

POPULAR HOME

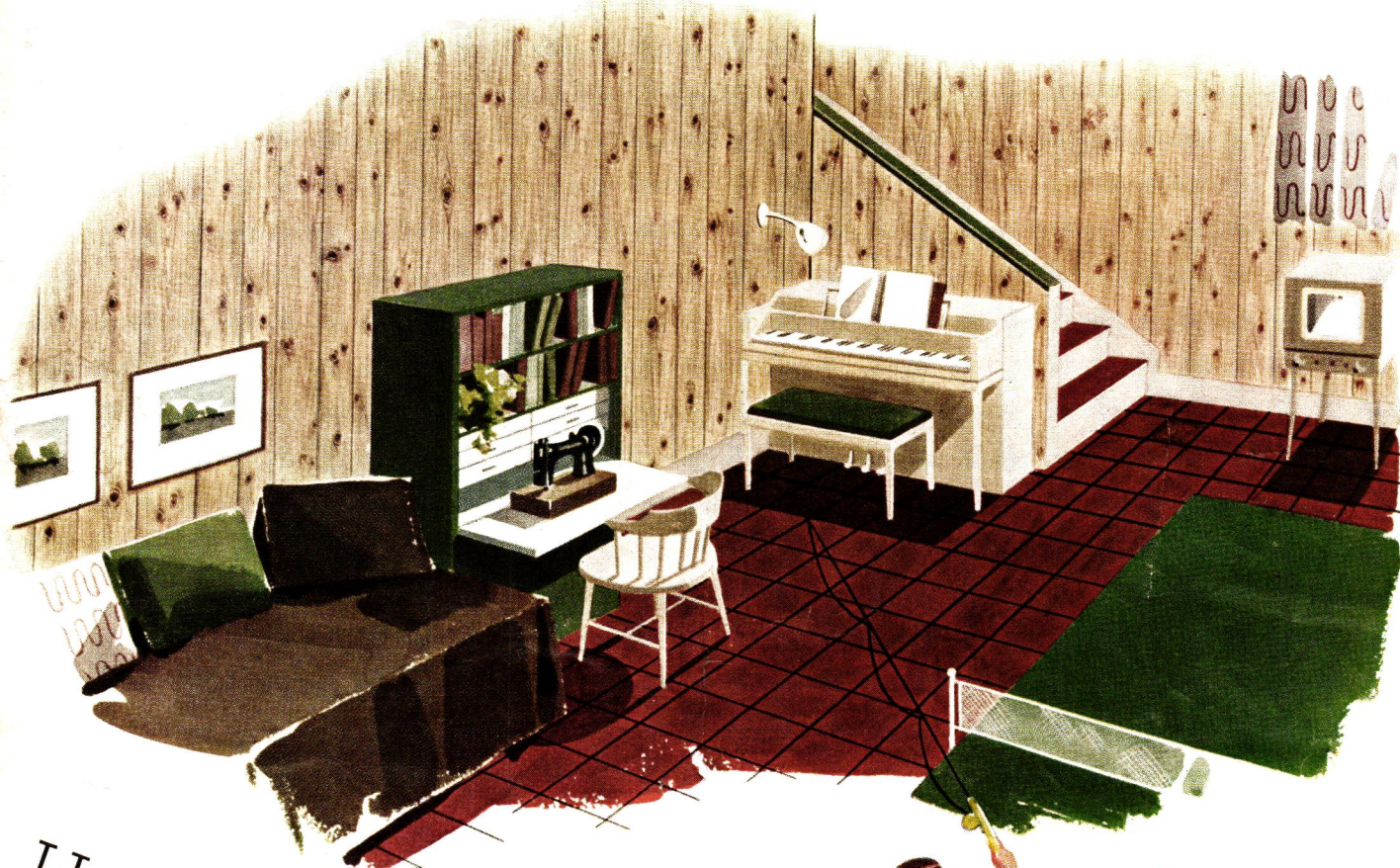
Serving more than 3,600,000 families in 4,800 communities Late Spring, 1952

**30 GOOD IDEAS
FOR BASEMENTS**



**Wardwell Lumber Co.
Bristol, R.I.**

Wait no longer for those "someday rooms!"



Here's how to have them right now!

Been longing for a cheerful rumpus room? A new dining room or living room? A den for Dad?

These and other rooms can be yours right now—with all the beauty and distinction you ever dreamed about—with Woodgrained SHEETROCK, the fireproof Gypsum Wallboard! Yours, with the luxurious graining pattern and coloration of wood paneling—at *only a fraction of the cost!*

Knotty Pine, for example (as shown), in beautiful random width effects. Or Planked Walnut or Bleached Mahogany, in today's preferred lighter tones.

Let's talk over your plans. We've all kinds of ideas for building and remodeling, and all kinds of materials, including Woodgrained and regular SHEETROCK, lumber, building hardware, windows, doors, roofing, siding . . . all the things you need to have those "someday" rooms—*right now!*



Check these advantages
of woodgrained SHEETROCK

- Highly fire-resistant.
Gypsum fights fire!
- Easy to apply. Comes in large panels; no joint treatment necessary; matching nails.
- No finishing is required.
- Defies termites, other insects; rodents.

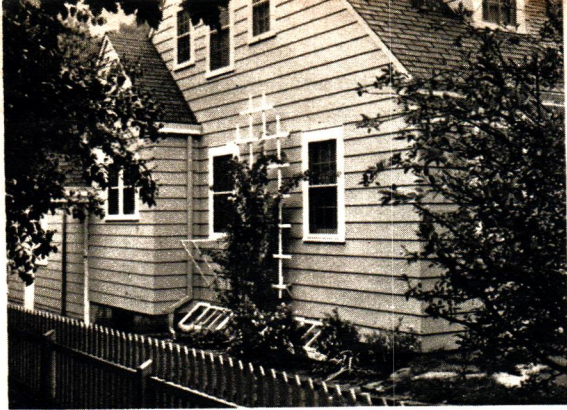
Ideal for remodeling!

There is only one
SHEETROCK

T. M. Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.

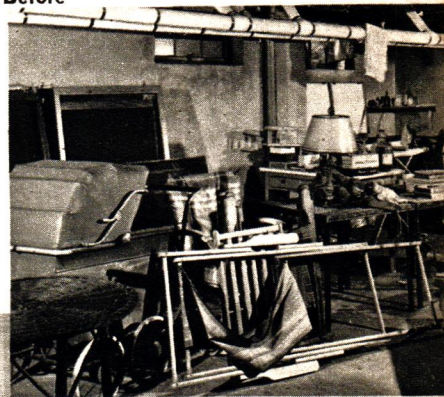
The Fireproof Gypsum Wallboard

come in or phone . . .
see our name and address
on the front and back covers

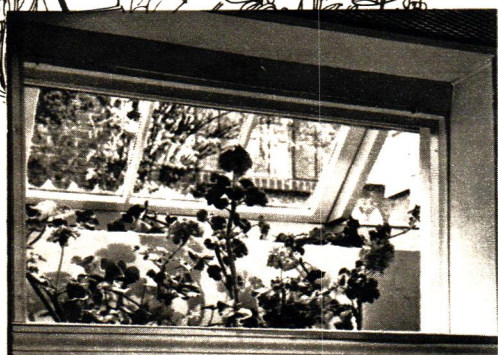
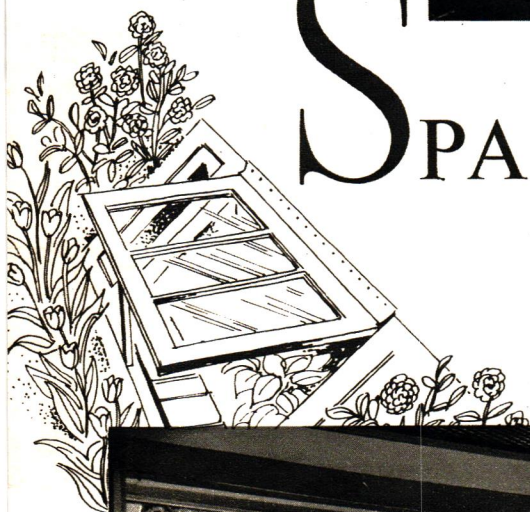


Last roundup before bedtime is happy time for Wenthe children in remodeled basement (below). This photo, which also appears on cover, shows George, 8, and Jimmy, 5, on floor; Martha, 2, on couch; and Nancy, 9, chatting with Barbara, 13, at desk. Note furred-down ceiling over steam pipes, also angled corner which conceals pipe and provides space for youngsters is POPULAR HOME Wall Desk.

Before



S PACE...when you need it



Greenhouse window is unusual touch added by Mr. Wenthe to accommodate potted plants. In winter, standard basement sash slips into place on inside. How to Build a Window Greenhouse, like this, is a Handyman feature of Photo Plan 52-3, offered by your POPULAR HOME sponsor.

Family of Nine Makes A Basement Earn Its Keep

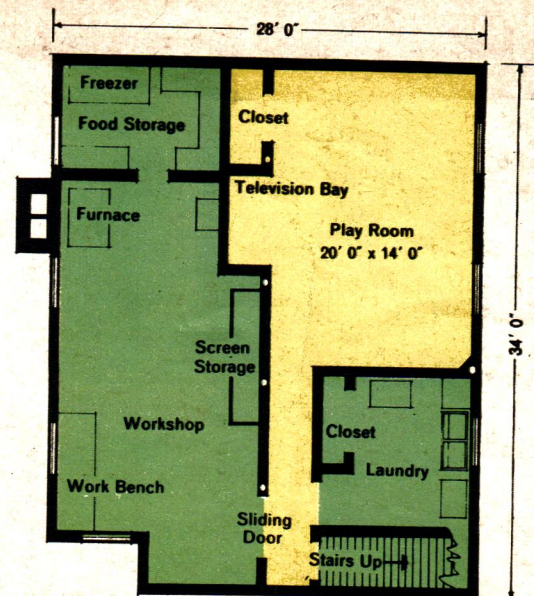
BULGING AT THE SEAMS is unbecoming to a house—and furthermore, it's unnecessary today in many cases where growing families just can't seem to fit into too-small homes. Frequently the easiest and most inexpensive means of increasing usable space in a house is so obvious that it's unnoticed. It's in the basement, the utility room, or even in the garage—and a simple matter of finishing and equipping these areas to do full-time duty for family work and play.

A feature of this four-page article is a pictorial visit to the basement of the Ray G. Wenthe home in Radburn, N. J. There, a modest two-story house comfortably quarters the parents and seven lively children, stair-stepped in age from 1 to 13. One good reason why it's that way is the basement—a basement partitioned and finished in his spare time by Mr. Wenthe, a sales manager by profession. Many of its ingenious ideas may find a place in *your* house . . . come along and see!

Continued on Next Page



Mary Elizabeth, 9 months, waits for party to begin.



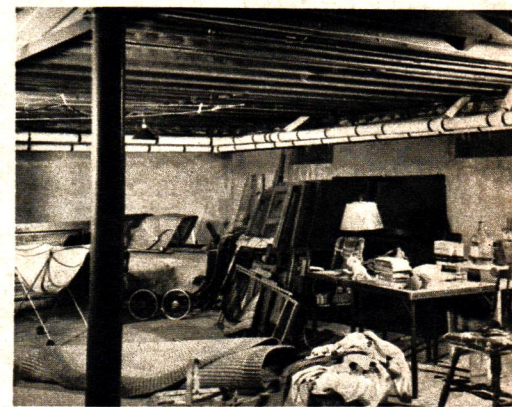
Use of existing features is apparent in floor plan of remodeled basement. Principal partition was installed along line of center posts. Heat is radiated through expanded steel mesh grillwork under all horizontal steam pipes.

SPACE...when you need it

(Continued)

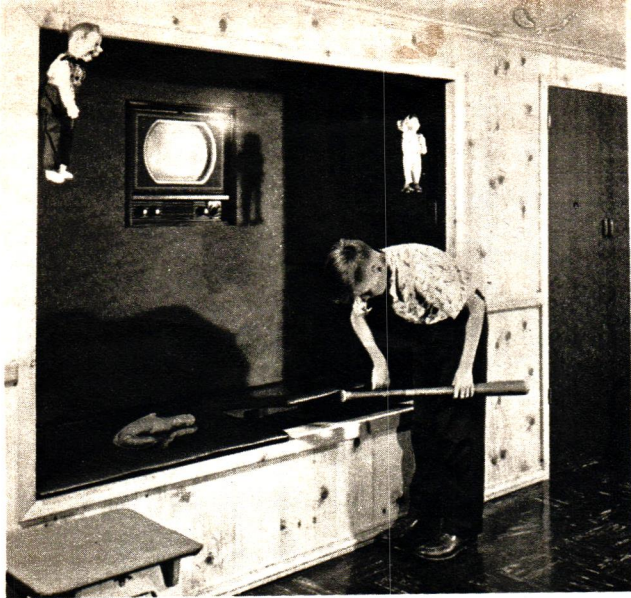
DECORATING CONSULTANT: ELEANOR PEPPER

PHOTOGRAPHY: JERRY COOKE



Ready for a birthday party is other end of playroom (left). Photo highlights rich, natural beauty of Knotty Pine SHEETROCK wallboard, used for all playroom walls and easily applied to furring strips in big 4 x 8-foot panels. Ceiling is of regular SHEETROCK gypsum wallboard, with all joints perfectly concealed by PERF-A-TAPE Joint System. Pegboard on wall is made of 12 squares of QUIETONE Acoustical Tile. Sliding-door cabinets under pegboard, the chairs used at card table, and HandiTop stools in foreground, all are POPULAR HOME Knockdown Kit items that you can purchase. Shelf-cabinets at ends of sofa were made by Mr. Wenthe. Ventilating fan in ceiling is flanked by recessed light fixtures.

For "Here's How" tips on finishing your basement like this, see the special feature on Page 7.



Here's an idea that's good for any playroom—a "television bay" recessed over a toy storage bench, which has a hinged top demonstrated above by Neil Wenthe, 11. Television set is suspended from ceiling in workshop room. Walls of bay, and closet doors, are covered with sturdy DURON hardboard. Bay doubles as "stage" for George and Jimmy's puppet shows, home movies (right).



Many things to many people

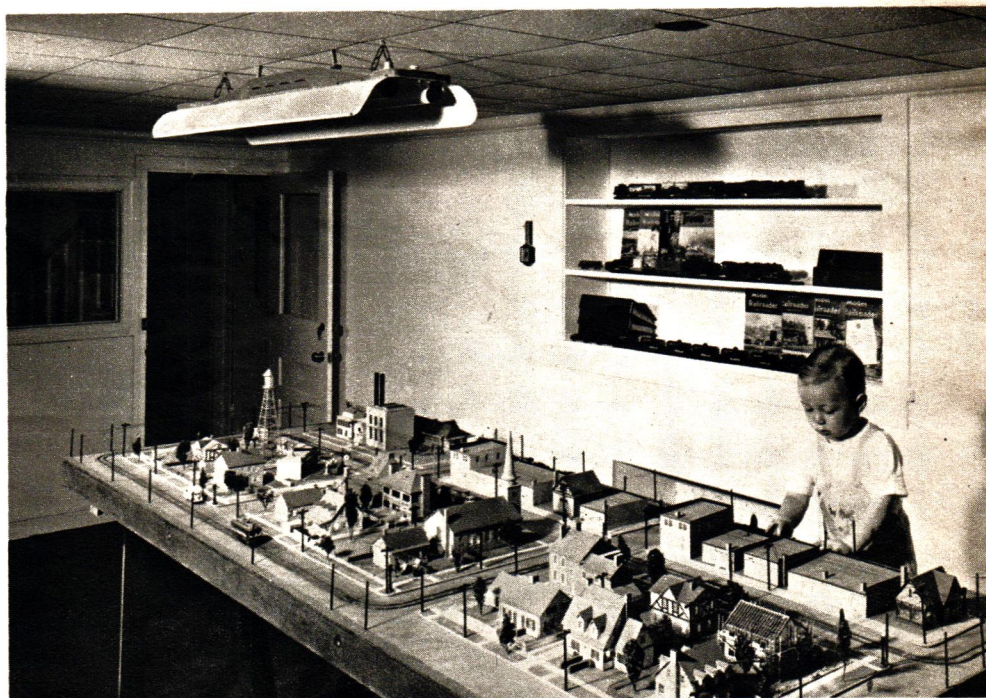
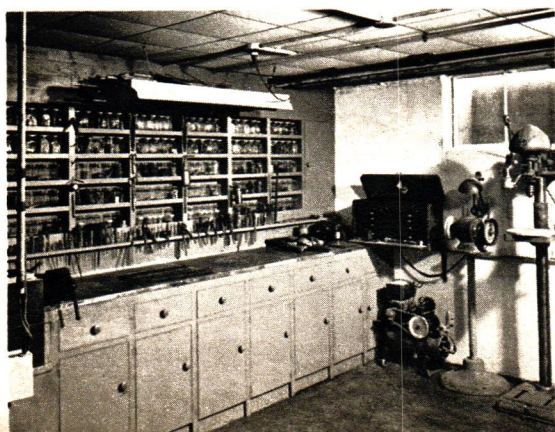
YOUR OWN SKILL AND IMAGINATION are almost the only limitations on the family service that can be built into a basement. You may wish to devote most of the space to an adult recreation and rumpus room, or to a home gymnasium for the youngsters. Perhaps a hobby shop, like that shown below, is the important thing to you. But you can also provide for a gardener's corner, a built-in playpen for the baby with a raised floor, and loads of general storage space.

When you're sizing up the job, remember that you

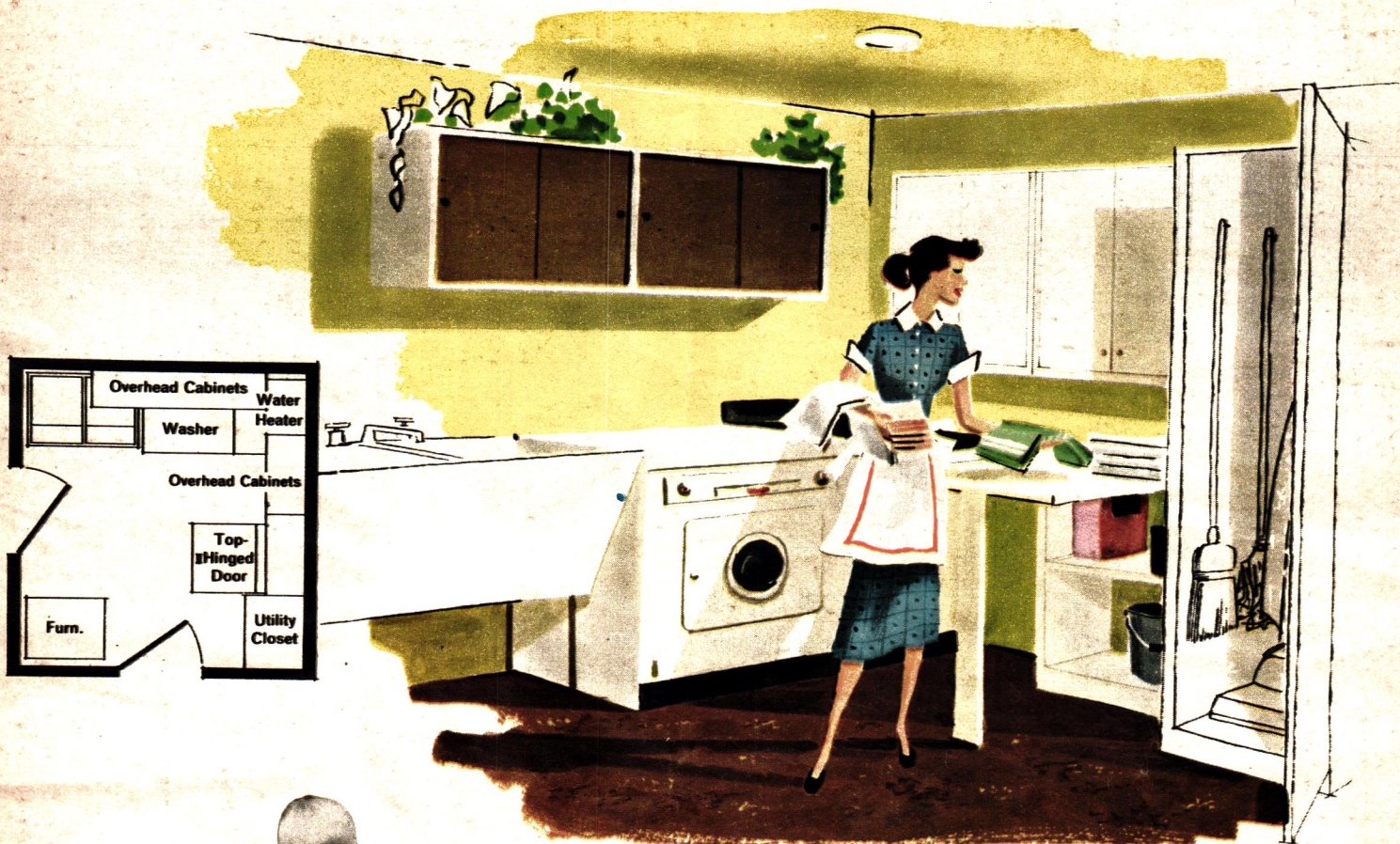
want good lighting, and don't neglect the space under the stairs—there may be room to build in a convenient snack bar or closet. Use posts, brick piers and other structural features to your advantage—they can help to form room dividers, benches, or cabinets. And above all, give your basement plenty of color. Previously unpainted masonry walls, for instance, will show striking results with an application of TEXOLITE CEMENTICO masonry paint, available from your TEXOLITE paint dealer in a range of eight beautiful colors.

Continued on Next Page

Model railroading has a clear track in the Highland Park, Ill., basement of Mr. and Mrs. Roger B. Deatherage. Right, young Roger II inspects scale-model buildings turned out by his father in the completely-equipped home workshop shown below. WEATHERWOOD Insulating Paneltile, rectangular or square, is an ideal material for this type of ceiling.

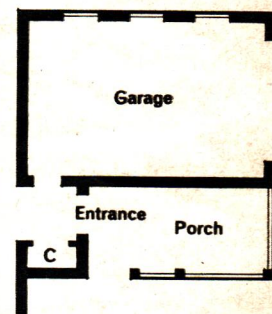
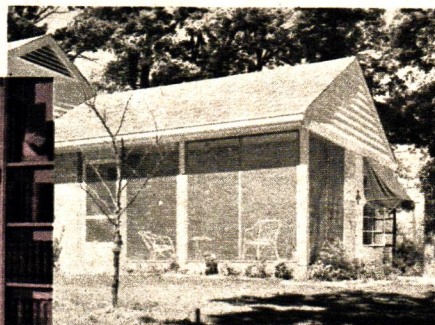
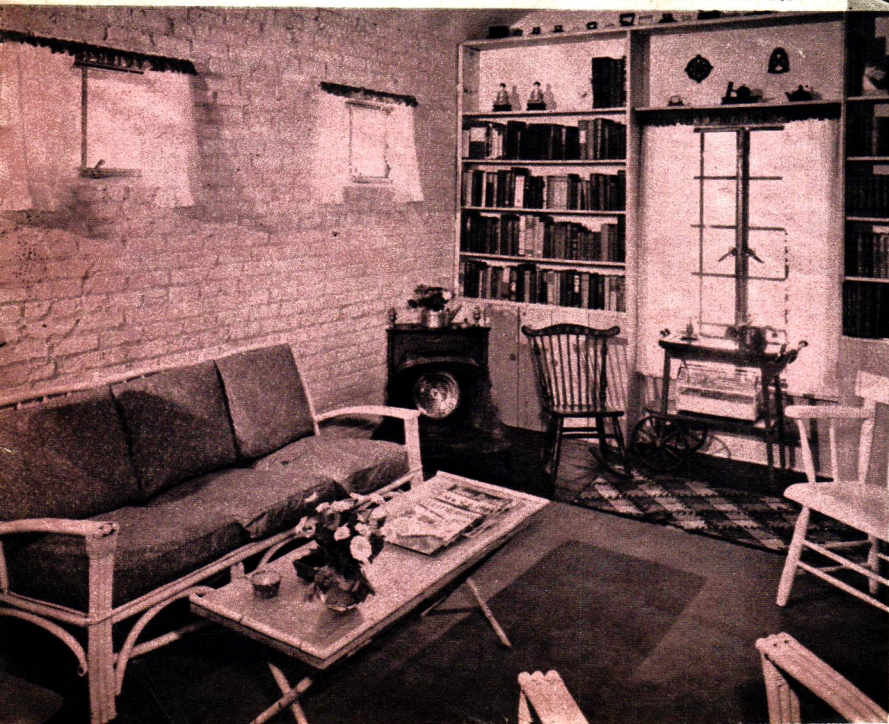


SPACE...when you need it (Continued)



HOME OF MR. & MRS. HAVEN C. REQUA

If you're without a basement, let the utility room earn its salt with an efficient arrangement as in this 8 x 8½ foot room. Build or buy a utility closet for one corner. Use the wall space for cabinets, either the unfinished stock type carried by local lumber dealers, or POPULAR HOME Sliding-Door Cabinets (on left wall) that can be ordered through firm named on covers. Underneath, build in a laundry cabinet with a raise-up table—for complete directions, just ask your POPULAR HOME sponsor for Photo Plan 52-3.

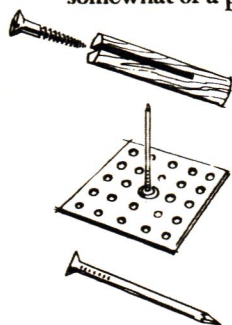


The garage may yield the extra living space you need, as in this home. A comfortable study-television room appeared when garage door was replaced with wood siding on exterior, Insulating SHEETROCK wallboard as interior surface. Around casement window owner built cabinet and bookcase wall. Completing charming setting are brick wall painted Sunlight Yellow, green rug, red calico slip covers, and ruffled curtains.

The "Here's How" of finishing a basement

IF FATHER'S LITTLE PROJECT is now to turn the basement into a finished full-time room, one of the things he should know about is furring. Furring is nothing more than a means of providing a level, nailable surface, and it usually consists of 1 x 2-inch wooden strips nailed to the basement wall.

Just how he attaches those strips to the wall may be somewhat of a problem. It can be done with:



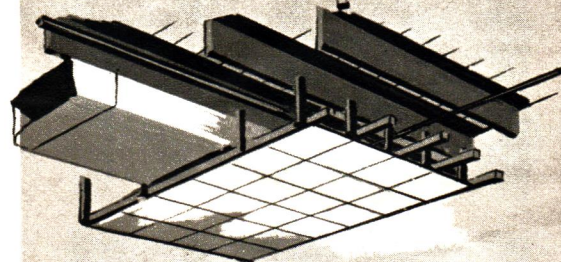
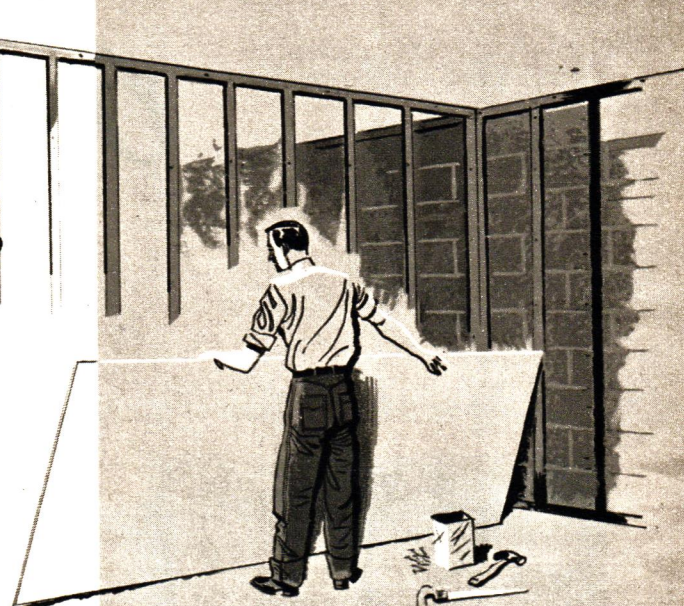
- Screws, which must be driven into wood, plastic, or lead plugs (for which holes are drilled with a masonry drill).
- Anchor nails, which are cemented to walls with an adhesive (thus eliminating boring of holes in masonry).
- Special nails, which can be driven only into masonry of certain types. Your lumber or hardware dealer may have additional methods to suggest.

Father can decide which of these methods he prefers. His next step, after furring strips are in place, is to test them with a straight edge and a level. Those that need leveling can be shimmed with wooden wedges inserted between strips and the wall.

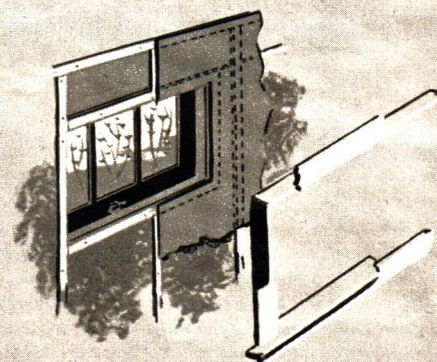
Now he's ready to put on the wall covering. This can be either regular, Insulating, or Woodgrained SHEETROCK Wallboard, or it can be WEATHERWOOD Insulating Plank. Father doesn't need to worry about hiding the joints between panels; he can use panels with beveled edges, with joints exposed, or WEATHERWOOD Plank with tongue and groove edges. The Plank requires horizontal furring; the wallboard, vertical strips.

If he uses Insulating SHEETROCK Wallboard, he will have a feature that can add greatly to a basement's comfort—an aluminum foil vapor barrier on the back of each panel facing the air space next to the outside wall.

Father can stop dreaming about that room in the basement right now—and go down to the lumber yard tomorrow. Let him take this page with him—and the dealer will be glad to supply the advice he needs.



Hiding pipes and heat ducts in your basement ceiling is best accomplished by nailing to floor joists short lengths of 2 x 2's, to which 2 x 2-inch stringers have been attached. These are covered with panels or tile.

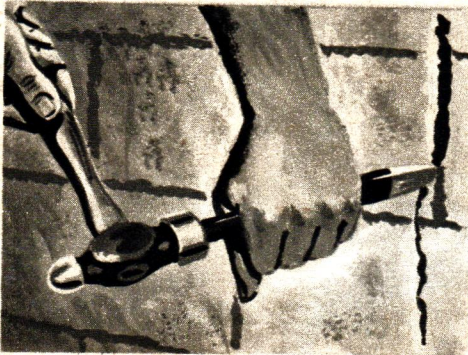


It's best to use 1 x 3-inch furring strips around window opening, although exact method of framing varies with window types. Trim covers edges where wallboard meets framing around opening.



Cutouts for switches and outlet boxes can be made with a keyhole saw. Locate exact position of cutout by first holding SHEETROCK panel in place, then tapping with a hammer on wood block around outlet. Indentation on back of board is guide for cutting.

6 Ways to *fight* basement dampness



Pesky cracks in porous masonry surfaces can be patched with a mixture of one part gray TEXOLITE CEMENTICO, two parts fine sand, and water to make thick paste. (Above) Clear crack of loose particles with wire brush and chip out inverted V with cold chisel. Spray crack thoroughly with hose to prevent too rapid absorption of water. To help insure proper curing, spray again after patch has set. (Below) Trowel on mixture, pressing material firmly into base of crack with trowel. Then smooth out patch with old brush dipped in water.

WHETHER you're building a new house, finishing new "rooms" below ground level, or using it as it is, you want your basement to be as dry as possible. It may not be bone dry, but at least it can be quite comfortable. Here are six moisture-controlling methods that may help to make it that way:

1. *Look to your roof!* A leaking gutter or downspout may be dripping in an unsuspected place. Drainage must be *away* from the house—check after a heavy rain.
2. *Give it air.* Put the whammy on condensation by opening windows, especially on days when you string up long lines of wet wash to dry.
3. *Seal up the interior of those walls.* Brush or spray on a water-lime-and-alkali resistant, hydraulic cement paint—TEXOLITE CEMENTICO. Use it also to seal cracks (drawing at left).
4. *Create an air space.* Furr out with wood strips and apply SHEETROCK Gypsum Wallboard (see page 7).
5. *Get an electric dehumidifier.* It's one of the best rust and mildew inhibitors yet devised. It takes gallons of moisture out of the air.
6. *As a last resort* for really serious leakage, go to the *outside* of your basement—where the trouble starts. Be sure the walls have the protection of SUPER-TITE Dampproofing Coating, and that the foundation footings are provided with drain tile. If tile is broken, it may have to be replaced.

How to prepare exterior of basement wall for dampproofing application:

After earth is dug away to footing depth, clean wall with wire brush as first step.



Spray with garden hose until wall is nearly saturated, then start grout coat.



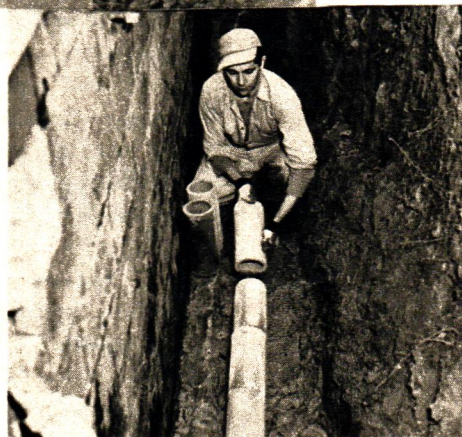
Brush on first coat of portland cement and water mix, allow to set firmly, keep damp.





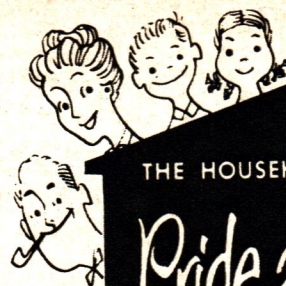
Final step on outside of wall, after curing finished cement work, is to apply SUPER-TITE Dampproofing Coating. Make sure all areas are thoroughly and uniformly covered, allow coating to become firm. Use care in backfilling.

If it's necessary to install or replace drain tile, make certain to set tile to proper drainage grades and protect joints with 6-inch tarpaper strips.



Trowel on second coat (cement, USG Masons Lime, sand, and water mix).

Scratch with toothed spreader, allow to set, keep damp for final coat (top of page).

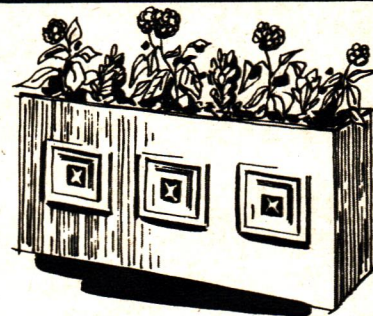


THE HOUSEHOLDER'S

Pride and Joy

COLUMN

Bright Ideas for the Home

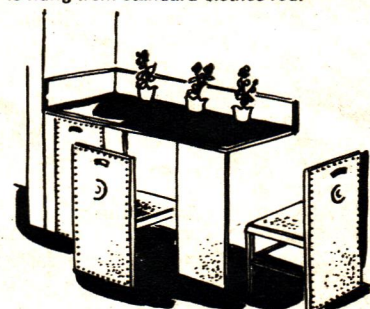


Plant box of striated plywood and standard pine molding makes decorative living room piece. Wallpaper cutouts in frames repeat pattern on opposite wall of room. Box measures 10" x 21" x 3'-8" long, is painted a soft blue-gray, has a metal liner in top.

Glenn I. Lammers, Rockford, Ill.



Child's clothes hanger. You'll have a better chance to train your child in the art of picking up clothes if you give him a hanger that's within reach. This one is made from an old broomstick and two pieces of heavy wire, and is hung from standard clothes rod.



Breakfast counter for a narrow 6 x 16-foot kitchen has chairs that "disappear" when not in use. Straight chair backs line up with counter support panels, have circular center hand grips. Counter, 20 inches deep, and chairs were built by reader when standard table would not fit into space available.

Lou Schiller, Brooklyn, N. Y.

\$20 Each for Contributions published in this column! Enclose sketch or snapshot, address POPULAR HOME Magazine, 300 W. Adams St., Chicago 6, Ill.



Painting Tips

Surface Preparation. Maybe you've gone out and bought paint, put it on, and then wondered why it didn't look right. One secret to good painting, the skilled professional painter will tell you, is care in preparing the surface for paint. Before even opening the paint can you should know when and where to use:

No. 00 sandpaper:

On old flat woodwork... lightly... and between coats of paint; to help smooth rough plaster walls before painting. Your sandpaper will go farther if you scrub it occasionally with a stiff brush to free it of wood or paint particles.

No. 1 steel wool:

On old carved woodwork: cove, beaded, or fancy moldings, or where sandpaper might scratch. For fine satin-like sheen on new hardwood use No. 000 steel wool. Don't rub across grain; even smallest scratch shows up later.

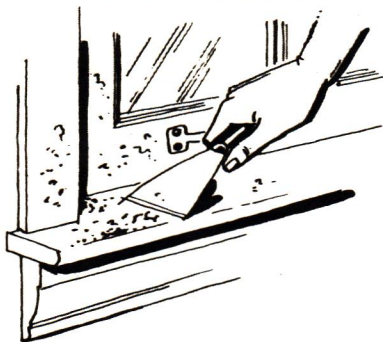


A wire brush:

On masonry: removing old paint, dust, from basement walls, and on metal (pipes, radiators). It's also good for cleaning out masonry cracks.

A worn out paint brush:

Any place where dust accumulates—to clean out corners of window sash and base moldings especially. Use it after sanding.



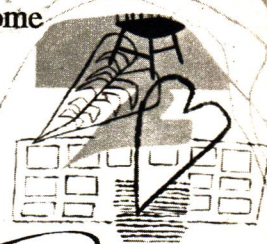
A putty knife:

On woodwork: scraping off old paint from window sill (with aid of paint remover); filling small cracks and nail holes with TEXOLITE Spackling Putty; handy for loosening paint-stuck windows.

And don't forget to thoroughly wash down walls and woodwork which have been painted with glosses or enamels, or which are grease-stained. Vigorous scouring takes the gloss out of old surfaces and provides a "tooth" for succeeding coats. Whether you paint with brush, roller, or spray gun, you first need a paint surface which is as smooth and dust-free as you can make it. Then you can expect the results a professional gets!

This is
another in our
series on

How to Color-Decorate
Your Home



Plan your Color scheme for Change

By replacing worn furnishings gradually,
you can keep a continuously harmonious color scheme
and an eye on that budget

EVERY WELL-DRESSED WOMAN knows the wisdom of buying good basic clothes which will endure through changing fads... and the economy of changing her basic costume with the colors of new accessories. Each season, she uses the best of the old as a starting point for the new, carefully selecting colors which will achieve a fresh coordinated costume.

It is easy to translate this same color rotation principle to a color wardrobe plan for your home, as shown on the opposite page in pictures of three stages of one room.

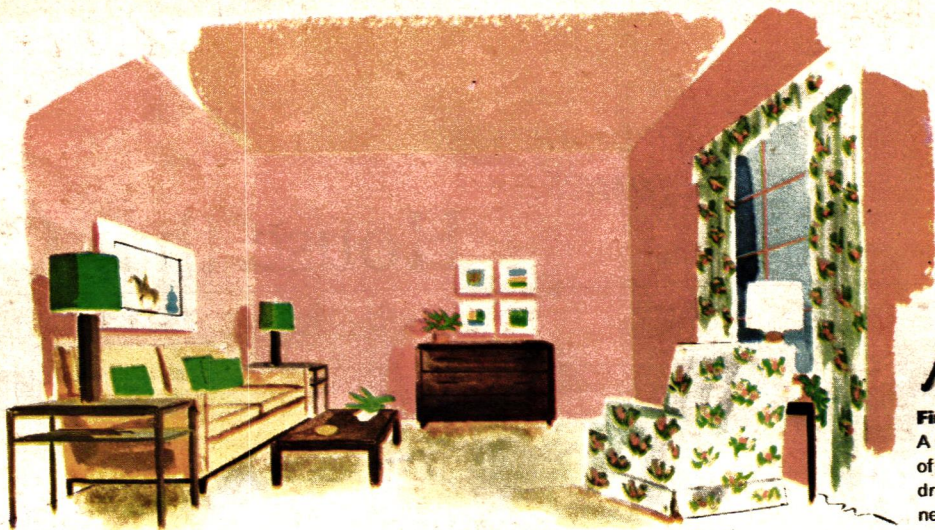
Let us suppose that you have flowered chair slip covers and draperies (See 1). Your carpet is good for several more years. The budget will not stand new furniture, but spring has brought an urge for change. Now if you made your color plan with the future in mind, there is a new wall color which, like magic, will bathe old possessions in a new light (See 2). A new sofa slipcover and bright cushions will add the final touch. Although your room has a new effect, future changes can be made without discarding expensive items.

Through the long, wonderful summer you enjoy your lovely room... but with the first fall days, the old urge will come again. Now, spring's economy pays dividends and you can replace now-faded fabrics with a red chair slipcover and yellow draperies (See 3). The walls stay the same but the new ceiling color, yellow, is sunshine for the winter ahead.

With paint alone it is possible to change the color effect of a room. Newly painted walls in a harmonious color give a fresh, new look. Enjoy the luxury of frequent change without great expense and insure the continued beauty of your home by making color a kind of "perpetual motion".

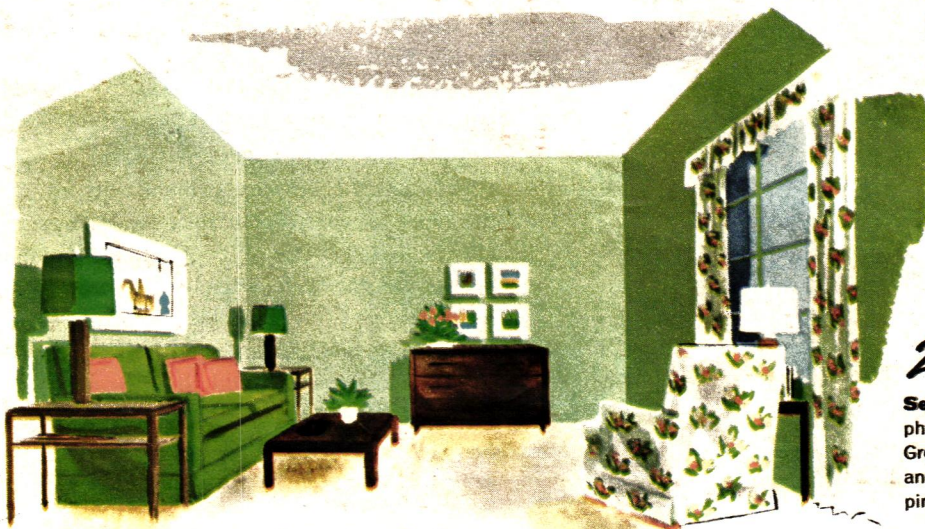
The modern, easy way to do it is with TEXOLITE DURAVAL, the new rubberized interior paint with a velvety soft finish. Equally practical for walls and woodwork, it eliminates the problem of matching. See the seventeen ready-mixed DURAVAL colors at your TEXOLITE paint dealer's. Ask to see the Decorator Recipes for mixing the new Custom Colors.

By Ruth Kain Bennett



1 First stage in a Color Rotation plan.

A room that's pleasant to live in with walls of Sea Island Peach, crisp flowered chintz draperies for a versatile keynote and a neutral beige rug to go with many colors.



2

Second stage. Same room, new atmosphere with spacious and restful Palm Green walls, deep green slipcover for sofa and bright cushions that reflect the deep pink of the same flowered draperies.



3

Third stage. Color does it again with Sunlight Yellow ceiling and yellow curtains shedding new light on the same old room. Latest additions are a bright red slipcover for the chair, recovered accent cushions and new red lampshades.

Another color rotation solution

Stage One. If you start with:



Walls Other

1. Colonial Cream
2. Rose
3. Blue
4. White
5. Light Gray
6. Green

Stage Two. You can change to:



Walls Other

1. Canterbury Blue
2. White
3. Blue
4. Rose
5. Light Gray
6. Brilliant Green

Stage Three. And later, do this:



Walls Other

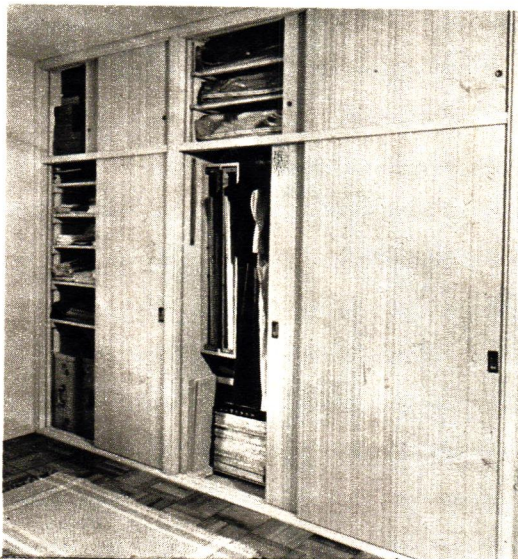
1. Sheffield Gray
2. White
3. Brilliant Green
4. Light Gray
5. Brilliant Green
6. Bittersweet

POPULAR
HOME'S

House that Greets



Perfect for relaxing and outdoor activities is secluded rear terrace, enjoyed here by Mr. and Mrs. Clark. Door at left is from dining area. House has four large fixed windows like those at right, all equipped with ventilating louvers at sides.

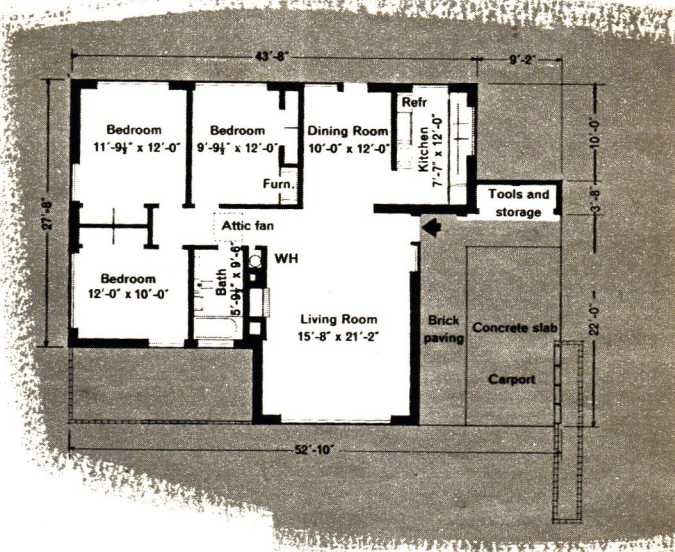


HANDSOME AND STURDY as its climate demands is POPULAR HOME's House that Greets the Seasons, a three-bedroom dwelling that offers maximum family service at a modest construction cost. It welcomes the weather because it's just as snug and comfortable in winter as it is open and uncrowded in summer. This house, built for Mr. and Mrs. Jack G. Clark in the pleasant Mayfair Heights section of Oklahoma City, Okla., has proved its adaptability.

You'll find many distinctive features in the House that Greets the Seasons. Planned without a basement, the house is constructed for easy maintenance and a long, active life. One of its principal components is the famous Double Wall system of interior wall and ceiling construction—two layers of strong, fire-resistant SHEET-rock Gypsum Wallboard.

You may want to build this house for your family just as it was designed—by Caudill, Rowlett, Scott & Associates, architects of College Station, Tex. See the details in POPULAR HOME Photo Plan 52-3—price 10¢.

DATA BY EUGENIA WHITE

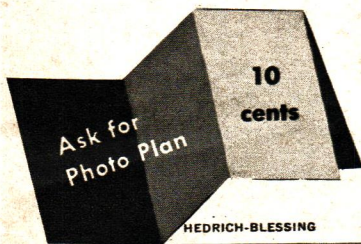
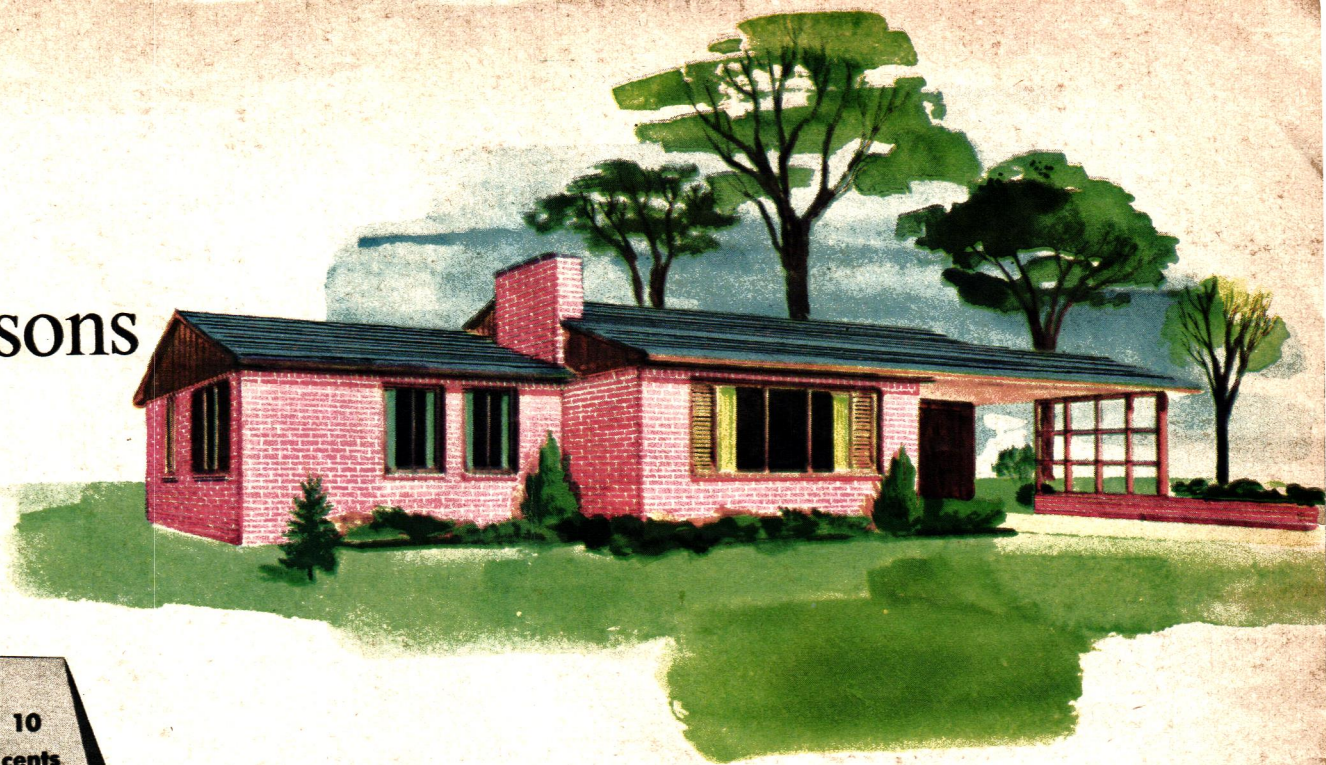


Large sliding-door closets (left, above) are located in every bedroom of House that Greets the Seasons, are made more versatile by use of adjustable shelf brackets. Note frame for table leaves and pads.

Good feature of plan (above) is central location of furnace in closet between dining room and bedroom. Building blueprints may be ordered through your POPULAR HOME sponsor. They will come from builders of Clark house, Warr Built Homes Co., 315 N. Harvey, Oklahoma City, Okla. House contains 1,290 sq. ft., 16,770 cu. ft. excluding carport.

Inviting dining area (left), is step away from kitchen, has door leading to terrace. China cabinet was built to Mr. Clark's order, has sliding panels. Floors are wood parquet, laid over concrete slab.

the Seasons



HEDRICH-BLESSING

Low, simple lines, extension of roof over carport make House that Greet the Seasons appear larger. USG Thick Butt asphalt shingles are recommended for colorful, long-lasting roof; GLATEX Asbestos Cement Siding could be substituted for brick exterior shown here.

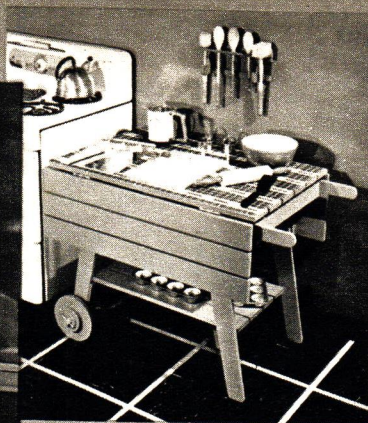


Decorating possibilities abound in living room, with picture window and fireplace as focal points. Laminated SHEETROCK walls and ceilings provide ideal base for TEXOLITE DURAVAL rubberized paint. Congo Brown in DURAVAL line gives wall color like this.

Designed Exclusively for POPULAR HOME by L. C. Algoren



Outdoors or in the house, Wheel-a-Meal is ideal for dining, serving, work surface.



Treat yourself to back-yard pleasure with two other items of exclusive design, shown here. Above is the POPULAR HOME Outdoor Fireplace—handsome, efficient and economical to build. Below is the famous Recline-a-Chair, the six-way-adjustable lawn chair for the rest of your life.

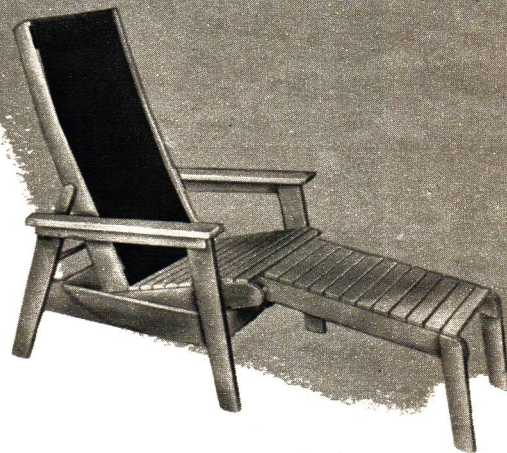
Make it easy to enjoy the outdoors . . .

Build yourself a WHEEL-A-MEAL!

PLEASANT OUTDOOR LIVING at your house is just around the corner—if you're ready for it. You'll be perfectly equipped for back-yard picnics and lawn parties, this summer, when you build POPULAR HOME's sensational new Wheel-a-Meal, the inexpensive drop-leaf garden table on wheels that easily seats six persons.

Here's a table that doubles as a handy cart. With the top folded down, it measures 25 x 39 inches overall—small enough for out-of-season storage or use in the kitchen, porch or recreation room. Out-of-doors, you simply raise the two drop leaves, give its unique swivel top a quarter turn, and there's a big 34 x 47-inch dining surface! Sturdy and well-braced, the Wheel-a-Meal is designed to use only stock lumber available from your community lumber dealer, plus a few pieces of hardware and wheels that may be cut from plywood. It's easily cut out and built by the home handyman, using hand tools.

Build it yourself and prepare for the rush!



How to get 'em? To make them yourself, see the local firm whose name appears on covers, for free Handyman Plans on the Wheel-a-Meal, Outdoor Fireplace, or Recline-a-Chair. They include complete directions on how to build these items from materials you purchase locally—and with the fireplace plan comes 10 Best Outdoor Recipes submitted by readers. Your POPULAR HOME sponsor also can order the Recline-a-Chair for you in a knockdown kit, all materials furnished precut, ready for finishing. The Wheel-a-Meal and Outdoor Fireplace are not offered in kit form.

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YEARS

The Greatest Name In Building

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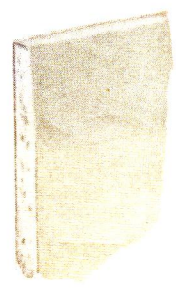
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My Henry did it!

Yes, thanks to these big new improvements ... remodeling with SHEETROCK is easier, better than ever*



new tapered edge

Hardly visible, tapered edge provides channel for finishing joints flush and smooth with PERF-A-TAPE Joint System.



new triple spark perforated tape

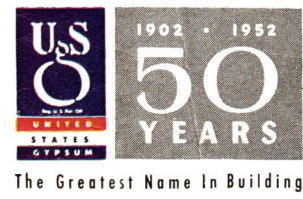
Speeds the covering of joints. Pre-creased to aid easy corner treatment. Finishes better. Included with cement in handy package.



new joint cement

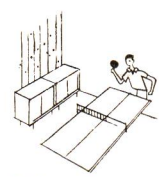
Formulated especially for use with SHEETROCK. Saves work, improves the job. Mixes and applies easily.

They may *think* you're a genius (and maybe you are!)—but the point is, you don't *have* to be, to do your remodeling with SHEETROCK, the fireproof gypsum wallboard. Important new improvements make every step of construction easier—from the time you zip open the bundle right through to concealing the joints with the PERF-A-TAPE* Joint System. Yes, people are saying lots of good things about the way the new tapered edges speed and ease remodeling with SHEETROCK—and make a fine quality job even better. Yes, these big SHEETROCK improvements make it easier, quicker, more economical to improve your home today. But remember—there's only one new, improved SHEETROCK wallboard. *Make sure you get it.*

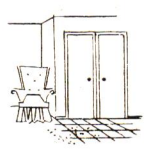


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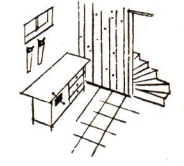
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