





G-E Automatic Coffee Maker. Makes 2 to 9 cups perfectly. No watching! No timing! Select strength . . . light signals you when

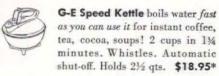


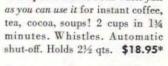
ready, coffee stays hot. \$29.95*

G-E All-Purpose Mixer . . . Offers high-price features at low cost. Use on stand or as portable. 12 speeds. Hang on wall to store. Has 3-qt. Pyrex bowl. \$29.95*



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G-E Automatic Toaster has the most dependable toasting mechanism ever developed. Extra-high toast lift; 6-position control. Snap-out crumb tray. \$19.95*

G-E Automatic Grill and Waffle Baker...It grills sandwiches and fries bacon and eggs. Just flip reversible grids and it turns out perfect waffles. \$22.95*

ET'S FACE IT. When it comes to Christmas presents, per-fumes and negligees—thank goodness—are here to stay. Of course women love "frilly" gifts! But just you find us a girl who wouldn't be delighted to receive any of the handsome and practical gifts shown right here on this page! Why not browse around your local G-E dealer's? General Electric Company, Small Appliance Division, Bridgeport 2, Connecticut.

* Manufacturer's recommended retail or Fair Trade price.





Kitchen life can be quieter without spoiling the youngsters' fun. A ceiling of Armstrong Cushiontone absorbs the sound of gun battles, shrill laughter, and slamming doors before it becomes racket. You'll like Cushiontone's good looks, too. Its Full Random styling adds new beauty to any room in the house.



Fixes cracked ceilings. Cushiontone covers old plaster ceilings with a modern material that never cracks or peels. Its smooth white surface is washable and can be easily repainted.

Quiet kitchen clatter for about \$25

Attractive new ceiling tile muffles noises of appliances and kitchen activity. You can install it yourself. A free booklet tells how.



There's no bothersome racket to spoil this friendly get-together. Disturbing kitchen noises are pleasantly subdued by the modern ceiling of Armstrong Cushiontone. Restful quiet is an inexpensive luxury you'll appreciate. With Cushiontone, you can quiet a ten by twelve room for as little as \$25.



Cushiontone is easy to install by stapling, nailing, or cementing. A new tongue-and-groove joint helps level each tile and hides staples or nails. Whether you do the job yourself or want professional help, see your local Building Products Dealer for helpful advice and all materials.





Free booklet, "How to Make Things Quieter at Your House," write to Armstrong Cork Company, 5512 Clark St., Lancaster, Penna.



including Cushiontone® and Temlok® Tile

.. to quiet and beautify your home



"Here, Joe ... clean all the mirrors with Windex Spray."

Everybody knows Windex Spray is the "fun" way to do a big job. Swish—spray it on. Whish —wipe it off! Your mirrors, windows—any glass surface sparkles. And Windex Spray finishes the job—it leaves no waxy, dust-collecting film no streaks!



Best yet, Windex Spray is so thrifty—the 6-oz. size costs so little, the big 20-oz. refill gives you even more for your money. See for yourself—at any grocery, drug or hardware store, here or in Canada.

So quick, easy, thrifty, it outsells all other glass cleaners combined!

PRODUCTS OF THE DRACKETT COMPANY, CINCINNATI, OHIO



"Who forgot to put Drano in all the drains while I was on vacation?"

Better 'fess up — the evidence is plain as the flood in your sink. Drano's churning, boiling action will dissolve the muck in minutes—but why wait 'til *after* the mess? Make one day a week Drano Day—in *every* drain.

Remember, Drano's the surest way to wipe out dangerous sewer germs, too. All for about a penny a drain!

Won't harm septic tanks-makes 'em work even better. Get Drano now at grocery, drug and hardware stores, here and in Canada.



There's nothing like Drano . . . to keep drains free-running and sanitary.



The editors of the American Home welcome you into their own homes this Christmas. They open their doors to share with you their bavorite Holiday ideas

PLEASE TURN PAGE TO SEE WHAT'S IN THE BULGING CHRISTMAS PACK

THE AMERICAN HOME, December, 1955. Vol LV, No. 1. Published monthly by The American Home Magazine Corporation, 300 Park Ave., New York 22, N. Y. W. H. Eaton, Chairman of the Board-Treasurer; Jean Austin, President-Secretary; Warren C. Agry, Herman Bartel, Theodore F. Gloisten, Marion M. Mayer, Arthur Sherrill, Foster Willett, Vice-Presidents. Executive, Editorial and Advertising headquarters, 300 Park Ave., New York 22. Subscription Department, American Home Building, Forest Hills, New York 22. Subscription Department, American Home Magazine Corporation. All rights reserved. Title registered in U. S. Patent Office. Subscription price in United States, Canada, and Pan American countries 33.00 a year; 2 years, \$5.00; 3 years, \$6.00. All other countries, add \$1.00 per year for extra postage. Entered as second-class matter December 31, 1935, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of Congress. March 3, 1879. POSTMASTER: Send notices by Form 3579 to American Home Bidg., Forest Hills 75, New York.



THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1955



GOING TO JERUSALEM New, nonsectarian Bible game, endorsed by church leaders. Players become familiar with well-known Scriptural verses as they "travel" through the Holy Land with the Twelve Apostles. Equipment includes an attractive edition of the Four Gospels of the New Testament. For family play and church classes. \$4



MONOPOLY Parker Brothers' trade-mark name for its real estate trading game. The world's most fascinating game is the perfect family gift. Players of all ages love the excitement of buying, selling, and mortgaging proper-ties! "Richest" player wins. \$3, \$4, \$10



STEPS TO TOYLAND New! This delightful game is designed to entertain very little children. As the young players move up the steps, they are rewarded with favorite playthings. Packed in a sturdy and handsome box. \$2

BANTU New! This fascinating game is played without dice, spinners, or cards. \$2 CLUE This challenging "whodunit" game appeals to everyone who loves a mystery. \$3

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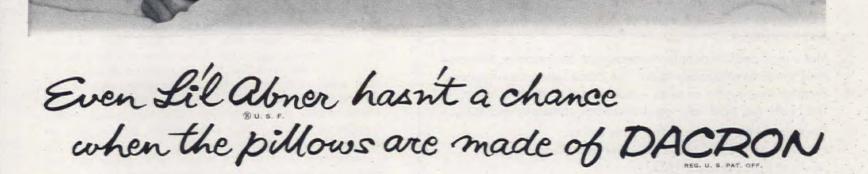
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ROBERT W. HOUSEMAN



What chance have the Sunday funnies? Dad (and even this little early bird) has drifted off ... on cloud-soft pillows of "Dacron"^{*}.

You'll marvel at the way pillows and comforters filled with Du Pont "Dacron" polyester fiberfill ease you into restful slumber...and the way they keep their fluffy, inviting softness through years of use. Best of all, "Dacron" is non-allergenic, resists matting and lumping.

See these luxurious pillows and comforters at your favorite store...many are hand-washable. When you shop, look for this important label, too. It means your sleep products are filled only with 100% "Dacron" polyester fiberfill.

""Dacron" is Du Pont's registered trademark for its polyester fiber



Better Things for Better Living . . . through Chemistry

This tag furnished by E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. (Inc.), for use on products filled only with 100% "Dacron" polyester fiberfill.

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ANN WILSON HALL

If you belong to a group that needs a lot of money for a worthwhile cause, you can profit by looking at the phenomenal success of a group of gals from Missouri. Christmas no longer means a social whirl

for members of Delta Gamma Sorority Alumnae in St. Louis their pre-holiday season means days of hard work, often in the vilest weather, staffing a Christmas tree lot. All this, of course, is in addition to the countless chores everyone has to do during those three busy weeks before Christmas.

Last year, the net profit from the "Shop at One Stop Christmas Convenience" was \$14,707. The lot sold 6,500 trees; two miles of pine, balsam, and laurel rope; and close to 2.000 pounds of holly. Sales of thousands of wreaths, door pieces, light strands, bulbs, safety fuses, handmade candles, and elaborate ornaments helped swell the till. And customers certainly get their money's worth.

Record keeper of the hundred and one details involved in this mushrooming project, and its first general manager, is Elizabeth Kohl (shown, above left, with her Sales Chairman Pat Gilbert). Her husband, Bill, dreamed up the appealing idea of "The Shining Light Christmas Tree" back in 1951, when the Delta Gammas needed to raise a great deal of money in a hurry for the newly-established Pre-School Visually Handicapped Foundation in St. Louis which provides guidance for parents of blind children under the age of six. As a result of these successful Christmas sales, the Foundation is able to send trained workers into homes to help parents adjust to the terrible shock of realizing that their children cannot see.

Businessman Kohl not only decided on a feasible plan, but drew up an imaginary operating statement based on the sale of 1,000 trees, and thought up the slogan: "Buy a 'Shining Light Tree' to Make Your Christmas Brighter and Help Us to Help Blind Children."

Although experienced nurserymen warned the enthusiastic planning committee that, because of unpredictable weather, a Christmas tree lot is a risky business, they voted to take a chance for sweet charity. When one wary nurseryman, A. A. Gunther, donated a large lot, his two Delta Gamma daughters were pleased as punch!

Everyone joined in. Husbands, Mothers, Dads, boy friends, and local firms with the most far-fetched connections imaginable contributed everything from pot-bellied stoves to insurance and of course, back-breaking labor.

Then Old Man Winter presented the gals with the worst December weather in 20 years. Freezing rain, sleet, hail, with temperatures down to zero, meant that the 3,400 perishable trees had to be covered and kept free of ice every night, and uncovered in the morning. Two hundred and twenty women, who a season before had only known the tree-trimming arts, became roustabouts, CONTINUED ON PAGE 89



Look in, and dream a little ...

Dream you are sitting at this Hammond Organ, some lonely evening, some tense and wasted day. And suddenly, its music does a magic thing ...

It lifts you when you're sad, it rests you when you're tired. It plays even your simplest tune with such power and joy, you feel like singing with it.

For the Hammond Organ has thousands of orchestral tones and tone combinations you can conjure with . . . far more than any organ that even remotely compares with it.

Now, too, you can add beautiful orchestral percussions like harp, chimes, guitar, and xylophone by means of Hammond's new "Touch-Response Percussion Controls."* This is an exclusive feature found in no other organ.

You're afraid you can't play it? Actually, a Hammond is the easiest of all keyboard instruments. The tones are rich and sustained, so that even a beginner's fingers can manage them smoothly. Even if you've never played before, you can create music you enjoy, in a month. Thousands have.

Why just dream? Step inside the door, and try the Hammond Organ. It doesn't cost much to *have* a Hammond this Christmas. Only \$135 down for the Spinet Model, with often three years to pay. Your Hammond dealer can tell you more about it. Or mail the coupon below.

Low as \$135 down for the Spinet at most dealers. Often 3 years to pay.





Only a Hammond gives you all this:

"Touch-Response Percussion Controls."*

Harmonic Drawbars for blending thousands of tone colors. Separate Vibrato Controls for lower and upper manuals.

Reverberation Control in the Console Models adapts cathedral-like tones to the smallest room.

No Tuning Expense. The only organ that's never out of tune.

*The percussion tones are produced at the option of the player by playing any selected single note or full chord, in a detached manner, with a fingering pause of as little as 1/20th of a second.

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These light-reflective lawn decorations pick up headlight beams and radiate season's greetings through the night





Christmos

ROBERT W. HOUSEMAN

Placed where they catch the beam of your guests' headlights or those of passing motorists, these sparkling Christmas motifs and greetings set the holiday mood at your house. You can make them from luminous tape and letters, use luminous-type paints that glow in the dark, or devise a happy combination of both kinds of materials to flash out your personal Merry Christmas greetings to visitors.

See "Where Credit Is Due," page 90

Here's a way to save on the electric bill and still spread Christmas cheer from your house: use outdoor decorations that glow in the night when caught in the beam of car headlights.

Toy soldier in the top picture stands guard in the dark until a car approaches, and then he reflects his welcome and directs guests to the chubby, beaming snowman beyond. Not difficult to make in time for Christmas, the figures are cut from plywood. Paint with luminous paint or decorate with light-reflective safety tape. Stars are held with fine wires from trees or shrubs, or fastened to stakes in the ground.

The "Merry Christmas" greeting (left), made from strips of reflective tape, springs out of the

dark in a holiday message for all who come to your house. A convenient fence or wall could serve as the background for your personal welcome note. Or attach the letters to small stakes in the ground. The sleepy man-in-the-moon rising over a chimney (at the right) is surrounded with Christmas symbols—candy canes, stars, and garlands. The decorations here were found at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bert S. Cross. They are an inspiration, we think, for your own lawns and driveways during the holidays. THE END





Merru



"Window test" proves blue Cheer washes so white you can see the difference!

because only Cheer has the Blue-Magic whitener!

Cheer's Blue-Magic whitener is not just a bluing ... it's more than a bluing ... it's a new, better whitener for all your wash.

Are you looking for *really while* washes—washes so *while* you can actually see a difference?

Well, try Cheer and see how blue Cheer brings new whiteness to your wash. And to prove it, here's all you do:

Just take some things you've washed in Cheer to a window. In that honest, natural light, you'll see the bright, new whiteness Cheer gives your wash. And on hardest-to-whiten nylon you'll see a real difference never possible before blue Cheer. That isn't all. You'll find Cheer does a bang-up job of washing grimy work and play clothes whistle-clean—keeping washable colors flashing bright.

But, more than anything else, wash after wash it's the difference in whiteness that will have you saying, "There just isn't anything quite like Cheer!"

TRY CHEER in your automatic washer. Remember that blue Cheer has the active, hard-working kind of suds recommended by leading makers of automatics and preferred by 8 out of 10 women who own agitator automatics.

The modern suds for modern automatics FOR THE JOY OF LIVING "so nice to have around you".



CHRISTMAS PUP

An education in canine characteristics helps the Parker family choose just the right puppy

DAVID BLAKE

It was Christmas Eve. Isobel and Frank were happy. They'd started their shopping early and were satisfied their judgment had been good. They'd started really early, in fact. For they realized that a mistake could be serious—a living, breathing mistake the family would have to live with for a long time.

The twins had been asking for a dog almost from the day they could say "dog." Knowing how they'd felt about it themselves as children, Isobel and Frank were aware that they could not put off the growing demand indefinitely. Nor did they want to. Now the twins were five, well behaved, and willing to listen to reason.

The Parkers knew that any ball of fluff that came into their house would become a permanent fixture. They had to be sure it would be the right ball of fluff, so they asked the opinions of friends who seemed to know dogs. The Parkers considered the opinions carefully and came up with some sound conclusions.

First, they decided to ignore the opinions expressed by friends who showed definite preference for one breed. These people might be prejudiced for one reason or another.

The next bit of advice that seemed pretty sound was that there are good, fair, and poor dogs in every breed. After determining the breed they wished, they must pick a good representative.

There seemed to be a consensus on the subject of what to look for in a pup—the friendly, forward fellow or gal that was not shy and had experienced no fear. Such a dog was less likely to react in self defense, which even the best-intentioned dog might do if taken by surprise, stepped on, or cornered.

"Start with a dog that has no psychoses," one friend said, "and do your best to see that he always has confidence in you and no reason to fear physical harm—pick a happy pup—one at peace with the world."

Size had been their next consideration. They learned this lesson fast when they wanted to buy one of the cute little toy poodles.

The breeder was very patient, but very clear. "Not for small children," he said. "Older children, perhaps, and adults, but toys of any breed are too delicate for the unthinking, unpredictable movements and moods of little children. Toy dogs can't be fallen upon, tumbled about, or hugged too tightly. Once hurt, it is only natural that they take a stand in self defense.

"Get a bigger dog," he advised, "one that can't be easily hurt by healthy, enthusiastic children. *Everyone* will be happier."

Coat was a subject that stimulated considerable discussion. Longer-coated dogs, such as the spaniel family and, especially, CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

TROY ZIP-A-ROBE®

Zippered carrying case shown is of leather-grain Vinyl plastic and waterproofed pincheck woven fabric—built in FOAM RUBBER CUSHIONS for two people. Another style is the "Match-Mate" carrying case with one side in Scotch plaid, matching the robe. Carrying Cases with Robes are priced from \$5.98 to \$21.00.

FOR ALL THE FAMILY

A host of uses all year 'round ... indoors or out. These gaily colored Troy Robes make perfect gifts for everyone... because their warmth and deepnapped softness mean luxurious comfort — always. So handy to have for outdoor sports, motoring, picnics, beach parties... for a leisure-time robe, casual blanket or couch throw.

Your choice of 14 gay plaids — all fringed in the true Scottish tradition, \$4.98 to \$14.95. Slightly higher in far West. You'll find them in blanket departments, sporting goods and luggage stores, or write to us for name of nearest dealer.

 FOR LITTLE GIRLS:
 Red Plaid Doll Robe, Iringed just like mother's. 16" x 24", only \$1.00 (No carrying case). Send check or money order to Dept. AHD-55. Troy Blanket Mills, Troy, N. H.

 Please send me ______ Doll Robes _____ I enclose \$______ Name_______ Address_______ City _____ Zone ____ State_____

with du Pont Water-Repellent

12

TROY BLANKET MILLS · Founded 1865 · Troy, New Hampshire



give gifts of glass for lasting remembrance



HERE IS A GIFT of truly lasting remembrance. For a full-length door mirror is a practical necessity in every home-in the bedroom, bathroom, entrance hall. A full 68" high, Pittsburgh door mirrors are really full-length, and they are available in five different widths to fit any interior door.



PITTSBURGH PLATE GLASS FURNITURE TOPS make wonderful Christmas gifts. And they are priced low enough to satisfy the most budget-wise shopper. With these glass tops, valuable finishes are protected against stains, cigarette burns, and spilled liquids.



YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS will be long remembered when you give this most appreciated of gifts-a wall mirror made from Pittsburgh Polished Plate Glass. For the brilliance, true reflections, and magical properties of a wall mirror can transform even the dullest room into an exciting, joyful place. The illustration here shows how

a wall mirror gives a room greater depth and sparkle \ldots how it reflects all the room's color and movement for double enjoyment. Here, indeed, is a real inspiration for your Christmas gift list-whether for your own home or for another's. Decorations by Marie Stosskopf, A.I.D., Chicago; Furniture by Heywood-Wakefield.



DECORATIVE, READY-TO-HANG MIRRORS permit you to exhibit your feelings and good taste, without costing you a fortune. In any room, they create a luxury look, give it a happier and more spacious appearance. They are available in a variety of styles and sizes . . . are as easy to hang as a picture.

WHERE TO BUY. Wall mirrors of all types, full-length door mirrors, and plate glass furniture tops can be purchased from your department or furniture store . . . your building supply dealer or local glass dealer. See the listings in the Yellow Pages of your telephone directory under "Pittsburgh Plate Glass Products" in the "Glass" section.



THIS LABEL identifies products made from genuine Pittsburgh Plate Glass.



IN CANADA: CANADIAN PITTSBURGH INDUSTRIES LIMITED

GLASS



ways welcome, because they suit any décor or furniture-whether it be modern or traditional. You can be sure that such a gift will please the recipient. And you will be agreeably surprised at the modest price of these mirrors.

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"Joy to the family"

THIS CHRISTMAS Say it with

Flowers-By-Wire

To everyone alike, your lovely, living Flowers-By-Wire bring glad tidings of happiness and love. Simply leave your Christmas list with your F.T.D. Florist . . . the shop with SPEEDY and the famous MERCURY EMBLEM. He guarantees delivery worldwide, telegraph-fast — even of last-minute remembrances.

Phone or Visit Your F.T.D. Florist

Florists' Telegraph Delivery Association, Headquarters: Detroit, Michigan

Christmas Pup (Begins on page 12)

double-coated dogs like the various sheep dogs, the Newfoundland, keeshond, Norwegian elkhound, and Labrador, can live indoors or outdoors with simple housing even in cold weather.

This could be an advantage, but on the other side of the ledger the longer hair presents a greater cleaning or grooming problem if the dog is to live with the family. Short-coated dogs shed just as much, but the shorter hair is less troublesome and carries less dirt. Then too, it is much easier to keep a short coat clean.

"How about the breeds that don't shed?" the Parkers asked. They were told that *all* dogs shed. Poodles, Bedlington terriers, Irish water spaniels, and some other woolly-coated dogs shed their dead hair into the living coat where it is held until the dog is combed, stripped, or clipped. This reduces housecleaning but increases the necessity for regular grooming of the dog.

Temperament, they learned, varies greatly from the placid



"He doesn't have any boots"

bulldog or basset hound to the highly active terriers.

The more active dogs require more exercise. Failing to get it, they bubble over in the house or feel inhibited in the kennel. A 65-pound basset or bulldog, therefore, fits more readily into a quiet existence than a 20-pound fox terrier. On the other hand, some folks like the rollicking terrier. They are willing to spend sufficient time with their dog to wear off the excess steam.

It is logical to select a dog that fits the temperament and the way of life of the people with whom the dog will live. Their tempo will be more compatible.

"What do you want a dog *for?*" was the first question most people asked. In the Parkers' case, the dog was to serve only as a companion. But it soon became clear that if they'd had any other purpose, such as rabbit or bird hunting or guard duty in mind, it should be given proper consideration so the dog could serve as many purposes as is logical.

"Buy from a reliable dealer," was an oft-repeated recommendation. "Buy from a man who can show you grown stock. See for yourself what the pup will become when mature."

They thought this good advice and followed it. It gave them confidence that, when the man said the pup had been fully immunized, they could depend on it. In fact, they had been given a card record of inoculations and dates to turn over to their veterinarian for the dog's medical history, and a feeding chart.

Yes, it was Christmas Eve, Isobel and Frank were happy. Tomorrow morning the twins too would be happy. It would be the very best Christmas of all! THE END

WHEN YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS

Send this form with address lo The AMERICAN HOME Subscript advance notice will avoid loss of	ption Department, Fore	y) from this issuest Hills (75) N.	e directly to Y. Five weeks
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City	Zone	State	



In all the world no car like this

The New Dodge Lancer goes 4 door!

Lancer by Dodge-what excitement the name inspires! What thoughts of high adventure! And as its crowning achievement in the car that has created a sensation all over America, Dodge introduces the 4-door Lancer.

Now a Lancer 4-door in all three Dodge The most exciting moments in all motoring series: Custom Royal, Royal and Coronet, matching hardtop flair with sedan comfort. await you in the daring new Dodge Lancers.



YALUE LEADER OF THE FORWARD LOOK





SHOPSM

the greatest thrill since your first electric train!

If you think the thrill of your first electric train was a once-in-a-lifetime experience, imagine yourself this Christmas morning!

Here's everything you've ever wanted for your workshop-the gleaming new SHOPSMITH! A 9" saw ... 12" disc sander ... 161/2" vertical drill press ... 34" lathe ... versatile horizontal drill—all in one compact package.

Here's the fun and excitement of your first electric train multiplied 5 times! Here's the pride of knowing you have the finest.

But now's the time to let your favorite "Santa" in on your secret desire to own SHOPSMITH. The price? As little as \$3 per week on Magna's Tool-Time Plan.

See this magnificent machine at leading hardware and department stores or any Montgomery Ward store. Make sure that Santa gets SHOPSMITH® under your tree-even if you have to do-it-yourself.



Mail coupon for 3 free books

MAGNA ENGINEERING CORPORATION Dept. 308-F, at factory nearest you: Waynedale, Fort Wayne, Ind., OR Menlo Park, Calif. Please send me these 3 free books:

- 1. "Project Digest." 36 pages of modern woodworking projects.
- 2. The valuable home-shop guide, "What to Look for When You Buy Power Tools." 3. Illustrated 20-page SHOPSMITH catalog.

Name Address City

Zone State If you already own SHOPSMITH, please check whether you have

SHOPSMITH Mark 5 , or SHOPSMITH Model 10 ER



One of our nicest holiday customs is the town creche, which all passersby may enjoy. This crèche in Wilton, Connecticut, was made by the Wilton Center School P.T.A.

TOWN CRÈCHE IS A BEAUTIFUL CUSTOM



Add tiny tree ornaments or a gold bell to this easy-toknit Christmas sock, and it's a lapel pin, gift package topping, or a clever "wrapping" for a holiday gift of money.

KNIT A SOCK OF CHRISTMAS CHEER

· When Kay Travaini of Phoenix, Arizona, designed this tiny Christmas sock, it delighted her friends. Since it takes just about an hour to make the sock, she ended up knitting several.

Then came another good idea-Kay Travaini decided to share her Christmas sock pattern with A. H. readers. She suggests you knit the sock in pastel colors, too, and tuck in money to start a savings account for a new baby.

To make Christmas socks, you will need two balls of fine yarn, one white and one red, and a pair of size 1 knitting needles. This is the key: k (knit), p (purl), st (stitch).

Work the sock back and forth on two needles. Start at top of sock, and cast on 20 sts with white yarn. Work in garter st (k all rows) for six rows.

Break off white yarn and tie red yarn in first white st. You will use the stockinette st (k I row, p I row) for the rest of the sock. Work 16 rows. On 17th row, k 13, turn, p 6 (center of foot), turn, k across these 6 sts, leaving remaining sts on needles. Work 7 rows in this manner on the 6 sts.

Break off yarn and tie on where the sts were divided to start center of instep. Pick up 7 sts evenly on the side of vamp. K across the 6 center sts and pick up 7 sts on the other edge. K to end of row, and p back across all sts.

K two sts together at the beginning and the end of next row (heel), and k the two center sts together (to round off toe). Continue to decrease in this manner on k rows only. Work six rows. Bind off, leaving yarn enough to sew up sock. THE END





Bring "Gay Paree" to your fun room

with MASONITE PRESDWOOD'S magic!

C'est magnifique, n'est-ce pas? You can create a dramatic, colorful and enjoyable fun spot like this in your own home with versatile Masonite Presdwood products.

You start with Masonite Shadowvent, the new pre-cut lap siding that goes on quickly, needs only one coat of paint. You add contrast with the combed surface texture of Masonite Ridgewood. And for flat, grainless surfaces, you rely on staunch Tempered Presdwood[®].

Perhaps your inspiration will come from another romantic setting a South Sea island, a Western ranch, a North Woods retreat, or even a ship's cabin. There is a great variety of types, textures and thicknesses of Presdwood to help you carry out your favorite theme.

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The siding that revolutionized an industry! Masonite Shadowvent, with exclusive vented aluminum strip. No nails are visible. Paint stays on longer, too. For old or new homes. Send coupon for details.

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	 Free plan for "Gay Paree Information about Shadowvent Siding Booklet about working with Presdwood
	Name
	Town
	CountyState In Canada: Masonite Corporation, Gatineau, Que.



WHAT'S IN JANUARY

MILLION DOLLAR DREAM HOUSE FOR \$2,490—"I was convinced I was caught in a madman's dream," says Dottie Walker. She tells you, in January, how her husband, Dick, ordered a pre-cut vacation house. Stacks of lumber arrived, covered with mysterious code numbers, and the do-it-yourself project was on. No skeptic was more surprised than Mrs. Walker when the cabin proved a "delight, winter and summer."

A KITCHEN PLANNED WITH YOU IN MIND—We planned this glamorous room to give you lots of good ideas to use in *your* kitchen—a cutting board, laundry divider, handy eating counter, fireplace and barbecue, and many more. Some of these are just what you want. They prove small ideas pay big dividends.

DON'T BE A SNOB ABOUT MODERN!—Is there a clash between Traditional and Modern? Can you mix different furniture styles in your house? What will look best? What will fit in with your family's way of living? Here are all the answers you need.









WHAT'S A WIGGLE-WOGGLE? YOU'LL SURE WANT TO KNOW!



How we retired in 15 years with \$250 a month

HERE we are, living in California. We've a little house just a few minutes from the beach. For, you see, I've retired with \$250 a month as long as we live.

as long as we nve. But if it *weren't* for that \$250, we'd still be living in Forest Hills and I'd still be working. Strangely, it's thanks to something that happened, by chance, in 1930. It was August 17, my fortieth birthday.

my fortheth birthday. To celebrate, Peg and I were going out to a show. While she dressed, I picked up a magazine and leafed through it. Somehow my eyes rested on an ad. It said, "You don't have to be rich to retire."

We'd certainly never be rich. We spent money as fast as it came in. And here I was forty already. Half my working years were gone. Someday I might not be able to work so hard. What then?

This ad told of a way that a man of 40 could get a guaranteed income of \$250 a month starting at 55 or 60. It was called the Phoenix Mutual Retirement Income Plan. The ad

PLAN FOR MEN

PHOENIX MU LIFE INSURAN 159 Elm Street,

Please mail n gation, your illu ment Income Pla offered more information. No harm in looking into it, I said. When Peg came down, I was tearing a corner off the page. I mailed it on our way out to the theatre.

The years slid by fast. Times changed . . . depression came . . . and war. I couldn't foresee them. But my Phoenix Mutual Plan was one thing I was always glad about!

1945 came . . . I got my first Phoenix Mutual check—and *retired*. We sold the house and drove west. We're living a new kind of life out here—with \$250 a month that will keep coming as long as we live.

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 \$250 a month or more — beginning at age 55, 60, 65 or older. Send the coupon and receive, by mail, a free booklet which tells about Phoenix Mutual Plans. Similar plans are available for women — and for employee pension programs. Don't delay. Don't put it

ome Plan. The ad	off. Send for your copy now.
ESTABLIS	HED JASI
PHOENIX	MUTUAL
	Income Plan For WOMEN
OVER 100 YEARS OF LIFE	
FUAL FOR BUSINESS	AND FAMILIES PHOENIX MUTUAL
Hartford 15, Conn.	LIFE INSURANCE Co. 159 Elm Street, Hartford 15, Conn.
ne, without cost or obli- strated booklet "Retire- ans for Women."	Please mail me, without cost or obli- gation, your illustrated booklet showing how to get a guaranteed income for life.

Name	Name
Date of Birth	Date of Birth
Business Address	Business Address
Iome Address	Home Address

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WELL MATCHED. Colonial candleholders in rich brass with finger-tip handles hold penny boxes of matches for a pipe smoker and in reach for candlelit hours. \$1.50 pr. ppd. Helen Gallagher, 413A Fulton St., Peoria, Ill. SHOPPING BY MAIL WILL TURN

THE AMERICAN HOME

TEEN TIMES. Memory book has space for snapshots, autographs, big events in the life of your own girl-in-a-whirl or the children's favorite sitter. \$2.95 ppd. Elron, 227-A West Erie St., Chicago 10, Illinois. etur (it)

Market



PROUD PERCH for any

fisherman's shaving gear

also has a rack for towels.

Good catch-all, too, for

a lady's toiletries in the

bathroom or spices and dishtowels in the kitchen.

Black wrought iron, 20"

long. \$4.20 ppd. Laurie

& Co., Dept. AM-4, 507 Fifth Ave., N.Y. 17, N.Y. BELLS GO WITH CHRISTMAS like Santa goes with children, snow with sledding, and gladness with this whole happy season. Tie these cute τ'' porcelain ones onto your tree or packages. 24 for \$1.50 ppd. Zenith Gifts, 55-K Chadwick St., Boston 19, Massachusetts.



COING DUTCH. For a

real country style

breakfast, Delft-blue

and white cow cream-

er is 6" long, \$2.50.

Matching boy and

girl salt and peppers are $3\frac{1}{2}$ " tall, \$1.95. Ppd. Ward Phillips,

Carpentersville 5, Ill.



MUSICAL TURNTABLE keeps anything from your small Christmas tree to a plum pudding in a beautiful whirl to the tune of *Silent Night*, *Adeste Fidelis*, or *Jingle Bells*. About 6 inches across. \$5.20 ppd. Market Combers, Dept. A, P.O. Box 8115, Sta. "F", Atlanta, Ga.





GED. D. BAKER -> MAILBOX MARKER \$2% THE MCLAUGHLINS DELUXE graceful wrought MAILBOX aluminum frame and scrolls style EM \$345 ADAMS & PERRY-R.I MAILBOX ST OAK HILL FARM 95 TWO-LINE MAILBOX MARKER each line style OM \$4 95 fits any mailbox install in a minute (JOSA) (ED MOSGROVE-R.2) MAILBOX MARKER \$395 numbers top line, 15 on lower style NM 3434 ALSACE PLACE LAWN id; up to 15 let HILER THE CRANDALLS APKER THE PALMERS BRACKET MARKER W. C. O'ROURKE. M.D.) BRACKET alumin add be On request we send a MARKER style ER smart vellum gift card, inscribed with your name or nickname, to nce your gift. EARL L. SMITH ELD NAME & NUN BRACKET \$4 95 and n SHEPPARDS THE up to 15 letters and numbers each line style OB PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR YOUR MONEY BACK · ORDER FORM · P WITHIN 48 H WORDING-Any wording you want, up to 15 letters and numbe large plate, 5 on small. Show punctuation but don't count it. PRICE TOTAL Remittance enclosed: ship postpaid in U.S. Ship C.O.D. I will pay C.O.D. fees and postage

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ROUTE OR ZONE

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STATE



THREE LITTLE KITTENS with sparkling green jewel eyes will be pussyfooting into some lady's heart. White china with slight pink shadings, the standing one is 5". Set, \$3.95 ppd. from Seth & Jed. Dept. A. New Marlborough, Mass.



THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1955



SANTA'S MAIL BASKET is lacquered bright red and decorated by hand with a sequined Christmas tree and snowman. Hang it under your regular mailbox to take all your cards and Christmas mail. So cheerv, you'll use it year after year. It makes a jolly gift packed with your own homemade cookies. 9 x 51/2". \$1.95 ppd. Florida Gifts & Gadgets. 1356 Main Street, Sarasota, Florida.

HOUSE FOR SALE. Suitable for any

location, this 5-room, 3-story house

is ready to receive any little girl's

collection of miniature furniture. Of

sturdy fibre board, the printed in-

terior features fireplace, paintings,

tile bath. The outside is field stone

and clapboard, even sports shrub-

bery. Unfurnished. 16" high, 21" wide, 9" deep. \$2.98 ppd. Damar,

722 Damar Bldg., Newark 5, N. J.

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FREE





CLASSIC DESIGN of Grecian "Dance of the Maidens" motif on a graceful cigarette set makes it a match for antique Wedgwood pieces. White bas-relief design is on green, pink, or blue bisque porcelain. The 3 urn will hold cigarettes, two 51/2" dishes can be used as coasters or ashtrays. Set, \$2.95 ppd. Jenifer House, Dept. A, New Marlboro Stage, Great Barrington, Mass.



COPPER MEASURING SCOOPS provide a measure of pleasure for your kitchen decor hanging from their own 61/2" black metal rack. Of bright burnished copper, they neatly scoop out 1/4, 1/2, and 1 teaspoons, and I tablespoon, making it simple for adding dry ingredients. Handles are bright brass. The set. \$1.05 postpaid, Foster House, Dept. AH, 430 South Jefferson, Peoria, Illinois.



BEAUTIFUL BRUSH OFF. A jewelled whisk for a glamor stocking gift or the bridge club grab bag. Perfect to keep on a dressing table for a final whisking after make-up and combing, and for traveling. 51/2" long. Colored plastic handles are studded with multi-color jewels, nylon bristles have magnetic quality. \$1.50 ppd. Crown Craft Prod., Dept. A, 246 5th Ave., N.Y.C. I.



CHRISTMAS SPECIAL. Even sugar cubes get festive! Whether you're giving a big Christmas Tea. or just serving tea to a few friends who stop by to see your tree, it will be really special when the sugar cubes are decorated with wreaths, plump santas, candles, chubby snowmen, decorated Christmas stockings. 30 for \$1 ppd. Miles Kimball, 126 Bond Street, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.







SANTA TALKS TO YOUR CHILD . . . AND CALLS HIM BY NAME!

30

"STAR LIGHT,

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MAKE CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EASY SHIPPED SAME DAY



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13

100 PERSONAL

VIRGIN MERMAID

FISH LURE





FIDO.

THE NUT CRACKER

a conine pal to save om sore fingers. Just a nut in his mouth, delicious-to-ent nut come out whole. Fido gly cracks the shell, ver crushes the ker-rahly constructed with momental finish_fruly

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Bow Wine

10

MOC GAAA

JUST HALF A CUP The Wilson

PERSONALIZED HALF CUPS

When they ask for "half-a enp" of coffee-give it b them! They'n get a king size bang out of these rea jumho, full-size eups cut i with ANY NAME and word highly glazed ceramic-reall different or sevene. If a

"LAZY SUSAN"

DESK TRAY

LEGK TRAY Edicient as a private secre-cary! Desk Tray leads 7 very useful lives holding uaper elles, cubber hands, staples, keys, erasers, stamps and what-not. A fip of dust-repelling lids and whatever you need is spon within easy reach. Gold-boded, top-grain leutherents. Ge top-

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R/

54



PERSONALIZED PAJAMAS GLOW-IN-THE-DARK!



BABY'S FIRST 'MUSIC LESSON'

18

DESK TRAY WATERPROOF MITTENS Denk as a private scene Desk Tray Jeads 7 useful Jives holding r dips, rubber hands what-not. A flip of dust reach Gold-to G. 5 851 r de 7463, Red. (4.95 Water RC, Cartes, Red. (4.95 Water RC, Red. (4.95 Water RC, Red. (4.95) Water RC The enchanting lure of sweet, tinkling music and gay col-ors are combined in this brand new haby toy. These swiss Musical Bells fit all play-pens, cribs and buggies -dangle invitingly within easy reach of baby's hands so he can make his own beau-98c

bright gunmetal finish-truly a table's best friend. \$3.49 Set of 4 \$3.75 Back S3.75 L-0-N-G

HANDLED SNOW BRUSH HARDLED SHOULD S







ALL-STEEL PERSONAL CHECK FILE

GLASSES

For people with delicate tastess, imported miniature replicas of huge brandy glasses, with wide base, Just right for after dinner cordials, pony of brandy or serving of whiskey. With be exquisite in chima cohime or on table. Set of 12. \$195







PERSONALIZED "MIDNIGHT COACH" SIGN-G-L-O-W-S IN THE DARK!

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 SIGN-G-L-O-W-S IN THE DARK!

 Banker's afficiency of cara-celled checks! All steel Checks place at all times-monthly septimer that need over-night parking?
 Becorate your thole with liche with lich with end to be with lich with end to be place with and social with the work in modern and the set of the set of the lick precision with the work in the add to be place with and social with the work in the set of t fam-\$1.00



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'orm broken, split, nails into long, grac ils you've longed fo A-Nails' " glamorizir and ACTUALLY \$3.30

7040

THE AMERICAN HOME DECEMBER, 1955

CG 7630P. CG 7631P,

Each

\$1.00

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becomes a weighing scale by opening blade full length, holding knife by leather thong, and placing fish line or hook in the notch on blade which balances knife horizontally. \$5.95 ppd. Thoresen's, Dept. AH-FK, 352 Fourth Ave., N. Y. 10, N. Y. ARE YOU MISSING OUT on your favorite TV program just because it slipped your mind? Take the program, time, and channel off your mind and mark it down on this blackboard which will carry a whole day's events. 8" x 10" board with gold lettering uses regular chalk which wipes clean for next day's list. \$1 ppd. Sunset House. 71 Sunset Bldg., Hollywood 46, Calif. it tick-th! Give a Jewel Box Brimful of 20 LUSCIOUS VINTAGE CHEESES! 276 T Here's a gift to please your most dis-criminating friends — and a wonder-ful gourmet's bounty for your own intertaining.









24



EARS TO CHRISTMAS! Holiday trimmings to wear while you're wrapping packages, trimming the Christmas tree, entertaining merry gentlemen. Pair of Christmas tree earrings are 2" long and decorated with snow frosting and tiny sparkling ornaments. Shining star at top is the clamp for holding to ear. Screw backs. \$1.10 ppd. Taylor Gifts, Dept. AH, Wayne 6, Pennsylvania.



GAME HUNTING for someone who has two of everything? Don't make a move until you've seen magnetized checker and chess sets. The pieces will stay put even with the board upside down. Wonderful for travellers. 834" sq. board folds in half. Chess set, \$5.20. Checker set, \$3.75. Combination Chess and Checkers, \$7.20. Ppd. Selectoys, Dept. AH, 34 W. 37 St., N. Y. C.



THIS IS A CREEPY Cata-Puller who will worm his way right into a toddler's heart. A born follower, when his owner pulls the string he comes whooshing and swooshing along in real caterpillar fashion. Of bright green plastic (naturally), he has coiled spring mid-sections, lots of yellow feet, and vibrating antenna. About 16". \$1.98 ppd. Surprise Shop, 338 Park Ave., Glencoe, Ill.

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Rolls! Toast Buttered English Muffins

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6-piece Steak Set-

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Forever sharp—hollow ground. Sheffield Stainless Steel Blades with Serrated Edges —Catalin Handles of horn or ivory. Free with each set an rounds, Steel Black eith Serrated Edge -Catalin Handles orn or ivory, Fre eith each set, a vorine knife rack-

This new invention, the only one to make buttered toast, does it quicker than a regular toaster. Plug it in, load the $15^{-1} \times 10^{-1}$ tray with as many as six slices of bread, buns, etc. Wonderful for brown-and-serve rolls, frozen walkes or melted cheese. Use at dinner table. All polisited aluminum with AC, DC, UL approved cord and on-off switch. Send cash, check or money order today for only \$0.95 delivered. Fully guaranteed. IN CAN.: Include local sales tax, checks payable par Montreal, 77 Vitre St. W., Montreal, Que. FINE Countries CHINA **CUCKOO CLOCK** 1 -1 CUCKOOS from GERMAN A BLACK FOREST every quarter and beauty last an order 5-pc. Now \$-95

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Low price only by direct import. German weight and pendulum CUCKOO CLOCK. Excellent timekeeper. Cuckoos every quarter hour. HAND CARVED. Antique wal-nut finish. Shipped direct from Free Europe with strange foreign stamps. Order as gifts, too. (Not more than one addressed to the same person.) Send only \$3.95 each. No COD's. Postman collects 15c foreign packet fee which can't be prepaid. Money-back guar-antee. Order today. antee. Order today

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Burns damp, green, dry refuse outdoors safely. Ends fire haz-ards and nuisance of blowing burning paper, ash. Scientific draft design minimizes smoke, smell—burns to fine ash. Tilt hood—load—ignite paper—close—forget. Sturdily made of hood—load—ignite paper—close—forget. Sturnity made of rust-resistant aluminum bonded to steel. Over 150,000 satisfied users. Approved by Fire Depts. Model A—21½" sq. x 29" high—2 bu. cap.—\$12.95 postpaid. Model B—24" sq. x 34" —over 3 bu. cap.—\$16.95 ppd. Money back guarantee. Deluxe and stainless steel models to \$65.00 also available.

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JOHN HENRY GIFTS P. O. Box 463,





 She Cries—She Sleeps
 Completely Mr. Unbreakable
 Construction Guaranteed Walking Mechanism BIG—20" TALL CINDY DOES EVERYTHING Nationally Advertised At \$9.95 SENSATIONAL \$3.98 VALUE-ONLY plus 50c shipping or C.O.D. plus postage

So Lifetike you'll think she's a real girl walking with her little mother. Cludy Walker is beautifully formed, even to the small details of finger nails, dimples and creases in her chubby arms and legs. She assumes and will hold (no flopping) all lifetike positions, Cludy can be washed, dressed and un-dressed in standard 20° doll costumes. Her hair can be washed and coubed; her pigtarils braided and set in any fashion desired. Nothing can go wrong with her working parts and she is molded of the new sheckproof plastic that assures years and years of loving play. Cludy Walker is the answer to every girl's prayer. Commended by Parents Magazine. Satisfaction Theorditionally Guaranteed! So Lifelike you'll think she's a real girl walking

CINDY WALKER IS ALSO AVAILABLE IN THE LARGEST SIZE MADE-23" tall. Nationally advertised at \$15.95. Our price-\$5.98 plus 50¢ shipping or C.O.D. plus postage.

P. J. HILL CO., Dept. P-373 Newark 1, N. J.

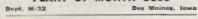


is the Year 'Round Thrills and beauty month for your loved ones. every

Every month they will receive (1) a selection of won-dertul and unusual plants or bubbs chosen by plant experts; (2) complete planting instructions; (3) interesting history of flower; would cost many times more in shops.

LOVELY LILY-OF-VALLEY (illustrated) will be their first selection, GUARANTEED to bloom in 21 days, GIFT CARDS will be sent bearing your name. SURPRISE BONUS-For first 1,000 new members. FULL YEAR-Special Bonus-32 page book. "How To Grow and Bloom House Plants."

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SEND

TIES THAT BLIND. The inevitable Christmas tie becomes a fun thing if it's made of red silk faille trimmed with Christmas glitter. Pick one for any male extrovert on vour list. Dad will be twice as gay wearing his carving the Christmas bird. Neat bow tie 5" across, \$1. Duded-up Texas version of the string tie, \$1.65. Ppd. Susan Smith Company, Carpentersville 13, Ill.



LIGHT AND LOVELY look of this graceful telephone table makes it a number worth noting. Mesh top has lacy gallery. Underneath there is a handy divided rack for your phone books. We know it will be snapped up too for plants on top, magazines below. 15 x 12" and 25" high. Pink, black, white, turquoise, gold, \$14.95 exp. collect. Unique Gifts, P.O. Box 164-A, Glen Ridge, New Jersey.



TOTO DO DIO DO DIO DE LETO

PICTURE YOUR LOVED ONES in a nifty Model T Ford of shiny black and gold metal with the reminder. Remember Me . . . Drive Safely. A clip on back mounts it on an auto sun visor, or there is an easel for standing on a desk. Hinged frame holds one picture outside, two inside. Perfect way to say, "We love and need you." \$1 ppd. Mastercraft, 212A Summer, Boston 10, Mass.







CALLING ALL HUSBANDS. and one in particular! If you're looking for something to light up our eves, just try these earrings of three cultured pearls with a perfect diamond in the center. The kind of jewelry she'll wear forever and pass on to a daughter. 14K white gold setting with screw back or for pierced ears. \$55. ppd. Tax incl. Merrin Jewelry Co., 530 Madison Ave., N.Y.C.



JEWELRY SUSAN is the best circle jewels could hope to travel in. It revolves at the touch of your fingertips, is brown or green simulated leather. 7 velveteen-lined sections have gold-tooled labels for Rings, Earrings, Clips and Pins, Bracelets, Watches, Necklaces, and What Not. 101/2" dia. \$11.95 ppd. House of Schiller, Dept. AH-310, 180 No. Wacker Drive, Chicago 6, Illinois.



QUIVER OF PENCILS will score a bullseye with the grammar school Indians. Bright sueded-leather case has a loop for hanging on a belt or button, and carries three pencils with rubber eraser quills. Bound to make good marks for all the children looking for packages beneath your Christmas tree. \$1 each. 6 sets \$5. Ppd. Old Pueblo Traders, Dept. QA, Box 4035, Tucson, Arizona.



with the BLOOMFIELD WOOLEN COMPANY



City Zone_ State.

Name

white satin!

Address.





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Just wrap up your old fur coat, mail it to us now. Send your dress size and height on postcard. Pay postman \$22.95 plus postage when new cape arrives. Or send for FREE Style Book now! Many different styles to choose

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For any occasion, give a pair of Ives Meat-Lifters. Your thoughtfulness for safety in handling large roasts, hams, steaks, and fowl the easy, convenient way, will be doubly appreciated. No spills—no painful burns— no loss of juices. Approximately 11" long; overall tine spread 6½"; positive grip finger-fitting handles. Mailed in self-storage box.

Send check or money-order—sorry, no C.O.D's. Money-back guarantee. \$275 per pair plus 25¢ postage in U.S plus 25¢ postage in U. S. A.

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AGE

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County

Occupation



28





WITHIN REACH of each guest place a perfect little table to hold an ashtray and a glass or cup of tea. One with good party manners has an imported white tile top decorated with 24k gold and surrounded by a 1" gallery of wrought iron which matches the 3 legs encircled with a brass band. 10" across, and 17' high. \$2.98 ppd. Hobi, Dept. AHS, 15 West 57 St., New York 19, N.Y.

MAKE YOUR OWN HANDBAG from a kit which supplies pre-cut top grade calfskin with pierced holes to assure a professional-looking job of saddle-stitching, plus all necessary materials for a lovely bag 71/2" long, 4" deep, and 2" wide with a zipper pocket, faille lining. Easy to complete, and fun, \$2.50 ppd. Tandy Leather. Dept. TLC. P. O. Box 791, Fort Worth, Texas.



GOOD ENOUGH TO EAT. A Miss Mud Pies can make real candy to pass around to her pigtail pals with a Small Fry Cook Set. Aluminum utensils and 3 pkgs. of candy mixes that need no cooking. Just add water, stir, chill, and serve on a 6" lazy susan. Makes 6 ounces chocolate, peppermint, and butterscotch candy. \$2.25 ppd. Artisan Galleries, 2100 North Haskell, Dallas, Texas.



FREE CATALOG ENDS SEARCH!



ENDS SEARCH! Mrs. B. Billow, 5:48 Roscoe, Chicago, says, "T finally time protection for my fur-niture from dust, liquids, a FIEEE Catalog, my fur-niture is now dressed up in fitted plastic covers of funnement, saftler in face your furniture low-cost, perfect protection. Get FREE Catalog of over 150 styles and sizes. Write

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Isfaction guaranteed, Complete 17 piece kit \$2.00 plus 25¢ shipping, LEMCO Mail Order, Dept, C21, 810 Apache Rd., Wichita 18, Kansas.





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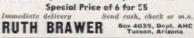
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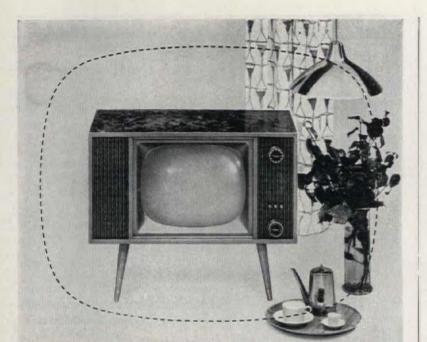
THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1955



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ast year I promised myself: next Christmas will be different. I was tired of missing half the fun by being semi-conscious on the Big Day. on two hours' sleep after a hectic holiday week.

So I set up a schedule to do my shopping, wrapping, and baking ahead of time. With four of Santa's most enthusiastic fans underfoot, any goal, other than survival, has to be worked in with magical zeal.

In October I bought a little notebook and tritely labeled it, "Project Christmas."

Each time I could squeeze in a Christmas preparation, I entered the date and accomplishment. Here are the entries:

ост. 7-Got all the baseball paraphernalia today. Chris and Mike have been so crazy about the game since they learned to play this summer. Can't wait to see their faces Christmas morning!

ост. 12-"La Maison" had a sale this morning, so I rushed down. Bought six gay-looking floor pillows for Patt. Should relieve the seating problem for their larger parties.

ocr. 29-Haven't been able to do much. But with the mumps out of the way at last (Dr. Carley says it's too late for Ginger to get themhope he's right). I started cakes.

Have been saving coffee cans for months. Left some unadorned for the

THIS

MARNE REED

baking and have already decorated some for the giving. Made 10 cakes today and felt downright smug until I saw the clothes to be ironed.

Nov. 3-Finally back on schedule after the fruitcake mess. Washed the clay off the cookie cutters-the children had to play with something while they were getting well.

Nov. 4-Aunt Middy dropped in . . all the way from Tucson. We had tea and she enjoyed the fruitcake so much I gave her one to take home. That leaves eight. I'll have to serve one tonight after bridge, too. Had planned to bake today, but it was good to hear the news.

NOV. 8-Just left the mess and got a sitter. Had to exchange the baseball bats and gloves. Tom took the boys to a football game Saturday, and their loyalties certainly changed. (That toy department manager is on the stuffy side.)

Found two lovely life-sized dolls for the girls and am really excited about the unusual jewelled combs for Grandma I discovered in an out-ofthe-way store. They will set off that mass of gorgeous hair.

Afraid I'll have to use more fruitcakes, as the Sunday School teachers are meeting here tomorrow night. Hope I have enough left. It will be all I can do to clean up the house.

Nov. 10-Long, newsy letter from Grandma. Just can't believe she has cut her hair . . . after all these years. Wonder if I dare give the combs to Tom's mother.

Nov. 15-Still dragging around after catching the children's colds. Can't seem to get in the Christmas spirit, but did manage to wash the cookie cutters again. (Had to make more "clay" when they were all in with runny noses.)

Nov. 30-Am not keeping up to



CHRISTMAS WILL BE DIFFERENT!

my plan and feel rather panicky. Just left everything and everyone with a sitter. Mobs of people shopping already. At least I'm ahead of last year.

Returned the combs (terrible time finding the shop). Bought luscious bracelet. Trust Grandma won't cut off her *arms* before Christmas. Ordered printed stationery for Grandpa, and a book.

Oh, and I bought that LP album Tom has been hinting about for months. Feel as though I really accomplished a lot!

DEC. 2—Finally made Christmas cookies, and have them *hidden*. Next week the cakes. Things are rolling along. It certainly pays to plan ahead.

DEC. 6—Had a wrapping spree. Everything looks so festive and attractive. Glad I chose my wrappings before the rush.

DEC. 7-Children found the cookies.

DEC. 9—Tom came home with a package and a big grin tonight. It seems he has been saving lunch money to buy the album I bought him for Christmas.

If I want him to give up smoking, all I need do is buy him a pipe.

DEC. 10—Long letter from Patt. She sold her modern furniture and has gone on an antique craze. Oh, those pillows!

And, last straw after last straw, Grandma and Grandpa are trying to sell their house. Too big for them. Naturally, that address is on Grandpa's stationery.

Who started this: "Do your Christmas shopping early"? The early worm gets the Bird.

DEC. 12-Made more cookies. New hiding place.

DEC. 13—Bought Mike a Superman outfit—his new hero. If I'd bought it earlier, it would have been a cowboy suit. Glad I waited.

Now the girls want "walking dolls"... seems nothing else will do. Hate to lug those tremendous dolls back to that disagreeable manager.

DEC. 16—Straightened out the doll situation and am trying psychology on the girls . . . building up the glories of things I have for them. Am worried about the boys, though. Now they are talking basketball.

DEC. 20—Cookies gone again. (Or else I hid them *too* well). Bought a few fruitcakes. Can't seem to get time for more shopping. but everything I bought is nicely wrapped and hidden away.

DEC. 21—Can't dissuade this basketball talk. Children wrote letters to Santa Claus today and that headed the boys' list. No word about football, and Mike still wants a cowboy outfit! Not a word about Superman. Arranging to get a sitter tomorrow and shop.

DEC. 22—The stores are jammed. Just shoved my way through and took the first appropriate things I saw for everyone on the list. Just like last year. Will certainly change toy stores next year, though. That manager's an old grouch.

DEC. 23—Bought some Christmas cookies at the bakery. Nothing but brown paper parcels in the closet. Must have returned most of the things I gift-wrapped.

DEC. 24-Ugh!

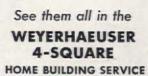
DEC. 25—Up all night trimming tree, wrapping gifts and filling stockings. In an absolute daze today, but everyone seems pleased and happy with their wishes fulfilled.

DEC. 26—I have a new and better plan now: to keep the housework up to date, shop Dec. 23, and bake Dec. 24. Believe me. next Christmas *will* be different! THE END



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The bubbly, higher-velocity Spring-Flo stream is *really splashproof!* Clings and spreads as it thoroughly rinses every corner and crevice.

FRESHER, CLEARER WATER

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Leading faucets are Spring-Flo equipped. Ask your plumber!

ON LEADING MAKES OF FAUCETS



"Once more the shepherds, as she sings, Bend low, and angels touch their strings...."

(THE CHRISTMAS TREE, PETER CORNELIUS)

C. G. BURKE

0 If the two sublime holy days of Christians, that of the Nativity celebrates Jesus the Son of Man and that of the Resurrection worships Jesus the Son of God. Christmas is joyously human; Easter is joyously divine.

Since the first Christmas and the first Easter, composers have sung the humanity of the first and the divinity of the second. Humanity is easier for human composers to celebrate: man understands man better than he understands God.

And the hundred aspects of the Christmas Birth are wonderfully susceptible to musical treatment of the fundamental and decent conditions and

MUSIC

THE YEAR'S BEST FOR

GIVING AND GETTING

Adeste Fideles and Away in a Manger. But there are many others as good or better which have been neglected.

More than 100 are available on long-playing records, drawn from a dozen countries and sung in a dozen styles, with or without accompaniments. They offer a panoramic Christmas festival.

One of the most comprehensive of these records is Haydn Society 150, **The First Christmas in Carols**, sung in excellent English by the Societas Musica Choir of Copenhagen. The carols are drawn from the 14th through the 19th centuries. Half are not well known, and the earliest have a

> naive literalism of belief irresistibly touching.

Two records (RCA Victor LM-1112 and LM-1711) cover a very wide range of type, time, and folk in the polished discipline of the Robert Shaw Chorale. Two others (Westminster 5100 and 5200) offer 39 carols, nearly half of them rare, in the highly stylized singing of the Randolph Singers. This small group specializes in madrigals.

The harmonic and polyphonic worldliness of some of these arrangements may excite some prejudices at first hearing. But the skilled smoothness of the delivery here makes it possible that their intricacies may be more any repetitions

emotions: compassion, hope, love, faith, generosity, humility, tenderness, devotion, couragewhat is there in this Event that cannot move us?

The diversity of the participants—a carpenter and his wife, a newborn child, grooms, three kings, shepherds, travelers, an innkeeper, cameldrivers, legionaries—are these not symbolic of the universality, the classlessness of all within the true Christian faith? And what a background of characters, scenery, and sentiments for composers!

People are inclined, when thinking of Christmas music, to think of carols. A carol was originally a round dance, then the music sung to the dance, finally a song, no more, but usually one intended for a specific occasion.

Christmas carols are songs for Christmas. and the ones we use have been in the process of creation during the last 600 years. Some of these have a great charm of simplicity and others are highly organized works of sophisticated art. A large number are as familiar in one Christian country as another.

Most of us have heard or sung many traditional songs like these: Joy to the World, O Little Town of Bethlehem, The First Nowel, God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen, Good King Wenceslas, In Dulci Jubilo, Hark! The Herald Angels Sing, captivating after many repetitions.

The simpler manner—the outright way church choirs usually offer such music—is demonstrated in lively fashion by lusty, well-trained voices in *Beloved Christmas Hymns and Carols*, 19 popular carols by Canterbury Choir, conducted by the late Macklin Marrow, on M-G-M E3061.

An extreme of lovable simplicity is reached in *American Children Sing Christmas Carols* (Westminster 5328). Five choirs of children pipe 24 carols, a third in English, the rest divided among Bohemian, German, Spanish, and French.

The dean among these singers is 14, the junior four. Every listener will enjoy the supreme musical effort of earnest sopranos not yet old enough to have learned how to give offense.

In the phalanx of other recordings of carols, two additional discs have persuasive value. One, by the St. Luke's Choristers on Capitol H-9012, is agreeably traditional in feeling. The other, called **Christmas Around the World**, is performed by soloists, chorus, and the orchestra of the Théâtre des Champs Elysées of Paris, conducted by Marc Honegger. A rich-sounding Westminster record (5372), it is sung in French.

Only two of the songs are of French origin, but printed translations are furnished to clarify the sentiments. The 14 songs are from as many CONTINUED ON PAGE 37

THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1955

"Hey, Mom! Look what came in our new Maytag Automatic !"

Here's why TIDE <u>belongs</u> in your precious automatic!

The makers of Maytag—in fact, the makers of 25 automatics—recommend TIDE. Their machines are designed for normal-sudsing products like TIDE. And Tide is made to give the best possible performance ... and the cleanest possible washes in them. In these automatics, nothing can beat Tide for getting clothes clean - no leading washday product made, including the sudsless detergents.

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sold! Use Tide in your automatic. THE CLEANEST CLEAN POSSIBLE Tide CAME IN IT!

This wonderful new MAYTAG Automatic comes with a free box of Tide packed right in it . . . just as so many other fine automatic washers do. The makers of

25 AUTOMATIC WASHERS RECOMMEND Tide!



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You just know that such a setting would not be complete without a telephone. Especially if it's in color! It adds so much to the distinction of the room—and to the young lady who has been showing it off to her friends.

And it's so comforting and convenient to have the telephone close by!

BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM



Christmas Music

(Begins on page 34)

provinces in 11 nations, and the prevalent tone is enchanting simplicity. Few are well known to us in America.

Almost all of us can participate in carols, but there is a more formal Christmas music that contents us without our joining in. A Concerto for Christmas Night, by the 17th century Italian composer, Arcangelo Corelli, was written for string orchestra and harpsichord. In its abiding melodies and provocative, sensitive rhythms, it alternates joy and tenderness in a way delightfully appropriate to the season, with a *pastorale* as touching as the Pastoral Symphony in Messiah.

This music has a dryer title for official designation: Concerto Grosso in G Minor, Op. 6, No. 8. Of several recordings, the best for Christmas use is RCA Victor LM-1776, where it is played by the orchestra of the Società Corelli along with four other of the composer's Concerti Grossi.

The delight of this Christmas Concerto, as it is most frequently called, does not end with Christmas, but like Messiah goes on forever.

Handel's magical oratorio may not be ignored at Christmas or at Easter. It connects the two great days with a variable commentary of equal but dissimilar benignity. Records are rich with it, with eight versions complete or nearly complete. (Recorded excerpts are not recommended because it is impossible to say that one part is less worthy of inclusion than another.)

Three, all made in England, are particularly praiseworthy in different ways. That with orchestra, soloists, and chorus conducted by Sir Malcolm Sargent in Angel album 3510-C is a vigorous statement of the music in its most common concert-hall form. The orchestration is beyond that provided by Handel, and a number of items are omitted.

The London (LLA-19) edition conducted by Sir Adrian Boult is complete and the engineers have given it the best sound. The Westminster set (WAL-308) under the direction of the extraordinary Hermann Scherchen is at once the most imaginative and the most studious of all. It depends on the original instrumentation but reveals some daring tempos and phrases sure to shock traditionalists. The Angel and Westminster sets each contain three records, and the London set contains four.

The existing records of Bach's great Christmas Oratorio have enough faults to justify our waiting a year or two for a version on the level of the music.

The exuberantly fantastic Frenchman Hector Berlioz composed an oratorio, The Childhood of Christ (L'Enfance du Christ), suffused with melting passages of haunting, descriptive devotion. Berlioz in his daily life did not display a devotion like this, but the magic of the narration enthralled him to write a music nearly as commensurate as man can come.

The oratorio has two recordings which, in purely musical terms, I hestitate to commend entirely. But both give a pretty good semblance of the composer's temporary piety, so either is worth having, perhaps as an illumination of early Christian sentiment.

Both editions contain two records. That of Vox, PL-7122, conducted by the leading French conductor Andre Cluytens, is more penetrating. Columbia's, led by Thomas Scherman with the Little Orchestra Society of New York, has a more realistic and impressive sound (Columbia SL-199).

In the same exalted field we find the venerable Christmas Story of the 17th century Heinrich Schutz. In this cantata for soloists, chorus, and orchestra, joy is blended with solemnity with fascinating archaic skill.

There is more church than open air here, and the north-German sobriety is at curious but not entirely incompatible odds with more southern rejoicing. But the sturdy belief is more comforting than many of the more familiar carols. There is an excellent all-around projection, in German, by the choir of the well-named Dreikönigskirche in Frankfurt, with soloists and orchestra conducted by Kurt Thomas, on Oiseau-Lyre 50020. THE END

37

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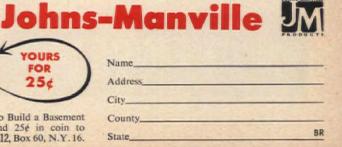
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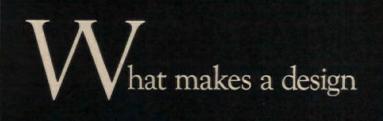
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shapes – all crafted by hand. Yet American 'is surprisingly inexpensive. (The suggested place setting we show here is only \$4.95*.) You'll find it in better stores everywhere – for a charming gift, or for your own pleasure. In open stock because it's made by the Fostoria Glass Company in Moundsville, West Virginia. *slightly bigber in the West

FOSTORIA

Stick to decorating box covers, so your fancy Christmas wrappings won't be destroyed when gifts are opened. To make the snow-covered tree, cut gold paper same size as gift-box top. Attach with Sobo glue. Glue strips of white cotton fringe to foil to form tree. Top with a star seal and add white sequin "snowflakes."

Whimsical Santa box top is covered with green paper. Cut red paper hat and mouth, black paper eyes, and a pink paper nose. Hat tassle and trim, and beard are white cotton fringe. After you glue "Santa" in place, add glittering snowflake seals.

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GIFT BOXES ARE GIFTS THEMSELVES

THESE

DESIGNED BY EDWARD FORTUNA

Here are three surprise boxes with "sweet stuff" decorations. For each box, measure and cut a piece of shiny, holiday-red paper big enough to cover top and sides of box cover—plus an inch or two to tuck inside so you can tape the paper in place.

Draw the Christmas ornament, tree, or reindeer (or design of your own) on the red paper. Glue large silver dragees (cake icing decorations) along the pencil lines of your drawing. Make tree hough of green wool, and reindeer's antlers of gray wool. Glue more silver candies on the wool for added sparkle. The colorful decorations on the tree and the Christmas ball? They're hard candies and foil-wrapped sweets, attached with Sobo glue. THE END

The hot one's even hotter! '56 Chevrolet

THE BEL AIR SPORT SEDAN - one of two new 4-door hardtops

It's the new 1956 Chevrolet—with bold new Motoramic styling . . . frisky new models . . . and more of the dynamite action that's zoomed its way into America's heart!

Francis

They're here—and even *hotter*! That's the word on the new '56 Chevrolets.

They offer new higher horsepower—ranging up to a top of 205! This is the car, you know, that smashed the Pikes Peak record! That's proof of the kind of performance that puts more safety and fun in your driving.

And look at that sassy new Motoramic styling—the lower, longer hood, the bold new front-end and sweeping chrome. See the new flaired fender openings and high-fashion taillights. (The left-side taillight hides the gas cap!)

The fun's at your Chevrolet dealer's. So, why wait?... Chevrolet Division of General Motors, Detroit 2, Michigan.



The new "Two-Ten" 2-door Sedan



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Gives spotless results never before possible in your dishwasher!



NEVER BEFORE such spotless glasses!

Tired of finding unsightly spots on your freshly-washed glasses? Don't blame your dishwasher—just switch to new Cascade! Cascade's exclusive formula gives the cleanest glasses you've ever had—spotless and crystal clear, "close-up clean."

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See how Cascade does away with annoying spots on silver! You'll find Cascade leaves your silver ready for the table—free of streaks . . . gleaming bright . . . "close-up clean"! And Cascade helps protect your nice aluminum ware, too.

PLUS new safety for fine china!

It's true! Cascade actually helps *protect* china! In fact, in your dishwasher Cascade is safer for delicate china patterns, including gold leaf, than any other product. And mmmm...how you'll love Cascade's pretty green color and fresh pine scent. So test Cascade yourself today!

Miracle **Cascade** gets glasses, silver, china cleaner than any other dishwasher detergent ! Look! Gets even glasses "close-up clean"

*Cascade is recommended by GENERAL 688 ELECTR

> and every other leading dishwasher manufacturer!

Be sure to see the G-E "MOBILE-MAID" Automatic Dishwasher!

This G-E "Mobile-Maid" Automat Dishwasher is the ideal Christmas gi for Mom, Dad, and the whole family It means freedom from dishwash drudgery—more time for family fu *Needs no installation* ... the only disk washer with exclusive G-E Power Prr Rinsing. Giant capacity ... easy to loading. Ask your G-E Dealer for free demonstration! Remember, Gnow packs a free box of *Cascade* insid



As One Unknown He Comes

HE comes to us as One unknown, without a name, as of old, by the lake side, He came to those men who knew Him not. He speaks to us the same word: "Follow thou me!" and sets us to the tasks which He has to fulfil for our time. He commands. And to those who obey Him, whether they be wise or simple, He will reveal Himself in the toils, the conflicts, the sufferings which they shall pass through in His fellowship, and as an ineffable mystery, they shall learn in their own experience Who He is.

-DR. ALBERT SCHWEITZER Albert Schweitzer: An Anthology, Charles R. Joy, Editor, Beacon Press

WELCOME TO OUR HOUSE AT

Month after month you kindly open your house to the AMERICAN HOME and to the editors who bring you news, ideas, and special features. Your hospitality is appreciated. But just to say that we appreciate your hospitality is not enough. So may we, during this most festive time of the year, turn the tables and invite you into our house? Our house is actually many houses—as many as there are editors. In this special Christmas Section you will visit several of our editors' homes and see how they celebrate Christmas. Some of their ideas are plain and simple, some a bit more fancy. They've all been tried, and they all work. We hope our house gives you ideas for your own home. —THE EDITORS





DOROTHY LAMBERT TRUMM, Pattern Editor, and daughter. Dorchen, live in a suburban community in a house that's a made-over barn. Here you're looking at how they decorate bay window in their living room. The window seat is a nice height for setting up small blue spruce, and the surrounding decorations. Except for the plastic snowflakes, all the tree's decorations are old-fashioned. They represent many foreign lands. The dove of peace at left of tree is from Sweden. Note the candy jars. The flavor of the whole room—the whole house, in fact—is a warm friendliness for family and friends.



The Editors of The American Home Magazine at Home Sunday, the inventy bigth of December minteen hundred fibty five

• At dining end of the Trumms' big kitchen are more Christmas decorations. In addition to the tree itself, the other important decorating elements here are the Lucia crown on which candles are

set and apples hang, and the brass candlesticks and red candles. An unusual approach was used in decorating this tree, for it has entire carved wooden village hanging from its various branches.



• In punch bowl at the Trumms' is a warming beverage known as Farmer's Bishop. In the center you see clove-dotted oranges that've been baked in oven. Surrounding the punch bowl is a wreath of evergreen set off by bright kumquats. You'd probably not guess it to look at them, but the punch cups are really large size egg cups made in tones of brown and green. Look over what you have and seek out Christmas decorating novelties.

• Here's view of the mantelpiece in living room at the Trumms'. Those brilliantly burning candles look all the more impressive because they're set up on an oval steak board. A drop of melted wax on the board holds each candle in place. And the Madonna similarly gains stature by being placed on a small cheese board. In the background is a pewter trencher. And the finishing touch is the pewter bowl holding branches of holly, evergreen.



(THE CHRISTMAS TREE, PETER CORNELIUS)

"Let every house be ready tonight— The children gathered, the



• In daughter Dorchen's room is this small Christmas tree of plastic. The unique feature of the tree is that a single light at the base illuminates the lights on the rest of the tree. Decorations in this grouping include a train plus painted and unpainted wood figures from many foreign lands.



JEAN AUSTIN, The Editor, has no big tree in her home nowadays, for she's off to the grandchildren's of a Christmas morning. And there stands a tree big enough for all. In her own home, there's plenty of evidence that Christmas is in the air. Those miniature tin trees are from Mexico. The bases they stand on are made simply by wrapping kitchen bowls of varying heights with tinsel. When the trees are hung with Christmas fixin's, they enliven the piano and make it a right merry place for all to join in on the Christmas Eve caroling over at "Grandma's" home.

candles alight...."



4.1

HERMAN E. BARTEL, Visual Editorial Director, and his wife use Christmas decorating ideas that take full advantage of the usual decorating scheme of the living room. Lights above their fireplace, for instance, occupy permanent spot. For Christmas, a few rolls of Christmas wrapping paper, plus copper-colored paper taped up, turn the fireplace into unusual beauty spot. Safety factor is that paper is kept back away from fireplace opening. The lamp shades are covered to repeat design on wall. Icicles top lamps. Evergreen boughs grace the room's mantel. Beautiful star you see on right-hand page is made of these materials: 5 small imitation Christmas trees with bases removed, styrofoam ball, heavy wire, bit of "gold dust," 3 cans of snow, plastic spray, Sobo adhesive, tiny ornaments.



Your first step is to form the five trees into the basic star shape. Use the heavy wire to bind the "trunks" of trees together so the star is rigid. To cover hole at center of star, use white foam-plastic ball. Since ball is soft, you can easily shove wires through to hold ball firmly in place.

After wiring ball to center of star, spray entire setup with canned "snow." Be generous, but don't get too much in one place at one time.







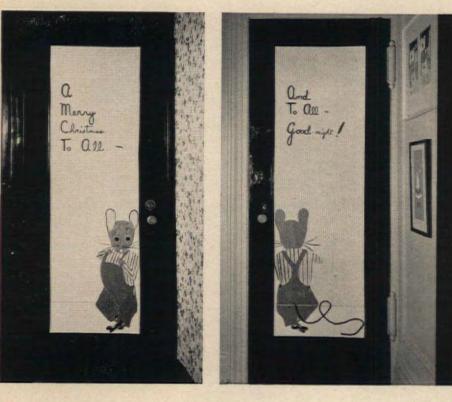
Use Sobo adhesive to fasten miniature ornaments close together as possible over all foam-plastic ball. In small spaces between, go tinier ornaments.



Now dot each point of star a bit less heavily than center with the colorful miniature ornaments. Then spray everything lightly with the plastic.

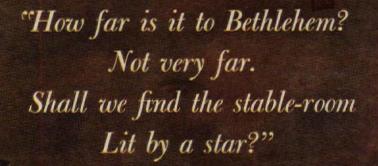


Before plastic has a chance to dry completely, sprinkle the star lightly with "gold dust" for extra sparkle. To hang star, fasten wire back center.



A "STOPPER" DOORWAY YOU CAN MAKE FOR CHRISTMAS

This whimsical mouse catches your guests coming and going. As they arrive they see him and his cheery written welcome. Then as they go home they get the other view of him and see his farewell for the road. For illusion of the single mouse, use large sheet of wrapping or shelf paper on each side of the door. Paint on respective views and messages. Tape or tack the sheets in place. They roll up to store. Whiskers: broom straws. The tail is rope painted black.



(CHILDREN'S SONG OF THE NATIVITY, FRANCES CHESTERTON)



THE WILLISES (Managing Editor Jeannie, and Promotion Manager Weldon) have two young Willises, Clyte and Gil. And the whole family has a fetish: the Christmas tree. It has to be tall enough to almost poke a hole in the ceiling. Ornaments vary widely in age and type. Some are as "ancient" as the parents, and at least one beautiful new ornament is added every year. There are paper ornaments from back in newlywed days when these were all the budget would allow. And the kids have made other ornaments in school. No part of the tree can

escape decoration. And no room in the Willis home escapes Christmas spirit. In fact, spirit begins right at the door with the merry mouse (page opposite). In the formal parlor hangs a beautiful star (above) that's in keeping with the room. Tiny Christmas balls were twisted together, then twisted around candlesticks. No matter what the period of a room, the Willises say, you can decorate it pleasantly for Christmas. In their dining room, for instance, the decorations have a Mexican flavor.

"On the first day of Christmas my true love gave to me a partridge

in a pear tree."

(OLD ENGLISH CAROL)



To make leaves for the pear tree, you first get two sheets of metallic paper. Rubber cement them back to back, Trace leaves with pencil, cut out.



Make the pears themselves from modeling clay. Try to make all the pears about the same size, scaled considerably smaller than genuine pears.



Clay fastens flower pin holder to container. Arrange white-painted branches as desired. Base and holder may be covered with glass beads.



Short pieces of fine wire bent as shown make a good way to hang pears. Straight wire end goes up through bottom. Spray pears with gold paint.



Rubber cement leaves to twigs. Hook on pears by means of wires. Finally attach a bejeweled pink "partridge" with wire at strategic spot.

"People, look East. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, Trim the hearth, and set the table."

(CAROL OF THE ADVENT, ELEANOR FARJEON)



Jolly snowman you see, right-hand page, is made from flexible cardboard, rubber ball, wrapping paper, small boxes, tape, dowels, miniature ornaments, cork, wood base, paint, cotton, clear glue, some map pins.



Bowl of his pipe and most of hat are made from flexible cardboard. Staples fasten "stovepipe" crown; and the glue holds crown to brim. Burlap, tape, ribbon, trim hat. All is sprayed gold. Pipe stem: dowel.



Paint base black, then let it dry thoroughly. Make snowman's body by stapling cardboard into "volcano" shape. Dowel glues into hole in the base. Glue tabs at three spots inside cone. Fold tabs; glue to base.



Head is rubber ball painted white. Dowel passed through body forms the arms. "Sleeves" are cotton, "hands" go in slots. Nose is cork. Paint mouth. Glue on tie, hat, boxes, and ornaments as on snowman at right.



MARION MAYER, Executive Editor, has this friendly fireplace arrangement in her living room. Old-fashioned Christmas tree is seen through sunroom doorway. At center of mantel, greens are arranged around small angel, with a few jewel-tone balls for sparkle. Beer glasses on mantel ends hold holly. Colored balls surround base of glasses.



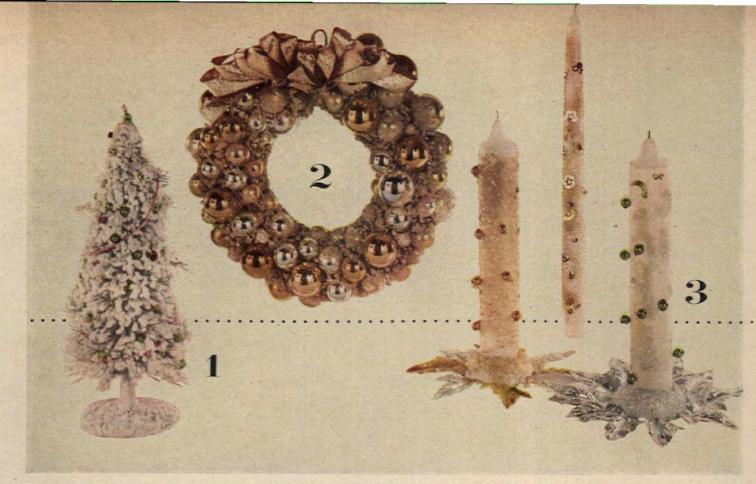
This is what the completed partridge in a pear tree looks like. Inspired by the familiar old carol, Marion Mayer created this charming effect for her holiday centerpiece.

The swag hanging below the mantelpiece is made of sprigs of variegated and English holly. The method that produces the best looking job is to start at the center with the largest sprigs and work out to smallest ones at the ends. Fine wire holds sprigs together; swag is tacked in place.





WILLIAM LANYON, Associate Art Editor, and family have a Christmas tree like this one (left) on their hall door. In the living room they have a lot of other decorations such as the snowman (far left) for which you're provided a full set of how-to instructions on the left-hand page. To make the Christmas tree, you cut the outline from shiny red cardboard. Across the center goes a strip of white, and heavy white yarn that's glued in place forms the lettering. Bells are the 10-cent-store kind that you normally open up fully, but here they are opened half way and glued onto the tree.



If you'd like to create your own Christmas decorations but have reservations about starting from scratch, one happy solution is to do as Pattern Editor Dorothy Trumm does here with inexpensive decorations, custom tailoring them. These expensive looking decorations were very economical to make; started off as 10-cent-store items. Page opposite shows how they got this way.



GERTRUDE BROOKS DIX-SON, our Home Furnishings Editor, has a tiny apartment she insists is barely big enough to turn around in. So there's not room enough for a big tree or lots of decorations. The result is that "Dixie" settles on a sort of compromise that takes little space but still has plenty of Christmas spirit. This window is the decorating focal point. Artificial poinsettias from the 10-cent-store were sprayed gold. Some "grow" on Christmas-green cellophane strands while others are "planted" in jardiniere of brass. Angel at left has shown up for many years. Italian box in the center holds Christmas cards. The Christmas cookies were a gift.









3

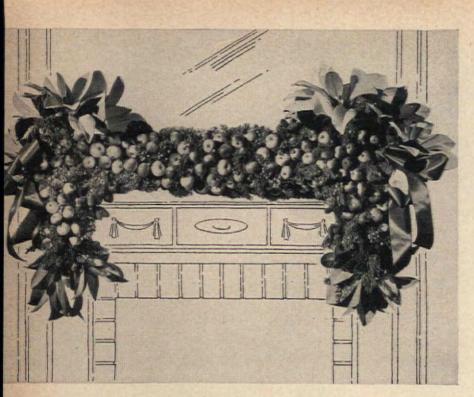
1 On the left-hand page you see a custom-tailored Christmas tree you can make for yourself from an inexpensive 10-cent-store artificial tree, and a few inexpensive materials. That's how this good looking tree was made, and you see (above and right) the simple steps that produce the end result. Materials you'll need are: artificial Christmas tree, "snow" spray, plastic spray, Sobo cement, garlands of tiny Christmas tree balls, inexpensive neck beads, and artificial flowers. "Gold dust," known either as "flitter" or "glitter," will add a nice touch but isn't absolutely necessary. You start by spraying tree thoroughly with canned "snow" so that you build up authentic looking white coating on all branches. Then, using Sobo cement, you fasten to tree the small balls from unstrung garlands, and the artificial flowers. At this point the tree looks like step shown top right. Use strings of tiny neck beads as garlands for tree. Spray all with plastic spray to set. Before spray dries, sprinkle on the "gold dust."

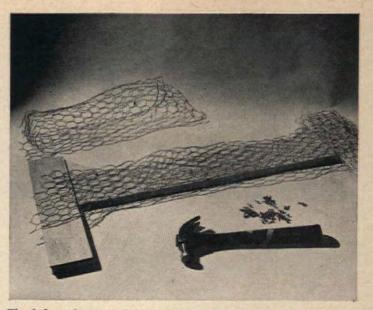


The beautiful Christmas candles you see at top of page opposite are made from plain candles and standard 10-cent-store wares. Directly above here are the simple steps that transform ordinary candles into beauties with a special look. In addition to candles, you need plastic spray, garland balls, sequins, thread. "gold dust," artificial gold or silver colored leaves, and half a plastic foam ball for each candle. Thread balls, spaced as shown, and wrap them around candle, fastening balls to candle with Sobo. Spray with plastic, sprinkle with "dust." Insert leaves in foam ball, make candle hole.



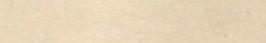
Luxurious looking wreath, at top center of opposite page, is made simply from a few inexpensive materials: a 10-centstore wreath of artificial type, three sizes of Christmas balls (a good source of two smaller sizes are the balls sold in "grape clusters," for their stems make them easy to glue into place), plastic spray, Sobo glue, metal foil ribbon, and "gold dust." At immediate left you can follow steps from top to bottom to see exactly how to do the job yourself. First step shows you materials you will need for the job. Start off by carefully fastening the three sizes of Christmas balls to the wreath, using Sobo cement to hold them in place firmly. Note the space left to tie ribbon on later. When wreath is covered full as you like with the balls, spray all thoroughly with a coating of plastic which will hold balls together solidly and, while still wet, acts as base to hold the "gold dust."





The lady-apple swag (left) and the wreath (below, left) are two beautiful decorations that you can make for your own home. Those shown were arranged for the AMERICAN HOME by Betty B. Merriam. For the swag, make simple wood frame (above). Size depends upon where you'll use it. Tack on 1-inch-mesh chicken wire, doubled.

"The holly's up, the house is all bright, – The tree is ready, the candles alight: Rejoice and be glad, all children tonight!"



(THE CHRISTMAS TREE, PETER CORNELIUS)



The "skeleton" of your wreath consists of two wire rings, one just a bit smaller than the other. You fasten one inside the other as shown, using fine wire. Other main materials: lots of evergreen, boxwood, lady apples, nuts, pears, juniper berries.



The next step in making the swag is to build up a background for what's to come later. You make this background by using fairly long pieces of cedar, Japanese yew, or balsam. Wind these pieces on, using florist's spool wire. The idea is to completely hide the chicken wire and the wood frame. Then when this background is complete, insert clumps of juniper, coned spruce.



With the greens all in place on the swag, you go ahead and add shellacked lady apples, crab apples, cones, or even clumps of gilded peanuts. Then at each of the four corners you add southern magnolia foliage that you've previously sprayed white and then sprayed lightly with gold. Add bows for glamor. Use swag over doorway, sofa, mantel, mirror, or a picture window.



Cut all greens equal length, and wire them in clumps, keeping each kind separate. Plan a sequence and repeat it around the wreath. Attach clumps with fine wire; continue around in one direction till skeleton's covered.



Stick florist's picks into fruits, then wire fruits into clumps. Pears only should be stuck on pick and handled individually. All fruits should get shellacking for added gloss, longer life. Wire fruits, nuts to wreath.



Now your handiwork's beginning to look like something. Your next step is to spiral red plastic weatherproof ribbon around the wreath as shown. You then fasten on a luscious bow of the same material. Even at this stage your wreath looks beautiful, but there's still one final, glamorous step.



Lay your wreath on some disposable material such as newspaper or wrapping paper, and make certain that the material extends well beyond the limits of the wreath. Then take a can of gold spray and put the finishing touch to wreath by spraying all outer edge. When paint dries, that's everything!







"From far away we come to you, The snow in the street and the wind on the door...."

(SNOW IN THE STREET, R. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS)

To make this beautiful wreath-crèche, start with wood circle (top right). One third of way from bottom of this circle nail cleat, and above that nail a semi-circular wood shelf. Around edge of circle, tack crumpled 1-inchmesh chicken wire, and wire it crisscross to tacks in front and back of wood circle. Bluegreen metallic paper covers background. Half an orange juice can shades a single Christmas tree bulb. Gold spray can and right side of paper. Add greens, cones. Glue or tape figurines to face Infant. Add soft green satin bow. Wreath requires less material than a "regular" wreath. Arrangement is by Betty B. Merriam.





For the wreath, first cut 12 sheets gold paper (you can use silver or any other color) to size $10\frac{1}{2}$ " x 13". Fold each sheet from narrowest side in 1" folds, accordion fashion, the full length of sheet. Bend folded sheets in half, form fans.

BOB HOUSEMAN, Merchandise Editor, gets a big effect at small expense. He performs fascinating sleight-of-hand tricks with inexpensive gold wrapping paper. Folded gold paper is a main ingredient of decorations, bottom half of the opposite page. The wreath, swags, snowflake stars, and the shining tree all owe their sparkle to gold paper. The three steps immediately below show you how to fold and mount the wreath and swags. To make the conical tree (far right, opposite page) take a piece of the gold paper shaped like a wedge of pie, then fold it into a cone and hold it with cellophane tape.



Join inside edges of fans with cellophane tape. You turn every other fan in length to get effect you see in finished job. Wreath takes 12 fans. Procedure's same for swags at sides of wreath. Two fans make the rosettes at the end of swags.



Make wreath by laying length of 12 fans joined together over foam-plastic ring. Expand fans evenly, attach with straight pins. And pin a cluster of ornaments tied with gold ribbon to five points. Big cluster, streamer at bottom. "Welcome be ye That are here, Welcome all, And make good cheer.."

(WELCOME YULE, SYDNEY H. NICHOLSON)

KNUTE HEINZ of the Art Department had the problem of wanting a Christmas tree and yet having practically no spot roomy enough to set a tree up. What did he do? He flattened his tree against a

wall. The way he got the results you see at right was to start by trimming off all branches of just an ordinary tree. Such a tree needn't be perfect. On top of a cabinet Knute set the base of the tree, then fastened the trunk to the wall with cellophane tape. Then he "built" a

flat tree by fastening branches up with tape. To left of tree is bird cage that's made of two cardboard circles and alternating red and green strings. Bottom of cage, lined with cotton, resembles nest.













JOHN LIPPERT, Associate Decorating Editor, has no trouble at all in generating the Christmas spirit in his apartment. The ornate wreaths against the natural wood shutters are in keeping with the season. And a pink felt table cloth gives a shock of color against the white walls. Gifts stack around candlestick.

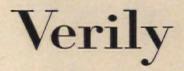




• Two cherished gifts—beautiful Christmas tree service plates and a wonderfully gay old iron toy, a circus band wagon—are carefully put away each year and used only during the Christmas holidays in the home of Jean Austin. Perhaps you have treasured possessions you could use the same way in your home.

EDITH RAMSAY, Home Equipment Editor, spends her autumn week ends stashing goodies away in her freezer. This is in preparation for shipping off a plum pudding to many a faroff friend, and having many others at her festive board come Christmas Eve. For those who come for the Christmas Eve dining and carols, there's roast goose and all the trimmin's. And there's a wreath apiece, all saran wrapped and tied with a gold ribbon to the gilt chicken-wire "tree." Guests take the wreaths with them when they go home.

See "Where Credit Is Due," page 90





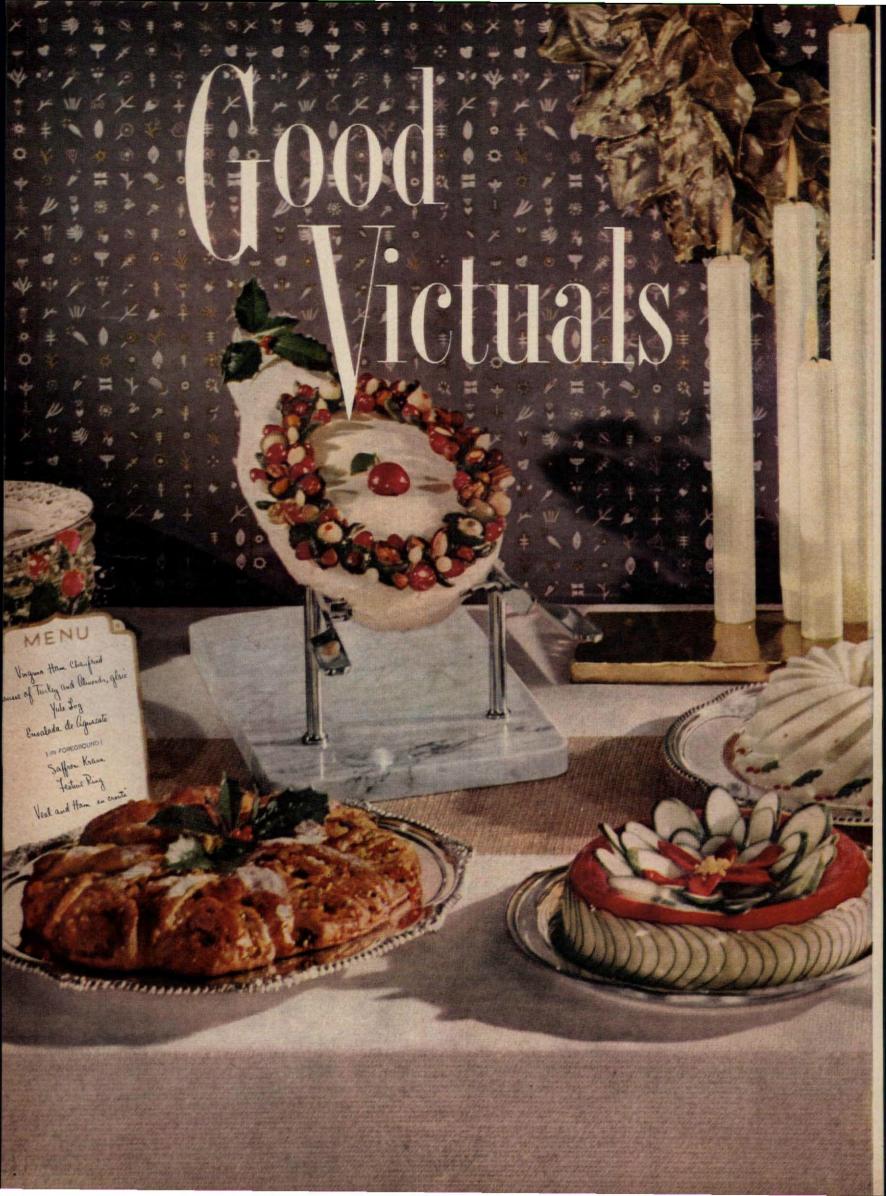


GERTRUDE BRASSARD, Table Merchandise Editor, likes to have Christmas with her daughter, son-in-law, and grandchildren Pamela and David. Gertrude's all in favor of Christmas spirit, but insists things don't have to get complicated. And she practices what she preaches. Wall decoration, plus candelabra at end of table, eliminates need for centerpiece, and leaves plenty of space for a big dinner on small, unexpandable table. The junior table, chairs take care of youngest generation. Edible igloo (how to make it, page 74) is an extra special treat for the grandchildren.

Merry, Our Christmas Tables

"Bring us out a table, and spread it with a cloth; Bring us out a mouldy cheese, and some of your Christmas loaf...."

(WASSAIL SONG FROM HUSK'S" SONGS OF THE NATIVITY", 1868)



MEN

Virginio Han Chanfroid

Mousse of Turkey and alminds, glace

Yule Log

Encalada de Aquecate

LIN FOREGROUND)

Saffron Krann Feature Ring

Veal and Ham en croute

RECIPES ON PAGES 60, 72

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F.

JEAN AUSTIN

Sometime, during those weary, happy hours of mixing, chopping, beating, stewing, shaping, and molding for the Christmas feast we set before you for your leisurely choice of delectable viands to add to your own traditional menu, I recalled that Leigh Hunt had called Christmas a "glorious time of great Too-Much."

And so it is, I thought, and may it always be. And thinking on it further, whilst waiting for some brew to heat or chill, there came to mind that lovely, lovely poem of Edna St. Vincent Millay, to sustain and pleasure me . . . those lines so exquisitely sad, so delightfully spendthrift, so apropos of Christmas, too. Remember?

My candle burns at both ends; It will not last the night;

But ah, my foes, and oh, my friends-

It gives a lovely light!

Christmas be truly the time to burn our candle at both ends, to give of more than just the purse

CONTINUED ON PAGE 78

See "Where Credit Is Due," page 90

HOW TO

BRAID A CHRISTMAS LOAF!

PLUS 2 EASY WAYS TO WORK THE SAME DOUGH



CHRISTMAS BRAID LOAF—Here's how to braid a Christmas loaf that's easy to make—once you know the secret. Divide dough (see recipe, page 67) into three equal parts. Roll each piece in 18-inch strip.



Then braid these three strips just as shown in the step above. Brush top of the braided loaf lightly with melted margarine or butter. Top it with delicious (and pretty) pincapple filling (page 67).



LUCKY CLOVERS—Place dough balls in greased muffin pans. Cut balls in quarters, almost to bottom. Brush with butter,



BUNS-Roll dough into 12-inch square. Brush with melted butter. Put 3 tbs. of mixture of 1 cup sugar, 1 tbs. cinnamon on center. Fold, sprinkle again.



Fold remaining dough over. Cut in 1-inch strips, using a sharp knife. Hold each end of a strip and twist tightly in opposite direction. Seal ends.

• veal and ham en croute

PASTRY FOR PÂTÉ FORM:

.

FOLD

• Blend to a smooth paste 3 egg yolks, $\frac{3}{4}$ cup soft butter, and 1 tbs. olive oil. Combine with 3 cups flour, $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt, and $\frac{1}{2}$ cup cold water to make a firm dough. Cover and let dough rest for one hour.

Reserve $\frac{1}{4}$ of pastry dough for top crust. Roll the remaining pastry into large oval sheet. Fit the dough into $9\frac{1}{2}$ -inch-long pâté form, carefully pressing the pastry down against the bottom and into all the indentations of the form. Trim edge evenly, leaving a $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch overlap. Moisten the rim and fold pastry back under itself, pressing firmly against rim. Bake in hot oven 450° F. for 10 minutes to set the pastry. Cool. Fill form with alternate layers of veal and ham. Adjust pastry over the filling. Make a small hole in the center of top crust to allow steam to escape. Moisten top edge of lining and press cover firmly together with tines of fork.

Decorate the top with leaves cut from leftover pastry. Brush with beaten egg. Bake in $375^{\circ}F$. oven for 45 min. Add beef stock through the vent and bake 15 min. more. Serves 6.

RECIPE BY JEAN AUSTIN

1 lb. veal 1 lb. ham 2 tbs. flour 1 tsp. grated lemon rind 1/4 cup beef stock or consommé 1/2 tsp. basil 1/2 tsp. savory Salt, pepper, cayenne 1 tbs. chopped parsley

• Cut veal and ham in thin slices. Mix flour and seasonings well and roll each piece of veal in mixture.

How to serve soup to a group!

Is there a pitcher in the house? Fill it with hot oup! Pour the soup into cups. Could anything e more practical? Or more pleasant?

For soup fills a group with such warmth and heer — it can easily be the hit of the party.

Try a pitcher of hot soup when everybody's watching television. Bring on soup in a pitcher at your next party. Make it a "custom of the ouse"—snacks and soup...beautiful soup!

Tomato Soup and Green Pea are fine for Once a day... every day... SOUP!

pouring. So is any one of our cream soups— Cream of Chicken, Mushroom, Celery, Asparagus. There's Bouillon or Consommé, if you like light snacks. Fabulous Black Bean for the soup gourmet. Or set the party talking — make new soups by combining two soups!

If there's a pitcher in the house - why not fill it up right now with good hot soup!



Mim! Mim! Good!

YOUR BODY NEEDS ...

PROTEINS—for upkeep and growth VITAMINS and MINERALS—for vitality CARBOHYDRATES—for energy LIQUIDS—for your well-being

VARIETY OF SOUPS SUPPLIES THEM ALL

You can cut out, bake, and ice these wonderful Nativity figures to make a truly unusual crèche for your home The whole family will want to help you. These cookies are definitely not for eating, but they are a means of creating primitive beauty at little expense. And you'll find you don't have to have an artist in the family to make them, if you use Transfer Pattern 1578.

SEE PATTERN ORDER FORM, PAGE 90

IGLOO "HOW TO" PICTURES ON PAGE 74

BE IT IN JERUSALEM OR AT THE NORTH POLE...

Family Food for Christmas

is a very special and personal matter. Every family can have a food tradition that symbolizes the merry season.

Perhaps yours is our lovely cookie crèche. My family had always wanted a crèche, but we could never find just the right one. I must confess the cookie figures were made in peace and solitude, but then we all worked together on the painting and decorating. Daddy got in on the act to fix the light inside the crèche.

Maybe you want something less elaborate and precious, like our igloo cake. It's a charmer, and the kids will want to gobble down this table centerpiece. Our Gertrude Brassard discovered this when she used the igloo for her grandchildren's Christmas dinner (page 57).

Or perhaps your family has handed down an heirloom recipe like the one for Sue Brooks' brown suet pudding contributed by our Gertrude Brooks Dixson. Christmas just isn't Christmas at her house without this dessert.

No matter what your taste, your family food for Christmas reflects your family life, with a great big plus. Be sure to give it extra meaning at Christmas time. JEANNIE WILLIS



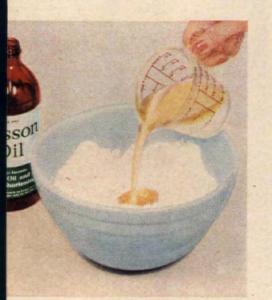
RECIPE ON PAGE 72



The pie crust you stir and roll

No cutting in shortening <u>Pour</u> delicate Wesson Oil for flaky, tender pie crust every time

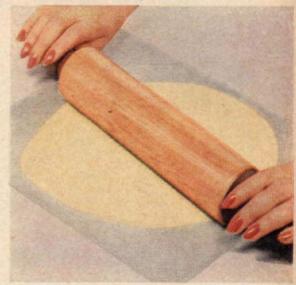




ick start for modern Stir-N-Roll pie crust: r Wesson Oil and cold milk into measuring o, and pour all at once into flour. There's no ging out shortening, no packing to measure. esson pours to measure accurately. It is instant ortening with all the delicacy of finest salad oil.



No cutting in shortening — just stir to mix. Wesson blends in quickly and evenly. Even beginners find Stir-N-Roll pie dough easy to handle. Best of all, light, delicate Wesson Oil *keeps* its delicacy at high pie-baking temperatures. Your pie crust has home-baked flavor no mix can equal.



No mussy floured board. Roll your pie crust neatly between waxed papers. Even with moist, juicy fillings, your pastry keeps its tender crispness. And because Wesson Oil is lighter and more delicate than any other type of shortening, your pie crust is sure to be *delicate*, too.

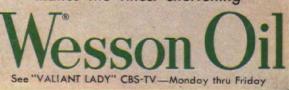
STIR-N-ROLL HOLIDAY MINCE PIE

Wesson's easy, instant shortening method

- 2 cups sifted all-purpose flour, such as Gold Medal * 1½ teaspoons salt
- 1/2 cup Wesson Oil
- 1/4 cup cold whole milk

Heat oven to 425° (hot). Mix flour and salt. Pour Wesson Oil and milk into one measuring cup (but don't stir). Then pour all at once into flour. Stir until mixed. Press into smooth ball. Cut in halves; flatten halves slightly. Place one half between 2 sheets of waxed paper (12" square). Roll out gently to edge of paper. (Dampen table top to prevent slipping.) Peel off top paper. If dough tears, mend without moistening. Lift paper and pastry by top corners. Place paperside-up in 9" pie pan. Peel off paper. Fit pastry into pan. Flute edge. Add your favorite mincemeat or fruit filling. Roll top crust to form circle 9" across. Peel off top paper. Make leaf pattern, then cut 6 holly leaves from pastry with shears or sharp paring knife. Place leaves over filling paperside-up. Peel off paper. Bake 25 to 35 minutes. If desired, reroll remaining dough, sprinkle with cinnamon-sugar and cut into strips. Bake at 425° about 5 minutes or until done. Good snack. *When using Gold Medal Self-Rising Flour, omit salt. Reduce baking temperature 50°.

Delicate salad oil makes the finest shortening



Take a Can of PINEAPPLE

JUNE TOWNE

Some gals, so we're told, get bored with trying to think up new ideas for Christmas giving and new ways to get a change of pace at meals after serving so much traditional holiday fare. So for gifts that please and meals that vary, we say "take a can of pineapple." Use it for homemade gift sweets such as JAMS and MARMALADES. Serve the family ORIENTAL MEATBALLS along with a CHRISTMAS BRAID LOAF. The bread, a pretty braid loaf, will also please the wide-awake breakfaster. The recipe section contains full directions for these foods. Concoct one of them—PINEAPPLE-APPLE CRISP, HOLIDAY PUDDING, or PINEAPPLE NOEL PIE—to add a surprise to Christmas fare.



For details about table appointments, See "Where Credit Is Due," page 90

PINEAPPLE-APPLE CRISP

HOLIDAY PUDDING

100

ORIENTAL MEATBALLS

CHRISTMAS BRAID LOAF (BRAIDING HOW-TO ON PACE 60) PINEAPPLE NOEL PIE

RECIPES ON PAGE 67

Cooking champions say: "There never was anything like it before !"



Mrs. Merle E. Seaton, of Taylorville, Ill., top cooking champion in TWO states, has lost count of the blue ribbons she's won. She says, "Whether I'm cooking to exhibit or for my own folks, I love to use Fluffo. My Fluffo cookies, for example, always look so much better ... such a pleasing golden-brown!"



She adds, "I like the way Fluffo handles, gives a nice soft dough that's easy to work with ...

YES, the cookies you get from golden Fluffo really are a new kind of cookies . . . better looking, better tasting, better in every way than any shortening ever gave you before!

That's because Fluffo is different! Even its color is different-golden-yellow. It's a wonderful new kind of shortening, blended by Procter & Gamble from better shortening ingredients, by an exclusive fluffing process. It's the finest shortening you can buy.

As cooking champion Mrs. Seaton says, "I like the wonderful taste and golden color Fluffo gives to everything. And-it's such fun to use! I wouldn't go back to white shortening!"

Use this fluffy-rich shortening with all your usual recipes-for a new kind of baking and frying. It costs no more than other leading shortenings. So digestible, too. The very best cooks are changing to Fluffo. Why not you?



... better in every way than you could possibly make before!



"And your cookies come out looking so pretty ... you just know that golden color means they have a nice flavor all through. And they do-Fluffo cookies taste even better than they look!"

MRS. SEATON'S PRIZE-WINNING COOKIES

This recipe won her another blue ribbon last August! Makes BOTH drop and roll cookies in just one mixing! NOTE: Use Fluffo in all your recipes that call for shortening.

1 cup FLUFFO 11/2 cups sugar 2 eggs 21/2 cups sifted all-purpose flour 1 tsp. baking powder 1 tsp. salt

Blend Fluffo and sugar; add eggs and beat. Combine flour, baking powder and salt; add to mixture, blending well. Divide dough in half.

Rolled Cookies: to one half dough, add 1 to 2 tsp. vanilla, orange, lemon or almond extract, wrap in waxed paper and chill thoroughly. Divide and roll, part at a time, on a well floured board to ¼" thickness. Cut and bake on greased baking sheet, 10-12 minutes at 375° F. Cool. Add icing if desired. Makes about 3 dozen cookies with average cutters.

Drop Cookies: to the other half of dough, add 1/4 cup milk, and your choice of:

- (1) 1 to 2 tsp. almond extract, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped shredded coconut -or -(2) 1 to 2 tsp. lemon extract, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup each chopped dates and walnuts -or -(3) 1 tsp. cinnamon, $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. nutmeg, $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. cloves and $\frac{3}{4}$ cup seedless
- raisins or (4) ¹/₄ to ¹/₂ tsp. peppermint flavoring, ¹/₂ cup chopped pecans and 3 tbsp. cocoa, stirred into 3 tbsp. warm water.

Drop by teaspoons on greased baking sheet, bake as above. Makes $3-3\frac{1}{2}$ dozen cookies.

Procter & Gamble's new kind of shortening GOLDEN FILE SPREAD (Yellow from pure carotene)

luff

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American Home Recipes

-

1

(Take a Can of Pineapple, pictured in color on page 64)

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67

American Home Building, Forest Hills, N. Y.

oriental meatballs	Christmas braid loaf Preparation time: 15 min.	
Preparation time: 15 min. Cooking time: 30 min.	Proofing time: 1. Inc. Baking time: 45 min.	
or pork I green pepper, cut in incapple wedges	r or margarine 2 pkgs. yeast	
1 med. onion, sliced 1/2 vinegar 1	V ₂ cup sugar • Scald milk, pour over butter or margarine, sugar, and salt. Crumble and softer	
ber, sliced Juice from pineapple mate (op tomato, cut in 1 cup sugar 2 tpp. corns	yeast in water. Cool milk mixture to lukewarm, add yeast and eggs. Beat in nour to make soft dough. Turn onto a floured board. Knead until smooth. Form dough into a hell and lor vise number dough in built in a greased hourd Divide dough and	
• Casson record must with self and neares to tests and soll lists halls (This may	braid into two loaves. (See page δo). Let loaves rise again. Place filling in folds of the braid and bake for A min in a $2\pi^2 P_c$ oven. (Strins of dough may be brushed	
be done in advance and refrigerated.) Lightly brown the pheapple and vegetables in 2 tbs. cooking oil and remove from pan. Then brown and partially cook meat-	with melted butter or margarine and dusted with a sugar and cinnamon mixture if desired.)	
balls. Combine vinegar, sugar, ½ cup pineapole juice. and seasonings, add to meat- balls. Then add pineapple and vegetables. Continue cooking until meat is done. Dissolve	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ this, cornstarch $1 \neq 2$ can crushed $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ cup chopped pecans $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ cup hinearole inice pinearole, drained 2 ths. brown sugar	
cornstarch in cold water and add to meatball mixture. Cook until sauce thickens and is clear. Serve with steamed rice.	in the pineapple juice. Cook until oking until thoroughly blended. Coo	
Serves: 6 610 cal, per serving Source of Vitamins A, B, C SUBMITTED BY MYRA KING Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS	Yield: 2 loaves 1.325 cal. per loaf Source of Vitamins A, B, C Tested in The AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS	
• holiday mudding	- ninconde-onde erisn	T
Preparation time: 10 min.	Preparation time: 10 min. Baking time: 30 min.	
 2 cups leftover chocolate cake or 20 1 #2 can crushed pineapple, drained cookies 1/4 cup glazed cherries, chopped 1/4 cup nuts, chonned 1 container havy cream, whinned 	ushed pineapple, drained jars sliced apples, drained	
	35 cup brown sugar 75 cup evaporated milk	
• Crumble cake or cookies into a bowl. Add remaining ingredients and toss lightly. Chill. Top with whipped cream and serve.	• Combine flour, sugar, cinnamon, salt, and butter or margarine. Make layers with the pineapple, apples, and brown sugar mixture (ending with brown sugar mixture) in a greased baking dish. Pour milk over entire casserole. Bake in 350°F. oven for 15 min. covered, then for 15 min. longer, uncovered.	
Serves: 4 880 cal. per serving Source of Vitamins A, C	Serves: 6 315 cal. per serving Source of Vitamins A, B, C	
SUBMITTED BY MRS. W. O. MEYER Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS	Tested in The American Home Kitchens	
 pineapple noel pie Preparation time: 15 min. Baking time: 30 min. 	 pineapple jams Preparation time: 10 min. 	
y_5 cup sugarDash of cinnamon y_4 cup cornstarch $1 \# 2y_5$ can apricots, drained z cups syrup from fruit $1 \# 2$ can crushed pineapple, drained	PINEAPPLE-APRICOT JAM 11% cups dried apricots 1% lemon, sliced thin 1% cup maraschino cherries, 2 #2 cans crushed pine- 4 cups sugar 1% cup chopped walnuts apple	
2 tos. lemon juice Oreen and red maraschino cherries for garnish	 Wash apricots, cover with water, and soak overnight. Summer unit concer in water in which they were soaked. Pureé apricots; add pineapple, lemon slices, and sugar. Simmer, stirring frequently, until thick and clear. Add cherries and nuts. Pour into sterilized jars and seal. Yield: 6 med. glasses 710 cdl. per glass Source of Vitamins A, C 	
• Gradually add fruit syrup to sugar and cornstarch. Cook until thick; add lemon juice, cinnamon, and fruit. Cool, then fill cherry-decorated pie shell. Bake in 450°F. oven for 30 min.	Preparation ti tor MARMALADE Cooking time: ots 3 cups diced pineapple lice 1 cup pineapple juice	
	oranges, rind and pulp i Cook carrots, lemon rind, ora pple and juice, ginger and suga in, longer. Add almonds, Pour	
Serves: 0 200 cut, per scrutte Source of Vuanins A, C	Vield: 6 med. glasses 700 cal. per glass Source of Vitamins A. C	

American Home Recipes (Take a Can of Pineapple, pictured in color on page 64)





THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1955



What cookbook gives you a beautiful 3x5" actual photograph of every recipe in it? What cookbook lets you take out a single recipe, put the rest away, and concentrate on it without losing your place or having

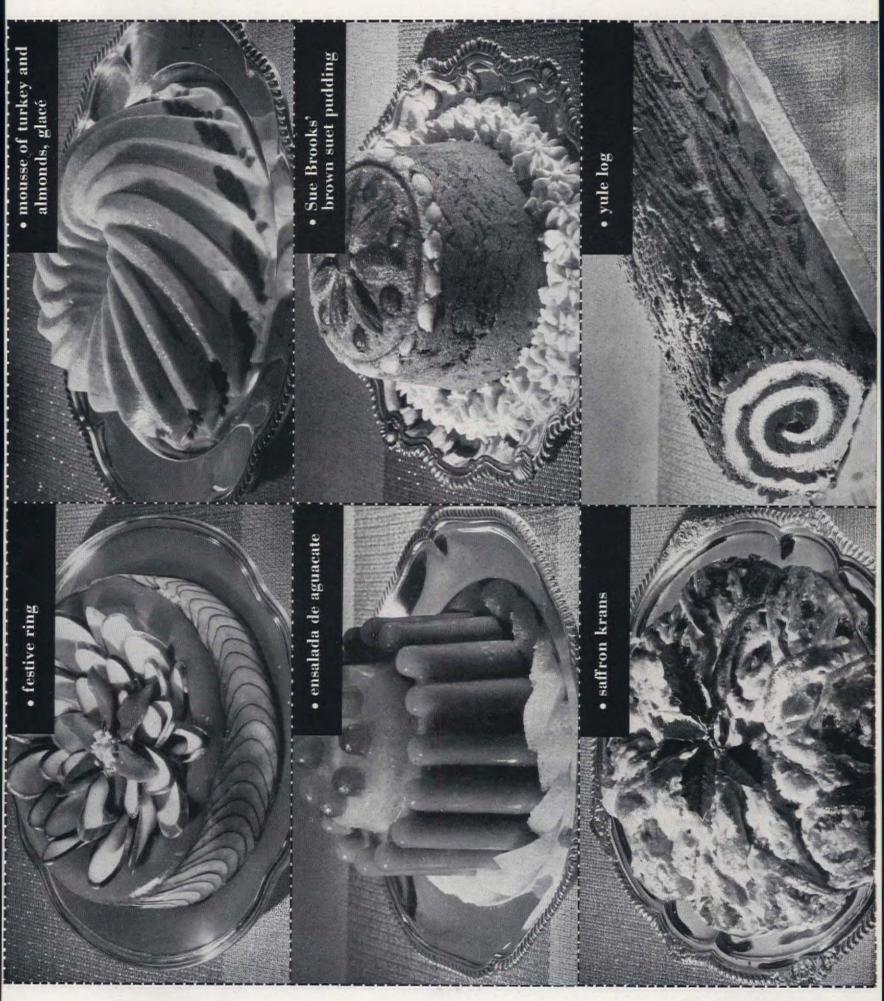
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American Home Recipes

(Good Victuals, pictured in color on page 58) (Family Food, pictured in color on page 62)



saffron krans

r package dry yeast 14 cup lukewarm water 2 eggs, beaten r tsp. saffron 14 cup lukewarm milk flour 31/2 cups

72

¹/₂ cup melted butter
¹/₂ cup sugar
¹/₄ tsp. sall
¹ tsp. almond extract
² cups candied mixed fruit, chopped fine

• Dissolve yeast in water. Dry saffron in warm oven and grind to a fine powder in a mortar. Dissolve in a tablespoon of brandy or a little milk. Mix milk, saffron, sugar,

beaten egg whites. Spread on well-buttered, lined baking sheet 12 x 15 linches, or jelly roll pan. Bake in a 375°F. oven about 5 minutes. Remove from oven and immediately turn out on a towel sprinkled with granulated sugar. Roll with towel and let cool.

well-

soufflé; add flour, brandy, baking powder. Fold in

· Beat yolks and sugar to a

. brandy . baking powder

tbs. 1

6 eggs 1/2 cup sugar

XULE LOG

1/2 cup sugar 1/2 cup flour

yule log

• Beat 1 cup butter until very creamy. Stir in 2 egg yolks, Beat in 4 cups sugar a little at a time. Melt 2 ounces unsweetened chocolate over hot water. Cool slightly and beat it into frosting. Unroll cake, remove towel, and spread with part of the frosting. Roll up firmly. Cover top and sides with frosting. Draw design in frosting with a fork to resemble

CHOCOLATE BUTTER FROSTING

salt, beaten eggs, butter, almond extract, and 1 cup of flour. Add yeast and remaining flour. Beat with wooden spoon until smooth and shiny. Sprinkle with flour, cover, and let rise in warm place until doubled in bulk (about 1% hours). Turn out on floured baking board and knead well. Shape with hands in long roll. Roll thin with rolling pin. Brush with melted butter and spread with 2 cups candied mixed fruit, chopped fine. Roll like jelly roll and join ends to form a ring on buttered baking sheet. Clip with sectors 1 inch apart and fold slices, alternating left and right as shown. Cover and let rise again. Brush with egg white; sprinkle with sugar. Bake in 375° F. oven for 30 minutes.

RECIPE BY VERA BJORCK

a log.

brown suct pudding

Sue Brooks'

• ensalada de aguacate

Peel 2 avocados, rub pulp through fine sieve. To 1/2 cup sieved avocado, add 2 tbs. lemon juice and a pinch of salt. Soften 1 envelope gelatine in 1/4 cup cold water, dissolve over hot water, and add to avocado. Chill until it begins to thicken. Then line a 1/2 qt. oiled and chilled mold with avocado mixture. Lay mold on the side and fill in about 1/3 of the mold at the time. Chill between each addition.

Soften 2 envelopes gelatine in $\frac{1}{22}$ cup cold water. Dissolve over hot water. Add to $1\frac{1}{22}$ cup juice. Chill. When it begins to set, fold in orange sections and pineapple chunks and fill the lined mold. Unmold and decorate with candied cherries. Serve Peel and section 2 oranges. Drain 1 large can pineapple chunks. Reserve juice. with tangy French dressing.

Serves 10-12

festive ring

• Oil and chill a 1/2 qt. ring mold. Make a clear aspic as follows: Soften 1 envelope gelatine in 1/3 cup cold water. Place over hot water to dissolve. Add 2 tbs. white vinegar, 1 tsp. sugar, 1/8 tsp. salt, and cold water to make 1 cup. Cool. Swish gelatine one unpeeled cucumber in almost paper-thin slices. Dip slices in clear aspic and arrange in sequence around the mold, pressing cucumber close to the sides. around side of chilled mold, repeat until coated with thin layer of aspic. Chill. Cut

In a bowl combine 4½ cups tomato juice, ¼ cup lemon juice, 2 tsp. salt, and 1 Add to tomato juice mixture. Cool. Fill decorated ring mold and let set. Unmold and ths. sugar. Soften 3 envelopes gelatine in 3/3 cup cold water. Dissolve over hot water. garnish center with cucumber sliced lengthwise and pimiento poinsettia.

Serves 12

(Good Victuals, pictured in color on page 53) (Family Food, pictured in color on page 62)

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hot water, until it coats the spoon. Remove from fire. Soften 5 envelopes gelatin in 3 cups chicken stock. Dissolve over hot water in double boiler. In a large pot combine egg mixture and dissolved gelatine. Add 5 cups cooked and ground turkey, $\frac{1}{12}$ cup finely chopped green pepper, $\frac{1}{12}$ cup chopped pimiento, and $\frac{1}{12}$ cup blanched slivered with string. Steam for 3 hours. Serve with whipped cream. This recipe will fill a 9 Source of Vitamins A, B Cherries, almonds, & angelica to garnish and angelica, almonds, and cherries. Fill mold with batter, cover with wax paper, and tie RECIPE BY SUE GRACE BROOKS Beat 8 egg yolks and gradually add 4 cups cold milk. Cook in a double boiler over RECIPE BY JEAN AUSTIN blend well. Add raisins and currants. Beat sugar and eggs together, add milk and vanilla. Combine 2 mixtures. Decorate generously greased and floured mold with Heat, but do not boil, stirring from the bottom of the pan. Salt to taste and let cool. When cold, fold in 2 cups heavy cream, whipped. Pour into oiled 3 qt. mold, dec-• Sift flour, baking powder, soda, salt, and spices together. Add ground suct 1/2 cup seedless raisins r cup ground suet tsp. cinnamon cup currants r tsp. allspice 1/2 tsp. cloves orated with green pepper and pimiento. Let set. 390 cal. per serving 19 mousse of turkey and almonds, glace 21/2 tsp. baking powder I cup sweet milk r tsp. vanilla 3 cups flour Serves 10-12 Serves 12-15 1/2 tsp. soda cup sugar 1/2 tsp. salt cup mold. almonds. eggs RECIPE BY JEAN AUSTIN RECIPE BY VERA BJORCK

American Home Recipes

RECIPE BY JEAN AUSTIN

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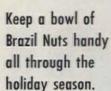
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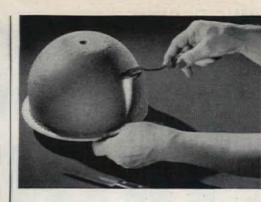
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2. For frosting, beat

two egg whites until

frothy. Gradually add

smooth. Pour frosting

over cake. Spread with spatula. Frost

door opening, then

let it dry.

two cups confectioner's sugar. Beat until 1. When cake has cooled in round bowl, level the top. Then turn out on plate. With large spoon, make doorway about two inches deep. Make small hole in top of cake for "smoke." Brush loose crumbs away.



HOW TO BAKE **OUR IGLOO CAKE**

ere's the recipe for our igloo cake (page 57). It's easy to make. You will need: 11/2 lbs. butter, 11/2 lbs. sugar, 12 eggs, 11/2 lbs. cake flour, 11/2 tsp. double-acting baking powder, 1 tsp. vanilla, and 1 tsp. almond extract.



Cream butter and sugar in mixing bowl until light. Add eggs one at a time, beating one minute after each addition. Put in larger bowl. Sift flour

with baking powder. Add gradually to batter, Fold in extracts, Bake in greased, floured 4-quart stainless steel mixing bowl with round bottom. Bake 21/2 hours in 325°F. oven. THE END

3. You'll have some leftover frosting. Add sugar to itenough so frosting will hold its shape. Use a cake decorator to trim the doorway and around base of cake.





4. Thread a thin wire through a licorice stick (the kind that looks like a rope or shoe string). Shape licorice to resemble smoke, as shown. Insert at top. Paint "ice blocks" with blue food coloring and your igloo is ready to decorate the table. Good eating!



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It's <u>real</u> chocolate frosting

I. NOW THAT I'M ALMOST ALL GROWN UP, I'M MAKING MY OWN CHRISTMAS PRESENTS



CHRISTMAS COOKIES

if it's made with <u>real</u> chocolate...

and Baker's makes it best!

Follow easy recipe on the package for luscious chocolate frosting . . . pure chocolate through and through!



5. THEN YOU JUST SCOOP 'EM UP AND PUT 'EM ONTO THE PAN. SEE HOW SIMPLE IT IS?

76



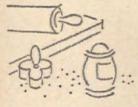
3. DADDY IS CLICKING HIS FLASH CAMERA SO HE CAN GIVE PICTURES OF ME TO ALL MY AUNTS AND UNCLES

THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1955



2, LIKE EVERY-BODY SAYS, IT MEANS MORE WHEN YOU MAKE SOME-THING WITH YOUR OWN HANDS

WITH MY OWN HANDS



4. WHAT'S SO HARD ABOUT COOKING, I'D LIKE TO KNOW. THIS IS EASY AS ANYTHING, AND FUN





6. BETTER TAKE A PICTURE OF THESE COOKIES, DADDY. YOU DON'T SEE MANY LIKE THESE AROUND New easy, thrifty way to "cream" your coffee!



100% DAIRY PRODUCT IN INSTANT POWDERED FORM!

Rich and delicious! Made entirely from fresh, sweet cream and other milk products – nothing added!

Never sours! Never "turns"! When opened for regular use, Pream stays fresh tasting to the last spoonful. Keep handy in cupboard or refrigerator. So economical! Costs about 1/3 less per serving than coffee cream!

Less calories! Only about half as many calories as if you used coffee cream.

Instant dissolving! Put Pream on top of your cup of hot coffee or tea. Stir and enjoy! Get Pream today!



SEND FOR FREE RECIPE FOLDER TO: Sally Ross, Pream Test Kitchen, Box 959-I, Columbus 16, Ohio

Name____

Pream is available also in the Dominion of Canada, Alaska, and Hawaii.



THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1955

© 1955, M & R Dietetic Laboratories, Inc., Columbus 16, Ohio

City

State

Frankly more fun

with Del Monte... the only catsup

made with the superlative vinegar that brings out the best in tomato flavor

The flavor's the thing. And that's why DEL MONTE Catsup rates so high for pure enjoyment.

Only DEL MONTE Brand Catsup is made with Pineapple Distilled Vinegar-the vinegar that does such remarkable things to bring out the flavor of tomatoes in catsup.

So let the DEL MONTE name-your guide to so many quality foods-lead you to the liveliest of catsups, too.

ineapple the Vinego

el Mont

Most everyone loves a ham, so why not put all the fixin's of a ham dinner together and give it to a very special family. One that has far too many members to warrant individual gifts, but one that you want to say Merry Christmas to in a delightfully

different way. Imagination is the only limit to the

gourmet combinations you can gaily tie together.

and all, a Happy Christmas!

y this time probably everyone on your Christmas shopping B list is accounted for-but what about those favorite neighbors of yours, or the family whose house you'll visit Christmas Day. We are suggesting a gift that any household would love to receive, and the variations are practically limitless. Wrap up all the ingredients of a very special dessert in colorful trimmings, or, if you want to be really elegant, give a canned ham or boned turkey. You'll know what will please a particular family, and with the added frosting of gay gift wrappings, these food bundles will be welcome under any tree. THE END

Try these other famous Del Monte Tomato Products, too! Tomato Sauce Stewed Tomatoes Chili Sauce Tomato Juice Peeled Tomatoes

GIVE A RECIPE-WITH THE FIXIN'S

JOHN LIPPERT

Any family will think you're an angel if you wrap up the makings of an angel food cake, top it with a tinsel-winged cherub and send it with best wishes from your household to theirs. Don't forget the baking pan and, besides the ingredients, why not include your own favorite AMERICAN HOME cake recipe as a personal touch?

Angel

Food

Han

Good Victuals (Begins on page 58) affords-to give of time and heart *We give you recipes for all you see, and hand-to give a lovely light! except the ham-a Smithfield ham But if our feast seems of too procooked as per directions that come digious length and strength, choose with it, glazed with a chaudfroid only that* which will enrich your sauce already given in Good Victuals own traditional hospitality in this and decorated as fulsomely or fancifully as you wish with glace fruits "glorious time of great Too-Much" that comes but once a year! To one

.....

THE END

and nuts of the season.



Choice fudge-from a mix or your own recipe. Choicest addition-crunchy *Diamond* Walnuts.



Best idea for penuche-add walnuts. Best idea for value-insist on *Diamond* Walnuts.

Glamour top for fondant – golden Diamond Walnuts add tempting looks and fine flavor!

WALNUTS work wonders -



Quick treats! Flavorful *Diamond* Walnut kernels, dipped in melted sweet chocolate.



Stuffed dates-easy to make, extra good with plump *Diamond* Walnuts for crispness!



Walnut brittle – delightfully different flavor. The most for your money – *Diamond* Walnuts!

in America's 9 favorite candies



Make the most out of munching! Sugared Diamond Walnuts are chock full of food value! Divine! Divinity with crisp *Diamond* Walnuts. The finest of California's walnut crop!



Mmm! Melted chocolate, marshmallows, and Diamond Walnuts make delicious Rocky Roads!

but be sure they're **DIAMONDS**

It's almost magic! A handful of crisp *Diamond* Walnuts in *your* favorite candy recipe or mix works wonders in flavor, texture and food values.

And so thrifty! When they're *Diamonds*, the pound you shell gives you over two full cups of tender, usable kernels.

Diamond Walnuts are carefully sorted and sternly inspected. For economy, buy 'em in the shell. For hurry-up, year-round convenience, buy 'em in vacuum-packed cans. Either way, Diamond Walnuts work wonders in your favorite candies—and in cakes, cookies, salads, desserts and hot breads, too!



"Fill up the cooky jar-Y'get 36 fudgy brownies from one box of **Betty Crocker** Brownie Mix!"

BUILD A PORTABLE "FREIGHT YARD"

When your boy outgrows his train, this becomes a hobby display case

You can avoid stumbling over Christmas trains-make a portable wall case. You need 8' of 1" x 4" fir, a 2' x 3' piece of 1/8" perforated hardboard, and a 1' x 2' piece of 1/4" plywood. Precut as shown, mitering the corners of frame. Rip a 1/4" strip off top frame for front panel (or glass) finger lift.

DESIGN, PHOTOGRAPHS: WILLIAM EYMANN

Cut dados ¹/₄" x ¹/₄"—except for door slot, which is ¹/₄" deep, 3/16" wide. Glue and nail frame, shelves, and dividers together. Then fit back and front (with glued-on finger lift) and attach drawer pull to top to make unit portable. Two finishing nails 16" apart (nailed through plaster into wall studs) will support case easily and keep it level. A 3/32" piece of glass cut same size as sliding panel will change case to a display shelf for a collection of figurines if desired later on. THE END

80





Here's the new, quick, easy way to give your family all the brownies they want-all the time! You get a big batch of 36 luscious brownies from each Betty Crocker package of our new Betty Crocker Brownie Mix. And OF GENERAL MILLS

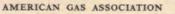
you can make 'em fudgy and chewy or tender and soft like cakeboth easy, easy recipes are printed right on the Brownie Mix package!

Try your own toppings! After brownies are baked, top them in pan with 16 chocolate peppermint patties, return to oven to soften and spread with a spatula after they melt. Try the variations on the package. Bake some today, won't you? And be sure to bake plenty-a cooky jar full! HARDWICK, the "CP" Gas range shown, not only lights automatically ... it also turns off the Gas automatically if there isn't a flame.



ranges-and the best cooks!

Ever notice how real gourmet cooking always calls upon a flame? It might be the bright flame of a chafing dish, the charcoal glow of a barbecue pit or it might be the deftly controlled blue flame of your new automatic Gas range. Instantaneously, it goes from a sauce-simmer whisper to a rollingboil high; there's no waiting around with Gas. And once Gas is off, it is off! There's no lingering after-heat to mar your cooking reputation. From the deftness of its baking to the flame-kissed perfection of its broiling, a new Gas range shows off your cooking skill as no other range can... and is far easier to keep clean. Isn't it high time you put one in *your* kitchen? You'll find the new automatic Gas ranges cost less to buy, install and use. See them today at your Gas company or Gas appliance dealer's.





such matchless performance

GAS-the modern fuel for automatic cooking . . refrigeration . . water-heating . . house-heating . . air-conditioning . . clothes-drying . . incineration.

You can make your very own Grandfather clock. This one, an exact reproduction of one in Lefferts Museum, Brooklyn, is a handsome addition to any home. Make it with instructions in Blueprint Pattern 2029. Price, 50¢.

Hamburgers tonight?

Give them a new look ...

a new taste

with Spanish Green Olives!

add dash to any dish!



Heirloom Patterns

Here is one of the finest bonnet tops we've seen. The original highboy is in a midwestern museum. Eleven drawers make it suitable to use in hall, dining, living, or bedroom. Complete instructions in Blueprint Pattern 2030. \$1.00.

SEE PATTERN ORDER FORM, PAGE 90



A simple Colonial sideboard that will prove useful in many ways because of its wonderful storage capacity-two large drawers over a base that has two doors for access to interior shelves. We suggest you build it of pine, maple, or cherry. Blueprint Pattern 1346. 50¢.

Yours without rubbing! "JOHNSON'S" AND "PRIDE" ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS OF S. C. JOHNSON & SON, INC. @1955

Until you try it, you can't imagine how easily (and how beautifully) Pride waxes furniture. Just apply . . . let dry . . . wipe lightly . . . for the richest, longest lasting luster you've ever seen on wood! A smooth, dry wax finish that can't trap lint and dust the way oily polishes do. Pride stays shining bright for weeks on end.

P.S. With Pride you don't need to clean your furniture before you wax it, either. As you apply Pride, its exclusive "twin-solvent" blend of safe, effective cleaning agents lets you wipe away smudges and stains...even sticky coffee and soft drink rings...in a jiffy!

Pride is recommended for both light and dark finishes by 51 makers of fine furniture bride Waxes Without rubbing

JOHNSON

by the makers of Johnson's Wax

This is you've what you've for been waiting for

THE AMERICAN HOME BOOK OF Flower Arrangements And Table Settings



MORE THAN 320 ILLUSTRATIONS . 157 HOW-TO PICTURES

on your newsstand

Whether you go in for big-time competition in flower arranging and table setting, or just like to express yourself with beauty and taste in your own home, this brilliantly illustrated book will prove an invaluable guide to these two subjects. The flower arranging section, edited by an authority, Betty B. Merriam, gives a wealth of suggestions and imaginative ideas you can adapt to your own needs. The table setting section, edited by expert Gertrude Brassard, Table Merchandise Editor of the AMERICAN HOME Magazine, gives the "how and why" of table setting and is full of professional help you can use. If your newsstand dealer cannot supply you with your copy, you may order from **The American Home, Dept. FA, American Home Bldg., Forest Hills, N. Y.**



Ah, the magic of candy canes! Glue hollow plastic cone over toy horn. Glue canes from bottom with Sobo glue. Tiny candles top "branches."

TO EACH HIS OWN CHRISTMAS TREE

Indeed you do want a sky-high tree. It gets top billing for the shimmery, caroling, gift-giving side of your family Christmas. Add to the fun: suggest that each member of your family decorate a small tree of his own this year. Your littlest one will get out his crayons and go to town. Big sister will garland a tree with frothy pink angel hair, and Dad will surprise you. You'll have a lot of trees—and no squabbles about how to trim *the* tree.

More trees on page 87

Tree designs: Mrs. Ruth Stevenson Sidell, Mrs. H. M. Moore, Mrs. Lowry Moore, and Garden Club of West University Place, Houston,



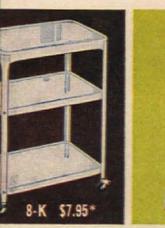
Anchor old umbrella frame in a bucket of sand. Secure slide with string. Spray gold, then trim with baubles.

a bug in his ear that

want [156]

Il get it for you at the drop of a hint ... the most *useful* gift under your . a Cosco Stool or Cart that will lighten your work and brighten your or years to come! Thirty-two matchless models in all ... smartly styled, y constructed ... priced from \$3.45* to \$19.95* ... available at departfurniture and hardware stores, in a host of colors to match the festive y season. Drop that hint right away ... and make it clear that you want the *quality* line of metal household furniture!

TON MANUFACTURING CORPORATION · COLUMBUS, INDIANA Makers of COSCO Metal Household Furniture













Tray top lifts off!

8-WB \$14.95*

Guaranteed by



\$16.95*



4-M \$12.95*

Cart: Top doubles as serving tray! 29½" high, 23½". Black enamel or chromium legs; five-ply wood-grain finish, four colors. 4-M Step Stool:
wood-grain finish, four colors. 4-M Step Stool:
'' high. Rubber-treaded "swing-away" steps.
-padded. Chromium or black enamel finish; wash-ran upholstery, five colors. 8-K Utility Table:
igh, 16" x 22". All-enamel finish, three colors.
tric Utility Table: Double outlet, heavy-duty upply cord. 29¾" high, 16" x 22". Chromium amel finish, four colors. 8-F Utility Cart: 29½"

3-H \$13.95*

high, $16\frac{1}{2}'' \ge 23\frac{1}{2}''$. Chromium legs; enamel finish, four colors. 82-A Folding Serving Cart: 273%" high, 14" ≥ 27 ". Folds $4\frac{3}{4}$ " flat! Chromium or black enamel legs; enamel or five-ply Coscoat wood-grain finish; five colors. 8-T Drop Leaf Utility Cart: $29\frac{1}{2}$ " high. Top, leaves down, $16\frac{1}{2}$ " $\ge 23\frac{1}{2}$ "; leaves up, $23\frac{1}{2}$ " $\ge 40\frac{1}{2}$ ". Chromium or black enamel legs; five-ply Coscoat wood-grain finish, four colors. 3-H Bar Stool: Revolving, comfort-padded seat, 30" high. Chromium finish; washable Duran upholstery, five colors. 2-D Kitchen Stool: Comfort-padded seat, 24" high. Chromium legs; washable Duran upholstery, four colors. 4-A Step Stool: 24" high. Rubbertreaded "swing-away" steps. Chromium legs; enamel finish, three colors. 4-C Step Stool: Seat, 24" high. Rubber-treaded "swing-away" steps. Chromium legs; enamel finish, three colors. 40-A Posture Step Stool: Back adjusts three ways for comfort! Rubber-treaded "swingaway" steps. Comfort-padded seat, 24" high. Black enamel or chromium legs; Duran upholstery, five colors.

*Slightly higher Colorado and west, and in Canada.

See our sp

a new and different gift from you to every one of your friends throughout 12 months. For so Little... Its cost is no measure of its real value to every home-loving friend, who measures its true worth by its complete helpfulness.

Gives so Much...

terest: Advice on every new idea for good living: Practical help for every home improvement.

For so Long...

Inspiration for every home-making in-

A whole year - with each colorful issue

NOVEMBER - 2

*

r Christmas

RISTMAS GIFT RATES \$3

CHRISI Cabecription	•	•	\$5
One 1-year Gift Subscriptions .	•	•	\$2
One 1-year Gift Subscriptions . Two 1-year Gift Subscriptions .		•	4-
Two 1-year Gift Subscriptions, each Three or More 1-year Gifts, each (All 3-year Subscriptions, \$6 each	h)	8	
(All 3-year Subsection - da Ce	ntrat	œ	

These rates are for USA, Canada, Central & South America. For other countries, add \$1 a year.

GIFT RATES EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 1955 A bright Gift Announcement Card is supplied at no extra charge for each name on your

Save more by including your own new or renewal subscription with your Gift Order. list.

You may send payment with your order,

or receive a bill in January.

Use the Gift Order Form in this copy and mail your Gift Subscription order today

THE

American Home Building, Forest Hills 75, N.Y.

⋇

+

To Each His Own Christmas Tree

(Begins on page 84)

1. Your four-to-six-year-old will be thrilled when you invite him to trim a tree all his own. Show him how to cut his tree out of green construction paper. He can glue it to white cardboard to hang in his room. Decorations? He'll be happy to turn to seals, gummed looseleaf reinforcements, paper chains from school, paints, crayons. To him, this may be the most beautiful tree in the whole house!



2. Cut two or three trees from heavy cardboard, and slot them so they'll interlock. A youngster will like decorating this three-dimensional tree. Let him work out the trimmings—put his imagination to work. He'll surprise you.

Your older boy can saw this tree out of plywood. He'll paint it and keep it to trim again next year. Attach small ornaments with tacks or transparent tape.

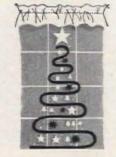
4. Does your teenager pride herself on

her modern ideas? She'll be delighted to make this tree for the hall table, and it will turn out to be sugar-plum pretty. This is just a big white paper

cone, rolled dunce-cap style. White tar-

latan or lace cover gives it texture. Your daughter will probably spiral tree with narrow velvet ribbon and use treasured pins and earrings for the baubles.

3. Children will marvel at this tree, and it will remind grownups of delicious oldfashioned ribbon candy. To make tree, get several yards of 1-inch ribbon. (Two colors back-to-back make it smarter yet). Zigzag the ribbon back and forth on a big window or mirror to shape an impressionistic tree. Glue or tape in place, and decorate with gold or silver foil paper cutouts or tiny bells.





5. Did you "deck the halls with boughs" or trim branches from your big tree? Then you have two or three small evergreen branches to make a clever miniature tree. Put them in a pin holder in a heavy bowl of water, then trim to suit your whim. One of the children may vote for this tree, and whisk it away to his room. When it turns up again, the tree will just glow with ideas.



6. Leave it up to the head of the family to add the whimsical touch with the most unusual tree of all. Like as not he'll pop up with a jaunty tree bedecked with bright seed packets and garden gloves, or decorate tree in high style with nuts, bolts, bits of copper wire, radio tubes.

Dad may get so wrapped up in this project that he paints the nuts and bolts gold, silver, or gala colors. It's always clever—and therefore fun—to make use of odd items around the house when you decorate an "extra tree." THE END

NEW! MAN-SIZE CONVENIENCE HOMEMAKER LUXURY!



No ordinary closet fixtures these!

Here are the solid, substantial (and handsome!) accessories you've always hoped to find! Cleverly designed to do a bigger job even in small closets. They're priced right, too — most items around 2.00! Look for the complete assortment of Fairfield matched accessories in sparkling lustre chrome. Your favorite store should have them!

THE AUTOYRE COMPANY, OAKVILLE, CONNECTICUT, U. S. A. World's leading manufacturer of Bathroom, Kitchen, Closet Accessories A SUBSIDIARY OF EKCO PRODUCTS COMPANY

So gay and lovely ... so thrifty too. **ビヅア** GIFT WRAPPING PAPERS

Cift WRAPPING PAPER

Rolls are 20 in. wide, 75 ft. long-125 square feet of beautiful paper.

CONVENIENT CUTTER-BOX

You'll be proud of your Christmas giftswrapped in the new KVP papers. And the money saved leaves more for presents!

Each colorful design comes in its own cutter-box. Simply tear off as needed . . . for large or small packages. No wrinkles-no creasesno waste. The paper section of your favorite store has it.

Your Guarantee ot Quality

> THE KVP COMPANY, Kalamazoo, Michigan Save time, save work, with these KVP Household Papers. Shelf Papers • Freezer Papers • Heavy and Fancy Waxed • Dusting Pa Pie Tape • Baking Cups • Cookery Parchment • Gift Wrapping In Canada buy KVP-APPLEFORD Paper Products Dusting Papers





MAKE CHRISTMAS MERRY AND MAKE IT SAFE

et's start by making the house just as safe from fire as possible. Begin with the Christmas tree, for unless properly cared for this festive item can become a real fire hazard.

The best policy is to allow your tree to remain outdoors until the last possible minute-this keeps tree from drying too rapidly. Then:

· Water the tree. Cut off the trunk at an angle a few inches from the original cut. Then stand it in a container holding sufficient water to cover the lower few inches of the trunk -and be sure water is added each day to keep end of trunk covered.

· Keep the tree far away from fireplace, radiator, or other heating device. If there's a fireplace, be sure the fire screen is always in place and in good condition, and don't use the fireplace as an incinerator for gift wrappings.

· Don't let the tree remain in the house too long. As soon as the holidays are over, take it outside. How about using a small living tree in a pot? Then plant it outdoors.

• Use only fire-resistant ornaments on tree and other decorations.

• Be extremely careful about the use of candles. Use only electric ones and don't let them touch needles.

· Check over all decorative electric lights and be sure the lights and their cords and sockets are in good working order. Be careful not to overload the house circuits. If you use lights outdoors be sure they are of the weatherproof variety.

When it comes to decorating a room-be sure to use a good sturdy ladder and have another person help you-don't risk a fall.

· Be sensible about toys. Be sure that trains and other electrical equipment carry the Underwriters' seal of approval, and don't let kids handle them with wet hands. THE END

CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOWS

You'll want to see the sixth annual Design for Christmas exhibition. It is a display of over 250 household objects-from toys to textileschosen for good design and especially suited to Christmas giving.

Sponsored by the Institute of Contemporary Art, the show will be held from November 21 until December 24. See Design for Christmas at:

- · The Institute's Boston Galleries
- · Richmond's Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
- · Detroit Institute of Arts
- · Cincinnati Art Museum



N.Y.; Jean Austin, 300 Park Are., New York 22, N.Y.
 3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are more, so state.) Nane.
 4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation. The name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affinit's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holder sphere who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bonn fide owner.
 Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16th day of Secure Theolie S. F. Gloisten Network 2016.

mber, 1955. Theodore F. Gloisten Notary Public, State of New York No. 30-6545700 Qualified in Nassau County (Term expires March 30, 1956)

[SEAL]

THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1955

STRONGER Yet SAFER

Won't Upset The Stomach Anacin® not only gives stronger, faster relief from pain of headache, neuritis and neuralgia – but is also safer. Won't upset the stomach and has no bad effects. You see, Anacin is like a doctor's prescription. That is, Anacin contains not just one but a combination of medically proven, active ingredients. Scientific research has proved no single drug can give such strong yet such safe relief as Anacin. Buy Anacin Tablets today!

Shrinks Hemorrhoids New Way Without Surgery

Science Finds Healing Substance That Relieves Pain-Shrinks Hemorrhoids

For the first time science has found a new healing substance with the astonishing ability to shrink hemorrhoids and to relieve pain – without surgery.

In case after case, while gently relieving pain, actual reduction (shrinkage) took place.

Most amazing of all-results were so thorough that sufferers made astonishing statements like "Piles have ceased to be a problem!"

The secret is a new healing substance (Bio-Dyne*) — discovery of a world-famous research institute.

This substance is now available in suppository or ointment form under the name Preparation H.* Ask for it at all drug counters – money back guarantee. *Reg. U.S. Pat. Ott.



Help Fight TB



Buy Christmas Seals

AVOID PAYING



... on copies of The American Home mailed to your old address. If you're moving, fill in new address below and send it with the address label (or facsimile) from this issue, direct to The AMERICAN HOME Subscription Dept., Forest Hills 75, N. Y., five weeks before moving-day.

Name		



veteran saleswomen, electricians, truck drivers, even pecan shell spreaders! Yes, four truck loads of pecan shells were delivered free by a local company, dumped in huge mounds, and spread over the lot to keep the ground dry.

To achieve the miraculous financial results, Mrs. Gilbert, Chairman of Sales that first year, had to organize a volunteer sales force to cover eleven selling hours each day. And to inform the public, Marilyn Pryor, Publicity Chairman, got the necessary free backing from local papers, radio and TV stations.



Now, with organizational problems licked, each committee functions smoothly. The twelve couples who make up the Property Committee begin their work in June when they order carloads of the finest balsam, fir, and pine available in Nova Scotia. Early in December, all available friends and relations help to prepare the lot. They build display racks, string lights from temporary poles, and see that the stock is kept healthy and fresh.

Another important factor towards success is Eloise Skilling's contribution. Members call her the "artistic brain"—and she's proved it. Early each fall she sets up workshops where eager though untrained members slave long hours making every type of Christmas decoration.

This December, General Chairman Marjorie McFarland and her assistant, Alice Knibb, will devote at least 14 hours a day to the lot. Their sales staff is responsible for three-day work stints. and on weekends it takes as many as 45 people per day!

To man the lot on Christmas Eve looked like a big problem, for, other than a night watchman, there just didn't seem to be anyone to take charge. Who should volunteer but a Zeta Tau Alpha Alumna, Ann Stein, who had good friends among the Delta Gammas. "There were no small children at home waiting for Santa, and I just felt like helping a worthwhile cause," Ann said. This Christmas Eve, Ann plans to be at the lot with her new husband-along with Poiteaux Browne, a grandmother of seven, and anyone else who will sell "A 'Shining Light Tree' to make your Christmas brighter and help us to help blind children.'

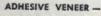
THE END



Sunbeam CORPORATION, Dept. 5, Chicago 50, Ill., Canada: W. Toronto 18







newest Marvalon miracle decorative material. Colors and patterns can be matched in Marvalon Shelf and Drawer Lining for complementary decorating. Adhesive Veneer is easier to apply - no overlapping. Just remove the paper backing. Sticks to any flat surface from table tops to wastebaskets.



SHELF LINING. Made of vinyl-plastic and latex like all Marvalon products. Defies wear and

tear. Wipes clean with a damp cloth. Comes in 14-inch widths - attractive scalloped edge.



DRAWER LINING. Convenient 20-inch width designed especially for drawers. Straight - edged to fit corners perfectly. Use all 3 Marvalon products. Give your home a new, fresh, colorful look.

L -

P.O. Box 296

Forest Hills, New York



(Subsidiary)





Is Due

HOW DOES YOUR DRIVEWAY GLOW?

Page 10: Scotchlite reflective safety tape-Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Co.

VERILY MERRY, OUR CHRISTMAS TABLES

Pages 56, 57: China, "Arcadia Green"— Fran-ciscan China. Crystal, "Classic" Empire green bowl, crystal base—Fostoria. Silver, "Melon" coffee service, "Heirloom 700" candelabra, coffee service, "Heirloom 700" candelabra, "Reigning Beauty" flatware and mugs--Oneida, Ltd. "Holly" rayon and cotton cloths —Simtex. Toys, Campbell Kid doll and party ball, Educator Approved Prestige Toys, Lido Jr. table and chair set, Baby Big Eyes, Doll-E-Hi-chair-Toy Guidance Council. Large brocaded Angel, 20-light, steady-burning Star of Beth-hem set, pine cones, gold snowflakes, crystal trees-Radiant Glass Fibers Co. Apron and Christmas annaments-Sun Glo Studios.

GOOD VICTUALS

Pages 58, 59: Ham holder on marble base —Bazar Francais. "Mountain Spun" table-cloth—Tausend, loomed by Fieldcrest. Candles —Emkay.

TAKE A CAN OF PINEAPPLE

Pages 64, 65: Porcelain bowl and silver plate dish cross—The Fan Co. Tribal snack server, hand sculptured Teak—Hanslan Assoc. "Red Beaded Edge" milk glass sherbets and plates— Westmoreland Glass. Pyrex pie plate—Corning Glass Works. "Contour" creamer and sugar bowl, "Dawn" tumbler—Fostoria Glass Co. "Georgian" tumbler—Viking Glass Co. Frying pan—Griswald Manufacturing Co. Nobility plate teaspoons—Empire Crafts Corp.

PHOTOGRAPHS

F. M. Demarest: pages 16 (lower), 32, 38, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 51 (lower), 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 62, 64, 65, 74, 91, 92, 93. Stephen Fay: pages 16 (top), 50 (top), 51. Peter Gowland: page 82 (lower). Kranzten Studios Inc.: page 82 (top). DRAW-INGS: Margaret Fleming: pages 4, 20, 42, 45, 47, 49, 50, 54, 55, 56, 57, 84, 87. Dick Ott: pages 46, 48.





The house is full of holiday cheer! But holiday messes, too, we fear. For company, we clean up quick! Du Pont Sponges turn the trick!

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MADE TO USE AND ENJOY



ROSEMARY THE CHRISTMAS HERB

GERTRUDE B. FOSTER

Rosemary, a fragrant, evergreen plant, makes a most appropriate Christmas gift. "That's for remembrance," as Shakespeare said.

Rosemary's a half-hardy European perennial herb. Its dark green, needle-like leaves resemble those of a fir. The plant has a rich scent. To perfume an entire room with it: just brush a branch with warm hand.

For a handsome table Christmas tree that needs no ornaments, paint a florist's wooden tub white and gold, and plant a two- or three-year-old rosemary specimen in it.

To keep this plant in good condition, be sure the soil is well drained and not allowed to dry out.

Rosemary is rarely bothered by pests, but the herb does need a light, cool shower once a week. Spray early on clear day so it dries by night.

After the holidays, return the plant to a sunny (south or southwest) window. Keep from artificial heat.

If the ground doesn't freeze in the winter in your part of the country, you can keep your rosemary plant in a tub outdoors when not using it as a decoration.

Use the branch tips as seasoning, fresh or dried, all year long.

Rosemary is a graceful plant, with upward curving branches. This spicyleaved plant has become a traditional decoration in England. THE END

TWO NEW HOW-TO CENTERS

• Two new How-to-Do-It Centers are ready for you-one at Kirven's in Columbus, Georgia, one at Sibley's in Rochester, New York. Visit these stores and see their complete line of AMERICAN HOME patterns: sewing, construction, and painting patterns, all with explicit instructions.



chure "Welcome Home to Comfort and Enjoyment" showing many out-standing pieces. Write Dept. AH, A. Brandt Co., Inc., Box 391, Fort Worth, Texas.

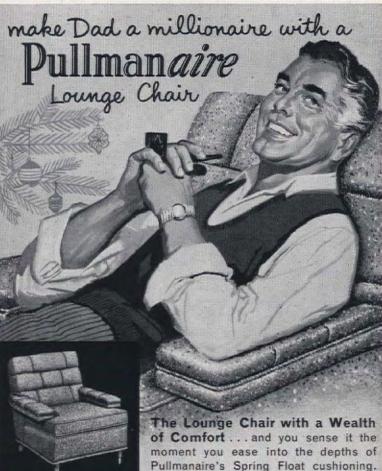


Informal yet distinguished

RANCH

OAK

... this table and lamp typify the unusually attractive, Americanranch inspired design of Ranch Oak furniture. Generously proportioned for versatility as well as inviting appearance. they can be used in any room, any grouping. Durably built of solid natural white oak for lasting beauty, Ranch Oak furniture will serve you in comfort for all the years ahead. Begin with these starter pieces, and build your Ranch Oak rooms around them. Or choose a complete room setting at exclusive Ranch Oak dealers today.



Illustrated is Pullmanaire Model 5027 Lounge Chair Wide choice of color and fabric. Prices start at around \$100.00. How thrilled Dad will be to eye this beauty on Christmas Day. How gratifying to know you gave it to him.

PULLMAN COUCH CO., Chicago 9,-III.

Below, far left, in traditional blue and white, is the graceful Italian figure that started the collection. Next to it, the small bust with Christ Child standing was made in Austria of white and dark blue porcelain. Hummel's beautifully detailed Flower Madonna, all in white, contrasts with sprightly Pennsylvania Dutch interpretation in sand color. A gold crown and petal-like cape distinguish Lenox China's modern, child-like Madonna. Blue and gold bust, with hands raised in blessing above two doves, is by Lenci of Italy.



Below: Delicate pink and white bust with hands in supplication is from Japan. Italian figure has lovely hands holding flower. Miniature Austrian model, in deep blue and yellow, is before slender German Madonna with Child. Unadorned blue and white head is American, while charming German bust is trimmed with flowers. Colorful French version of Mother contrasts with simplicity of last two Italian figures; smaller is by Lenci.

92

ADONNAS This unusual collection started

1

MARY E. MONZE

Some of more unusual pieces in Mrs. Wallace's collection are shown at left and below. Three slender figures at left (1, 2, 3) are of carved balsa wood, two of them 8" tall, and tiny one in folding triptych only 3¼" high. Note lovely lines on center carving and impressionistic horizontal folds in robe of figure at right. All Italian imports. Single bust (4), also Italian, wears tranquil expression, has violet robe and gray hair. In trio below, exquisitely simple modern head is American, and center figure is classic Italian study distinguished by beautiful detail in modeling of face, hair, crown, and hands. The last, and most lifelike figure, is German model of Mother and Child reminiscent of the abundant quality of Renaissance painting.



O f all symbolic figures, the Madonna is among the most beloved. She has represented not only Mary, mother of Christ, but also universal motherhood. And artists of all centuries have painted, written, and composed music about her beauty and serenity. At this season, it is particularly appropriate to show these lovely Madonna figurines from the collection of Mrs. Ralph Wallace of Smoke Rise, New Jersey.

Mrs. Wallace's collection started with a Christmas present. Several years ago her mother asked what she wanted for Christmas and Mrs. Wallace replied, "A Madonna." From this first one, the collection grew until it now numbers 65 Madonnas from all over the world. All are modern and completely individual, and the figures are executed in such varying materials as wood, glass, china and other ceramics.

With the white or ivory figures, Madonna blue or another shade of blue is the most prevalent color, but pink and gold are also used frequently. Even green and touches of red appear, as in the green trim on the dress of the Pennsylvania Dutch lady and the red flowers in the hand of the French figure. Mrs. Wallace says her Madonnas are "not a hobby, but a joy" and a daily inspiration. She uses them for accents and in flower and table arrangements, especially at Christmas and Easter. THE END

with a Christmas present and became a year 'round joy

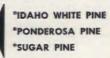


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THE MUTTER

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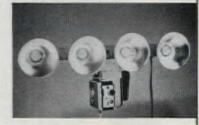
6. Silex Handyhot Blendette...Mixes, beats, whips and blends from breakfast to midnight snack-time. An extra hand for Mom in the kitchen and a "must" for Dad's home bar. Available in white and popular pastel colors, too. \$17.95

EXX The Silex Company, Hartford, Connecticut—Iberville, P.Q., Canada Chicago Electric Division, Chicago, Illinois Enterprise Manufacturing Division, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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AMATEUR MOVIE MAKERS will get professional lighting with Brownie 4-lamp movie light. Fastens on tripod of any camera. Use two 375-watt reflector floods (for close-ups), or four (for distance). In camera stores, \$8.45.





PERFECT SMALL COPIES of Revere Ware are "just like mother's." They come in a carton that makes toy range. For \$14.95, 7 pieces. Revere Copper & Brass Inc., 230 Park Ave., N. Y. C.

FREE STANDING circular fire screen of brass doesn't need to be built in, fits openings up to 38" wide, 32" high. Pulls for opening mesh curtain are manual. Costs \$79.95. Fred Meyer, 1499 Potrero Ave., San Francisco, Cal.



CIRCULAR PLAY PEN

has safe, soft nylon-netting sides to protect baby and help him get

around on his own more easily. Padded pen is 41" in diameter, folds flat to carry or store.

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THIS CHALK LINE has chalk built right in so line comes out ready to use. Case has recessed rewind handle and can be hung up for use as a plumb bob. It's \$1.49. Evans Rule Co., 400-416 Trumbull St., Elizabeth, N. J.



BRIGHT TYPIST? That's what you'll certainly be with this portable typewriter, for it comes in six colors: pink, yellow, blue, green, and two shades of gray, \$117.50. Royal Typewriter Co., 2 Park Ave., New York City.

THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1955 PRINTED IN THE U. S. A. BY THE CUNEO PRESS. INC.

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Plastic floor is Armstrong Excelon Tile, Style No. 787, Powhatan Turquoise.

the modern fashion in floors

You're on your way to extra hours of free time when you have a well-planned kitchen. Especially if it's equipped with the new, easy-to-clean materials, and a time-saving, labor-saving plastic floor of Armstrong Excelon Tile. This smooth, vinyl-asbestos floor cuts minutes from your cleaning time every day. It whisks free of dust in seconds, and spilled things wipe up easily with a damp cloth. Nothing you'll normally upset in a kitchen will hurt it. Excelon will brighten all your kitchen hours with its lovely colors. You have dozens to choose from, and you can give your kitchen a gay or a high-fashion look, as you wish. Yet Excelon is remarkably low in cost, and the easiest of all resilient floors to install. It's so flexible you can shape the tiles with scissors! Enjoy extra hours out of the kitchen, pleasanter hours in it, with Armstrong Excelon Tile, the low-cost modern fashion in floors.

Send for free room portfolio describing this step-saving kitchen with its indoor-outdoor dining area. List of furnishings included. Write Armstrong Cork Company, 5512 Plum Street, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.



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Under \$30.00 . . . the new "Six-plus-One" place setting gives you all six usual pieces, plus an extra teaspoon free! Only \$29.75⁺ (smaller place settings-4 or 5 pieces-also available).



Under \$10.00 . . . lovely serving pieces in Heirloom Sterling, at *low* gift prices. Pickle fork, only \$4.00⁺. Cold-meat fork, gravy ladle, \$9.75[†] each. Hollow-handle pie knife, \$8.75[†].



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3

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The most lavish gift of all is a luxurious Heirloom Sterling service

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