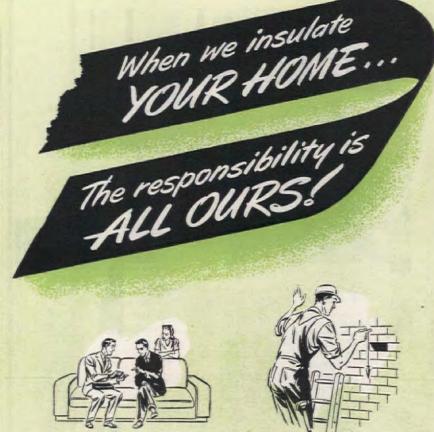
Soil-cement blocks must be dampcured for seven days after being puddled. Damp curing prevents bricks from drying out before the binding action of the cement has been completely accomplished and, while in theory, it requires the maintenance of constant temperature and humidity, in practice, it means moistening the bricks every day for a week. The easiest way to do this is to wet them down once a day, with a gentle spray, until they are moistened but not soaked. In hot weather or in a very sunny spot, it may be necessary to moisten them more often.

A BETTER method than spraying is to keep new bricks under damp burlap for a week. If burlap is economically available to a builder in sufficient quantity, this method is suggested in preference to spraying.

Portland Cement Association recommends that, after damp curing, the bricks should be dried for at least three more weeks before being used. This drying need not be accomplished indoors, nor will mild rain sprinkling bother the bricks while being dried. But if they are likely to be subjected to prolonged showers, they should be protected by storing under shelter, or being lightly covered with building paper.

How to choose the correct cement content for puddled brick? That's where the sample bricks play their essential part. The only way to determine what is a satisfactory percentage for a given soil is to make up three or four test bricks with cement contents ranging from six to ten per cent, and after curing and drying, to test them for performance.

A very convincing trial for soilcement brick is the wet-dry test. Immerse the dried brick in water for two or three hours, scrub it while wet with a metal-bristle brush, and then let it dry. Repeat this whole cycle about three times. The brick with the lowest cement content,



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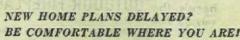


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whose surface stands up to this beating, will determine the lowest cement content advisable for your soil. Additional tests include jabbing the brick with something like an ice pick, to see if it will resist penetration, and breaking a brick in half, to see if it breaks relatively clean, or if it crumbles badly in breaking. A crumbly brick is, of course, unsatisfactory, and a higher percentage of cement must be used.

As a matter of tact, once minimum cement content has been determined, the builder is urged to add the four per cent to this minimum figure when actually making his bricks. In addition to bringing the strength of a puddled brick up to that of tamped cement, it also provides a comfortable safety margin for the man who uses the bricks.

Puddled soil-cement bricks are, in themselves, sufficiently weatherproof and waterproof to be used without any surface covering. But in many instances, a builder will wish to cover them not only for decorative purposes, but also for added seal against storm-driven rain water. By far the most satisfactory covering for any soil-cement is a product known as cement-water paint, or just as cement paint. No other exterior covering, except stucco, will be satisfactory on soil-cement. But for interior surfaces any normal oil paint, casein water paint, or even whitewash, may be expected to perform as they would on any other masonry wall. Because the surface of soil-cement is somewhat porous, the most practical interior covering is casein water.

Builders interested in stabilized earth bricks should be informed that puddled soil-cement does not represent the sole means of stabilizing adobe mixtures. There is a method of waterproofing adobe by mixing emulsified asphalt in with the adobe mud to produce a product known as "bitudobe." Bitudobe has become reasonably popular, in the adobe country, among modern builders who want to protect their adobe against the freaks of weather, which occasionally bring flash floods to adobe regions. But, in spite of its popularity with these builders, bitudobe does have its deficiencies. The finished brick is dirty brown in color, and its chemical character is such that it is difficult to get a covering material to adhere to it. In some instances, too, there are chemical failures in bitudobe which may not become apparent until after a brick has been placed in a wall.

Though the British have been using puddled earth in South Africa for the last twenty or thirty years, it is so new to this country that there is little published general information on puddled soil-cement other than that contained in this article. Reference Lists Available: Log Cabins, Tile Bonding Compounds, Rammed Earth, Swimming Pools—3¢ each. Address: Architectural Department, The American Home, 444 Madison Avenue, New York 22, New York.

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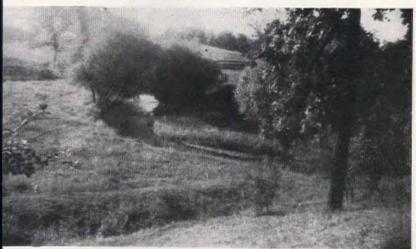
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## Even without a House We're Enjoying Our Home!



ur view moved a legendary Indian say, "Me likum here." So do we

Helen Falk

hat explains why we became a famy foursome of commuting gardeners at the two-acre tract we bought two ears ago in Golden Valley, a Minnepolis suburb. The results of develoing and working it last summer we convinced us that you don't we to wait until you can afford to aild in order to start, today, one and of building toward the future.

This is how it happened: We had and that some choice acreage was ing sold in good-sized plots. It unded—and looked—like just the nd of place we wanted—close to wn, with a creek running through it, d a school near by. As we walked ter the ground with the owner, I

stopped at the highest point, looked out over the scene and somehow felt that it was made for us. The building site was a "natural." Little landscaping would be needed. A grove of oaks with a scattering of elms among them had been spared. Below, willows bowed gracefully over a bend in the swift, sparkling stream. Roger and Linda, scurrying up and down its bank, shouted with glee, "Swimmin' Farm! Swimmin' Farm!"

"Well, what do you think?"

I turned to my husband, knowing that my answer was also his. "I could be happy here." . . . So we bought.

The land, plowed that fall, was ready by spring for the enrichment that a soil analysis showed to be nec-



Our first year garden gave us good eating and promise of more to come



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essary. We, too, were ready for work, having spent the winter reading horticultural books, studying bulletins obtained from the State Agricultural College, and doing the "paper planning". We agreed that all equipment and tools needed for a large garden would be bought and paid for at the start. First on the list was a good fence. By planting time we secured an 8' wide gate and enough 5' high wire netting to enclose a plot 115' by 90'. We set heavy 8' cedar corner posts with steel posts every 12' between them. Along the ground we fastened I" mesh chicken netting I' wide to the fence to make it rabbitproof. The cost, including \$10 for labor, was \$90.

The thought of boysenberry pies and blackberry jam was in my mind as we made up our nursery stock order. But the catalogue description of dewberries was too intriguing to resist, and I already knew the possibilities of currants, gooseberries, and raspberries. So five dozen of all those were bought and set out where they would form a permanent hedge. We pruned the two-year plants closely to promote vigorous growth next summer; it would mean an extra year's wait for a crop, but heavier yields thereafter. Led on by the catalogue and the desire to expand our activities, we not only planted a large vegetable garden, but also set out 300 everbearing strawberry plants, rhubarb, and several varieties of grapes, hoping that, by the time they produced, we would have sugar to use with them. Finally, we risked the purchase of two hybrid blueberries (varieties Atlantic and Pemberton) at \$3.50 each, guaranteed to grow in our climate if given proper care. Knowing that an acid soil is one requisite for success, we dug in several bushels of rotted tree trunk, and brought back from a trip up north to the wild blueberry country, boxes of its natural humus. We hope that with the care given them they will thrive.

HAVE no misgivings about the \$30 spent for stock from a reliable local nursery. My husband is an experienced and willing gardener, and I am an eager apprentice which, he admits, helps. All last summer I heard his chant, "The garden needs cultivating." I'm not familiar enough with farming to know how often that is really necessary, but I have a suspicion that the intriguing mechanism of the new garden tractor had something to do with it. The nostalgia of boyhood farm days is deep-rooted, and probably this playing at farming helps satisfy the call of the soil.

Buying the tractor was, frankly, sprung on me, as were several other purchases. Caught in a dragnet of enthusiasm, I was swept off my feet, amazed at the variety of plant foods and insecticides said to be essential to successful gardening, and at the new tools and gadgets bought. They revealed many unexpected demands made by gardening, both on my muscles and the family purse strings.

However, one expenditure that I



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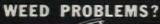
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approved wholeheartedly was for a pump and pipe line to bring water up the 25' from the creek to the garden. Much scouting finally located the necessary 180' of pipe in a secondhand yard, and a plumber friend, who did the actual planning and fitting, managed to get the needed connections for us. The pump, powered by a 3/4 HP gasoline engine, is capable of delivering a flow of water comparable to that of a city system. When everything was assembled and in working order, and a steady chug-chug brought the lite-giving creek water streaming onto the garden, my happy farmer cried joyously, "This is the day I've dreamed about! Now I can stop worrying about a drought."

I was setting out our lunch on our picnic table at the moment, and readily attested that having the water was a blessing. I remembered the blistered hands and protesting muscles that resulted from having to lug buckets of water up the steep bank during planting time. The \$79.50 that the water system cost was well spent.

That picnic table, by the way, had been a sturdy workbench in our basement. Cross beams nailed to the legs now supported planks that served as benches. Its appearance was crude, but the setup was inviting and mealtimes became gay picnics. A jug of spring water and a spray gun of DDT to dispel the flies and mosquitoes that so often lessen picnic joys, helped to keep cool our dispositions, even in hot weather. A sand pile and swing occupied the youngsters for, as gardeners, they are still admittedly spotty.

As the summer wore on, the garden added more and more treats to our picnic menus—tomatoes and lettuce, peas and beans, crisp, sweet Bermuda onions, roasted potatoes, golden sweet corn, and—the final achievement—cantaloupes and watermelons for dessert! Also 125 pint cartons of vegetables went into the freezer.

THE creek was common ground for family fun. Two feet or so of cool, fast-moving water and the firm sandy bottom made a welcome tub after a warm workout in the garden. A few deep pools yielded sunfish. Linda and Roger were thrilled catching them, and I planned our next meal around "Fish Soup, Finnish Style". The family liked it, but my husband claims you have to be raised on it (as I was) to be an enthusiast.

Lacking a building, we used a 7' x 7' tent as a dressing room for bathers and an emergency shelter from sudden showers. Of course, everyone knows what a tent can be for kids. Once, when Indian whoops resounded from it, I thought of the legend of the Indian who had camped on this same spot when it was Sioux territory. Looking out across the sweep of the creek below, he announced: "Me likum here," and proceeded to set his wigwam here.

We likum, too, and we are longing hopefully for the day when we can pitch our camp permanently where we can overlook our Golden Valley.





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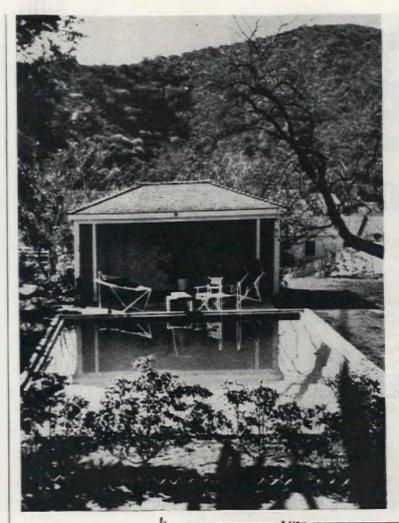
And what nice things they'll say! Especially when they see how many wonderful effects can be achieved with the marvelously adaptable Western Pines.\*

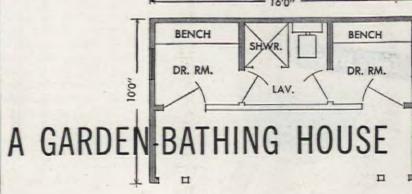
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Design and photograph by Harold Wallis Steck

SIMPLE in design, smart in appearance, and economical to build, this modest (16 by 10 ft.) garden house adapts itself easily to many family uses. It is built on a concrete slab which is extended out in front to form the open terrace or approach to the swimming pool. The frame is of standard construction with a wood shingle roof applied over matched boarding; and the exterior walls are of wide clapboards. In materials and simple, classic lines, it thus harmonizes with the house which, facing the right-hand side of the pool, is a handsome, hospitable adaptation of Colonial with a touch of Georgian.

A board partition with doors at either end divides the little building lengthwise into two nearly equal sections. The rear area houses two dressing rooms separated by a lavatory with shower. The front half provides a most attractive roofed terrace. Enclosed on three sides, it is sheltered

from the wind and alluring as a suntrap for basking or as a protected, semi-private spot for tea or refreshments, and in bad weather it is a fine place for the garden furniture, here shown out by the pool. In climates colder than Southern California (where it is a very popular adjunct of Mr. John Nesbitt's Beverly Hills home) the front section could be glass-enclosed to permit all-season use. If there were no pool, so that the dressing rooms were not needed, the plan could be modified so as to make the house a single large playroom; or, by adding an outside door at the back one of the dressing-room spaces could be converted into a garden tool shed or storage room. The exterior of the house is painted white, the dressingroom section oyster white, and the inside of the terrace area white except for the back wall, which is done in turquoise to give a touch of color and kill any excessive sun glare.





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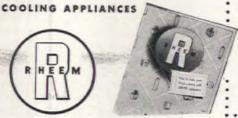
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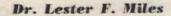
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#### Baby to the Beach...



Ewing Galloway. Drawing by Tom Funk

ONE of the finest tonics for a youngster, especially one being raised in a city, is an extended visit to the seashore. The change of scene, the good bracing air and sunshine can work wonders. But, despite the many advantages of the seashore for your baby, there are some hazards to be guarded against.

If your baby is to be outdoors, you should take care in dressing him. Use appropriately light clothing on hot days, and something a little warmer on overcast ones. When his hands and feet get cold, put heavier clothing on him no matter how warm it is. When he perspires, dry him carefully and dress him in light clothing. When he takes a nap, put a light, sleeveless shirt on him or cover him with a light sheet. If he sleeps

outdoors, then make sure that he is protected from flies and other insects by a screened porch or mosquito netting.

You can always tell when an insect has pierced his skin by the swollen, itching blotches that appear. Bee or wasp stings increase in swelling and hardness for a day or so before reducing. Some times, such bites are accompanied by fever. One of the most soothing applications for insect bites of all kinds is an ointment composed of boracic acid, menthol, and white petroleum jelly. The strength to use depends upon the age of the child and his skin. Your physician will prescribe the proper formula.

Many children develop a heat rash during hot weather. About the best treatment for it is to see that the child does not overeat, and that he has plenty of boiled water to drink between meals. Also, his daily bath should not be neglected, even when he goes into the salt water. The salt on his skin, when dried, may cause additional irritation and should be rinsed off as soon as possible.

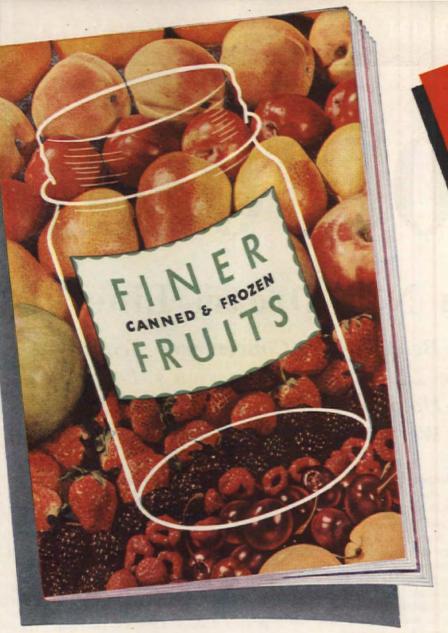
Prickly heat usually appears quite suddenly in the form of tiny, red pimples on the neck, shoulders, and chest. Sometimes this entire area becomes brightly inflamed, and the rash then spreads over other parts of the body. Such a rash burns and itches, and makes a child quite uncomfortable. It may be avoided by keeping your baby from perspiring excessively. Several baths a day, instead of the usual one, with a light powdering all over after the bath, will help immensely. Prickly heat may last from several days to several weeks. Scratching will prolong the trouble. Avoid treatment with ointments. If infection occurs, your physician will most likely recommend a bran or starch bath, or a sponging with a solution of 2 quarts of cool water in which a tablespoon of bicarbonate of soda has been thoroughly dissolved.

Many mothers wonder if a baby should have any regulated sun bathing when he spends most of his time out-of-doors. It is a good thing for a baby to have regular sun baths but, at the beginning, he. should be exposed to the sun for only two or three minutes, and the time gradually increased until he is in the sun about one-half hour daily, provided that his skin is of such a type that it takes the sun well. The safest time for his sun bath is between 9:30 to 10:00 in the morning and 3:00 to 3:30 in the afternoon. Sunshine reflected from water can also produce a painful burn. Taking a baby out in a boat, without plenty of protection from reflected sunshine, will have very bad effects, even though he may be under an awning all the time.

If your baby becomes sunburned, he really needs first aid treatment. The burn, even though a light one, is exactly the same as that given by an open flame or a hot stove, and should be treated accordingly. Calamine lotion is very soothing on slightly reddened skin. So is an ointment with tannic acid. In case of a serious burn, blisters, or infection, see your doctor and, under no circumstances, take any chances on home treatment.

Where children and beach blend in a riot of activity, you are almost certain to have a case of sand-in-the-eye. If you happen to have an eyewash which your doctor may have recommended for these emergencies, flush your baby's eyes with it. If you do not have an eyewash, boil some water and let it cool to body temperature and flush the eyes with this.

If you take your baby to a public beach, be careful of impetigo. It is highly contagious. See that your child wears sandals and that he uses his own towel, napkin, etc. Impetigo appears on the body as an ugly, yellow-crusted mass of sores, and it spreads rapidly. It should be cared for at once by a doctor.



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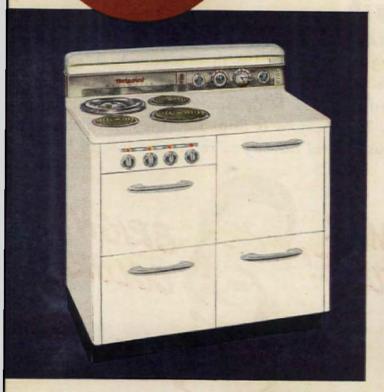
\*KARO is a registered trade-mark of Corn Products Refining Co., New York, N.Y. © C.P.R.Co., 1947

# Now Hotpoint

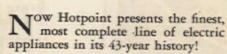
FIRST WITH
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NEW FEATURES
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Ahead in Styling, Beauty And Convenience Features— Packed With New Ideas From America's Foremost Kitchen Planners—Hotpoint Offers Quality-Built Electric Appliances That We Proudly Call America's Finest



- Hotpoint Electric Range is the world's simplest, fastest-starting, most responsive electric range. It has 11 new convenience features, 25% more capacity. Improved Calrod\* units give even heat. Left rear unit doubles as surface and well-cooker unit. Meals cook automatically while you are out of the kitchen. Three other advanced models.
- Hotpoint Water Heaters have new pressurized direct contact Calrod\* units. If water is left untapped, this fully insulated heater will keep it hot 3 days without reheating. Seven models range from 15 to 86gallon capacity. \*REG.U.S.PAT.OFF.



- Away out front in styling and exclusive features, Hotpoint home servants set the pace for value. Custom built to the specifications of engineers who pioneered the all-electric kitchen, electric range and electric dishwasher, Hotpoint's dream line of appliances is packed with new features you have long wanted.
- The Hotpoint Range starts faster, has greater capacity. The beautiful stream-

lined Hotpoint Refrigerator and frontopening Hotpoint Dishwasher embody six years of proved engineering advances. Hotpoint Washers and Ironers provide new and exclusive betterments. All are built to war-born quality standards to give years of service at lower cost.

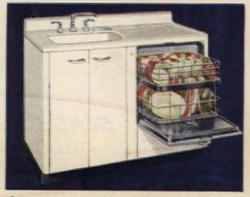
• Demand still exceeds production, but see this quality line of appliances at your dealer's. Compare Hotpoint products with them all. You'll agree that Hotpoint sets the pace for style, dependability and value!



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## Hotpoint

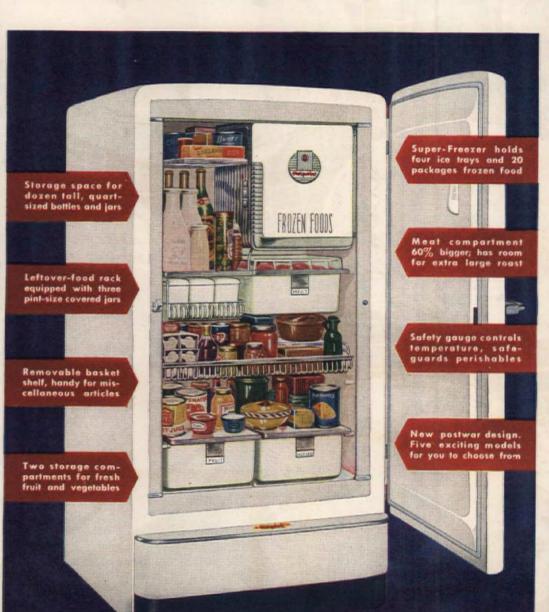
HOTPOINT INC.

A GENERAL ELECTRIC AFFILIATE



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\*140-lb. model also available

World's Finest Research, Engineering And Craftsmanship Plus 43 Years of Exclusive Electric Appliance Experience







In addition to the hot potato dish, serve hot consommé to whet the appetite after hours of tiring sun. Fill consommé cups half full of canned condensed consommé or bouillon, and provide a kettle of boiling water. A stir of the spoon produces a delicious beverage, stimulating and just right in temperature for quick drinking.

With this offer finger sandwiches made of parsley, butter, and cream cheese. Then follow with a self-served plate of cold meat loaf . . . just because beef is plentiful . . . lightened by a bit of ham and cucumbers . . . just because ham is scarce, then a generous spoonful of new potatoes in a curry sauce, and a great serving of relishes. Offer a good portion of raspberry mold. Hot or iced tea or coffee completes the meal that ends this day pleasantly and satisfyingly.

Gelatin is a fine stand-by for hot weather desserts, and we offer here six recipes which take advantage of gelatin's delicate power. Glazed cherry tarts, for instance, are as pretty to look at as they are to eat . . . and the cream filling on which the cherry glaze rests will not soak into the crust if cooled well. Cool the gelatin well, also, and if the addition of the cherries melts it at all, chill again before topping the filling.

Peppermint-stick ice cream is a fine color, really peppermint pink, soothing in flavor and texture. If possible, serve with chocolate-chip cookies, or with thin, crispy brownies.

A chocolate sponge, sweet, yet with a pleasingly bitter tang on the back of the tongue, is a cooling dessert because it must be topped with cream . . . either whipped or plain . . . and the color shock produces the cooling effect.

The Miami meringue pie is as pretty and as cool a dessert as can be imagined. The meringue crust is crisp... the mint ice cream, green coldness, the orange sections almost a sherbet texture. Put this together just the minute before serving. Nesselrode Pie is an old favorite, always pleasing, easily made, able to stand long in a cool place.



74 tsp, salt
73 cup boiling water
3 eggs, separated
1 tsp. vanilla flavor

softened gelatin and stir until dissolved. Add slowly to the slightly beaten egg yolks. Place in refrigerator and chill until the mixture thickens slightly. Fold in the egg whites, beaten until stiff, and add the vanilla flavor. Turn into a Sorren, the gelatin in cold water. Melt chocolate over low heat. Add sugar, salt and water, and bring to a boil. Remove from the heat, add which has been rinsed in cold water and chill until firm. Spoon into sherbet glasses and serve with whipped cream. Source of vitamins A, B complex 133 cal. per serving Serves 4

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

Preparation time: 45 min. (chill 2-3 hrs.)

11/2 tbs. unflavored gelatin cup cold water I cup thin cream 3 eggs, separated cup milk

cup sugar or corn syrup

chiffon pie nesselrode

2 tsp. vanilla flavor 1/3 cup sugar

2 tbs. chopped maraschino cherries 1 9-inch pie shell

constantly. Remove from the heat; add gelatin and stir until gelatin has dissolved. Cool and add vanilla flavor. Chill in refrigerator until mixture thickens to the consistency of soft custard. Fold in egg whites which have been beaten Beat the egg yolks slightly; add ¼ cup sugar or white corn syrup and salt. Add scalded milk and cream to the egg mixture slowly, stirring all the while. Cook over hot water until mixture coats the spoon (about 7 minutes) stirring until stiff with 1/3 cup sugar, Add maraschino cherries. Turn into a baked pie Sorren the gelatin in the cold water, Scald the milk and cream. shell. Sprinkle the top with shaved chocolate and chill until firm.

Source of vitamins A, C, B complex Tested in The American Home Kitchen 393 cal. per serving

Preparation time: 30 min. (chill 2.3 hrs.)

peppermint stick

lb.) peppermint stick candy 1 cup (¼ lb.) pepp ½ tsp. salt 1 pt. heavy cream

1 tbs. unflavored gelatin 14 cup cold milk 134 cups milk

Sorren the gelatin in the cold milk. Scald 134 cups milk; add softened gelatin and stir until dissolved. Crush the candy and stir into the milk with the salt. Allow mixture to cool. Whip cream and fold into the candy mixture. Pour into a refrigerator tray. When mixture has frozen one inch from edge, remove to a chilled bowl and beat until smooth. Return to the refrigerator tray and continue to freeze until firm.

cal, per serving Serves 6

Source of vitamins A, B complex

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

Preparation time: 30 min. (2.3 hrs. to chill)

packages raspberry-flavored gelatin

slightly thickened. Fold in raspberries. Pour into a 6-cup mold which has been rinsed in cold water. Chill until firm, Unmold onto a large plate and top with whipped cream or meringue made as follows: Beat z egg whites until frothy. Sprinkle a dash of salt over top and beat until stiff. Gradually beat in z tbs. of sugar, t tbs. at a time. Add  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. vanilla flavor, then fold in z tbs. more Dash of lemon juice 2 cups fresh or frozen raspberries of sugar, and beat until mixture stands in peaks.

261 cal. per serving

Source of vitamins A, C

Too Many Carrots?

\*To use unflavored gelatin: Soften 2 ths. unflavored gelatin in r cup cold water. Add ½ cup sugar, ¼ tsp, salt, and 2 cups hot water and stir until dissolved. Stir in ½ cup raspberry juice and a few drops of red coloring. Chill until slightly thickened and proceed as above.

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

miami meringue pie

cup sugar medium oranges, sectioned

tsp. cream of tartar

tsp. salt

ice cream: Beat 3 egg whites until almost stiff. Add % cup white corn syrup gradually, and beat until mixture stands in peaks. Combine ¼ cup sugar, ½ cup lime juice, and 3 egg yolks, well beaten, and fold into the egg-white mixture. Whip ¾ cup heavy cream until almost stiff, and combine with lime juice Allow meringue to cool. Chill orange sections for several hours. To make lime mixture. Add a dash of green food coloring. Pour mixture into freezing tray of a refrigerator and freeze until firm. Stir twice during freezing. Just bein a well-greased 9-inch pie pan and bake in a slow oven (275°F.) for I hour. Source of vitamins A, C, B complex BEAT egg whites until foamy, Add salt and cream of tartar and beat until stiff, Gradually beat in sugar until mixture is marshmallowy. Spread sections. fore serving, fill meringue shell with ice cream and top with orange 454 cal. per serving

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

2 cups pitted red cherries 34 cup sugar \*1 pkg. cherry-flavored gelatin

cups hot water pkg. prepared vanilla pudding baked tart shells

Pour about ¼ cup of the pudding into each tart shell. Spread cherries in thickened gelatin on top of the pudding and allow to chill until firm. Serve Combine cherries and sugar and let stand for 30 minutes. Dissolve gelatin in hot water. Chill and allow to thicken slightly. Fold in cherries. Cook vanilla pudding according to the directions on the package. Allow to cool. Pour about ¼ cup of the pudding into each tart shell. Spread cherries in plain or with whipped cream.

Source of vitamins A, C, B complex

\*To use unflavored gelatin: Soften 1 tbs. of unflavored gelatin in ½ cup cold water. Add ¼ cup sugar, ¾ tsp. salt and 1 cup hot water, and stir until dissolved. Stir in ½ cup canned cherry juice and a few drops of red coloring. Proceed as above,

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN



A meat loaf, made as usual, but cups grated raw carrot in place of 1/2 ground meat is a neat and tasty dish ing 2 lb. of

# California Cookery

Helen Houston Boileau

Californians do not exist on a diet of tortillas, olives and orange juice, as many Easterners seem to assume. Our cookery is not so much influenced by missions and senoritas as it is by the type of life we live. We love to be outside "doing things." Consequently, we become "on the go" cooks, not inclined to spend hours over cookbooks and stoves. We prepare dishes that are simple, yet satisfying, providing maximum appeal and effectiveness with a minimum amount of work.

Back-yard picnics, barbecues, and simple buffet meals are favored. Mrs. Average California housewife entertains often and easily, but seldom in sumptuous Hollywood fashion. Here in California we do things the easy way.

Salad as a first course is a Western innovation. For barbecues, a "must" is the large mixed-green salad bowl, featuring a personalized dressing, dear to the heart of every amateur barbecuer.

Naturally, we take advantage of native products, augmenting our menus with some exotic and interesting concoctions. Olives and olive oil, Western seafoods, walnuts, avocados and citrus fruits—all these we use freely. Here are a few among the many of our Western recipes. They are not all original. Most of them have no source.



large avocado

oz. pkg.) cream cheese (3 oz. pkg.) crear tbs. cream tbs. lemon juice PEEL and cut avocado in half, lengthwise. Remove pit and sprinkle ing ingredients and mix well. Stuff the avocado halves with the cheese mixture. Place the halves together, holding them secure with toothpicks. Rub with lemon juice. Wrap in waxed paper and chill thoroughly. When ready to serve, slice into with lemon juice to keep from darkening. Soften cream cheese; add the remaininch slices, using a very sharp knife. Serve with tart French dressing. Source of vitamins A, C, B complex 281 cal. per serving Serves 4

California Scrollware from Marsh-Fairchild-Seeman, Inc. Recipe submitted by Helen Houston Boileau

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

Preparation time: I hour

 cracker and cheese casserole

Preparation time: 20 min.

36 butter-type crackers, crumbled ½ lb. American cheese, diced 1 tbs, prepared mustard 1 tbs. Worcestershire sauce

salt and pepper for hard-cooked eggs 11/2 cups milk Mix together crackers, cheese, mustard, Worcestershire sauce and onion salt. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Slice eggs; sprinkle with salt and pepper, and place in alternate layers in a casserole with the cracker mixture. Pour milk over all. Bake in a moderate oven (350° F.) for 45 minutes.

323 cal. per serving Serves 6-8

Recipe submitted by Helen Houston Boileau Pottery "Pink Cloud" from Janice Pettee

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

Preparation time: 11/2 hrs.

I large onion, chopped
I lb. ground beef
1/2 lb. ground pork
I (8 oz. pkg.) wide noodles 2 tbs. fat

can cream style corn can condensed tomato soup can tomato sauce Salt and pepper Grated cheese

and cook, sirring, until browned. Cook noodles in boiling, salted water until tender. Drain, rinse, and mix with the corn, tomato soup, and tomato sauce. Combine with the meat mixture and season to taste with salt and pepper. Turn into a casserole and top with grated cheese. Bake in a moderate oven (35° F.) NELT fat in a skillet; add onion and cook until transparent. Add meat for I hour,

Source of vitamins A, C, B complex 267 cal. per serving Serves 8.10

Pottery, California Scrallware from Marsh-Fairchild-Seeman, Inc. Recipe submitted by Helen Houston Boileau

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

Preparation time: 1 hr.

cup ground walnuts cup soft bread crumbs tsp. salt

tbs. finely chopped blanched almonds tbs. finely chopped ripe olives tbs. chopped chives

3 tbs. finely chopped planca 3 tbs. finely chopped ripe o 1 tbs. chopped chives Salt and paprika to taste

4 cup finely chopped onion

NIX all ingredients together. Shape into small balls and place in a shallow casserole. Cover with sauce made as follows: Melt ¼ cup butter or margarine. Add 4 tbs. flour and stir until well browned, Add 2½ cups milk and

cook, stirring constantly until the mixture thickens. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Bake balls in sauce in a moderate oven (350° F.) for 30 minutes.

Source of vitamins A, B complex

455 cal. per serving

Serves 4-6

Recipe submitted by Helen Houston Boileau Pottery, "Pink Cloud" from Janice Pettee

i tbs. finely chopped parsley i egg, well beaten i tsp. Worcestershire sauce cup milk 1 ths.

carrot becomes another table entirely when glazed and combined with onion rings. Especially good with cold meats

and pulp of a quarter orange. mayonnaise. Stuff a peach half.

stirring constantly until mixture is creamy. Pour this over the avocado which has been peeled, pitted, and thickly sliced. If desired, garnish with a bit of water cress which has been wilted with a little crisply cooked, diced bacon.

MELT butter, add flour, and mix well. Add broth and milk and cook,

medium avocado

butter or margarine

cup chicken broth

% cup chick

Water cress

Season with Good salad!

Source of vitamins A, C, B complex

Recipe submitted by Helen Houston Boileau Pottery, "Briarwood" from MacConnells of California

236 cal. per serving

Serves 4

Source of vitamins A, B complex

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

Something different! Pour cream of mushroom soup over sliced, cooked carrots. Top with crumbs, salt, dot with butter and brown

and rinse. Mix tuna fish with minced onion and mustard. Peel, pit, and slice avocado. Place alternate layers of rice, cheese, fish and avocado in a casserole. Sprinkle the layers of rice and avocado with a little salt and paprika. Repeat until all ingredients are used. Pour milk over all. Sprinkle the top of the casserole with a little grated cheese and the cracker crumbs. Bake in a moderately hot oven (375° F.) for 30 minutes.

1 (14½ oz. can) evaporated milk ½ cup cracker crumbs

tsp. prepared mustard

1 ths. minced onion grated cheese cups tuna fish

34 cup rice

I cup

medium avocado

hr.

Preparation time: 1

johnny moussetti

I medium avocad Salt and paprika

Source of vitamins A, C, B complex

451 cal. per serving

Serves 6

Recipe submitted by Helen Houston Boileau

Pottery, California Scrollware from Marsh-Fairchild-Seeman, Inc.

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

Get more for lots less with a

THOR AUTOMAGIC

CLOTHES WASHER

The price of the Thor Clothes

Washer is almost as remarkable
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You'll pay less for this dial-control, work-free washer than for many an ordinary machine. And get so much more! Load after load of snowy clothes washed cleaner by Thor agitator action, rinsed cleaner by overflow rinses that drain from the top, and whirled better than wringer dry.... All you do is flick a switch. No vibration, no need to bolt to the floor! See the Thor, and see why you get more with Thor so many ways.

Nobody ever liked to wash dishes except the

HO

# THOR DISHWASHER

it even washes
pots and pans



Nobody likes to do the dishes...and nobody has to do them with a Thor Dishwasher in the kitchen! It washes dishes, silver, glassware for six at one filling, and uses only 4 to 6 quarts of hot water. It handles your fine china with "kid gloves" yet provides ample power for the greasiest pots and pans. Even if a dishwasher is still on your "dream list" see the Thor soon. It's surprisingly inexpensive, and you can always add a clothes washing unit later if you wish!

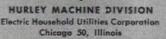
the only washer in the world you can buy 3 ways...

each wonderful!

The automagic combination
brings you a CLOTHES WASHER
and a DISHWASHER in ONE THOR!

The Thor Combination is the finest worksaver...the grandest money saver...you've ever laid eyes on! Its two separate units (for duds and dishes) are used by turn in ONE streamlined cabinet so that you get two fine washers for little more than the cost of one. You make the switch in 1½ minutes, just by changing tubs. And you can start right out with the Combination or add the extra unit later—at very little extra cost!

No part of the Thor that touches clothes ever touches dishes! Separate washing units slip in or out in 1½ minutes.

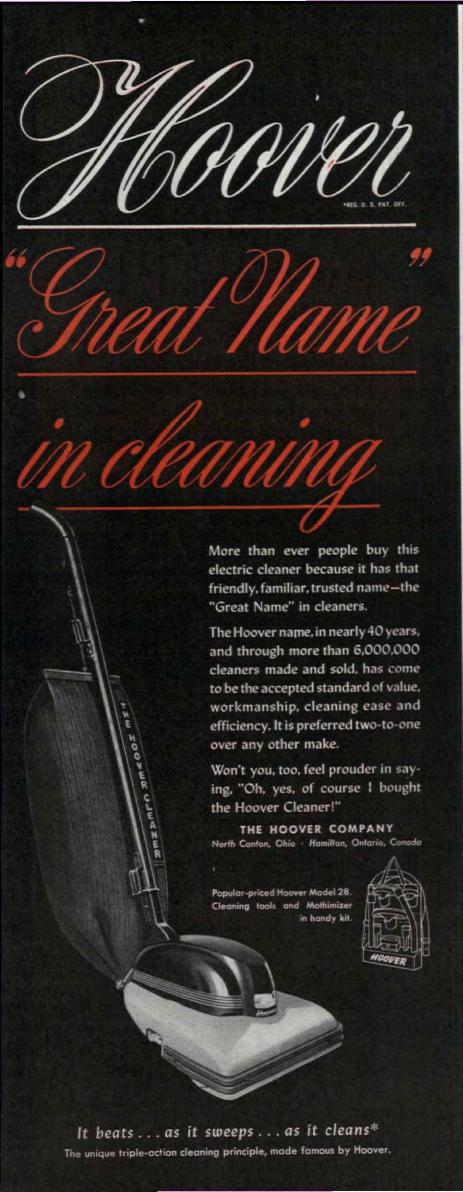


Thor-Canadian Company, Ltd., Toronto Plants in Chicago, III.; Bloomington, III.; El Monte, Calif.; Toronto, Canada; London, England.

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The famous Thorironer that irons everything in minutes . . . even shirts . . . is now automagic! See how it irons, how it folds and stores in a closet, how little it costs. You won't rest until you're Gladironing.

Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.



# Pretty **Toppings**



**Marie Peters** 

DECORATION is a flair for changing plainness into glamour. The height of this art is achieved when a baker's cake is topped by deceptive beauty. Cupcakes fit easily into this art of decorating. Not only can they be made to look pretty with no trouble at all, but the problem of dessert for more than one meal can be solved. Simply transform one batch of cupcakes into two desserts by using two different toppings.

A fluffy frosting is simple to make. Here is an especially attractive one using grape jelly to get a creamy pink color. Combine I cup sifted confectioners' sugar with a dash of salt and 1/3 cup grape jelly. Blend thoroughly with a rotary egg beater. This is an ample amount for a halfdozen large cupcakes, and should be used generously. The frosting may be changed to fit the color theme of your menu or party table by using mint, orange, or plum jelly.

For the remaining 6 cupcakes, combine 1/2 cup heavy cream, whipped, I tsp. confectioners' sugar, I tbs. chopped, candied orange peel and I ths. chopped, candied lemon peel.

White, sponge, or chocolate cupcakes can be set in a dish of stewed fruit, and the cake topped neatly with a cap of whipped cream an inch high and spread to the edge. Delicious!

Gingerbread cupcakes filled with citron marmalade give this familiar dessert a new twist. Slice the cupcakes in half. Combine 4 tbs. of chopped citron with I cup orange marmalade. Spread this mixture between the halves. Replace the top half and serve with a spoonful of the marmalade as garnish. Cream, whipped or plain, is optional.

A not too sweet dessert, with the hearty character men prefer, is made with spice cupcakes and a cheesewhip topping. For this, combine 1/4 cup sharp cheese spread, I (3 oz.) package of cream cheese, 1/4 tsp. nutmeg, I ths. milk and I ths. sifted confectioners' sugar. Beat until light and fluffy. Makes 3/4 cup of topping.



#### Crowded Kitchens



Here's the answer for small kitchens-a BIG refrigerator especially designed to take less kitchen space yet give more storage space. Including 25-lb. Built-in Frozen Food Locker!

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#### HANDY HELPER'S

JINGLE When canning QUIZ Nº 11

peaches, beans or yams, Or making pickles, jellies, jams. What should you use to mark each jar So all may know what contents are?





F000

#### For Easier, Faster *CANNING*

TOMATOES—Strains bushel into juice in 20 minutes — separates skins, seeds. APPLES—Mashes bush-el into sauce in 30 min-STRAINS OR MASHES

in half time all fruits for jams, pumpkin, squash, etc. Ricespotatoes, strains all fresh vegetables for family and baby foods.

FOLEY FOOD MILL \$1.50 at DEPT. HDW stores (Cannot shin direct from factory.)

FOLEY MFG. CO., 3311 N. E. 5th St.,

Name. (Write address plainly in margin)





# Look . . . It's New!

Esther Foley

CHEESE'N bacon is the newest and snappiest cocktail item on the market. Put there by Bordens, and fit to bear such a proud brand. For luncheon use, melt the contents of jar over hot water, sauce it over string beans, or asparagus, and set your teeth into a really hearty, well-flavored dish. The secret of long keeping is that bacon used is defatted and there is no chance of rancid flavor. The cheese is processed, aged Cheddar. On sale nationally, in any store carrying Borden's products—the 5 oz. jar sells for about 23¢.

A cake cutter and server... made in the easy to use tong pattern, is new on the market. Sturdily constructed, the metal is thin enough to have a good cutting edge. It is called Kutn-Serve, a Drake product, and brought to our attention by The House and Garden Shop, Baltimore, Md., where it retails for \$1.95 postpaid.

Prepackaging is the fresh vegetable answer to the challenge of quick-frozen and canned produce. Vegetables can be cleaned, weighed, and packed all at one field, or they can be sold as picked, and later packaged by the wholesaler or the retailer at point of sale. The unit size of the packet varies with the product. The average tomato tray contains 3 to 4 tomatoes. The flowerets of a cauliflower make a unit. At the present



Cheese'n bacon can be spread on crackers, or melted and used as a sauce for beans or asparagus



Wedge-shaped, these sharp-edged tongs cut and serve a triangle of cake in one neat, swift motion



A Product of General Foods

saving way.



# How's the bride— tired of housework yet?

PAT: Not me, Nan—I'm smart! I stick to a cleanser that doesn't leave dirt-catching scratches.

NAN: Dirt-catching scratches? Must be something new.

PAT: Not new at all, silly! Everybody should know coarse cleansers leave scratches that hold on to dirt and make twice the work. That's why I always use Bon Ami on my bathtub and sink.

NAN: Because it "hasn't scratched yet"? I've heard that.

PAT: Check! Bon Ami slides dirt and grease off in wink-time. It polishes, too - just look at this sparkle!

NAN: I'm looking at your hands! No other cleanser I know leaves hands so smooth and white!

Us: Also, for sparkling, film-free windows, mirrors and windshields, use Bon Ami in the handy Cake form.



time about 60 out of a possible 80 of the common fruits and vegetables are being prepackaged for our use in some quantity.

One of the newest materials for the prepack is Lumarith, a transparent paper which allows the vegetables to breathe, letting out carbon dioxide and letting in air. These packages keep best on a bed of crushed ice, and are often marketed in this manner. Waste is cut to a minimum, and flavor and appearance are kept at a maximum for as long as 3 days.

It took a manufacturer's skill to produce a rice kernel which would stay single. The new product, Uncle Ben's Converted Rice does just that . . nothing a cook can do can make the grains stick together. Yet it does cook up fluffy, snow white, and with definite chewing properties. It makes a splendid Spanish Rice dish, but will not make a good old-fashioned, "poor man's" pudding. That requires a sticky consistency. But, in general, it is the answer to a rice cook's prayer. The conversion process has increased the Vitamin B content of the polished grain. But its greatest characteristic is each grain's determination to stay single. It is due for national distribution as supplies increase, and is now available at Gimbel Bros., New York City, where it sells for 21¢ for a I lb. box, or 5 for \$1.00.

All-Nu Products Co. of Camden, N. J. have introduced a new item, "All Nu Dryetts," which are small, white, translucent silica gel pellets for absorbing moisture in salt shakers. When the "Dryetts" have become saturated, the company says, they can be dried out in the oven and then re-used. The product is sold in a heatsealed envelope, for ten cents.



Lumarith is one of the most suitable materials for the prepackaging of cleaned vegetables



Uncle Ben's Converted Rice has a hard, clean grain and cooks fluffy and snow white every time



Harper Center Simmer Burners are superior to all other top burners because each Harper burner is really 2 burners in 1. As shown in diagram, the big outer burner brings foods to a quick boil. Turn handle until it "clicks" and the big burner goes out, leaving only the small, efficient inner burner lit to finish the cooking.

Only the separate Harper Center Simmer gives you the controlled low heats you need to keep foods warm for serving ...to eliminate pot watching and boiling dry...to allow cooking with little water, which saves time and gas and keeps the average kitchen 9 degrees cooler. Only the Harper separate Center Simmer can help you so much in your cooking.

Insist on Harper Burners!

\*18 Leading Gas Ranges are Harper Equipped



HARPER-WYMAN COMPANY

8560 Vincennes Ave., Chicago 20, III.

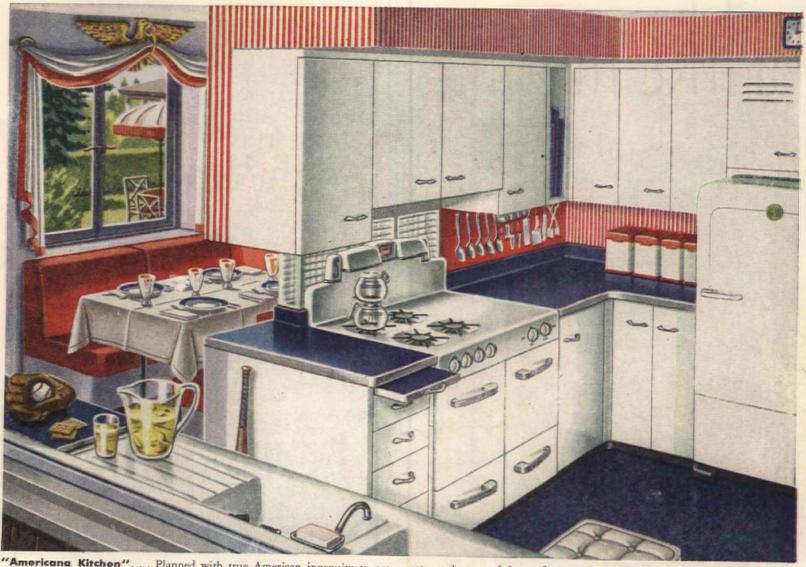




CLEMENTS

### Hours-truly nylons

AMAZING NEW FIT SERVICE



"Americana Kitchen"... Planned with true American ingenuity to get things done in the quickest, simplest, most successful way possible! For this latest "New Freedom Gas Kitchen" is built around the greatest work-savers ever! Time-saving food preservation with a new silent Gas refrigerator that has room for a week's groceries plus 60 packages of frozen foods. Constant bot

water at the turn of the tap from a new automatic Gas water-heater. New coolness and cleanliness thanks to a special ventilating system that catches un-wanted cooking odors and vapors at their source. And the cooking miracle that all America has waited for — a new automatic Gas range built to "CP" standards. Make it the first step toward your own "New Freedom Gas Kitchen"... today!

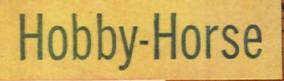


# Just like magic

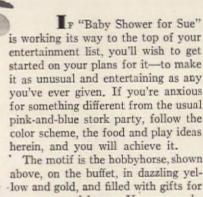


Stokely-Van Camp, Inc., Indianapolis, and Stokely-Van Camp of Canada, Limited.

Dorothy M. Clarke



Party



The motif is the hobbyhorse, shown above, on the buffet, in dazzling yellow and gold, and filled with gifts for your guest of honor. You can make the hobbyhorse yourself, and place it on the buffet, or in the center of your table as the centerpiece. The theme is carried into the place cards—white paper horseshoes decorated with gold stars and tied with yellow ribbon. Too, you can make little paper rocking horses for place cards, or small hobbyhorses like the centerpiece and, filled with candy, they will be engaging little place-card favors.

The colorful, summery table shown above is set with pottery dinnerware in the new triangular shape. Each piece has a soft-green top and a terracotta-colored base. Also new, service-able, and ideally tropical for a July table, is the stainless steel cutlery with bamboo handles. The glassware has a bamboo trim, and the salt and pepper mills are covered with bamboo.

The tablecloth, a "pumpkin" orange, with narrow, white-striped large squares, makes a bright, adaptable



Close-ups of the centerpiece and appropriate place cards in the Hobbyhorse motif: the little horse has a black crepe-paper mane and tail, a braided ribbon bridle, and is decorated with gold stars. The horseshoe place cards repeat the gold-star theme, are tied with yellow ribbon

## LOOKS FANCY-but-its so easy!

Photographs by F. M. Demarest

background. The napkins, which match the color of the tablecloth, with a white trim at edge, offer a deft touch of the appropriate—each is clipped with a green plastic clothespin. They'll be collected for the guest of honor after the party. Another especially appropriate cloth for a hobbyhorse party is the painted cotton fabric with the little horse motif (shown below) designed by Elza of Hollywood.

Instead of a centerpiece, this table offers two points of decorative interest. At right, is a pineapple-and-grapes group on a yellow ceramic

compote, with darker, rough base. At the left, yellow gladiolus are placed in individual, heavy, low glass candleholders, and grouped around a tall white candle under a hurricane lamp trimmed with bamboo to match the glasses. Pieces of kale are tucked around the base of the lamp and between the candleholders.

If you choose to have an evening dessert party, you might send out invitations to a "Rockabye Dessert", entertaining informally on charmingly set card tables, and using small hobbyhorses as candy-laden centerpieces.



Especially appropriate for a Hobbyhorse party is this printed cotton fabric by Elza of Hollywood

#### SHRIMP SUPPER MOLD

2 tablespoons gelatin
1/4 cup cold water
3 cups tomato juice
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon onion juice
1/4 cup vinegar
11/2 cups shrimp,
fresh or canned
1/2 cup mayonnaise
1/2 cup chopped celery

Soften gelatin in cold water. Place tomato juice, salt, onion juice and vinegar in saucepan, and bring to a boil. Remove from heat; add softened gelatin; stir until dissolved. Chill until slightly thickened. Place ¾ cup thickened mixture in loaf pan. Arrange 8 whole shrimp in this layer. Chill thoroughly. Blend remaining mixture and mayonnaise with rotary beater. Fold in celery, green pepper and shrimp, and fill mold. Chill until firm. Unmold. Garnish with salad greens. Serve with Herb Mayonnaise. Makes 8 servings.

1/4 cup chopped green pepper

NEXT time you're in a party mood, here's just the thing to do. A salad that makes eyes sparkle—and mouths water. A special dressing to go with it and in it! And a new bread trick everybody'll copy. All of them are extra delicious because they use MAZOLA\*. It's the delicate Salad Oil with the richer, finer flavor.

\*MAZOLA is a registered trade-mark of Corn Products Refining Co., New York, N. Y.



to within ¼ inch of bottom crust. Pull the bread apart

slightly and brush cut sur-

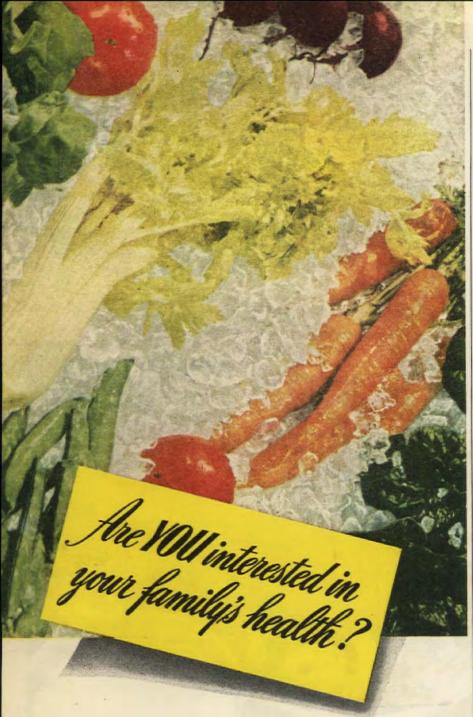
faces with MAZOLA. Sprin-

kle with celery seed. Place cut loaf on baking sheet in

hot oven (400° F.) 15 min-

utes. Serve immediately.

MAYONNAISE 2 egg yolks 3/4 teaspoon salt 1 teaspoon sugar 1/4 teaspoon paprika 3/4 teaspoon mustard Few grains pepper 3 tablespoons vinegar 11/4 cups MAZOLA Salad Oil Combine egg yolks, seasonings and 1 tablespoon vinegar. Beat well with rotary beater; while beating add MAZOLA, 1 tablespoon at a time, beating thoroughly after each addition until 1/2 cup is used. Add 1 tablespoon vinegar. Beat in remaining MAZOLA gradually. Add last tablespoon vinegar. Makes 11/2 cups. Herb Mayonnaise: To 1 cup Mayonnaise, add 1 teaspoon chopped parsley, 11/2 teaspoons chopped chives, 1/4 teaspoon chopped fresh basil and a few drops lemon juice. Mix thoroughly.



Then don't waste good money on wilted, dried out, vitamin-starved vegetables!

In a nation-wide research program, participated in by the Biochemistry Departments of fourteen leading universities, startling new facts have recently been established!

It has been proved that most of our favorite vegetables lose precious vitamins at an alarming rate while in the store—unless they are constantly protected with ice.

Spinach, for example, loses nearly half its health-giving vitamin C in 8 hours unless iced—and lettuce 22 per cent! Celery loses 25 per cent in 12 hours—green beans, 25 per cent in 18 hours—peas, 33 per cent in 24 hours.

Up-to-date grocers are not permitting these shocking losses. They bed their vegetables in pure, sparkling crushed ice, keeping them garden-fresh and vitamin-rich—crisp, delicious and fully nutritious.

For the sake of your family's health, patronize stores that give produce the modern, scientific protection of ice.

FREE! Drop a postcard today for your copy of "Nature's Treasury of Health"—
it will help you plan vitamin-rich meals.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ICE INDUSTRIES, 1706 L. St., N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

#### ICE Protects Foods from Farm to Table!







Reaching the modern market, the produce is placed on iced displays to keep it garden-fresh

And in the home, the modern ICE refrigerator gives vegetables and other foods complete, scientific protection. The games you play should be suitable to the occasion and the weather. One stunt that will amuse your guests is to have each guest send a telegram to the expectant father, the words of the messages to start with the letters of the words, "Rockabye", consecutively. For example: "Real Ornery Child, Katherine Abigail, Born Yesterday Evening."

For another, cut two large pictures of babies from a magazine and divide them jigsaw puzzle fashion. Fitting them together again will divide your guests into two teams. Then one side will write down various questions involved in the troubles of baby care. For instance, "What would you do if the baby threw his nursing bottle out of the crib?" The opposite side will prepare solutions to various situations in baby care. For instance: "Bubble the baby after his feeding." When they have been completed, have the questions and answers read alternately.

Next, give each guest a slip of paper bearing the guest of honor's full name in scrambled letters. Let them choose names for the new baby.

At this point, a game of "Guessing Months" should prove refreshing. In inconspicuous places about the room, place various articles that are symbolic of the twelve months. A prize could be given for rapid identification.

A last brain-teaser to keep the guests very quiet and very interested, is this "Moneyed Man" quiz suggested by Alfreda Lee. Test your guests' powers of observation by having them name the denomination of each bill from these descriptions:

- 1. Picture of Grant
- 2. Picture of Hamilton
- 3. Lincoln Memorial, front view
- 4. Picture of Jackson
- 5. The Great Seal of the United States
- 6. The White House
- 7. Picture of McKinley
- 8. Picture of Jefferson
- 9. Picture of Lincoln
- 10. Picture of Washington
- 11. Panorama of Washington D. C., the Capitol in the foreground
- 12. United States Treasury

#### Answers:

1. \$50.00; 2. \$10.00; 3. \$5.00; 4. \$20.00; 5. \$1.00; 6. \$20.00; 7. \$500.00; 8. \$2.00; 9. \$5.00; 10. \$1.00; 11. \$50.00; 12. \$10.00.

A suggested menu for a happy ending to your Hobby-Horse Party is:

Jellied Consommé
Rice . . . . Chicken Casserole
Garden Vegetable Salad
Hot Biscuits
Fruit Sherbet and Cookies
Iced Tea

Contributing to illustration on pages 86-87:
Photographs by F. M. Demarest: Hobby-horse idea by the author, executed by Dennison Mfg.
Co.; Furniture, courtesy of The Manor House;
Cloth, John Matouk: Pottery, "Grand Canyon,"
Mathilda Schaefer design by Polly D'Ardis Wilson; Cutlery, glasses, salt and pepper mill, hurricane lamp, Langbein; Candlestick holders, Viking Glass; Oval cigarette holder and ash tray, Vally Werner; Plasticolor Clothespins, Mastro Plastics Corp.; Pottery Compote, Barbara Willis; Candle, Will and Baumer.

To obtain directions for making hobby-horse, send 6¢ (no stamps please)

to: Dept. E, The American Home, 444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N.Y.





#### TOMATO JUICE COCKTAIL

To each 8 oz. glass add a dash of salt and a teaspoon of Lea & Perrins Worcestershire. There's a tongueteaser! For tangy Lea & Perrins brings out the true deliciousness of tomato juice—rounds out the flavor with a zest-and-zip all its own! Try Lea & Perrins! A real treat!

Famous for over a century

# LEA & PERRINS Sauce THE ORIGINAL WORCESTERSHIRE

F Recipe Book





# COOL AND COMFORTABLE ALL SUMMER

Enjoy "summer resort" breezes in your home or office with Emerson-Electric Fans. Standard of quality for 56 years, these sturdy breeze-makers operate quietly and efficiently, carry the famous Emerson-Electric 5-Year Guarantee at no extra cost. Send for Folder No. 516 today!

#### Breeze-Condition your HOME too!

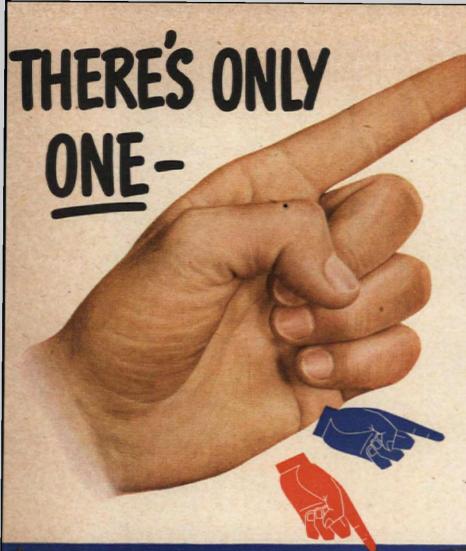


Installed in attic, this Emerson-Electric HOME COOLER FAN forces out day's accumulation of hot air, pulls in cool night air through open windows and doors. Write for Folder No. 516.

THE EMERSON ELECTRIC MANUFACTURING CO.
St. Louis 21, Mo. 27







There are lots of home freezers but only one can be called the Deepfreeze home freezer. Get the answers on this important purchase from the originators of home freezers.

# NOW-AN ENTIRELY NEW Deepfreeze

With 17 new advanced features...
10 major improvements... with
all the things you have waited for

HOME FREEZER

FINGER-LIFT LID AND TWO-INTERIOR LIGHTS. Lid stays open at any point.

3 BIG ICE CUBE TRAYS and extra serving tray. Ejector pops out cubes.

FAST-FREEZE COMPARTMENT - freezes more food (91 lbs.) more quickly.

NEEDS NO OILING — hermetically sealed condenser unit (inside) has five year warranty.

TEMPERATURE CONTROL (0°to -10°). Indicator
above shows inside cold.



SPECIAL TUMBLER LOCK in big easy-grip handle protects food supply.

OPENS AT THE TOP—cold can't spill out. Economy, and you seldom defrost.

- EASY-TO-REACH STORAGE only 2634" inside depth, plus 3 big baskets.

TOE SPACE and counter height (36") makes reaching food easy.

Shown here is De Luxe Model C-10, 10 cubic foot capacity, price \$439.50. Other models start at \$199.95, delivered in your home

Don't you believe a word of it when they tell you all home freezers are about alike.

For folks who say that just haven't seen the new Deepfreeze home freezers.

And once you see them, you'll agree: No other freezer gives you so much that's new.

You get larger capacity at lower cost, and a complete array of new features and improvements those shown above and many, many more. No other home freezer on the market today has so manyonly the new Deepfreeze home freezer has them all.

Size for size and dollar for dollar (and that's the only way to compare), Deepfreeze home freezers give you more for your money. So see the three brand-new Deepfreeze models . . . check the value, and then—be sure the home freezer you buy bears the trade-mark *Deepfreeze*, brand name of the talked-about home freezer, made only by Deepfreeze Division, Motor Products Corporation, North Chicago, Illinois.

Get the story on home freezing. Send 10c for colorful 64-page book.

DEEPFREEZE DIV. Dept. AH-77 Motor Products Corp. North Chicago, Illinois

I enclose 10c for a copy of "An Invitation to Better Living."

# Dish-Washing Is Easy...

Edith Ramsay

THERE'S no use growling about them-those dishes. They've been there for centuries, and they'll be there for centuries to come. So buckle down to doing them three times a day in a systematic way, or use the new laborsaving devices which have been designed for you.

If building a new kitchen or remodeling an old one, give thought to the double sink. Use one sink to wash and the other to rinse and drain in. If Junior wants a drink of cold water, he can have one without interfering with the dishes; or if in the midst of washing some "horribles" you remem-ber the celery must be cleaned, the other sink is available for the job.

Read the manufacturer's directions in using the dishwasher. Pretreat the eggy or starchy dishes as you would



week as an excellent dishwasher. By simply inserting the other tub it doubles as a clothes washer



To do them right by hand, scrape, rinse, and stack by sizes in the following order: glasses, silver, china and last, the "horribles"



The disposal unit, companion helper of the dishwasher, grinds up completely the scraps left on dinner plates, leaving no trace



The reasonably priced aluminum, "jet propelled" dishwasher, by Kaiser, harnesses your water power to do the washing job for you



Measure the detergent, whether "soap" as we know it or the new powdered or 'liquid detergents. Saves time, money, and detergent



Pretreat the pots and pans with a scrape and a rinse. Then enjoy your dinner while they are being washed and dried automatically



The new Hotpoint dishwasher, with its accessible front opening, does the china, glassware, silverware - dries them, tool



Dishamatic has its own hot-water heater as an additional feature to assure an adequate supply of really hot water at all times



The General Electric dishwasher, like some of the others, comes in its own sink unit, opens from



Run in the hot water as hot as can stand. The drainer is in the twin sink just waiting for glasses, silver, and the china



The water can be extra hot if you use the cellulose sponge dishmop. Hands seldom touch water, detergents whisk off soil

# Pity the young wife held back by false modesty...



#### Ignorance of these INTIMATE PHYSICAL FACTS has wrecked many an otherwise happy marriage!

Often a married woman has no one but herself to blame if her husband starts losing interest-

False modesty may have kept her from consulting her Doctor. Or perhaps she very foolishly has followed old-fashioned and wrong advice of friends and neighbors.

If only young wives would realize how important douching two or three times a week often is to intimate feminine cleanliness, health, charm and marriage happiness. If only they'd learn about this newer, scientific modern method of douching with-zonite!

#### No other type liquid antiseptic-germicide tested is SO POWERFUL yet SO HARMLESS

Up-to-date, well-informed women no longer use old-fashioned, weak or dangerous products.

The ZONITE principle is truly a miracle! No other type liquid anti-

septic-germicide for the douche of all those tested is so POWERFUL yet so safe to tissues. Absolutely nonpoisonous, non-burning, non-irritating. ZONITE positively contains no phenol, no bichloride of mercury, no creosote. You can use zonite as directed as often as needed without risk of injury.

#### Zonite Principle Developed By Famous Surgeon and Chemist

zoniteactually destroys and removes odor-causing waste substances. Helps guard against infection. It's so power fully effective no germs of any kind tested have ever been found that it will not immediately kill on contact. You know it's not always possible to contact all the germs in the tract. BUT YOU CAN BE SURE that ZONITE kills every reachable germ and keeps them from multiplying.

Buy a bottle of ZONITE today!

#### FREE! NEW!

Lonite feminine hygiene

For amazing enlightening NEW Booklet containing frank discussion of intimate physical facts, recently published — mail this coupon to Zonite Products, Dept. AH-77, 370 Lexington Ave., New York 17, N. Y.



and silver are and dry by the time the china ready for the final rinsing



The "horribles" are tackled next. 'Horribles", a misnomer the good new detergents are used



All is done — well and quickly. A practically clean sink, with no grease line and no scouring

if hand-washing, always using the synthetic detergents they recommend. Soaps clog the mechanism and leave a film. Put the detergents to work on the "horribles" the minute you finish "dishing up" the meal. Enjoy your dinner and return to the kitchen to find those "uglies" all done. Put in the china, glass, and silverware, and they'll be ready, in no time flat, to put away or leave right there until the next meal.

Photograph by Art Streib



new dishwasher attaches faucets, soap mixer and all. Spray the dishes—they're done



odorizes. Directions on label. America's Favorite Bleach and Household Disinfectant ... IN PERFORMANCE

Let BOON Household Cleaner

save you time and work. It wipes away dirt and grease from washable surfaces quickly, easily. It's safe on paint, hands. Excellent for autos, too! At your grocer's. MADE BY THE MAKERS OF CLOROX



... IN PREFERENCE!

#### With False Teeth

**EZO** 

DENTAL



CUSHIONS Relieves sore spots on tender gums due to ill-fitting dentures.

Helps keep dental plate from raising and clicking.

Helps prevent seeds from lodging under plate.

Helps plate fit snugger.

Helps you wear and become accustomed to new plates.

Enables you to eat meat, tomatoes, pears, celery.

Is not a powder, is not a paste, will not stick to plate.

ASK FOR UPPER OR LOWER IN ORDERING

SEND 50c FOR 10 LOWERS SEND 50c FOR 8 UPPERS (No Stamps Please) MINIMUM ORDER OF EITHER KIND 50e

#### EZO PRODUCTS CO.

BOX NO. 9306, DEPT. V55, PHILA. 39, PA.

# Portal-to-Portal Efficiency

Blanche Nelson



HAD retired to the deep recesses of our basement laundry to do the week's ironing, and was in the process of ironing my husband's best white shirt when, suddenly, I heard the faraway jangling of the telephone in the hall above me. I don't know which aggravated me the mosthaving to leave the shirt with only the collar and one sleeve finished. or missing a substantial part of the radio commentator's discussion on portal-to-portal pay. (I had lugged the old portable from its niche in the kitchen purposely to hear it!)

I flicked the switch on the iron, rushed through the full length of the basement, up the stairs, through the kitchen and into the hall. By the time I grabbed the telephone, my heart was thumping as wildly as that of a love-pulp heroine finding herself in her lover's arms for the first time. "Hello!" I gasped into the phone. But the only answer I received was



ure as you get ready to iron in he basement a bell zings upstairs

the dull sound of the dial tone.

By the time I returned to the ironing board, the shirt was too dry to finish, and the commentator was ready to turn the mike over for station identification. All I had gleaned from his discussion was the fact that a battle was being waged over the minutes lost by employees from the time they enter the gate until, having changed their clothes and assembled their equipment, they are ready to start the day's production. But it was enough to start me cogitating.

It seemed to me that the weekly task of ironing and mending for two people was consuming a needless amount of my time, not in the actual time spent at the ironing board and the mending basket, but in the process of setting up operations and in getting to and from the job before and after interruptions. With the grim tenacity of an efficiency expert, I sank my mental teeth into the problem of reclaiming the unnecessary energy and time wasted in performing these weekly household chores.

Unfortunately perhaps, at least in my husband's estimation, I'm not one to be satisfied with an inch-a-day progress. Once I have my eves focused on a goal, whether (and I'm quoting him!) it means upsetting the whole house or moving a mountain, I won't let myself or anyone near me rest till that goal is achieved. And poor, unsuspecting Mortimer (my patient and loving spouse) was in for another upheaval on his return from the office that evening. For by the time he arrived, I had completed the project (or so I thought) to the minutest detail-mentally. All he had to do was get out his hammer and saw.

The first and most expedient step

# NEW ELECTRICAL HELPER **ENDS GARBAGE PROBLEM!**



Amazing General Electric Disposall\* Shreds Food Waste, Washes It Down Kitchen Drain!

No more trips to the yard with pails of drippy garbage.

Instead, food waste is easily disposed of electrically in a clean, completely sanitary, modern way-right down the sink drain!

#### Fits most any sink!

The General Electric Disposall has a wide-mouthed drain which fits into most any kitchen sink-takes even bones, corn husks in its stride.

And its self-cleansing action keeps drains cleaner than ordinary drains, It may be used with septic tanks of adequate capacity.

#### "Wonderful!" say 97 out of 100 women

One community in Kansas has a Disposall in every home. Recent survey showed how enthusiastic users are

"Saves 32 minutes a day." "No garbage to handle!" "No garbage odors!" "Think it's perfect!" are typical comments of these women who use General Electric Disposalls. General Electric Company, Bridgeport 2, Connecticut.

#### THIS IS HOW IT WORKS!



1. You scrape food waste off your dishes, down the





3. You turn on the cold water. (Automatically starts



4. Swoosh! Waste all gone!

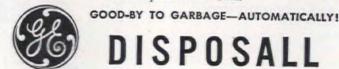


5. Notice whole load finely shredded-no chance to clog drains.



6. The Disposall fits into

The Disposall can be teamed up with General Electric Dishwasher in a complete Electric Sink.



DISPOSALL

GENERAL @ ELECTRIC

# keep kitchens fresh as a daisy.



#### For kitchen heat and smoke and smell Be smart—install an Aeropel!

Beautiful new American Blower Ventilating Fan keeps your kitchen fresh as a daisy ... saves its cost many times over in lower decorating bills alone. Sold by leading electrical and home supply dealers everywhere at a price so low it will surprise you. Send for FREE Aeropel Book full of interesting new kitchens!



#### Keep Cool with a Ventura Attic Fan!



BEAT THE HEAT-sleep like a baby! Install this quiet, dependable fan in your attic. Whisks out the pent-up heat of attic and home, draws in a stream of cooler night air. Thousands already in use . . . priced lower now than 10 years ago.

Mail coupon below for FREE Book which shows how to keep delightfully cool for only a few cents a day.

Ventura Attic Fan

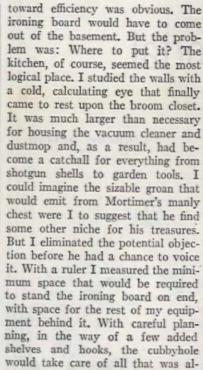
#### AMERICAN BLOWER

DETROIT 32, MICHIGAN

CANADIAN SIROCCO COMPANY, LTD., WINDSOR, ONTARIO

Division of AMERICAN RADIATOR & Standard Sanitary CORPORATION

MAIL COUPON FOR FREE BOOKS! -> AMERICAN BLOWER CORPORATION Detroit 32, Michigan Gentlemen: Aeropel Book ( ) Please send me FREE Attic Fan Book ( ) Address\_ City and State.



Like most males who view the projected product of a woman's ingenuity or imagination, Mortimer was skeptical. He was also reluctant to relinquish his leisure of several evenings to-as he termed it-"jeopardizing the structure of a house merely to please a woman's whim!" But I didn't argue. I had planted the seed in his mind, and I knew from previous experience that all he needed was a little time to mull over it, and perhaps add a few improvements of his own. It wasn't long before he emerged from the basement with plywood, hammer and saw, ready to make my dream a reality. And he did improve upon it!

WITH plywood he built, at one edge of the broom closet, a shallow recessed cabinet about sixteen inches wide and ten inches deep. But when he'd finished the project, I no longer had an ironing board that would have to be lifted out and set up. Instead, he had attached the wide end of it by means of hinges to a crosspiece about thirty-five inches from the floor. The narrow end was held in place by a catch which had been fastenedito a smaller crosspiece higher up on the cabinet wall. By a mere flick of the catch with my thumb the board dropped down to a horizontal position at the correct height for my comfort in ironing. In place of legs the board had a sturdy prop resting diagonally against the lower wall of the cabinet. Behind the main board, and a few inches above its base, two crosspieces supported the sleeve board which operated in the same way.

Another welcome trick he had pulled out of his sleeve was a bar

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.







For spots on upholster drapes, quick the Mufti bottle! Mutfi gives you not 1, but 4 tested cleaning ingredients, cleans so many spots from so many fabrics, in a jiffy!



Made of tough material that resists time, shock, corrosion—easily installed with tight TAPERWELD\* Couplings that prevent root-growth or leaks—ORANGEBURG\* PIPE is the modern pipe that gives lifetime service for House-to-Sewer, Septic Tank and other outside uses. Even after 40 years underground, Orangeburg shows no signs of deterioration—no cracks, breaks or corrosion. Use PERFORATED type for Septic Tank Filter Beds, Sub-Soil Drainage. See your local dealer; or write Dept. AH-7-47, The Fibre Conduit Co., Orangeburg, N. Y. \*Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

## ORANGEBURG



# Worry of FALSE TEETH Slipping or Irritating?

Don't be embarrassed by loose false teeth slipping, dropping or wabbling when you eat, talk or laugh. Just sprinkle a little FASTEETH on your plates. This pleasant powder gives a remarkable sense of added comfort and security by holding plates more firmly. No gummy, gooey, pasty taste or feeling. It's alkaline (non-acid). Get FASTEETH at any drug store.

# CALLOUSES Doctor's Quick Relief!

You'll quickly forget you have callouses, burning or tenderness on bottom of your feet when you use soothing, cushioning Dr. Scholl's Zino-pads. Separate Medications included for speedily removing callouses. Get this wonder-working relief today. Costs but a trifle. Sold everywhere.

relief today. Costs but a trifle. Sold everywhere.

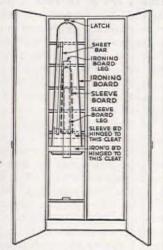
Dr Scholl's Zino-pads

attached lengthwise to the under side of the main board which, when pulled out to operating position, ran parallel to the board at a distance of about four inches. This, he informed me with a complacent grin, was for the purpose of suspending the ironed portion of sheets, tablecloths and curtains, thus preventing them from becoming rumpled or soiled from resting across a chair or on the floor.

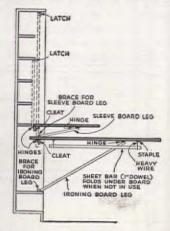
Behind the two boards are shelves, four inches deep and about the same distance apart. Two of these hold the iron, cord, pressing cloths, tailor's mitt and ham and, incidentally, a couple of pair of half-worn, white fabric dress gloves and a bottle of lanolin lotion. (When I am about to begin ironing, I rub my hands quite generously with the lotion and slip on the gloves, which are just loose enough to prevent binding the fingers.)

Two other shelves hold an array of mending equipment—a pair of small scissors, a thimble, assortments of press-on mending tape, thread and buttons of various sizes and colors. When a new garment is added to our wardrobes, I add matching buttons and thread to the assortment.

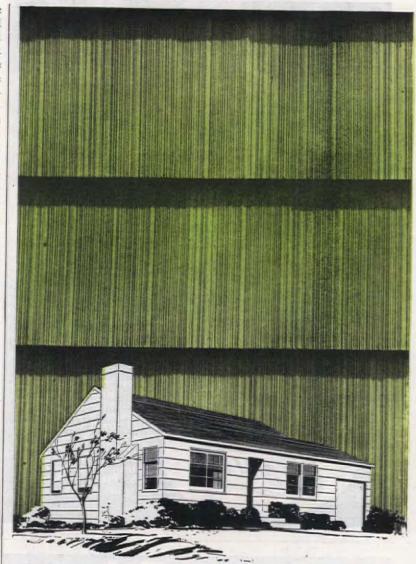
This "mending cabinet" has eliminated an amazing amount of needless fretting and irritation. When a button appears at the bottom of the tub after Monday's washing, it's immediately relegated to the button shelf; and when the garment comes up for



Shelves behind the folded board are easily accessible when the board is down, hold the mending and the spot-remover materials



When in position, the board has a bar along most of its length to keep the elusive large pieces off the floor, free from soil



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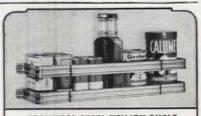
(Est. 1880)

ironing, the button is right there, handy for attaching to the garment in a jiffy. It takes just a few seconds to find a button to replace one that is missing, and the chances now of having to sew a button on Mortimer's cuff while he is attempting to gulp his breakfast coffee are remote. A rip or tear in a sheet, pillow slip, or even a shirt, dress, or apron can be mended easily and swiftly by simply cutting the required piece of press-on mending tape and pressing it to the under side of the tear with one deft stroke of the hot iron. Parting stitches in a seam are easy to see when the item is being ironed, and just a few quick stitches-I usually keep a needle threaded of each color of thread for that purpose-will pull it together securely, saving stitches.

Besides saving an endless amount of time, this ironing-mending corner of the kitchen is invaluable as an energy and temper saver. I no longer need to tax my heart dangerously by rushing up the basement stairs to answer the telephone or doorbell, or suffer frustration because I didn't arrive in time. If I haven't quite finished when the time arrives to put on the roast for dinner, I can slip it on the stove and keep one eye on it while I continue ironing.

THE task which used to seem like plain, unadulterated drudgery has now become one of the most pleasant household chores I know, When I tire of standing, I rest on the cushioned kitchen stool while I do the easier flat pieces; and in place of the gray basement wall staring blankly at me, I have a back-yard vista of colorful flowers tossing in the breeze in the summer, or an expanse of sparkling, diamond-studded snow in the winter to give an impetus to my daydreams. Oh, yes, I do daydream-what housewife doesn'twhenever the opportunity affords itself. And ironing and mending seem to lend themselves well to that pleasant escape from reality. But the irony of it! With this new streamlined efficiency, the weekly ironing and mending have been speeded up to the point where I scarcely get myself pleasantly engrossed in a beautiful dream before the task is completed.

Of course, a rotary ironer in a utility room just off the kitchen still remains my idea of perfection, but until my dreams come true, I am content to capitalize on portal-to-portal efficiency in my present fashion.



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Smart, trim, neatly designed shelf for household sundries . . also glasses, plants, etc. . has many uses. Most every home can use several. Easily installed 13" wide x 234" deep.

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# WANT A STRONGER

This new household cement is made with high-strength Casein Glue. It is stronger . . . easier-to-use. Casco \*Flexible Cement won't crack loose .. bonds wood, paper, fabrics-to glass, metal, plastics. Users prefer it 4 to 1 over other glues



Casein Company of America, New York 17, N. Y. Division of The Borden Company

# What's new-What's coming?

Edith Ramsay



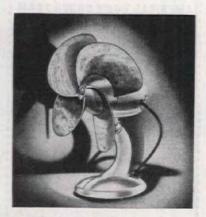
The Surf Season Air heater-fan combination (G-M Laboratories) leads a dual life for summer coolness or for needed winter's warmth



A flip of the switch on Thermador heat-fan brings air circulation to suit any whim. Heat-fan is safe from children's inquisitive fingers



Safe from prying hands is the Vornadofan by O. A. Sutton Corp. It may be tilted to the ceiling circulation without drafts



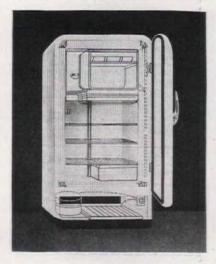
with the rubber-bladed fan. The design of the blades gives good circulation plus this safety measure



Freez-Pak gives you an electric refrigerator for baby's or other foods when traveling or changing over from city to country living



Deepfreeze inaugurates their new chest model. New features are an interior light, alarm system, counterbalanced lid, good divider



Dotted lines represent mechanism and controls on the Coolerator icebox, converting it into an allelectric refrigerator in a jiffy





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Honest, I used to melt in his arms

OUR PLACE WAS THE TOAST OF THE TOWN, all right! It was so hot last summer that when the thermometer hit a new high, our spirits hit a new low. I was so withered from the weather that I drooped all the time . . . and when Tom came home from work I was ready to collapse. Of course, after a hot day downtown he didn't exactly relish a Turkish bath either.

#### MOW I'M CALM, COOL AND PROTECTED

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OUR HOME'S 15° COOLER DURING SUMMER'S HOTTEST DAYS What a difference that makes in working 'round the house ... in really enjoying summer months at home . . . in sleeping cool on sultry nights. Yes, we have better dispositions, thank you! What's more, our insulation does double-duty; this past winter it saved us a third on fuel . . . that means the job actually pays for itself.

Why don't you find out about this easy way to cooler, more comfortable summers? Remember, the name is CAREY.

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Here's a book jam-packed with information to give you the inside story of Rock Wool Insulation. Full of facts and figures, it's a handy guide to help you decide how, when, and where to insulate your home. For a FREE copy . . . just drop us a line on a penny postcard. Address Dept. AH-7.

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## **AMERICAN** HOME patterns

DESCRIPTIONS of Sampler Patterns illustrated on page 27: No. 217, Record of Birth, 16" x 20" hot-iron transfer for cross-stitch. No. 247, 23rd Psalm, 15" x 17", hotiron transfer, assorted embroidery. No. 248, Lord's Prayer, same as 247. A-577, Wedding Record, 15" x 12" for needlepoint. Alphabet and numerals. A-893, The Request, 161/2" x 161/2" hot-iron transfer, cross-stitch, verse. A-894, Penn. Dutch, 10" x 12", hotiron transfer, cross-stitch, verse. A-895, Tree-of-Life, 16" x 12", hotiron transfer, cross-stitch, with alphabet and numerals.

A-896, O Give Thanks, 23" x 16", hot-iron transfer, cross-stitch, verse.

#### AMERICAN HOME ORDER FORM

Please allow from three to four weeks for handling and mailing

(Patterns illustrated in this issue

	on pages 25, 26, 21)	
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☐ 248B	Lord's Prayer—Protestant	.30
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THE AMERICAN HOME, JULY, 1947



You'll feel 20° cooler, all right, with Dole pineapple refreshment inside you! Just the idea starts you thinking in terms of wave-kissed tropic shores and shady palm trees. So how delightful when you can serve it without a second's cooking - as Patricia Collier, Dole Home Economist, shows here — in quick-to-dish-up hits of Dole Crushed, Sliced, Tidbits, or Chunks.

BOLE PINEAPPLE - SLICED . JUICE . CHUNKS

Pineapple Julep. Long, cool-lovely! Fill a tall glass half full of lemonade; then add syrup from Dole Pineapple Chunks to the three-quarter mark. Now put in the ice and swizzle stick with Chunks and cherries as illustrated. Top with a sprig of mint... and there you are!

Summer Salad. Round and round go the fresh fruits of the season in this sunny arrangement! Salad dressing in the middle, and the whole dish starring juicy rings of Dole Sliced Pineapple. Looks-and tastes-as mellow as summertime.

PINEAPPLE JUICE

HAWAIIAN

TIDBITS . CRUSHED

Pineapple Party Sundae. Impressive

dessert - with practically no fixing! Top wedges of loaf cake with scoops of ice

cream, and over all spoon Dole Crushed Pineapple, maybe whipped cream, too.



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