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The Nativity, eloquently interpreted primitive by Albert Kramer. Unusual conception of the moving, endless wonderment and beauty of Christ's birth


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The Amertcan Home, December, 1950. Vol. XLV, No. 1. Published monthly by The American Home Magazine Corporation, 444 Madison Ave New York 22, N. Y. W. H. Eaton, President-Treasurer: Jean Austin, Vice-President-Secretary. Executive, Editorial and Advertising headquarters, 444 Madison Avenue, New York 22. Subscription Department, American Home Building, Forest Hills, New York. Copyright, 1950 , by The American Home Magazine Corporation All rights reserved. Title registered in U. S. Patent Office. Subscription price in United States $\$ 2.50$ a year; two years, $\$ 4.00$; three years, $\$ 5.00$. Canada and Pan-American countries, add $\$ 1.00$ per year for extra
postage. All other countries, add $\$ 2.00$ per year for extra postage. Entered as second class matter December 31, 1935, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under Act of Congress March 3, 1879 . Postmaster: Return undeliverable copies to American Home Bldg., Forest Hills, New York.

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## How we retired with $\$ 200$ a month

We'd never be out here in California today, financially independent, if it hadn't been for what happened back in Scarsdale, the night of September 10, 1926. How do I remember the date? It was my fortieth birthday and Nell had gotten tickets for "Countess Maritza" to celebrate. While she was dressing that night I sat in the living room, looking through a magazine.

I suppose any man feels kind of serious when he hits forty. Someday we wanted, Nell and I, to really enjoy life. Move out where it was summer all year, in southern California. Grow flowers and soak up the sun. Have time for living. But how could we?

We hadn't saved much. And I realized that a half of my working years had gone. I had a good job and a fair salary. But we found it hard to bank anything. So I began to wonder-must I always live on a treadmill, like so many others?

As I turned the pages, an ad caught my eye and I started to read it. Oddly, the ad seemed meant for me. There was, it said, a way for a man toretire on an income-without ever being rich. It was called the Phoenix Mutual RetirementIncome Plan. With it, I could arrange to get a guaranteed income of $\$ 200$ a month beginning when I reached 60 . And it wasn't just an income for myself alone. The Plan actually provided an income as long as
either Nell or I lived.

## PLAN FOR WOMEN

## 

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Date of Birth
Business Address

## Home Address

Just as I finished, Nell came rushing downstairs in a hurry as usual. But I stopped long enough to tear out the coupon at the bottom of the ad. I stuck it in an envelope and dropped it in the mail on our way to the show.
Well, that was back in 1926. A few years later, the stock market crashed and the depression came along. Then the war. Many times I was thankful that I had my Phoenix Mutual Plan.

Well, a while back my sixtieth birthday arrived-and was that a celebration! I was all set to retire. And it wasn't long before my first Phoenix Mutual check for $\$ 200$ came in. So we sold the Scarsdale house and headed for California.
We're in a beautiful spot here, just right for us. And every month, right on the dot, the postman hands us another check. Security? Why, we have more than lots of rich people. Our income is guaranteed for life!

## Send for Free Booklet

This story is typical. Assuming you qualify at a young enough age, you can plan to have an income of $\$ 10$ to $\$ 200$ a month, or even more-beginning at age $55,60,65$ or older. Send the coupon and receive, by mail and without charge a booklet which tells about Phoenix Mutual Retirement Plans. Similar plans are available for women-and for employee pension programs in industry. Don't delay. Send for

-     -         -             -                 - 

1

## Books



From "The Little Fat Policeman,"
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and Writers Guild

## For Children

Young Readers Adventure Stories edited by A. L. Furman. (Lantern Press) $\$ 2.50$.
Mr. Benedict's Lion by Walter D. Edmonds. (Dodd, Mead \& Co.) \$2.75. Young Readers Sports Stories edited by David Thomas. (Lantern Press)

## \$2.50.

When I Grow Up by Kay and Harry Mace. (Simon and Schuster) $25 \xi$ The Most Wonderful Doll in the World by Phyllis McGinley. (J. P. Lippincott Company) $\$ \mathrm{r} .75$.
The Golden Circus by Kathryn Jack-
son. (Simon and Schuster) $\$$ 1.00.
The Wonderful House by Margaret Wise Brown. (Simon \& Schuster) $25 ¢$. Pooh's Library ( 4 vols.) by A. A. Milne. (E. P. Dutton \& Co. Inc.) $\$ \mathrm{I} .75$ a vol.
What Do They Say! by Grace Skaar. (William R. Scott, Inc.) \$1.00.
Santa's Toy Shop by Walt Disney. (Simon and Schuster) 256 .
T-Bone by Clare Turlay Newberry. (Harper \& Brothers) \$1.75.
The Little Fat Policeman by Margaret Wise Brown and Edith Thacher Hurd. (Simon and Schuster) 25 ¢.
The Three Silly Kittens by Margot Austin. (E. P. Dutton \& Co.) \$. 50 . Travel Fun Book by Frances W. Keene. (The Seahorse Press) $\$ 1.00$. The Family Book of Favorite Hymns by Arthur Austin. (Funk \& Wagnalls Co.) $\$ 4.95$.
The Great Big Animal Book by Feodor Rojankovsky. (Simon and Schuster) \$1.00.
The Tall Stallion by Eleanor Hoffman. (Dodd, Mead \& Co.) $\$ 2.50$. The Dark Wood of the Golden Birds by Margaret Wise Brown. (Harper \& Brothers) \$1.75.
The Judge Rode a Sorrel Horse by Robbins Hunter. (E. P. Dutton \& Co., Inc.) $\$ 3.00$.
The Greenwood Tree by Edward and Stephani Godwin. (E. P. Dutton \& Co., Inc.) $\$ 2.50$.
Hot Rod by Henry Gregor Felsen. (E. P. Dutton \& Co., Inc.) \$2.00. Jamestown Adventure by Olga W. Hall-Quest. (E. P. Dutton \& Co., Inc.) $\$ 2.50$.

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## Contributors

... marshall h. eaton, a Canadian by birth, but now an enthusiastic American citizen, has been associated with our Circulation Department over 15 years. As circulation sales manager, he is responsible for all single copy sales, having over 75,000 news dealers to supply with an ever-increasing number of copies. His favorite hobbies-his home and family. He loves fishing, hockey, and baseball. A doting grandfather, he built the enchanting miniature snow village (p. 25) for his small grandchild.
. . . eleanor lee jones, our new Assistant Home Equipment Editor was graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University. After teaching Home Economics in Toledo, Ohio, she did graduate work in Equipment at Columbia University. She was supervisor of lectures and demonstrations for the Home Service Staff of the Ohio Fuel Gas Co., Home Economist of the Dayton Div. of Frigidaire Corp., then joined the Apex Electrical Manufacturing Co. See her "Holiday Scuttlebutt" on page 72 .
. . . george de gennaro, a native of Los Angeles, has been familiar to readers of The American Home over recent years for his photographs of West Coast homes. "My first picture was sold when I was fifteen," he says, "and I've been in the business ever since." He did public relations photography for the Los Angeles Dept. of Water and Power. While in the Navy he was an instructor at the Naval School of Photography at Pensacola, Florida. Now specializes in architectural and interior photographs.
... bruce tebbe is the owner-builder of the Pacific Palisades, California, home. He studied engineering at the Colorado School of Mines and after overseas service, finished up at Loyola University. His interest shifted from tunnels, dams, and bridges to homes, the first of which, after completing school, being for his young wife and baby. Although his interest once focused on traditional, he is today one of the youngest and busiest builders in Los Angeles of both modern and traditional homes.
. . charles s. walters tells "How to Buy a Christmas Tree" (page 37) from the standpoint of a family man with "two staminate offspring," and of a forestry expert. A graduate of Purdue and the N.Y. State College of Forestry, he worked with TVA, U.S. Forest Service, and, later, on his own, before joining the Illinois Experiment Station in 1940. There he deals with growing, using, marketing forest products. Besides technical papers, he writes occasional articles which help finance annual hunting trips.


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That's why this new Baker's Coconut

## recipe is such exciting holiday news! <br> Coolties ti give! Cookies to keep! Variations galore with one NEW BASIC COOKIE BATTER!

 kinds of coconut cookies-even little cakes-from one quick n' easy batter! So festive, so delicious with tender, moist Baker's Coconut-these gay gift cookies stay lusciously chewy and fresh to the last wonderful crumb!
## Basic Recipe

$11 / 2$ cups sifted flour - $11 / 2$ teaspoons Calumet Baking Powder - $1 / 4$ teaspoon salt $\cdot 1$ cup sugar $\cdot 1 / 2$ cup butter or other shortening (room temperature) $\cdot 2$ eggs, unbeaten - $1 / 4$ cup milk $\cdot 1$ teaspoon vanilla • $11 / 2$ cups Baker's Coconut, cut up small.
Sift flour once; measure; add baking powder, salt, sugar; and sift again into mixing bowl. Add shortening, eggs, 2 tablespoons of milk, vanilla. Beat 2 minutes. Add coconut and remaining milk. Beat $1 / 2$ minute longer, vigorously by at low speed of electric mixer

Chill 2 hours. Drop from teaspoon on oven $\left(400^{\circ} \mathrm{F}\right.$.) 10 minutes, or until lightly browned. Remove from baking sheet at once. Makes 6 dozen cookies.
For cake squares, bake chilled batter in 2 greased $8 \times 8 \times 2$-inch pans 20 to 25 minutes. Use moderate oven ( $375^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$.)
To frost, spread with confectioner's sugar icing and sprinkle immediately with snowy luscious Baker's Coconut. For red or green icing use vegetable coloring. For Santa Claus Cookie, use red icing for cap, raisins for eyes, candied cherries for nose and mouth.

## VARIATIONS



## Santa with a Siren

(Begins on page 18)


Parents get as big a kick out of the proceedings as the children. Here they help unload offspring. Ride is financed by selling tickets to Fireman's Ball
countered anywhere. We can only hope it will last forever and a day.
The fire department officials in Meridian, Mississippi, hit on a marvelous way not only to give the kids a chance to ride on their big hook-and-ladder set-up, but also to stimulate interest in their parents where fire-prevention rules are concerned. First of all, they offered a free ride in their fire truck to each school class which reported one hundred per cent success in getting their mothers and fathers to read a fire-prevention pamphlet. The results were astonishing: Every single class in the entire district succeeded in getting every single parent to co-operate by reading one completely through. The fire department had its hands full4,375 kids had a ride that day. And you can take our word for it, there were 4,375 of the most excited youngsters the town has ever seen. The photograph on the right shows some of the lucky ones collecting their reward.

There are many ways for a community to prepare and carry through a novel way in which to entertain the children of the neighborhood at Christmas time, but for sheer excited, tingling pleasure, there doesn't seem to be anything yet which quite comes up to the thrill of a ride on that big red truck. Why not try it in your community this year, offering it as a treat for some special effort, or just because you love children! Unless we miss our guess you'll find your own fire department as enthusiastic about the idea as the good men of Hanover and Meridian were. Here's a challenge worth the taking!


Fire officials at Meridian, Mississippi, offered free ride to every school class which reported 100 per cent success in getting parents to read fire-prevention pamphlet. Every class qualified


## It'smunimathis and mernay that!

## MATCHED STEEL KITCHENS



My new Murray steel kitchen not only looks "high quality". . . but feels that way, too! Drawers glide softly over brass runners. Doors are sound-insulated. Can't be noisy ... never stick. Everything so obviously rich and well-made!

## AND SHE SAID...



Besides, it doesn't cost any more to own a beautiful Murray kitchen so that's for me! Rounded corners prevent snagging. Baked enamel finish on cabinets, porcelain enamel on sinks is so wonderfully easy to keep gleaming white!

## ELECTRIC RANGES



DON'T TELL ME...

I know about those new Murray ranges. Extra-large ovens, appliance outlet (for coffee makers, mixers, and so on), and the Deep Wellall can be timed automatically.

WHy, DO you kNow..


Four out of 5 Murray Electric Ranges have a big 6 -quart Deep Well Cooker! Top models have compartments for cooking a whole meal at once. Deep Well easily converted to a fourth 7 -heat-intensity surface unit!

## GAS RANGES



Well, he's enough of a cook to know a wonderful gas range when he sees one! It didn't take long to convince him to buy a Murray. As for $m e$... I finally have plenty of "turkey-space" in my new porce-lain-finished oven!

WELL, ALL I KNOW IS..


No more burner bowl seams to catch grease. The one-piece top flows right over the front edge of the range...no dirt-catching crevice here! For a completely stylematched kitchen it's Murray for me . . . and for you!
no one makes kitchens like


THE MURRAY CORPORATION OF AMERICA, Home Appliance Division, SCRANTON, PA.


High-Speed Electric Ranges for completely automatic baking. Nonsteam oven door (model above) always gives clear view of your cooking. All ranges have giant ovens, fully porcelain-enameled; rounded, easilycleaned corners. A signal lights when baking, broiling, or surface units are on! Built-in fluorescent range lamp. 5 models in all.

## NTURIRTI Gas Ranges



Streamlined Gas Ranges have one piece seamless tops. Robertshaw precision thermostat. Interval timing! Ever-white Titanium porcelain enamel-for a lifetime of service. Use any type gas. Broiler has slide-out "smokeless" pan and grid. Concealed drip trays. All Murray ranges are fully Fiberglas insulated!

## 

 Cabinet Sinks

Marvelous Cabinet Sinks for fingertip control of most any kitchen operation. Model above ( $66^{\prime \prime}$ ) features double drainboards, double basins! Five full drawers; slide-back cutlery tray! Cabinet space, shelves, utility racks, breadboard, vegetable basket. Other styles $54^{\prime \prime}$ and $42^{\prime \prime}$.

## MI TRIRE <br> Modern Cabinets

Matching Wall and Base Cabinets have welded construction, silent action! Smooth rounded corners. No protruding handles on wall cabinets. Provision for fluorescent lighting! Base cabinets have wear-proof, stainresistant Vinyl tops. Recesses for toe and knee space. Adjustable shelves.

## YOUR NEW MURRAY KITCHEN

comes from one of the world's largest, most modern plants. Over 1,500,000 bighest-quality Murraymade appliances are in bomes coast-to-coast!


## A Happy (christmas to All

 (1) berg $\mathbb{C b r i s t i a n ~ n a t i o n ~ b a s ~ m a d e ~ o f ~} \mathbb{C b r i s t m a s}$ something especially its own. Scandinabians scour their bouses and bang paper streamers, let the children $\mathfrak{s e k}$ out the it $\mathfrak{F i m p l e}$ biboen gifts, go to church through too, go to midnight mass on the "nochebuena." gi Italian without the revered "presepio," and in coolant they carry on a pole through the streets. And here, in america: © ur home beautiful and our $\mathbb{C b r i s t m a s ~ g r e e t i n g s ~ g a y . ~ て a f e ~ f a t ~ b o u n t i f u l l y ~}$ rosily presents elaborately gift=mrapper. 25 ut what of the real of $\mathbb{C b r i s t m a s : ~ ¥ o ~ t h e ~ b e r y ~ r a f t e r s ~ o f ~ o u r ~ c h u r c h e s ~ r i n g ~}$ with the jog and spiritual beauty on this birthright of the newborn Babe: © ipo the walls of the bouse we babe so carefully
 the great star of 2 Bethlehem operations are and exchange significance
 nurtured into a home, and $\mathfrak{y o}$ painstakingly decorated, bibute happily with the ItIsty family singing of the beautiful old carols - or does the ratio sing our carols for us: Wame we americans forgotten the real meaning of Christmas, lost the art of $\mathfrak{F i m p l e}$ happiness:

In all our $\mathbb{C y r i s t m a s}$ decorating, our eating, ant our

gift=wrapping, babe we forgotten that Christmas is a
religious festival of joy, something greater than a family time of reunion? from our bouse to pour bouse - a kindly, sincere hope that this Christmas may more nearly approach the lovely, bold thing it should
be - in pout bouse and our bouts. spay the blessedness of gibing and the goodness of sharing, the great gift of humility stay with us all, long after $\mathbb{C}$ bristmas $\mathfrak{m a y}$ is over.



Fat green candles, in holders made of plastic foam cut into stars covered with tiny gold and silver balls. Evergreen branches arranged in form of small tree, held in leftover piece of plastic foam. Trim with more gold and silver balls. Jeannie Willis

Evergreen branches in a copper bowl deck Jeannie Willis' mantel. Trim with ready-made stars of plastic foam (most florists have them). Tiny colored Christmas balls are wired to center of each star, both attached to tip of branch


## TBACH YOUR CHILD

# Ilow to Care for Pets 

Children take to pets like magie when your youngster gets his first puppy. start him out right away
on the care, the feeding, the training of his new-found friend
"When punishing a dog," warns Thomas O'Mara, head of a New York pet shop, "spank him with a folded newspaper." Noise and slight sting frighten dog without hurting him. Never use whip or heavy object


Photographs by George Pickow from Three Lions, Inc.

1Yhildren are enthusiastic pet owners, but they should be instructed most carefully in handling animals or they're apt to get a strangle hold on a puppy when picking him up and inflict cruel punishment without meaning to do so. A child of six or seven is fully capable of taking care of a dog. Starting child and puppy along the right path of behavior pays off in a healthy, obedient animal and a proud, co-operative owner.

Thomas O'Mara is a man with definite ideas about dog owners. Before a customer leaves O'Mara's New York Pet Shop, he has been thoroughly tutored in the proper way to handle and care for his new pet. O'Mara feels that buying a pup involves more than a mere cash outlay and strongly recommends that Dad come along as well as Mother and the children. Then a puppy is chosen which is liked by all. "The dog," says O'Mara, "is actually another member of the family and should be chosen with that consideration in mind."


Dog's bed should enable him to enter and leave easily and freely. It must be kept free of splinters and cleaned and aired often. Bottom should be covered with part of old blanket or with special pillow for warmth and comfort. Basket makes bed for small dog

"When bathing a dog," explains Mr. O'Mara, "wet him first. Then give him a good lathering and a thorough rinsing. Don't let him stand in a tub of dirty water. Check water temperature carefully"


After a bath, the dog should be dried quickly and thoroughly. A turkish towel is good for rubbing down a long-haired dog. Be sure you pick a drying place that is out of drafts and sufficiently warm


After drying, dog's coat is brushed smooth and glossy with stiff brush. Dog's coat should be brushed often. Comb ears with a wide-toothed comb


## A Tall Orrler for a little House

Por the Jack Harrises a large house meant all work and no play. Since both are breadearners they wanted a small house they could enjoy without having to put in long hours on chores. A tall order? Not in the hands of a creative builder. The Harrises got everything they wanted from Builder Perry Andrews in less than 900 square feet-and on a modest budget. Along with their original specifications, they got some custom-designed details that make all the difference between a routine interior and an individualistic, livable one.
The kitchen, for example, is separated from the living room by a handsome breakfast bar. Clinical only in function, in appearance it has all the warmth, the welcome, and the easy entertaining features of its old-time country counterpart. The floor is real used brick, waxed to a ruddy gloss and spotted with homemade braided rugs. Curtains are snowy muslin trimmed with red rickrack. Built-ins of natural-finished pine provide convenient storage for china, glass, silver, and linen. The breakfast bar serves for lunch-and dinner, too-when there are no guests. The stools have ruffled cushions of a gay chintz print. Counter tops are red quarry tile. There is a six-foot-long copper-lined planter over the sink for greens and flowers. Modern range has a pine hood, metal-lined. Wallpaper is a red and white Provincial pattern. The dining table is an old golden oak junk-shop model which the Harrises refinished themselves. Ladder-back chairs have rush seats.
Natural-pine sheathing over the fireplace chimney makes a natural extension into bookshelves, makes a good color and texture contrast to the deep blue-green of the walls and the beamed ceiling. The Harrises chose wall-to-wall braided carpeting, which repeats the reds, blues, greens, and browns of the fabrics. Washable triple-tier muslin curtains (made by Mrs. Harris) are trimmed with stripe from the sofa fabric. Comfort again in the


Photographs by Peter Gowland
big, deep chairs. Two old pine meeting benches that fit under the windows provide plenty of extra seating space and blend perfectly with the feeling of simplicity throughout the entire house-a simplicity that adds up to gracious living.

The bedroom has one entire wall given over to compartmented built-ins for everything from shoes to blouses. Built-ins in the bathroom, too-all as neat and planned as a ship's galley. And for the Harrises-a small house that's as easy-to-take as it is to take care of. Here's another proof that a small house doesn't have to mean a compromise on comfort or good looks.



# Good taste - Io waste 



Built-in furnishings, to make space more functional, appear in the dining room (above left)
where a glass and china cabinet are built beneath the serving counter. In the studio (right)
book shelves and a desk have been built in all along one wall of the room


3


5

an has mastered light, put romping, racing kilowatts into neat little glass containers to be used at will. And woman wills to use it decoratively, demands that light be shed beautifully, effectively, practically. So today's lamp is clean-cut and simple, designed to fit rooms of any period. Bases can be anything from a reproduction in fruitwood of a lovely old pewter piece, to three simple, gleaming pieces of brass tubing. A shaft extending from the center of a piecrust table gives proper height to a reading lamp, makes it as functional for its kind as the skillfully balanced tripod base and down-light reflector of the engineered modern standing lamp. Here are lamps to give light properly and decoratively.

1. Faithful reproduction of pewter American primitive oil lamp in hand-turned, honey-toned fruitwood, distressed and antiqued. Hand-wrought handle in verte finish adds unusual note. Provincial print shade is calico. 23 inches high, about $\$ 37.00$ from Brach-Allen. 2. Combination piecrust Chippendale 23 -inchdiameter table and lamp comes in either bleached or regular mahogany finish, is 58 inches high. By Hekman Furniture Co., about $\$ 49.50$, shade extra. 3. Handsome antiqued wood base topped by spread-winged bronze eagle and parchment shade in deeper bronze tones stands 29 inches high. About $\$ 50.00$ from Mutual Sunset. 4. A triangle of polished brass tubing set into a simple black wood ring forms a contemporary lamp base. Shade of textured fabric comes in choice

of colors. Height $281 / 2$ inches. From Lightolier, about $\$ 23 \cdot 50$. 5. Stylized pineapple on simple pedestal will fit into contemporary or traditional room. All-metal base in Flemish finish with shade of shantung over parchment available in five colors. 29 inches high. By Westwood Industries, around $\$ 25.00$. 6. English coach print in brick-red or pinegreen on white apothecary jar. Parchment shade with linen cording completes 23 -inch-high lamp, so right for the provincial room. From L. Rosenfeld, about $\$_{17.00}$. 7. Coin gold on milk glass, with brass done
†


8 in soft antique finish, handtailored taffeta shade make this lamp perfect for the traditional home. Nathan Lagin Co., about $\$ 20.00$. 8. Handcarved reproduction of antique duck decoy mounted on painted, antiqued double wood base has grass-cloth shade. Subtle handling, combination of textures, produce a 24 -inch-high lamp for modern or provincial. Brach-Allen, about $\$ 37.00$. 9. Modern tripod base lamp of tubular steel with swivel mounted shade of spun aluminum. Both are finished in choice of ten contemporary colors. 50 inches high, lamp is from Ralph O. Smith, about $\$ 25.00$.
10. Armillary dial in verte-finish wrought iron mounted on antique knotty pine or limed-ash block fashions another lamp usable with any period. With grass-cloth shade, it's 30 inches high. By Brach-Allen, approximately $\$ 85.00$

BEFORE: Fancy doings in hobbleskirt days, but a little ornate for mid-century living. Step 1: Remove the whole upper part of the mantel, from the shelf up


From dowaly to dandy in four easy lessons: Remodeling
hints to help any old house take out a mew lease on style

## What's the Smart Idea?

BEFORE: Who wants to live in a hallway and feel cold drafts down the back of the neek? This stairway at end of the living room is typical of older houses. Step 1: Remove the rail and balusters, strip off the old oaken dado

AFTER: Vertical pine or cypress planks, set at angle, form a smart louvered screen, hide most of the stairway. A modern wood-strip blind dropped to the floor dresses up the window, but lets light pass

BEFORE: Rough red bricks, The Bobbsey Twins under glass, and the neighbors just across the drive.
"The Varsity Drag" on the victrolaand we'll bet there's a yellow slicker in the hall closet! Remember when?

AFTER: A mild operation removed the old mantel shelf, replaced it with a graceful curved frame surrounding the bricks. Two shaped valances touching walls and ceiling (plus the draw curtains) make windows seem larger

BEFORE: A feeling of space is nice between this dining room and living room, but the colonnade effect is decidedly old hat. Step 1: If you're sure they're not needed for support, remove the four columns

AFTER: Two wooden frames fill in where the columns were removed. Matching doors are paneled at the bottom like existing pediments. Openings in the upper sections are screened with metal lath, gilded or painted a pretty color



JESSIE WALKER

## A Collection of Memories <br>  <br> 1hobby for collecting things often leads to bewitching results. In this fascinating group of trivets, those practical little stands I which used to hold grandma's steaming kettles or flatirons, <br>  conversation stimulators. They form a striking border around the top of her breakfast-nook walls. The men who created them have left no trace of who they

 were, since, with the exception of one trivet, there are no signatures on any. All we know is that they were blacksmiths by trade, and trivets, along with other useful iron implements, were only a sideline. Although Mrs. Underhill's are originals, many of the little three-legged stands have been reproduced and are known to collectors by such descriptive names as Hex, Tassel and Grain, Cupid, Dew Drop, Dutch Dump. This collection not only includes many of the large-sized trivets which will hold a flatiron, but ranges all the way down to a tiny little stand with a tiny iron on it, suitable for a child. The mysterious origin of each piece gives it a lot of extra interest.


Photographs by F. M. Demarest


## CHAREES S. WALTERS

# How to Buy a Christmas 'Iree 

To most persons, a Christmas tree is an evergreen that you buy at the corner store or a temporary stall. It comes in two sizes, too big and too small, and, at times in recent years, it has also been "too high." Some families can still follow the old custom of going into their woods to select and cut their own tree; some can, and prefer to, buy from a local nursery a choice living specimen with its root ball burlapped or in a tub so it can be planted outdoors after the holidays. But most of us have to take what the market offers of trees cut commercially, perhaps near by but more probably in the north woods somewhere between the far Northwest and the New England states. Here are tips on how to buy a tree and get the most from it.

What is a good Christmas tree? First, it is of proper traditional shape-symmetrically conical with a distinct tip or leader, not too long, but an upstanding, crowning point for that favorite star, angel, or Santa Claus figure. Its foliage should be dense compact, and rich green in color. If it brings with it that characteristic northwoods fragrance, so much the better. The leaves or needles are abundant and attrac-tive-not stiff or sharp enough to make it hard to decorate the tree, or unpleasant to
touch it, as children and grown-ups, too, like to do-and, most important, they should not fall soon after the tree is brought indoors, leaving ugly, bare twigs. Well, what kinds of trees do we usually find on the market, and which of them best meets the above specifications? As with many other products, the available supply is influenced somewhat by the locality and somewhat by the public's tastes and preferences. To many, the traditional Christmas tree is the deliciously fragrant Balsam Fir with its handsome tree form, thick foliage, and flat, blunt, rather soft needles which are pleasant to handle and which hang on well even in the house.

In recent years, the Douglas-fir, a native of the Northwest, has been in increasing supply and has won much favor. Though not a true fir, it has the favorable fir qualities (lacking perhaps some fragrance) and an exceptional beauty of form and texture that makes it truly the "aristocrat of Christmas trees." In tests made at Cornell University, it held its needles in an 80 -degree room longer than all others. The figures were: Douglas-fir, 30 days; Red Pine, 20; Scotch Pine, 15; Balsam Fir, Io; Hemlock and Spruce, 5 or less.

Yet, despite that poor record and the furplease turn to page 88




Modern free-form lines characterize the tiled wading pool, its cement border, and the loose grape-stake fence behind it. The garage roof is extended to shelter part of the spacious terrace

This garden is dominated jointly by a huge weeping willow and a row of ten tall pipe poles and the trellis frame supported by four of them. The structural elements separate, but do not shut off, the play area (foreground) from the lawn area and wading poo (left), roofed sitting area (left rear), and broad main terrace space (right rear)


## Garden for the Bolles Family

IIere is a garden that demonstrates the effective application of modern landscaping principles and the fine co-ordination of the ideas of landscape designer and of architect-in this case the owner. It is planned to organize all the available space on a 100 by $160-\mathrm{ft}$. lot in Marin County, California, for the use of Mr. and Mrs. John S. Bolles and their four children, and is cleverly integrated with the house and within itself. Front lawn, drive, car shelter, and L-shaped terrace are level with the ground floor of the house, or two feet above the rear garden's natural lot grade. Along the west border is the active play space. This is set off from the rest by ten tall pipe poles whose vertical lines are re-
peated in the long branches of a grand old weeping willow. The four poles nearest the house support an egg-crate type framework which gives a feeling of enclosure to the main terrace, extends the house structure into the garden integrating the two, and provides shelf space for pot plants. On the lawn, two free-curving grape-stake screens add to the sense of space, give interesting form to the area, and introduce an element of mystery as to what is beyond. Study, in the plan below, the skillful use and arrangement of these details and of appropriate plant materials; note placing of terrace with relation to living and dining rooms and kitchen, and how the grassed play yard adjoins children's room and play court.

KEY TO FEATURES OF THE GARDEN
A. Lawn; B. Broken red-rock paving; C. $6^{\prime}$ Grape-stake fencing; D. Terrace and steps surfaced with (B); E. Gravel and bitumen driveway, redwood curbs; F. $102^{\prime \prime}$ Steel pipes, tops level with house eaves; G. Bank $2^{\prime}$ high; H. Wading pool with jet; J. Tool sheds

1. 14 Pfitzer juniper; 2. 15 Chilean-guava (Myrfus ugni); $2 a, 7$ same; 3. 17 Dwarf myrtle (Mystus communis compacta); 3a, 8 same; 4. Japanese persimmon, Ajuga reptans beneath; 5. 2 Espalier pears; 6. 5 Paper birch; 7. 3 Purple-leaved plum, Stachys lanata beneath; 8. Bamboo along entire east property line; 9 . Red horsechestnut (Aesculus carnea); 10. 10 Berberis verruculosa; 11. 6 Spurge-olive (Cneorum tricoccon); 12. 4 Dracaena australis; 13. 9 Convolvulus mauritanicus in raised bed, 14. Weeping willow, $3^{\prime}$ trunk diameter; 15, 4 Lombardy poplar; 16. Flowers; 17. 3 Japanese privet (Ligustrum japonicum); 18. 2 Seedling plum trees; 19.2 Bay trees; 20. 57 Strawberrytrees (Arbutus une do); 21. 2 Pieris floribunda (tubbed); 22. Japanese flowering cherry


Take a plain, unimposing chest, follow our easy-to-understand directions, and you'll not only have one that's beautifully covered with fabric, but also a reputation that's covered with glory. Depending upon what kind of material you use, this type of furniture can fit in any room in the house. If you want to fancy-up only part of a chest, you can copy a Provincial idea by decorating just the drawer fronts, and a panel on the top. Very Gallic!
If this is your first try, we'd advise you to use a small all-over design, since this wouldn't require matching and measuring. Plaid is really quite a trick to handle well, but like all difficult-to-do things, the result is extra smart and effective. Also be sure the article is completely sanded and smooth, so there will be no lumps or bumps when it's finished. Put adhesive only on the immediate area where you're working, since it dries very quickly. These new preparations don't show through the fabric, but do be sure to keep your hands clean, so your work won't show smudges and will look slick and professional.

## 5. Brush right onto wood My-Tee Bond

 or Sobo, two adhesives very easy to use with fabric. They leave no mark on cloth. Paste each section as you work
10. First drawer finished. Use as guide for other drawers, top to bottom, side to side. Remove each drawer, measure, apply strip between. Replace each as finished
6. Start on left side of chest. Smooth fabric down from top. Smooth from center out to sides, leaving $1 / 2$-inch turnover on top. Keep lines of design even and straight. Other pieces are measured from this

11. Turn chest on back once more. It is easier to work on drawer fronts this way, as plaid must be very carefully matched across entire front of chest. After each drawer front is finished, apply strip between

## Cover a Chest With Fabric



Cut $3 / 4$-inch plywood to make a new one-piece top. ad smooth. Serew onto tops of chests. Countersink ews, fill holes with plastic wood. Re-insert drawers. ne up evenly, number each drawer to keep in order

Measure, match, and eut first drawer, allowing nover for sides, top, and bottom. Be sure to theh cross stripes vertically and horizontally. ter corners carefully for neat professional finish


- Cut ends of fabric with a very sharp knife or razor de. Place cardboard under fabric to prevent cutting of chest. Apply adhesive and paste down. Lap over er fabric at ends, paste down and under front edges


3. Remove drawers. Turn chest on back. Tape newspapers around base for protection. Spray black paint on base. Use inexpensive insecticide spray gun or new paint can with built-in spray
4. Cheek match of plaid again. Apply adhesive on drawer front, side, top, and bottom edges.
Smooth on, keeping all lines of plaid even and in a straight line. Hardest part is finished


5. First, measure, match, and cut strips of fabric for two ends of ehest and between drawers. Vertical as well as horizontal stripes in the plaid should be evenly placed so they will make a balanced line composition on drawers. Allow turnover. Facing chest, start on left side

DOIEOTHY LAMEEET TIEUMM

Make long wooden rods for drawer handles. Paint contrasting color. Screw into place from inside

14. After top pieces are in place, match, measure, and cut center strip for middle of chest between drawers. You will have to stretch this as you work down to base, so it matches all drawer fronts across


IIost of us come from that enormous stratum of the middle class that is distinguished by its ability to recall better days -that carefree stretch when everybody had plenty of money or got the benefit of others having it. Today, memory of the good old days loses all sovereignty . . . and it should. What we, or our families, once had cuts no ice. The crux is what we have now and how well we can and do manage with the existing income. Yet there are still a good many people, oppressed by the sorry state of construction costs, who mutter about the slim chance today of building an inexpensive house that has even a vestige of individual charm, who cannot reconcile themselves to small scale, servantless living, without loss of dignity. For the benefit of such skeptics, as well as the level-headed younger generation who will spot this immediately as a house that "has the mostest" they've seen in a small house in many a day, I shall tell you the story of this little house, built a year and a half ago in Pacific Palisades by a young contractor, Bruce Tebbe.
Building a house means, in the figurative as in the literal sense,
that you have put down roots, that you are where you plan to stay. It is like betting that you are going to live a long, long time; one feels grave, almost frightened, and at the same time, daring, adventurous. This small house is Bruce Tebbe's own house. He had built houses for other people but this was his and his wife Phyllis' first home and they gave it their all. The plans, starting with cloud-born ideas that had been written back and forth in war letters, were drawn and redrawn many times over before they finally came down to bedrock to incorporate, within a budget price, every convenience and attractive feature possible. It was probably the hardest, the most exacting job young Bruce had tackled and yet, like the dentist who gets into a dentist chair for the first time as a patient, he came through the experience much more appreciative of the other man's problem.

The late Robert L. Cook planned their house. They told him explicitly what they wanted and what they could spend, but when they received the plans, instead of impulsively accepting them and rushing into construction, they went over and over the plans please turn to page 45

## Ordering!

MARTHA R. DAREYSHIRE
OWNER-BUILDER, BRUCE TEBBE

This compact, convenient little house

## MAKES SMALL MONEY TALK-

## costs only $\$ 10,500$ to build:

Order the plams for it on page 81


Plan is more than a straightforward approach to small-scale living without damage to dignity. A pliant plan, it allows for a third bedroom, den, or relocation of dining room in U formed by kitchen and bedroom. Also for a future service room off kitchen. Construction, gray wood shakes and stuceo, white trim, terra-cotta colored brick



Mrs. Tebbe's color outlook was sunny, flows without a break or, as she says, "with the grain." She carried the living-room color,'letting it run naturally with eye travel, into both adjoining dining room and bedroom hall, to give illusion of space

## I Little Beauty (Begins on page 42)

and specifications questioning, "If we change this, could we get that? Why can't this be done this way, and that, that?" They clung tenaciously to the fine points they were determined to have, slept over decisions, cocked a sour eye at reducing "quality," but were perfectly amenable to a shift from one costly "quality" item to a "quality" one that cost less. By selective compromise in one place they gained something else in another.
The result of this agreeable owner-architect cooperation indicates it takes something more than money to get all of the things that one may sensibly hope to have in a small house. The house Bruce Tebbe built is a small wisp, the planning everything. For those who are interested in figures, it cost $\$ 10,500$. For those who are interested in meanings, it is evidence of the fine, particular features that it is possible to have in what Mr. and Mrs. America call an inexpensive small house. (The figure $\$ \mathrm{ro,500}$ is the amount the house would have cost a client and is figured without consideration of the discounts that are often the good fortune of a man in the building business.)

The extra-curricular features in the house are numerous but, roughly, they are a wood-paneled liv-ing-room fireplace wall, solid brass hardware, good wallpapers of documentary design, a bay window $2 \mathrm{t} / 2$ feet deep that was planned to enlarge a small dining room, cross-ventilation in all rooms, floor furnace with thermostat control, bedroom wardrobes with built-in drawer space, a pullman bath-
please turn to page 80


It's a small room, but bay window with garden view contradicts room measurements. Room and bay ceiling painted the blue that travels as an accent throughout house. Pink striped wallpaper. Pink chintz lounge chair, bed canopy, and dust ruffle of barred dimity


Kitchen has wealth of cupboard, drawer space. Dutch door at right of stove opens into outdoor living room. Built-in cabinet with tile top planned at this strategic spot to receive food from refrigerator and stove. Storage space below for utensils that go immediately onto stove


Dining room in same caramel-colored carpet, kumquat-yellow walls, unbleached muslin curtains, as living room. Red linen chair seats

BEFORE: The Chapparo family's kitchen, below, was typical of many you've seen-not really bad, not really good. How'd you like to stand and stare at your face in the mirror every time you wash dishes?


AFTER: One generous window, above, replaces former ones. Placement of equipment was not materially changed, but new steel Kitchen-Kraft cabinets mean better-planned storage

## Neve Goot Designs on This Kitchen

IIere's a two-way kitchen remodeling story that we've carried one step further, for those of you who like streamlined modern efficiency and yet yearn for the color and character of Pennsylvania Dutch designs. Mr. and Mrs. Carl Chapparo of Los Angeles created a minor modern-day miracle when they took the pleasant, but out-dated kitchen you see in the "before" photograph above and revamped it into the good-looking, compact working area, shown in the "after" picture, which makes meal preparation a snap, instead of a chore. To prove that you can have the ultimate in modern kitchen convenience and still recall the charm of a bygone era, we asked Lietta, a Los Angeles artist, to dream up some more of her popular Pennsylvania Dutch designs. The results inspired the sketch at right. The patterns are traditionally provincial, yet Lietta has given them a decidedly modern flair. If you'd like to copy these quaint little characters in your own home, we've made it easy for you with full-sized tracings and color instructions. See page 92 for information on ordering them.
1342. 3 painting designs: Boy and pitcher, seated girl, size $81 / 2$ by $14^{T} / 2$ in. Girl with tulip, size $7^{1 / 2}$ by $10^{1 / 2}$ in. Boy and bird house size $8^{1 / 2}$ by $9^{1 / 2}$ in. Price $30 ¢$ 1343. 2 painting designs: Boy with cock under arm, flower pot and cart, size 18 by $181 / 2 \mathrm{in}$. Girl with churn in front of cottage, size 20 by 22 in . Price 40 f 1344. 3 painting designs: Boy, girl, heart, size 20 by 21 in . Girl on bridge, size 19 by 22 in . Repeat border of bird, thistle, posy, size $7^{1 / 2}$ by 19 in . Price 50 द

1342, 1343,
1344 (see text)



## bx Ame Morshall



N PEA is a grand choice. The tempting taste of green -in a soup enriched with butter.

## Lunches or Suppers built around Green Pea Soup

na Fish Sandwich Dmelet, Ginger Cakes n Salad, Bran Muffins

Hot Apple Pie, Cheese
Codfish Cakes and Spinach Scrambled Eggs, Hot Biscuits

TABLE is a favorite with both Dad and the childrenf bright garden vegetables in a homey beef stock.

## Lunches or Suppers built around Vegetable Soup

ad Beans, Green Salad non Salad Sandwich ff Salad, Cheese Toast

Cold Roast, Lettuce Wedges Hot Coffee Cake, Grapefruit Baked Corned Beef Hash


So much to do; so little time to do itwith Christmas 'round the corner! There's all that shopping to do-and the house to clean and a fruit cake to bake and the youngsters' clothes to freshen and Christmas cards to address and the silver to clean and-meals to get!

Yes, meals to get, and that's where maybe I can help-with some practical ideas. Soup can be your salvation, truly. It's so nourishing and so appealing to winter-sharp appetites. It's quick on the
table, too, and very easy on the budget.

## Biggest Soup-eating Month

Many of you already know how good hot soup helps "save the day" during December. That's why you've made December the biggest soup-eating month of the year. Here on this page are three fine soups to build meals around these Christmas-rushed days. You'll find suggestions, too, for what to serve with each one, to round out a lunch or a supper.So-Merry Christmas!


TOMATO is "the soup most folks like best"-luscious tomatoes blended with fine butter to velvet smoothness.

## Lunches or Suppers built around <br> Tomato Soup

Lucille's Special is good baked as a cake, steamed as a pudding


If your family does not cotton to plum pudding, here's a fragrant pudding they will like

Vera La Fountain Dunn's charming little snow people are Christmas tree cookies


JEAN AUSTIN

## Victuals for Your Holidays

JUST WHERE AND WHEN the first Christmas feast was laid records fail to tell, but by the inth century old manuscripts record twelve full days of yuletide feasting in holly-decked baronial halls. Roast stuffed peacock, clothed in all its gorgeous plumage, was ceremoniously brought in to the strains of music. In 1950, our baronial halls have shrunk considerably, but are heated and our chairs spring-cushioned. We ceremoniously bring in the turkey -a fowl of lesser beauty than the flamboyant peacock, but a far more succulent bird it be-to the strains of background music via radio antennae. Holly bedecks the door, sprouts from the pudding, encircles the roast. Surrounded by family and friends, our spirits are high, our hearts expansive, our bellies full-and the purse flat. "But it has been worth it," we cry, "Christmas comes but once a year." I wonder. Not that Christmas is not worth every generous, high-spirited thing we put into it-but if there is not a more sensible approach to Christmas feasting? I believe there is. I believe the real

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 53

Cinnamon apples are spicy,
festive but not overrich

ndividual Canadian pork pies, more special than familiar familysize, take very little more time

More exquisite Christmastree cookies from Vera La Fountain Dunn


Good Victuals . . . (Becino on paze 5o)

essence of Christmas is something wafted through the kitchen door, not purchased elbow-deep at a counter. Heavenly scents from the kitchen; rib-sticking food that is gay and jolly-looking, too; food lovingly prepared, with more caring put into it than at any other time of the year -is there any better way a woman can give generously of herself, her skill, to those she loves and tends?
We cannot and wish not to revive the olden days of Christmas baking for days on end and gluttonous eating, but we canand should-make our kitchens send forth good, rich smells that come of beautiful food prepared with loving care and inner excitement in the knowledge that a year's routine homemaking can culminate in so superb a climax as a happy, contented family eating your holiday food around their own home table. With the single exception of the Miracle itself, there is no profounder joy than that your family finds home the only place worth being at Christmas time.

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 59


It's a real Christmas package this, not even a distant relative of the usual "sandwich loaf"

## Great new 1951 <br> $G H$

General Electric Refrigerators give you much more storage space than most refrigerators now in use . . . yet they occupy no larger floor area!


## هodce 0 r everything...

... and everything's in its place. All the food you see here can easily and quickly be placed in one of the new 10 -cu-ft G-E Refrigerator-Food Freezer Combinations!

There's so much space for meats, fruits and vegetables in the fresh-food compartment . . . and the food freezer stores so many, many packages of frozen food . . . that
you need shop only when you feel in the mood!
The new General Electric Refrigerators give you $25 \%$ to $50 \%$ more storage space than most refrigerators now in use, occupying the same floor area. Furthermore, there' a special place for everything. No more groping to find exactly what you want!

These new, wonderful convenience features are standard equipment in all General Electric Refrigerator-Food Freezer Combinations!


NEWI REDI-CUBE ICE TRAYS
Now, for the first time, you can pick out cubes singly, and return the rest-still in the dividers-to the refrigerator. Cubes will not drop out! It's another General Electric first!


NEMMI STURDY ALUMINUM SHELVES
Long-lasting aluminum shelves, which will not rust, are highly polished and slide forward easily. Notice the new, narrow wire spacing which helps prevent even the smallest bottles from tipping! A real advantage!


NMI VEGETABLE ROLLA-DRAWERS
New Rolla-Drawers, on rubber-tired wheels, roll quietly! Easy to keep clean. Dewy cold in drawers helps keep vegetables garden-fresh! Each drawer holds $121 / 2$ quarts.


NEWEIMPROVED MOTOR AND INSULATION To assure more quiet operation than ever, there's a new G-E motor and a new spring mounting! New, higherefficiency Fiberglas insulation in the cabinet makes a worthwhile reduction in operating cost?


SPECIALL BUTTER CONDITIO Special conditioner, mounted in refrigerator do has a special electric element that keeps a full por of butter at best spreading temperature!


# Refrigerators 

JHIS CHRISTMAS, surprise that lovely wife of yours with one of the most wonderful refrigerators money can buy-a General Electric Refrigerator-Food Freezer Combination that has space for everything . . . that assures you of dependable, economical operation year after year.
No other refrigerator gives you all the special convenience features shown on these pages . . . no other refrigerator can match the

## GIVE YOU UP T0 50\% MORE FOOD SPACE!

General Electric record for dependability!
More than 2,200,000 General Electric Refrigerators with sealed re: frigerating systems are still performing faithfully after 10 years. Many as long as 15 and 20 years, and longer.

Why not see your nearest G-E dealer today? You'll find him listed in your classified telephone directory under General Electric Refrigerators. General Electric Company, Bridgeport 2, Conn.

## Here are two different refrigerators . . .

each the finest of its type in the world. See which one you should own!


NEW! In this model NHX-10H there's a separate refrigerator plus a separate freezer. Each has its own door. In addition to the conveniences on the opposite page, it has these features:

EW! Alnico Magnets ip the door shut, seal completely all the way round. No more slam?

Frost does not build up in the fresh-food section. Uncovered foods do not dry out! Foods remain crisp and fresh longer!


NEW! This efficient refrigerator (the G-E model LF-10H) has one outer door, and an inner door for the freezer section. In addition to the conveniences on the opposite page, it has these features:
the entire cabinet, automatically. Balanced design automatically controls cabinet temperature over a wide range of room temperatures.

## No More Drip Problem!

It eliminates the troublesome drip problem by minimizing and collecting moisture before itcan reach food. Defrosting is no chore in this General Electric Refrigerator!


NEW: Brack: تristant mat dish that is really deep and spacious! Large enough to hold your biggest week-end roasts!


NEW! Foot pedal opens lower door. Hands not needed to open the Alnico Magnetic Door to the fresh-food section!


New, balanced design assures best air circulation

New G-E principle gives you safe refrigeration throughout



## gives TWICE the SHINE

 in HALF the TIME!New "Scorchy Pan" Tests on greasy, crusty pans prove Brillooutshines all other types of cleansers tested! Shinemeters show Brillo actually gives aluminums twice the shine in half the time!
A square, metal-fiber Brillo pad-with-soap just whisks off
gummy crust! The "jeweler's pad-with-soap just whisks off
gummy crust! The "jeweler's polish" in Brillo soap gets busy right away at the shiniest, fastest polishing job ever! No scouring! No soaking! Clean pots and pans with Brillo every day. Get twice the shine in half the time! of cleansers tested! Shine-

$\star$ RED box - soap-filled pads

* GREEN box - pads and cake soap

There's jeweler's polish in BRILLO


Cookie cutters are more glamorous and figureconscious than ever before. Doughnut cutters make graceful wreaths, and pie fluter can be used for all sizes of crinkly-edged cookies. Rich dough is suggested
 Christmas Shapes


EDDITH RAMSAY

|Joods-attractive, colorful, and just plain good-tasting-are an important part of our celebration of the happy holiday season. Fancy cutters, presses, and molds are a foolproof way to prepare your favorite Christmas recipes so that you have perfect, and pretty, shapes every single time. Many new ideas in patterns are available this year and, to recall nostalgic memories, you'll find traditional molds hand-in-hand with new ones. We suggest freezing cut-out cookies in advance of the holiday rush. A pressure saucepan is just the ticket for shortening the steaming of plum puddings.

## enk

## WITH <br> Swans Down's



Kindergarten-easy . . . with Swans Down's new richer-chocolate Devil's Food Mix. The new Walter Baker blend holds lush, rich chocolate fragrance and flavor right through oven heat.

Two high, tender Swans Downwonderful layers, ready for colorful Christmas decorating!
yellow, spice, orange - frosted he rainbow-any an make a garland ferent cupcakes marvelous Swans Instant Mix.

## Swans Down Devil's Food Christmas Cake

Prepare Swans Down Devil's Food Mix as directed on package. Bake in layers. Frost with

## Seven Minute Frosting

2 egg whites, unbeaten

## $11 / 2$ cups sugar

Dash of salt
$1 / 3$ cup water
2 teaspoons light corn syrup
1 teaspoon vanilla
Combine egg whites, sugar, salt, water, and syrup in top of double boiler; mix thoroughly. Cook over rapidly boiling water, beating constantly with rotary egg beater (or at high speed of electric beater) 7 minutes, or until frosting will stand up in stiff peaks.

Stir frosting up from bottom and sides of pan occasionally with rubber scraper, spatula, or spoon. Remove from boiling water. Add vanilla; beat 1 minute, or until thick enough to spread.

Garnish frosted cake with silver dragées, small colored candies, and green leaves.

## Swans Down Instant Sparkle Cupcakes

1 package Swans Down Instant Cake Mix Milk (see package for amount)
Seven Minute Frosting (at left)

## Gumdrops

Combine Swans Down Instant Cake Mix and milk as directed on package. Turn batter into muffin pans, which have been greased on bottoms only, filling each cup $1 / 2$ full. Bake in moderate oven ( $375^{\circ} \mathrm{F}$.) 15 to 20 minutes. Tint frosting various colors and spread on cakes. Garnish with small gumdrops.





## Giood Victuals

(Begins on page 50)

Now you know, and I know, that the fanciest chef in the world can't lure folks from home cooking at Christmas time, and the best holiday parties, the most fun, are right at home. The only flaw is that first-of-the-year's reckoning, when we discover that, in our generosity, we have overreached ourselves, are faced with an astronomical food bill, did not have quite as much time for fun with the folks as we could have wished for. "But Christmas is not the time to stint," you say? Of stinting I'm not speaking, but of planning. Planning food
that is more beautiful because more caring has gone into it, not more cost. Food that will delight the eye, please the palate-and spare the purse. Food that will serve many and serve well-and spare you. Food in which excitement and imagination are the prime, yet the least costly, ingredients. Food that stays beautiful though prepared ahead or in easy stages, food that can be prepared at table or by your family and guests themselves-that allows you to be a guest at your own table, not the serving maid as well as cook. How, you ask?
Well, there's a big tawny ham, more wonderful cold than hot-and that's pretty wonderful. Not a cheap item, but cheaper than you think, when you reflect on the crowds that can feast off it, first hot,



Good lictuals
(Begins on page 50)
then cold-with no further fussing about it. There is Shish Kebab, prepared and marinated ahead of time. Just turn the guests loose in the kitchen and let them create and broil their own Kebab, and see the fun they'll have-and you'll have, too, with only the rice to go with it your chore. There's a Veal Roulade astonishingly beautiful to behold, to eat, and o-oh so beautiful on the purse. Can do long ahead of the party, and that's a beautiful idea, too. There's Turkey (new or left-over) and Noodles Alfredo, a dish the famous gourmets
traveled to Rome for, and about which I've a little tale to tell. I'd gone to Alfredo's in Rome, for just this very thing. Done before my eyes, right at the table, as Alfredo always did it, I shuddered pleasurably at the cream being poured in, but all my knowledge of calories in that there dish of noodles, cream, and cheese did not spoil my pleasure in eating every morsel of it. Came Alfredo with his guest book. Such famous fancy folk-and such glowing, witty testimonials. What was there left to say? Nothing but the honest truth and, baldly stated though it was, he chuckled. "To Alfredo, destroyer of the form divine," wrote I.

What else, that so delights the eye and pleases the palate, yet
please turn to page 63



Good Victuals
(Begins on page 50)

"My Caloric spoiled me for any other range"


While on a visit, one Caloric owner reports, she used a different range, and couldn't help comparing it with her Caloric at home. "Decided that my Caloric had spoiled me for any other range." And it's true. Cooking on the fast, automatic Caloric is bringing to thousands of housewives a new world of ease and convenience.

See the new models at your Caloric dealer (listed in Classified Phone Book). Caloric Stove Corporation, Widener Building, Philadelphia 7, Pa.

WORK-SAVING Flavor-Saver Dual Burners speed cooking, light automatically. Center Simmer Flame saves gas, keeps exact boiling heat.
Automatic Oven Timer (optional) cooks meals while you're away. Turns on and off automatically.

Sy-Cleaning

## FEATURES

Porcelain Enamel finish inside and out.
Triple-Coat Acid-Resisting white parts.
Veri-Clean Removable Broiler washes like a dish in your sink. SmokelessHi-LoRackandPan. Seamless Oven, Broiler and Burner Box have rounded corners. Can't hold dirt.

All Caloric models are specially engineered for use with "Pyrofax" Bottled Gas and other LP-Gases.


For polishing your prized silver, use soft, sturdy ScotTowels!

## NEW ScotTowels -so strong when wet YOU CAN USE THEM LIKE A CLOTH E



STRONG When wet! ScotTowels damp are grand for wiping up sticky spills-for dozens of household chores! Use them with polishes, cleansers, soap -they don't go to pieces when wet!


SOFTER, MORE CLOTH-LIKE! Use new ScotTowels for dusting - they're kind to fine finishes. So pliable, they mold to your hand like a glove. And after use, you just throw these towels away!



Good Tisturals
(Begins on page 50)



RAUKAUNA KILUB

IN SIX DIFFERENT FLAVORS

American<br>Hickory Smoled Onion Garlic Port Wine Appetizer

Look for them at your favorite food store-always freshalways in the refrigerator.
NEW "SERIES 2" RECIPE BOOK


Write for Mary Irene Hart's new edition of the famous Kaukauna Klub recipe book.

KAUKAUNA DAIRY CO 260 South St., Kaukauna, Wis.



No laying the spoon down to No letting the spoon slip into the pot. Made in an 8 and 10 inch length brilliantly polished. he set of 2 sent p. p. if not carried by your deale Set in gift box, $\$ 1.50$
AN IDEAL GIFT FOR BRIDES AND HOUSEWIVES A Fast Seller. - Sales people Wanted Everywher 59 FROHOCK-STEWART CO.
59 Harris Court Worcester, Mass.

## Good Tistuals

(Begins on page 50)
saves the purse and saves the wear? Little Canadian pork pies, made with a new kind of paste that keeps and keeps and keeps, a filling all rich and spicy meat that costs so little and feeds so many you'll scarcely note it on your bill. A sandwich loaf 'most too pretty to eat and tied all round with a pretty red pimiento bow. The gay cocktail onions, stuck in a big red apple, make easy but very tart, good hors d'oeuvres. Wipe dry the tiniest of cocktail onions. Dip halfway in mayonnaise and prepared mustard ( 2 to I mustard) and red or green food coloring.
For dessert, a bombe, so elegant, so impressive-and so very easy to do. A good old-fashioned jelly roll (recipe in our Menu Maker) with stripes of red and green jelly for Christmas eating, a dribble of chocolate and a coating of snowy powdered sugar, posing as a birch $\log$ on your buffet table. When you make the birch $\log$, add sugar and a little cream to chocolate drippings to lighten color, make mixture thicker and easier to use. A wet paper towel over top of bowl keeps icing workable. A pudding rich and festive-but made with oranges and raisins instead of citron, suet, and all the heavy things you don't like in a plum pudding-if you don't like plum pudding. You can steam it or you can bake it. It's best both ways! Some violently green and passionately red apples, very special looking, but spicy with cinnamon and light in the stomach after days of rich eating. For the minted apples, prepare a thin sugar syrup, add oil of peppermint and coloring to suit. Simmer cored and peeled apples in this syrup, turning gently for even penetration. Do not crowd them in pan.

Amusing little snow people to put on your Christmas tree and give away to solemn-eyed little neighbors as they come visiting . . . a handsome "tree" created by Mrs. Clarence Runkle you can eat right down to the plate it's on, be the "tree" made of cookies or made of little sandwiches . . . a gay arrangement of horns or candy canes and bread, likewise edible-an idea of Joseph Copp, Jr. That's all, and pray, isn't it enough to get you excited about holiday food and entertaining? Can't you see how it can be fun and jollyand not all cost of money only?

# MIRRO-MATIC 



NOW IN

## Saue TIME and MONEY

- With MIRRO-MATIC, you'll cook speedily, easily, and economically. A quick gathering of garden vegetables can be canned whenever there's an hour to spare. Ten minutes suffice to sterilize baby's bottles . . . a big help on a busy morning. Hot lunches or family dinners are measured by the minute-hand.
- The reassuring signal of the audible MIRRO-MATIC Pressure Control always tells you that it's on guard, preventing pressure from going higher than your recipe requires $\ldots 5,10$, or 15 lbs . That's "cooking without looking," the MIRRO-MATIC way.
- MIRRO-MATIC Pressure Pans are thrifty as piggy banks, too. Cheaper cuts of meat, cooked tender and tempting in MIRRO-MATIC, mean monthly savings you'll add up in dollars. Pressure canning cuts waste, saves leftovers, makes your garden really worthwhile. Speed saves fuel, another important economy.


21/2-quart. . $\$ 10.95$ (West, 11.45)
4-quart. . . . $\$ 12.95$ (West, 13.95)
6-quart. . . . \$15.95 (West, 16.95)
8-quart. . . . $\$ 17.95$ (West, 18.95) Each with rack and recipe book.
See MIRRO-MATIC soon, and choose the sizes that suit you best. It's time for you to enjoy MIRROMATIC pressure cooking.

el mirno-matic at department, hardware, and housefurnishing stores, wherever dealers sell the finest aluminum.

## -

Many of America's finest ranges
are equipped with MIRRO-MATIC are equipped with MIRRO-MATIC
Deep-well Pressure Cookers.

ALUMINUM GOODS MANUFACTURING COMPANY • MANITOWOC, WIS. WORLD'S LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF ALUMINUM COOKING UTENSILS


## for Suburbar living

 with City Converience you cant beet LP-GAS!**Glad you're away from the city? Of course you are! Your "fresh air" living is the envy of people in the city. \& But maybe you envy them their conveniences. Gas cooking, for example. No need to! Just stop in at your nearby Lp-GAS dealer's, and choose one of the beautiful ranges he displays. Then you'll have every cooking convenience - faster, cleaner - dependable cooking! $\boldsymbol{\sim}$ What's more, you pay many precious dollars less for an LP-GAS range than for other modern ranges. \& A new water heater, too . . . a refrigerator . . . a room or home heater . . . they all operate on Liquefied Petroleum Gas. (You may know it as bottled gas, tank gas, butane, propane or by a local trade name.) Whatever you call it, depend on LP-GAS for a new world of convenience in your home.
Beautiful Booklet Free! "How to Enjoy Better
Living Right Now." Write LP-GAS
Information Service, Dept. AH,
in S. LaSalle St., Chicago 3, IIl.


Water Heater


Refrigerator


Home Heater


Live better.


Ittle stork place card, novel 1 idea for a baby shower. You'll need a safety pin, ribbon, cocktail toothpick, and after-dinner mint. Any color combination may be used. Paste a piece of cardboard under the mint, for a strong safety-pin base. Just put toothpick in as shown above, tie ribbon in loop, and stick in the mint. Fix them in a jiffy, spend but a few cents in the making.


D efreshingly novel way to anI nounce one of the most important events in your life. A piece of white flannelette, pinked at the edges, wrapped around a card shaped as shown above, in any color cardboard you desire. Fasten in front with tiny safety pin. You can print or write any appropriate wording on the card, perhaps trim it with a little contrasting border. These two ideas cost you practically nothing, but they're original and fresh.

... for festive feast or daily dining, there's nothing provides that certain something, that Elegant touch to the table, like Ripe Olives.

Perky in appetizers... a tempting treat on your relish dish... a tastetriumph in your turkey dressing.

And downright delectable any time you set out the Olive Bowl.


## Ripe Olives from California <br> Write for FREE booklet of Elegant Ripe Olive Recipes:

 Olive Advisory Board, Room 1201 16 Beale Street, San Francisco 5, California
## Count on Contadina

Concentrated
TOMATO PASTE



Ingredients: Not all these for one job, but the correct one for each job. Have leather dust-free before attempting any cleaning or polishing

At all cost, guard against mildewing of leather pieces: golf bags, shoes, brief cases. Treat once a season with Mil-Da-Rid

Wash gloves labeled "washable" only. Squeeze chamois and doeskin in suds. Use nail brush to serub pigskins while on hands. Oils in soap are beneficial to leather, so rinse lightly


Wash leather furniture with MILD soap. Dry with clean cheesecloth. When completely dry, treat with leather conditioner. To store chair, clean and cover, put in dry spot-never near

## a radiator



Fine leather deserves good care. Leather book bindings, table tops, and purses last years longer when a protective agent is applied. Visual results will be evident after careful buffing; usability prolonged


## SAVE... up to $1 / 2$ Ironing Time!



## Iron with ease...

Press when you please...
From the pioneers of steam controlled home appliances comes the new, remarkable Presto Vapor-Steam Iron. No other iron at any price gives you all these advantages:

- Vapor-Steam irons up to $11 / 2$ hours on 6 ounces of ordinary tap water. $\begin{array}{ll}\text { nary tap water. } & \text { sprinkling. No pressing eloths } \\ \text { needed. No drops, no spots. }\end{array}$ - Completely automatic. No - Pays for itself over and over gadgets needed. bills alone.
Weighs only $31 / 4$ pounds. A perfect dry iron, too. Presto Vapor-Steam Irons are availableat quality housewares stores. See it . . . try it, today! NATIONAL PRESSURE COOKER CO., Eou Cloire, Wisconsin and helps prevent scorching. heat for any ironing need. tucks and pleats smoothly.


OLEPLATE HEAT INDI CATOR... Shows at a glance exact soleplate temperature at all fimes. Stops guesswork


USES ORDINARY TAP WATER . . . No distilled water needed. 6 -ounce filling steams up to $11 / 2$ hours. Wide spout, fills and drains in seconds.


FINGER-TIP TEMPERATURE WRINIKLE-PROOF ROUND SELECTOR . . . Easy to set, HEEL . . . Glides over clothes easy to see . . . Highly accu- in either direction without liftrate . . . Maintains an even ing or twisting . . . Backs into

THE EXCLUSTVE PRESTO OVER-SIZE 30-SQUARE GIVEN . . . with every PRESTO "VAPO-MISER"®... Auto- INCH SOLEPLATE . . . Covers VAPOR-STEAM IRON, at no matically converts ordinary more area witheach stroke for extra cost: (1) Scorch-proof tap water into a smooth, faster, easier ironing ... Light ironing stand, and (2) Valuastrong flow of Vapor-Steam. weight, too, only $31 / 4$ pounds. ble illustrated instruction book.

Raise two 17 -in. drop leaves to make this tea wagon into dining table for two or a buffet server for many. Two 34-by-20in. lower shelves to hold all the fixings. From Grand Rapids Chair Co., about $\$ 115$ in oak

## Put the parly ${ }^{2}$





Youngstown Kitchens Automatic Dishwasher, featuring the exclusive JET-TOWER with HydroBrush Action. Beautiful $27^{\prime \prime}$ cabinet of die-made STEEL. The more dishes she has, the more time she'll save!


Deluxe $66^{\prime \prime}$ Twin Cabinet Sink. Designed for straight-line dishwashing. One-piece, acid-resisting porcelain-enameled steel top; rinse spray. Add Youngstown Disposer-banish garbage!


New Youngstown Kitchens Electric Sink with JET-TOWER Dishwasher. In just $93 / 4$ minutes (average water pressure), 64 booster-heated jets wash and doublerinse every part of every dish. For full labor saving, add Youngstown Kitchens Food Waste Disposer (extra).


Youngstown Kitchens $\mathbf{4 8}^{\prime \prime}$ Deluxe Twin Cabinet Sink has two bowls, one laundry-deep. Sliding drainboard covers either bowl Note rinse spray, sliding shelf and soap rack on door. If you build or buy, insist on a Youngstown Kitchen. You'll save!

## It's A Family Gift You Never Could Give Before!

It's true! This Christmas, for the first time, you can give her a real, yearround holiday from kitchen drudgery!
There's more sentiment in these gifts that say, "I love you"-and save time and work every day to prove it. Now you can completely modernize the only major household task she still does the old-fashioned, "by-hand" way.

Give her this greatest helper she ever had. She'll still be thanking you a dozen Christmases from now!

Yes, every day for many years to come, she'll be glad you gave her automatic dishwashing the Youngstown way.
See the features that make the JetTower Dishwasher a year-round Christmas holiday; see how easy it is to finance! For exciting kitchen-planning ideas, write today.
(Illustrated: Modern Youngstown Kitchen, built of long-life steel, featuring Youngstown Kitchens Electric Sink.)
MULLINS MANUFACTURING CORPORATION WARREN, OHIO
World's Largest Makers of Steel Kitchens

Call Western Union, Operator 25, and without charge get the name of a nearby dealer.



Holiday Salad sparkling and easy witt sum-ripe Canned Fruit Cocktail from California
serve with Pitz Crackers $1 / 2$ cup whipping cream 1 tablespoon lemon juice 4 teaspoons sugar
1 teaspoon grated orange rind 4 finely cut marshmallows
1 No. $21 / 2$ can fruit cocktail Salad greens for garnish
Whip cream until stiff and fold in lemon juice, sugar, rind and marshmallows. Arrange well-drained chilled fruit cocktail in circle on each garnished salad plate. Place mound of dressing in center of fruit and surround it with a wreath of greens. Serves 6 .

Right from the can...fruit cocktail gives you five luscious fruits; famous California cling peaches, pears, pineapple, grapes and cherries. The brightest, tastiest fruits grown, full of delicious sunripened flavor, all perfectly blended, ready mixed for instant desserts, salads, meal starters. No canned fruit has more party appeal than fruit cocktail! Keep it handy for festive feasting; no work for you!


Cling Peach Advisory Board



So that panel will swing freely, bore $1 / 8-\mathrm{in}$. holes through side frame just below joint with cross-rail, $1 / 2 \mathrm{in}$. into upright. Insert $1 / 8-\mathrm{in}$. wire through holes and folded end of screen

Outside the window build sturdy balcony and a ladder to the ground. With casement window left open at night, cats Leo, age fifteen, and Tim, age eight, can come and go as
they please. And you can stay in bed


## Beaifidul moms

ARE YOURS WITH PITTSBURGH GLASS


BEAUTY AND BRIGHTNESS BOTH come to your house to stay if you make generous use of large wall mirrors of Pittsburgh Plate Glass．For such mirrors reflect light，color and movement， create an atmosphere of spaciousness，form a charming back－ ground for almost any furniture grouping．

Photographed at The Manor House，New York City
large，crystal－clear windows of Pittsburgh Plate Glass or Twindow（the window with built－in insulation）work two kinds of magic in your rooms．They lure the gaze outward，and thus help you to take advantage of outdoor beauty in decorating your home．And they lure the daylight inward ．．．banishing any chance of dull or cheerless rooms．This is a good thing to remember，whether you plan to buy，build，or remodel．


DON＇T FORGET THE BATHROOM when you＇re cheer－ ing up your home．Walls of colorful Carrara Glass，combined with Pittsburgh Mirrors，are a sovereign remedy for dark or listless bathrooms． Carrara is easy to clean，impervious to moisture， permanently beautiful．Ten exciting colors．

THIS LABEL identifies products made of genuine Pittsburgh Plate Glass．


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## Sett Tromer Suggestions for Chisitmas Time!

Place and Show


For that nice young couple . . . the Kenbury is exactly the right size for a large home, little apartment or cozy room. Selected mahogany case easy-to-read dial, electric or keywound Westminster Chime movement. Height, $8 \frac{1}{2}$ inches. Width, 151/4 inches. \$45.00. $\dagger$


4 For a friendly home . . . such a friendly Colonial clock, the Sharon. Mahogany or maple finish on sturdy birch. Strikes hours and half hours, electric or keywound. Height, 141/2 inches. Width $91 / 8$ inches. $\$ 42.50 . \dagger$

It's a Pippin! Give the gay new wall clock that's the apple of everyone's eye! Cheery red, green and yellow clocks have green leaves at top; ivory clock has ivory-colored leaves. Height, $81 / 2$ inches. Width, $71 / 4$ inches. $\$ 6.95 . \dagger$


For your fandsome man . . . a handsome electric clock, the Seth Thomas* Baxter. Brown mahogany or lively decorator colors, blond wood, red, or black. Height 4 $4 / 4$ inches. Width 81/2 inches. \$22.50.+ Seth Thomas Clocks, Thomaston, Conn. Division of General Time Corporation.

4 Give a distinguished elock, abeautiful 18th century reproduction. The Legacy has a cabinet of specially.selectedmahogany.WestminsterChimes, electric or keywound. Height, 141/2 inches. Width, $10 \%$ inches. $\$ 125.00 . \dagger$

*Reg. U.S. Pat. off.
For folder illustrating other Seth Thomas Clocks, write Dept. A-5
$\dagger$ Prices subject to change, tax extra.

Place three fat red candles at far side of wreath for buffet supper. For dinner, line up candles in center. By itself, wreath is handsome over mantel


## AMONG LIFE'S

 DELIGHTFUL EXPERIENCESA boy's first electric train is a glittering, never-to-be-forgotten joya proud but fleeting event.
Today, your Koylon Foam Mattress is another dream come true. Its rich luxury for deep, relaxing sleep can be re-enjoyed each and every night for years to come.

## Towi Toglon is made a Tew May!

New Koylon Foam now brings you the most superb accessory to healthful repose each night. For new Koylon is buoyantly air-filled, with a greater area of ventilation. It's fluffier and softer, to support you in weightless, dreamlike suspension from head to toes as "nerves" and tension seem to "float" away. Because new Koylon is tougher and stronger, you can enjoy its blessings through many long years to come.

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- Made in one complete piece-new Koylon has nothing to break apart or press into you.
- Double corings ventilate Koylon within and without-odorless, dustfree, sanitary.
- Exclusive damask cover is specially woven and treated so it won't shrink, creep or bunch. Stitched top and bottom, to hold true to mattress edges.
- Koylon foundation is reinforced hardwood with tempered steel springs, hand-tied 8 ways.



Pillows of new super-whipped Koylon are the plumpest, fluffiest possible, Self-airing, cool, dustfree, completely washable.
 tastes better, saves soap and speeds dishwashing.

The Spring-Flo Aerator gives you oxygen-enriched, bettertasting water. As the bubbles disappear, they largely remove foreign tastes and odors - make cloudy water crystal-clear. Just try it on your favorite soap powder or flakes and, presto! more suds than ever before. The Spring-Flo is available with the lavatory and sink faucets of all leading faucet manufacturers. Order from your plumber.

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Millions of bubbles swell the stream -- increase its velocity - give you oodles of suds from less soap, save you money, too.

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 No more unwanted "shower baths." Bubbles cushion the stream impact, make it cling to a surface instead of splashing.

SPRING-FLO AERATOR


The greatest thing in faucets

## Iloilisy

 SculllebuttELEANOR LEE JONES
Photographs by F. M. Demarest


For long-burning candles, use quart, pint, or half-pint waxed cardboard milk cartons. Any salad mold or ash tray can be used for making floating candles

Melt 1 cup paraffin (household wax) over low heat. Turn off heat, add 1 isp. jade-green or scarlet allpurpose dye. Stir well. Note: for clear, bright colors, do not cook wax after adding dye

Since dye will not dissolve completely in the wax, place double thickness cheesecloth over tea-strainer and strain melted wax into container. Frozen orange juice cans make good, stubby candles

When making "quart" candles, set mold in deep vessel packed with ice. This chills melted wax quickly, keeps cardboard container in shape. Notice wick knotted around pencil. Pencil laid across top holds wick taut

To simplify job of cleaning pan used for melting wax, pre-treat pan with plastic coating material. Follow directions on label. When changing colors, wipe plasticcoated pan with dry eloth


# NOT 1, NOT 2-BUT 6 <br> <br> bathroom bonuses when you <br> <br> bathroom bonuses when you bry Brigge Beautyware! 

 bry Brigge Beautyware!}


More room for toiletries thanks to the wonderful wide ledge around Briggs new vitreous china lavatories. Bowl is bigger -rimisactuallyanti-splash!


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Roasts superbly. No basting, no watching, no worry.


Bakes anything to perfection, thanks to accurate heat control. Always same results.


Convenient Cabinet and Timer, also Broiler-Grid, are optional accessories.

## You can be Sestinghouse



Scultlebhitt<br>(Begins on page 72)

IIeck the halls with wreaths of holly" and the mantel with bright, flaming candles to create a real Christmas atmosphere.
The good news is that you can become your own candlemaker just by using materials around the house. Tall tapers burned halfway are seldom usable, and along with other tag-ends lend themselves to re-molding. And here's an excellent use for paraffin removed from jellies, which is not safe for re-use with food.

All-purpose dye can be used for coloring white melted candle ends. For Christmas green, use $1 / 2$ tsp. jadegreen to I cup melted wax; for deep red, use I tsp. scarlet. The proportion if you are using paraffin (household wax) is the same for the scarlet. but the green should be increased to I tsp. per cup of paraffin. The effect created in coloring paraffin is mottled rather than the solid color the melted candle ends assume. If you wish to try colored wax crayon, use one crayon per cup of either kind of wax.

For easy unmolding, use any container smooth at the top-salad and pudding molds, ash trays, nut dishes offer variety in shape. Waxed cardboard milk cartons make tall, streamlined candles, and round ice cream containers are perfect for fat ones. When the candle has molded, tear waxed cardboard from around it.
Wicks saved from partially-burned candles are more satisfactory than waxed twine. For placing wicks in tall cardboard cartons, thread a darning needle and draw the wick through the bottom, and knot. Place a pencil across top of the candle mold and tie wicking on firmly. An easy way to add wicking to these tall candles is to use a taper burned to the height of the mold. After melted wax has set on bottom and top of mold, insert whole, same-colored taper in center.
In making shallow, floating candles, wick may be inserted with a toothpick after wax has barely set on top. If mold is prettier inverted, allow candle to set several hours, invert, and make a hole for insertion of wick by heating pin (held with pliers over heat). Insert wick immediately. We suggest pouring melted wax for floating candles $1 / 2$-inch deep in mold.
Candles may be etched in their same color or contrasting shades. Remove candle from mold, melt decorating wax, pour it into small-nosed pitcher, let it cool slightly. Hold a piece of cardboard at a slant on top of the candle, let the wax dribble down it. It will form drops as it runs down the sides. To give an artistic touch, brush edges of the drippings with gold or silver paint. A wonderful gift idea is a quart-sized candle placed on a ten-cent store metal tray and surrounded with greenery and shiny colored balls.

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A complete, portable outfit for perfect spray work on autos, furniture, screens, radiators, woodwork, signs, trellises. Easy to use-even beginners get professional results! Handy for garden spraying of insecticides; for mothproofing closets, etc.

Twin-cylinder compressor; pressure storage tank holds spray pressure at 25 pounds for fast, even work. 10 -foot rubber hose. Container holds 1 quart; cover fits Mason jar; makes solution changes easy! See your dealer or-
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Little frozen-juice or baby-food cans make useful molds for individual or enough-for-two puddings. Wrap them in gay paper, tie with bright bows-your small-gift problem is solved! An extra-fine topping for a Christmas stocking, your personal touch will go far toward making Santa happy

Cover tops with waxed paper or aluminum foil, tie securely, and steam in your pressure cooker according to directions, or use cooking method you prefer. A happy answer to your long Christmas list


## Chicken Feeder Garden



A new use-try it:

Grow herbs in long chicken feeder! Paint outside. Remove sliding top, put layer of pebbles on bottom, prepared soil over this. Replace cover. Plant seeds of Oregano, French Thyme, Bush Basil and Rosemary. Place in a sunny window and watch them grow. Enjoy pungent fragrance. Use to garnish, and for extra-special flavoring


Round feeder makes rustic flower holder. Remove top, place wad of chicken wire in bottom. Replace top and arrange tiny blooms just as your artistic heart desires

'Your floors are a sight, Jane!" Aunt Sally scolded. "Shabby spots are warning signs of real wear. Your floors will be ruined if you don't do something!"

"But what can I do?" Jane cried. "Look how the kids scuff them up; they take more punishment than anything else. No wonder they're getting worn!"

"Now don't fret, Jane," Aunt Sally soothed. "It's not too latejust use real wax. There's nothing like it to protect floors, because the wax takes the wear."


Jane's proud of her floorsnow, gleaming with genuine Johnson's Wax. And with Johnson's Wax care, her floors will stay lovely, never need costly refinishing!

# Jane heeded the warning signs just in time to save her floors! 



Floors keep a like-new look with a gleaming coat of genuine wax!

If you want your floors to stay lovely throughout the years, use genuine Johnson's Wax!

Nothing protects and beautifies floors like a genuine Johnson's Wax finish. The daily punishment of scuffing feet won't mar it. Dirt and water don't penetrate to discolor the floor underneath. Thanks to the hard, protective wax film, wood floors never need costly refinishing . . . linoleum lasts 6 to 10 times longer!

Genuine wax takes a little more time to use than self polishing waxes, but you need apply it far less often, because the gleaming finish lasts and lasts.

Genuine Johnson's Wax comes in two formsPaste and Liquid. Paste is more economical, because highly concentrated. Liquid is easier to use, and contains an efficient cleaning ingredient. Both are the real thing-genuine wax. See what Johnson's Wax can do for your floors!

For lasting beauty and protection insist on genuine
Johnson's WAX
(Paste or Liquid)


For advice on any floor care problem, write to Consumer Service Dept., S. C. Johnson \& Son, Inc., Racine, Wis.
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## The LONDONDERRY Dining Group in



Over the snows, from Londonderry, N. H., came the first settlers to Cherry Valley; with them their household goods, including the New England corner cupboard. In Cherry Valley, it fell under the influence of Dutch cabinet-makers from the Hudson River settlements.

Here, you see how it has evolved through the years into a piece beloved by all who have an awkward corner to decorate, or a set of fine china to display.

The ladder-back, rush-bottomed chairs, the drop-leaf extension table, are in close relationship of spirit . . . blended into a living American style by the artist-craftsmen of Stickley's Cherry Valley workshops. Exquisitely beautiful wild cherry fruitwood, patient, custom-like workmanship, the rugged structure of early pieces, all are here, modified only slightly by the evolving tastes of a living age.


> See Stickley's Londonderry Group at leading stores in principal cities; name of nearest dealer furnished on request.
> Corner Cupboard- $7614^{\prime \prime}$ high; $36^{\prime \prime}$ wide
> Drop Leaf Table, closed- $44^{\prime \prime}$ wide $x 27^{\prime \prime}$ long $\times 30^{\prime \prime}$ high
> Open, hvo leaves inserted, side leaves dropped $-44^{\prime \prime} \times 511^{\prime \prime}$ Open, two leaves inserted, side leaves raised $-44^{\prime \prime} \times 95^{\prime \prime}$ Both side leaves raised, no leaves inserted- $44^{\prime \prime} \times 704^{\prime \prime}$
"A Developing Furniture Style" The romance of Cherry Valley and the fascinating story of the development of a native American furniture art from the pilgrim century to today. 52 pages, 49 illustrations, by postpaid mail for only.. $\$ 1$.
L. \& J. G. Stickley, Inc.

Fayetteville, N. Y.

Photographs by F. M. Demarest

Two versions of the formal bow-wreath type or flat tailored type-are started in the same way: Hold ribbon flat between fingers and thumb with index finger on top. Make 2 loops in shape of figure 8

Repeat, shortening each loop. Number of loops depends on size of package, though to be really effective, bow should have at least 5 or 6 graduated loops on each side


## Can You

FORMAL BOW


Hold loops securely at center, keeping ribbon flat, and tie, using narrow ribbon or narrow strip of wide piece. In wreathtype bow shown, keep knot at side of bow. After box is wrapped neatly, tie with ribbon, placing knot on top. Attach wreath bow to package using 2 loose narrow ends. Knot must be on side of bow touching box

For flat bow, follow steps \# 1 and 2 . Fold bow lengthwise at center and tie securely, placing knot underneath. To straighten bow, flatten each loop with two fingers. Using the 2 narrow ends, attach flat bow to package with knot on underside



Data from Chicago Printed String Co.
The wheel bow and its variations are started in same way. Holding ribbon vertically by edges between thumb and first finger, make 7 straight loops back and forth, each loop about 6 inches long

To tie, hold securely at center with 2 paper clips thus releasing hands. Use narrowwidth strip. Keep ribbon straight and tie knot on edge, leaving loose ends for attaching to box


For variation of the basic wheel bow use a $11 / 2$ turn. Place middle finger up through loop from underside, turning finger toward you, at the same time catching edge of ribbon. Then, with help of thumb and index finger give ribbon a complete turn up and over toward center and, with downward motion, complete the turn


Merry Christmas, my dear," said St. Nick, bouncing in after rewarding his reindeer with an extra forkful of hay for their night's work. "I couldn't think of a thing to bring you except this. It must be good, because I saw it in ever so many homes."
"Thank you, Nick," laughed his wife, "but if that isn't just like a man! You're so busy toymaking that you've never noticed I've used Fels-Naptha for years and years and YEARS."

"Oops, sorry-but this is the day of the week I put Drāno in the drains!"

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## 1 Little Beauty

(Begins on page 42)
room lavatory with drawer and cupboard space below, a man-sized, tilelined shower with adjustable shower head and glass door, an electric bath wall heater, excellent plumbing fixtures, well-designed chrome hardware. Also a bay window fitted with a seat and with view into garden to enlarge one bedroom, deep linen storage and a coat closet off the bedroom hall, door between bedroom hall and living room for privacy and to shut off noise from the rest of the house, an excellent water heater (Mission-30 gallon), generous kitchen cupboard and drawer space, garbage disposer, corner kitchen windows in space reserved for breakfast table, an abundance of strategically placed electric outlets in every room, an outdoor living room with fireplace that is built at the rear of the house into the U that is formed by the jutting bedroom and service wings. This room has been designed and built with such proper beam strength and roof pitch that at some future time the room may be extended six to eight feet and enclosed.
All of these particular features are the result of pre-planning but, too, the house has been given a booster shot of cost-free know-how. High bedroom windows are placed on the side next to neighbors, wall space was planned to accommodate specific furniture, kitchen cupboard shelves were built at the correct height for storing glasses, stacked plates, or lower dishes without reckless loss of space between shelves. Drawers are partitioned for silverware and kitchen tools, and a built-in counter for receiving food from the refrigerator is located on the side of the refrigerator next to the door handle. Conveniently locating a built-in counter at the right side of the refrigerator, planning wall space to fit furniture has nothing to do with the cost of a house, but they are features worth their weight in gold. Good taste also costs nothing. A woodpaneled fireplace wall can have a mellow driftwood stain and soft wax finish at no greater expense than if it had been finished on the orangered side with a high gloss.
It now has only two bedrooms, but when the outdoor living room is enclosed, the picture will change. The new room can become a sittingdining room, in which case the present dining room will be turned into


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1 Little Beauty
(Begins on page 42)
either a bedroom or into a den with a couch doubling as the proverbial emergency guest bed. If not that, the new room will be used as a den-sitting room with two built-in couches that will offer even more comfortable sleeping accommodations.

When we study a little house such as this that has many of the interesting features of a larger house, but is half the work, we commence to wonder, why all the fuss and fume about small houses! Perhaps the small house necessity marks a neon-letter day in our lives. If so, then, one good house deserves another!

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Blueprint House No. 1 Basementless, one-story ranch house with 3 bedrooms, $11 / 2$ bathrooms, 29 -foot-long living-dining room, garage and tool shed


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One-story ranch-type house, no atric or basement. Two bedrooms, two baths, utility room, study, with sloped-ceiling living room


Blueprint House No. 4
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- And to all your family's old favorite recipes, add the tempting new dishes you'll find in The American Home's special selection of . . 1,480 RECIPES
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## Chalk il Lp!

This family message center was made by changing the wall around the phone into a writing surface. Green blackboard paint did the job. Paint will work on any smooth, hard surface. Brush on with care. Let each coat dry thoroughly before adding another. Three coats are better than two. Intercom phone completes message center Photograph by Morley Baer

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## Tidy Towel Dryer



Iclammy towels. Here is a relief scheme made from a window frame. It is set in the wall of a house heated by warm-air panels in the floor. The warm air spills up through the wall into the frame by way of a grille in the bottom and then over the towels and into the room. The towels hang on simple, attractive wood grid. Variations of the idea are easy to devise to fit houses with other heating systems. For instance, a similar rack could be placed above a recessed steam or hot-water radiator. Heat could also come from a bank of electric bulbs in a vented box beneath the frame. Or an infra-red lamp recessed in the ceiling and focused on the rack would do the job. The electric type of heat supply could be fitted with a switch set to turn off after a time sufficient for drying towels.

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## $=$ nell socieils securitily haw?"


${ }^{66} \mathrm{~J}_{\mathrm{im}}$, stop tearing up the house! What's the matter?"
"I can't find this month's American Home! It's got a Mutual Life ad on Social Security.
"But you've been paying for Social Security for years and you were never excited about it before."
"This is something new. The Government has changed the Social Security law and I want to know how it affects me. Besides, the ad said something about The Mutual Life's Insured Income-a method they have of combining Social Security benefits and other assets with life insurance. Where is that ad?"
'Please relax, darling. You've got the magazine in your hand.'

Yes, this advertisement you are now holding in your hand can help you find out how much moncy your Social Security is worth under the new law.
These new and bigger benefits give you a better-than-ever start toward a comfortable retirement at 65 -or protection for your family if you're not around. Sce your Mutual Life Field Underwriter, an expert in teaming up Social Security and such other assets as savings with life insurance for family security.
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Little Lulu says: during colos, give your nose a holiday With comforting klenex tissues. you'll agree
no other tissue can ease raw beezers - stifle sneezes just like soothing, sturoy kleenex. serves one at a time!
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*t.u. nec.u.s.mat.ort.

## How to Make Floral Nut－Cups

$\sqrt{1}$hese gay flower cups fashioned by Mrs．Nora Allen of Chicago from crepe paper pasted on plain cups are really＂the nuts．＂Buy green crepe paper for leaves，and colored paper to match flower colors you want to copy．Draw，then cut cardboard patterns in the shape of petals and leaves．Fringe，flute，or curl petals，then paste each petal around base of nut cup；paste leaves around base of petals．


OPS FOGGY WINDSHIIIIIS －Naw Chemical Witt

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n 233 ）of The，
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## I Ilappy Cllristulas to All

(Begins on page 23)


Mrs. Robert Brewer of Dallas made this cedar wreath, sprayed it with white paint, added a big red bow and an amusing snowman cut from plastic foam, available at most florists

Looks good! Mantel decoration in home of Dr. and Mrs. Ward Rolland. Evergreen branches, lots of peppermint sticks, and big round popcorn balls. Tastes good, too!


Weatherproof door decoration. Mrs. Edward W yatt, Jr. makes a building-wire stocking. Cut oblong, turn back edges to form shape. Green balls inside, pine cones wired inside and out. Waterproof ribbon, toes, heel, top

Snowman guards home of Russell Ireland. Made of chicken wire covered with burlap that has been saturated with cement, painted white. Nose is red light bulb. Hat made of inverted wastebasket with cardboard brim. Lamp post wound with red ribbon

Photographs: F. M. Demarest




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## 

 and very sharp, spruces in general and the Norway Spruce in particular are, in many places, the most widely used trees. Hemlocks, too, are liked by many, largely because their needles are soft, blunt, and so arranged as to produce a flat branch effect; and because of their slender graceful form.The pines, whose longer, sharp needles are borne in "bundles" of from two to five, are liked in some places, notably New Jersey. If pruned to shapeliness while growing, they make satisfactory trees on which the needles last well. Both Red and Scotch Pines (two much-used sorts) have two needles to a cluster. Those of the latter are shorter, stiffer and more bristly; those of the Red Pine are longer, thickly grouped, and curved so that a branch forms a sort of thick tassel or plume.

In seeking a tree, therefore, study size, shape, and uniformity. Examine a single needle; if short, blunt, and flattened (so you cannot roll it between your fingers) the tree is a Fir or a Douglas-fir-and a good buy. If a short, flat needle has two white lines along the under side, it is a Hemlock. If the needles are long, sharp, and in pairs, they are from a Pine; if short, sharp, and square in cross section, they are from a Spruce.
Whatever you get, it has probably been cut for some weeks and shipped many miles, so it may soon start shedding its needles if not properly handled. When you get it home, cut an inch or so off the butt and stand the tree in a pail or pan of water. Keep it outdoors, in a shady spot protected from the wind until trimming time; rain or snow will do it good.

Indoors, keep it in water. At Cornell, a tree so handled held its needles in a warm room two to three weeks longer than one allowed to dry out. Recently perfected liquid waxes and other materials obtainable at florist and hardware stores, when sprayed on evergreen foliage retard evaporation and help keep it green and freshand thereby lessen the fire hazard. For while no wholly satisfactory method of fireproofing Christmas trees has been perfected, they are much less inflammable when green and full of sap than when allowed to dry out. Of course it helps to keep all kinds of fire well away from the tree, and to make sure that wires and connections for strings of electric lights are sound and in good condition.

 R.H.SHUMWAY Seedsman, Dept. 312, Rockford, IIII


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A little on the bare side, wouldn't you say? Sore-thumb radiator doesn't help that nice, stark, bowling-alley look

# How Small Can a Kitchen Be? 

HANE MeNAMARA

IIere's a real poser, but Gertrude Brassard has the answer down pat. Her small kitchen makes use of every square inch of space, provides comfort for the cook, produces meals of culinary superiority. Many of her working tools are hung on the wall, which makes for more room in her well-organized cabinets and closets. All the trimmings and accessories are bright and cheerful, but there's nothing around which isn't useful. Total cost of all the accessories and equipment, not including major appliances and gifts, was $\$ 43.35$ ! How's that for economy?



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*Circular mirror within the above illustration is Nurre Model 1211, with hand-engraved tulip decoration, $30^{\prime \prime} \times 30^{\prime \prime}$. Large mirror illustrated is Nurre Model 1142, 34" $\times 26^{\prime \prime}$-a Venecian type with overlaid corner ornaments, ideal for console or landscape use.
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A neat idea for a family conclave from the home of Austin Farnsworth in Los Angeles, California. Line up your loved ones-in frames, that is. Bedroom is good spot for family gallery. Regardless of size, photographs are framed alike

## Let the Family Hang Together

Decorator George Hall put these pictures of the Ernest J. Lewis family, also of Los Angeles, in black frames with a gold liner, grouped them in master bedroom. These heritage photographs add a rich, personal touch to any room. Mrs. Lewis mounted current pictures on top of storage cupboards, covered them with panels of glass



Discriminating hostesses hail this versatile Krome-Kraft Lazy Susan, with clear crystal or colored glass set in protective chrome holders
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with a contrasting colored string for lifting the spring, makes a grand clip board to hold bills, shopping lists, and notes. Screw one to the kitchen wall. Another by the door can hold notes for the milkman or newspaper boy. Of course, the bait-hook and eatch should be removed from the trap

ski wax, a candle, or paraffin wax on your snow shovel (either wood or metal) to keep the snow from sticking to it and making the snowclearing job harder than it should be. Wax applied this way to sled runners is good when the snow is wet and slows down the sled
 a lighter is quite a trick without a funnel. But a wood match or a toothpick held across the bottle opening as at $A$ will guide the liquid directly into the target without spilling and wasting the fluid when you start pouring

The Christmas Iil a aways renember


CChrismas has always been a happy time for me.
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I came home late Christmas eve from shopping. The house was dark and quiet. I snapped on the light. There-fitting into the room as if it had been built for it-was a new Hammond Organ!

I approached it slowly, ran my fingers over the keys. Suddenly I found myself playing. And even my unpracticed fingers couldn't spoil the beauty of this music. All the voices of an orchestra were mine to command!
It was an amateur's performance, but it was the most beautiful music that I had ever created.
I must have played for at least an hour. Then I heard a familiar chuckle and I looked around. There were the plotters-my husband and Janey.
"Merry Christmas, Mother!" they chorused. "Are we ever proud of you!" Janey laughed.
"You've been wanting to play music like that long enough," John smiled at me. "How about teaching me to play the Hammond Organ, too?"

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## HOW TO GET A CONCRETE HOUSE ... and what will it cost?

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## L00K... it's new!

Practically every family we know of has a home handyman somewhere in the house. Here's a set of six ideas for his Christmas gift which will lighten his labor, save his strength, lengthen his temper, and shorten his working hours. It's the least we can do to show him we're grateful for all the odd jobs he does-which jobs, incidentally, we couldn't and wouldn't do!
stik-e-ruler adhesive tape measure will stick on the shop wall or bench for quick, handy measuring. It's always there, can't get lost. Also convenient on a fishing-tackle box for checking fish sizes, or on sewing machine tables for quick measuring. $59 \dot{d}$ for one roll of five 12-inch lengths. Stik-E-Ruler, Watkins Glen, N.Y.
flashlight screw driver makes it easy to tighten screws in dark corners. Three sizes for both Phillips and regular slotted screws, $\$ \mathrm{I} .80$ each. Vaco Products Co., 317 E. Ontario St., Chicago II, III. Hobsy hovse set of 28 tools for home maintenance and hobby work, to delight any handyman. Price $\$ 59.00$. In one convenient wood box, it is one of several new kits made by Stanley Tools, New Britain, Conn. roozzos attachment fits on any electric mixer and does sanding and buffing. Price $\$ 3.00$. Towle Manufacturing Co., Walnut Creek, Calif. home shop drim kit in one compact, easy-to-store, portable unit includes a powerful $1 / 4$-inch drill, 3 bits, disc attachment, lamb's-wool buffer, a sanding disc, and 3 -inch grinding wheel. Price $\$ 23$-45. Skilsaw, Inc., 5033 Elston Avenue, Chicago 30, IIl.
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## Ten minutes ago this basement was a playroom

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Armstrong's Asphalt Tile goes right down over the concrete basement floor without any special preparation. Its tough composition provides a durable floor that will keep its beauty in spite of hard knocks. Spilled foods and beverages can be wiped up without leaving a trace. Even cigarette burns are easily removed. Occasional washing and waxing is all the care this floor requires.

The design possibilities of Armstrong's Asphalt Tile are almost unlimited, because it goes down tile by tile. Your Armstrong flooring merchant will gladly show you the variety of colors and help you plan a distinctive design. He can also prove its low cost with an estimate for your own floor.

daytime, this basement is a carefree playroom for the children. They can play right on the floor of Armstrong's Asphalt Tile because it's so easy to keep clean. When the toys are put away at night, it's an inviting place for adult parties. Then, the floor adds its beauty to the room's colorful decorative scheme. Floor plan and list of furnishings for this basement, free on request.

## ARMSTIRONG'S ASPHAET TITHE The low-cost floon (A) with the hixury look

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