The AMERICAN HOME for December

200 Christmas Gifts and Ideas 15¢

Mirror, mirror on the wall– what gift would she like most of all?

The answer might be peach towels or blue, plain or flower-scattered —but you can bet it will be *towels*, and you can bet it will be *Cannons!* It's cause for celebration to find them here again this season. Some already come in holiday gift boxes. Others you'll want to mix or match up yourself—planning colors and clever wrappings with a special person in mind. Either way, Cannon *prices* make it easy to play Santa Claus!

CANNON

Cannon Towels

CANNON SHEETS • BLANKETS • STOCKINGS

CANNON MILLS, INC., NEW YORK 13, N. Y.

Secret life of a "teen-age" fashion model

Few readers of *Junior Bazaar* would suspect that Kitty Higgins has two daughters!

Prettiest tree in all New Jersey! 5-year-old Kate and 2-year-old "Mike" think so (even if father Jim Higgins does look slightly skeptical). But there's not much question that they will have two of the prettiest *smiles*. For "model" mother Kitty teaches them to massage their gums gently every time they brush their teeth. This brief workout with Ipana helps make gums firmer . . . teeth brighter . . . smiles more sparkling. So get started toward a "model" smile yourself—with Ipana Tooth Paste.

PEDAL PUSHERS . . . beanies . . . jumpers . . . these are some of the things that Kitty Higgins models for *Junior Bazaar*. Nothing so remarkable about that--except Kitty has a daughter almost old enough to wear them!

Not only her slight build (she's 5'4", weighs 110), but her flashing little-girl smile keeps this "model" mother looking more like a college freshman than mother.

But model mother she is. To make certain that daughters Kate and "Mike" have smiles as bright as her own, she's teaching them the dental routine that gets so much credit for her own lovely smile: *Regular brushing with Ipana, then gentle gum massage.*

Children know better than parents the importance of gum massage, taught in thousands of classrooms. Ask your dentist about massage for *your* gums today. Nationwide survey shows that 7 out of 10 dentists recommend gum massage.

Page-boy bobs are favored by Mrs. and Miss Higgins. Just as they prefer Ipana for care of teeth and gums. Sensitive gums, "pink tooth brush," mean *see your dentist.* Let *him* decide whether yours is a case for "the helpful stimulation of Ipana and massage."

What's wrong with this picture? Kitty forgot to paint Kate's smile! But she doesn't neglect it in everyday life. Knowing that today's soft foods rob gums of exercise, Kitty sees to it that her family uses Ipana—specially designed, with gentle massage, to help make gums firmer.

Product of Bristol-Myers

Firmer gums—brighter teeth with Ipana and massage

HOW A MAN OR WOMAN CAN RETIRE AT 55 ON $150 A MONTH

"LIFE looks mighty good to me today. I'm driving to Florida, maybe Mexico. I'm free to do the things I've always dreamed of doing—golf, fish, laze around a beach somewhere. For, you see, I'm *retired* now—with a check for $150 a month, every month, as long as I live.

"Strangely, I owe my luck to the crash and the depression sixteen years ago. When the bottom dropped out of the market, I still had a good job, but my savings were wiped out.

"Up till then, I'd looked forward to having enough to retire on some day. But in '29, I was forty. With almost half my working years gone, I would have to start over again.

"And suppose I *could* save enough, what would I do with it? I'd already learned how *little* I knew about investing.

"About that time, Jim Fisher, who worked in our office, announced he was retiring. I told him how I envied him—and how hopeless it seemed for me to ever afford to retire.

"But Jim said something that surprised me. 'You know, you're luckier than I am. You can retire—easier than I did. You can plan *now* to get a guaranteed income, with no investment worries, when you're, say, 55. For men in their forties—or younger—there's a modern answer to the retirement problem. *You needn't be rich.* You needn't have a lot of money saved.'

"I asked him what the answer was. He said, 'It's called the Phoenix Mutual Retirement Income Plan. It's a way you can make part of your salary now buy you a retirement income later. There's only one secret—starting in your forties—or sooner!'

"I jotted the name on my calendar pad, and, after Jim left, I wrote to Phoenix Mutual. Back came a booklet telling all about Retirement Income Plans. *This was the answer for me!*

"Not long after that, I qualified for a Phoenix Mutual Plan. And what a feeling of security it gave me. It guaranteed $150 a month, every month, starting in 15 years. Meanwhile, till I reached retirement age, it protected my family with life insurance.

"Those fifteen years have gone mighty fast. A while ago, I got my first Phoenix Mutual check *and retired!* Thanks to my Phoenix Mutual Plan, I have no money worries."

Send for Free Booklet

This story is typical. Assuming you start at a young enough age, you can plan to have an income of $100 to $200 a month or more—starting at age 55, 60, 65 or older. Send the coupon and receive, by mail and without charge, a booklet which tells about Phoenix Mutual Retirement Plans. Similar plans are available for women. Don't delay. Send for your copy now.

ESTABLISHED 1851

PHOENIX MUTUAL

Retirement Income Plan

GUARANTEES YOUR FUTURE

PLAN FOR WOMEN

PHOENIX MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.
673 Elm Street, Hartford 15, Conn.

Please mail me, without cost or obligation, your illustrated booklet describing Retirement Income Plans for women.

Name_____

Date of Birth_____

Business Address_____

Home Address_____

PLAN FOR MEN

PHOENIX MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.
673 Elm Street, Hartford 15, Conn.

Please mail me, without cost or obligation, your illustrated booklet showing how to get a guaranteed income for life.

Name_____

Date of Birth_____

Business Address_____

Home Address_____

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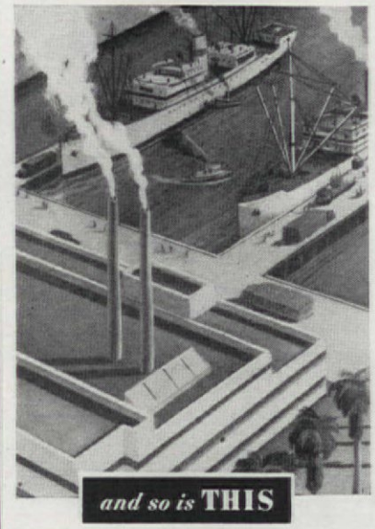
It's Florida time again



Fun in the sun! Florida's glorious sunshine is waiting to welcome you. Day after day, it will invite you to swim, golf, fish; to enjoy all of the many "summer sports" that are winter pleasures in Florida. It will warm the soft sands of beaches for lazy hours of healthful relaxation, and provide spring-like days for your visits to Florida's many famous attractions and thrilling spectator sports.

This winter, you will find Florida in its gayest, most glamorous mood. Plan to come early, stay longer. There's sunny fun in Florida to fit every vacation budget.

And remember, there's more to Florida than just a happy holiday. Every year more and more visitors discover that Florida offers real opportunities for industry, agriculture and business; that Florida means happier living the year 'round. See all of Florida this winter. You may find that your opportunity is here, too.

FLORIDA
THE SUNSHINE STATE

MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY!
State of Florida
524 Commission Building
Tallahassee, Florida

Please send me colorful Florida booklet.

*Name*_____

*Street and No.*_____

*City*_____ *Zone*____ *State*_____

Recipe for Good Telephone Service

Take four Ms and a W: Men and Women, Money, Management and Materials

Stir well with Efficiency

Season with Experience

Add a dash of Enthusiasm

Serve with Courtesy and Understanding

It takes many people and many things to keep on giving you the best telephone service in the world.

It takes a lot of money—investors' money—to provide the facilities.

There's an investment of $240 behind your telephone and every one of the 25,000,000 telephones in the Bell System.

It takes good management and good employees to operate these facilities. There are about 600,000 Bell System employees—many in management and supervisory positions.

It takes faith in the future. We're busy right now on a $2,000,000,000 building and expansion program—to catch up with the Nation's needs and give you more and better service than ever before.

BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM

"—and then the President called on me!"

THEY HAPPENED to sit next to each other on a cross-country bus . . . the perky little grandmother from Kansas City, and Mrs. Frank L. Pierson of Falls City, Nebraska.

They talked, as bus-mates do . . . and soon the little old lady was telling, with great glee, how she spoke up at her daughter's literary club. But *not* about books!

Her speech was . . . well, we'll quote the story as she told it to Mrs. Pierson, and as that thoughtful lady wrote it to us.

This is Grandma speaking:

"My daughter's friends were giving their pet hints on sheets, and how to make them last longer. Finally, the President turned to me, and asked if I had any pointers."

The lady certainly had. And mighty good sense she made, too.

"You've all skipped the main point. If you don't have quality to begin with, sheets won't last, no matter how you pamper them. Personally, I buy Pequots. I've found through the years that they are sturdy and wear-resisting, and give wonderful service!"

This little lecture made a big hit with the Literary Society. And from the bigger-than-ever demand for Pequots these days, we guess all the gals have followed Gram's advice.

We hope you will, too, when you need sheets. We're doing our best to keep stores supplied. But if your store should be short, remember it's because Pequots are *America's most popular sheets.*

Pequot Mills, Salem, Massachusetts.

PEQUOT SHEETS

so good-looking — so long-wearing

Pronounced "PEE-KWAT"

CONTRIBUTORS

• • • **M. H. E. MARSDEN,** a graduate of Pratt Institute, sold his first drawing to THE AMERICAN HOME magazine. He spent four years with the Army Engineers, and has published a book, *"Khaki Is More Than a Color,"* and hopes to write another some day. He is the artist for "A Visit from St. Nicholas," on page 27 of this issue, and he says he hopes his last drawing will be done for his alma mater, THE AMERICAN HOME.

• • • **MARGUERITE FISHER'S** business career has involved fashion art work for newspapers and department stores in Chicago, Milwaukee, and Minneapolis. But in line with her present and favorite career as a wife and mother, she draws from her previous work and produces some clever and colorful Christmas gift wrappings and greetings for "Our Christmas Package," on page 36. She has two daughters, Susan, 4 years, and Anne, 15 months, who no doubt inspired the wrappings for children's toys. The Fisher home was featured in this magazine in January, 1943.

• • • **ALBERT J. KRAMER** studied painting in Cleveland and at the University of Michigan. His career as an artist was interrupted for service with the Navy's Sea Bees in the South Pacific, but now he runs a shop, which is both studio and gallery, in Los Angeles. His Winter Scene cover for this issue is one of Four Seasons, painted of the same view from material he gathered during a painting trip through New England.

Important: **Letters requesting information should be accompanied by a stamped, completely addressed envelope. Manuscripts and illustrations will not be returned unless accompanied by the necessary postage. They will be handled with care, but we cannot possibly assume responsibility for their safety.**

"BUY BY CHOICE AND NOT BY CHANCE"... INSIST ON WILLIAMS OIL-O-MATIC... THE OIL BURNER BASED ON THE LOW PRESSURE PRINCIPLE OF ATOMIZATION

For the name of your nearest Williams Oil-O-Matic Dealer, consult the classified section of your telephone directory, or write to factory at Bloomington, Illinois.

WILLIAMS OIL-O-MATIC HEATING SYSTEMS

"Our garage could have been a mile from the house..."

Writes LLOYD A. TUPPER
Highland Park, Illinois

Minneapolis Honeywell Co.
433 E. Erie St.,
Chicago, Ill.

Attention Mr. W. Baak

Gentlemen:

Our garage could have been a mile from the house and just as much heat would have reached the rooms above it.

The truth is the garage is attached to the house as the picture enclosed shows very clearly — but who would have known that from the amount of heat that entered those rooms during the heating season.

Auxiliary heat was always needed until your engineers got to work on the entire heating plant. Moduflow was installed together with some minor changes in the distribution system.

The same plant now keeps those rooms over the garage comfortable in any kind of weather, and in addition the heat is more evenly distributed throughout the entire house.

Your engineers did a wonderful job. We're all very happy.

Very sincerely.

Lloyd A Tupper

177 Lakeside Manor Road
Highland Park, Ill.

MODUFLOW FOR APARTMENTS

NOW — "Personalized" heat control brings Moduflow to new and existing apartment buildings. It will be a "must" in modern apartments just as the mechanical refrigerator is today.

Have you a room that is "a mile from your house" so far as heat is concerned? Are your floors drafty? Have you "shiver spots" in some rooms? Are you wasting fuel because of unequal and inefficient heat distribution?

If so, you need Moduflow, the remarkable new heating control system developed by Minneapolis-Honeywell. For Moduflow is entirely different from ordinary on-and-off control systems. It furnishes heat *continuously* at whatever temperature is required to maintain comfort in any kind of weather. Because heat supply is continuous, cold air doesn't have a chance to pile up on the floors or in remote rooms. And, you can save fuel formerly wasted due to overheating the rooms nearest the source of heat.

Moduflow has cured these "heating headaches" in thousands of homes throughout the nation. It can be simply and inexpensively installed on practically any type of automatic heating plant. You don't have to remodel or wait until you build a new home.

Of course, if you are planning to build, your new home deserves the "Comfort Unlimited" that Moduflow has brought to the Tuppers and to thousands of other homes. So, get the whole story of Moduflow. Just mail the coupon for the fascinating booklet, "Comfort Unlimited."

MODUFLOW

The New HONEYWELL Heating Control System

FREE!

SEND FOR THIS BOOK

Attractively illustrated, easy to read and understand; tells how MODUFLOW control can be applied to your automatic heating plant.

MINNEAPOLIS-HONEYWELL REGULATOR CO.
2711 Fourth Avenue South - Minneapolis 8, Minnesota

Please send my free copy of "Comfort Unlimited"

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____

7 OUT OF 10 TISSUE USERS SAY

"Of all brands I like Kleenex best"

Now!
MORE KLEENEX
being made than ever before.
So keep asking for it!

One tissue stands far ahead of *all* other brands in public preference . . . and that one tissue is Kleenex!

In a certified nation-wide poll of thousands of tissue users, 7 out of every 10 went on record to say: "*Of all tissues, I like Kleenex best!*"

7 out of 10. Such overwhelming preference shows there must be a real difference between Kleenex Tissues and other brands. A special process used only for Kleenex keeps this tissue luxuriously soft, dependably strong. That's why others *can't be* "just like Kleenex."

And only Kleenex of all tissues gives you the handy Serv-a-Tissue Box. Yes, only with Kleenex can you pull a tissue and have the next one pop up ready for use.

So keep asking for Kleenex—America's favorite tissue. Each and every month there'll be more and more Kleenex Tissues for you.

There's only one Kleenex*

AMERICA'S FAVORITE TISSUE

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

CONTRIBUTORS

Ames Studio

• • • **HOLLY SPENCE,** in private life Helen L. Smith, is a veteran writer of plays and stories for children, so her charming expose of Santa Claus, "The Real St. Nicholas," on page 26, is very much in her line. She says she likes books with historical settings, the theater, music, art, her flower garden, needlework, public libraries and, most of all, children. She is the wife of a busy factory executive, and the proud mother of a former Air Force Captain and a grown daughter.

• • • **J. R. DAVIDSON** studied designing in Germany, England, and France. He established a private practice in the United States in 1925, and is recognized for bringing the first modern designs to stores, restaurants, offices, and single and multiple residences in Los Angeles and Chicago. He has been an instructor at the Art Center School in Los Angeles since 1938. This issue presents an example of his modern design on page 53, the Hollywood, California, home of Houston Branch.

• • • **J. LEORA BROWN** is one prolific writer (about 400 articles), who really writes from life—she makes the creations which will become the subjects for her articles, photographs them with a simple box camera, then writes about them. She concocts children's games, party ideas—favors, decorations, entertainment; she writes nature stories for children, and makes clever and attractive household gadgets out of "just nothing." Her unique ideas, on page 36 of this issue, for artistic utilization of old Christmas cards on this year's holiday gifts will give you some ideas to work on—and write home about.

Eager Beaver!

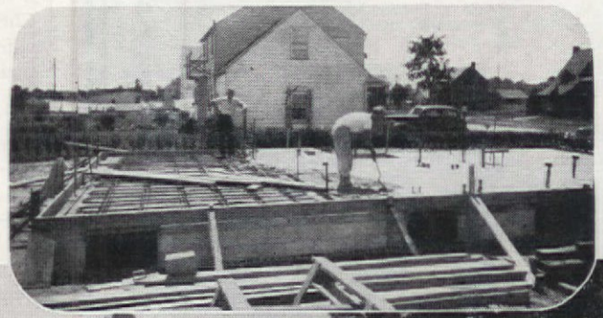
Better look up VACUUM CLEANERS in the Classified

It's easy to find authorized local repairmen, dealers of branded products and helpful information on your daily household and business buying problems in the Classified section of the Telephone Directory. Shopping through the Classified will save you time and trouble—try it and see!

CLASSIFIED *Telephone* DIRECTORY

WHY A *Concrete* HOME STAYS CHARMING AND WORRY-FREE

Here's the foundation and subfloor, both built of rugged, enduring concrete to make the house more firesafe and storm-resistant—contributing to long life and low upkeep expense.



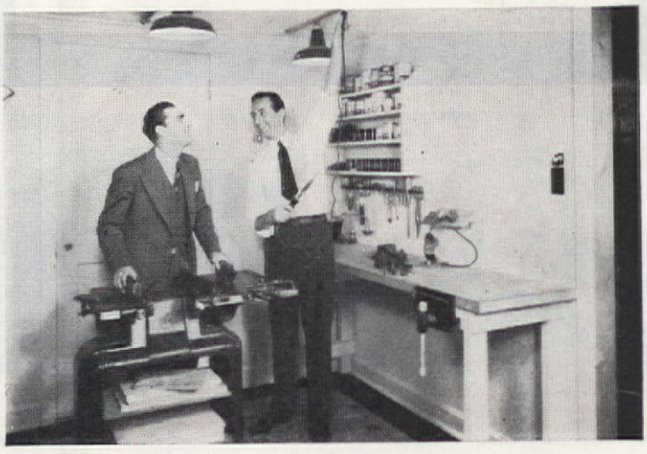
HOW TO GET A CONCRETE HOUSE

Ask a local concrete products manufacturer, (see 'phone book) for names of architects and builders experienced in concrete. Write us for free booklet of concrete house information. Free in U. S. or Canada.

Here's a completed house. Its concrete walls, firesafe roof and sturdy foundation, help the house keep its charm just as a good foundation garment helps retain the lovely lines of a fine dress.

Because the house is structurally strong and rigid, plaster cracks are minimized; interior decorating costs are lower. The house is safeguarded against decay and termite damage. It keeps its loveliness.

Here's the proud housewife who is delighted because the concrete subfloors in her beautiful new home keep out dust, never squeak or sag, and are the perfect base for rugs, carpets, hardwood, or any floor covering she wants.



Here's the "man of the house"—enthusiastic because he has a clean, dry basement for workshop and game room, and because his heating bills and upkeep costs are low, thanks to concrete, the **low-annual-cost** construction material.

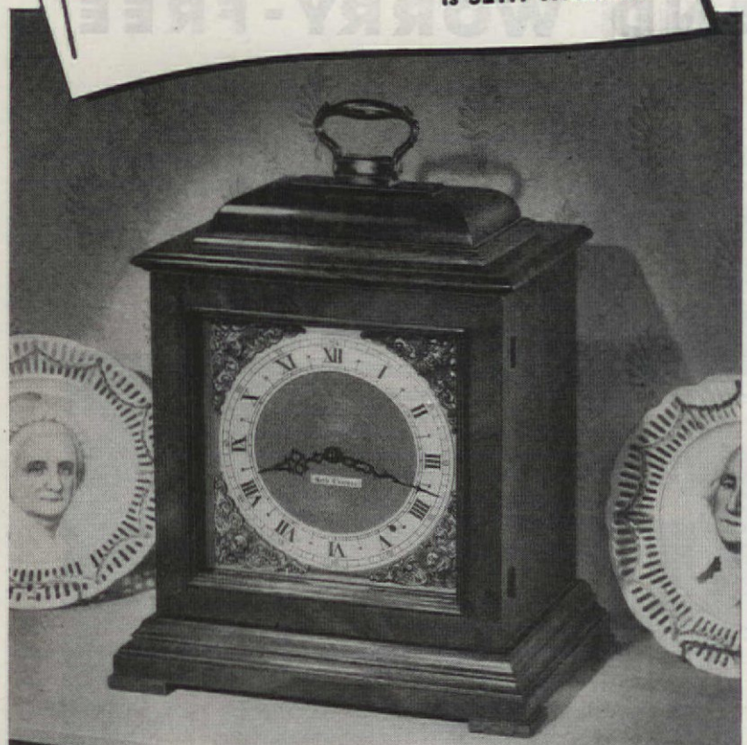
PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION

Dept. 12-5, 33 W. Grand Ave., Chicago 10, Illinois

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

The finest name in clocks

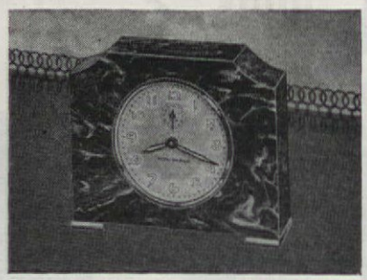
is SETH THOMAS



What richer gift than the Seth Thomas* *Legacy*, pictured above. Has beautifully toned Westminster chime movement with a genuine mahogany cabinet. A few of these fine clocks will be ready for Christmas.

There are many other smartly styled Seth Thomas clocks, too. Both electric and spring-wound. All are moderately priced. All are traditionally famed for accuracy, dependability and long life. Better visit your favorite dealer now. Seth Thomas Clocks, Thomaston, Connecticut.

Capstan is an electric occasional clock. Men go for it. The case is solid mahogany. Spokes of the wheel are brass. Hands and numerals are sea green. It's a beauty of a gift, at better stores everywhere.



Pam is a trim little spring-wound alarm with luminous dial. It is in solid catalin with green background; veinings in white and green tints. Polished brass sash and feet add to its smart appearance.

Seth Thomas

"The finest name in clocks"

ELECTRIC OR SPRING-WOUND

a product of GENERAL TIME *Instruments Corporation*

*Seth Thomas is Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

• • • **VERA CHRISTIAN,** who supplies some of the Christmas party invitations and favors for "Your Christmas Table," page 110, is the wife of an ex-serviceman, so most of their spare time goes into looking for their dream house. She is a secretary by profession, and her hobbies are numerous: swimming, tennis, amateur photography, and what she calls "just plain puttering." Since she doesn't list her party ideas as either hobby or profession, they must be a natural talent. When you see them, you'll be ready to believe it.

• • • **ALDEN STAHR** lists 22 ways in which he has made a living since being graduated from college. Some day, he says, he'll decide on a career —"but it's so much more fun not knowing." At present, he's in public relations work, and a farmer. So he knows about home subjects like those he discusses on pages 68 and 83.

• • • **ANNA BERG** says she wrote about her one world Christmas party, "Good Will and Good Cheer" on a challenge, just as she sent out her first poem on a dare from her husband. "I thrive on encouragement and kind words, but do my best work under pressure." Her varied activities include being president of her county poetry society, third vice president of the poetry clubs of Indiana, some Braille writing, amateur photography and substitute teaching in the Gary schools. One of her greatest pleasures is in giving parties, and compliments will surely be forthcoming for the one which appears on page 90.

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You'd look worried, too!

I've got troubles, Boss. *Worms* are making me feel as low as a toe-nail, and dull as a burnt-out match.

What I need, Boss, is Sergeant's SURE SHOT Capsules. They'll slaughter the worms and have me feeling frisky as a pup in no time flat. They do a thorough job on big dogs like me, just as Sergeant's Puppy Capsules wipe out worms in small dogs and puppies.

Let's not wait, Boss. We can get SURE SHOT Capsules at the drug store.

To help you get more fun out of your dog, the new Sergeant's Dog Book gives you lots of tips on training and care. Tells you how to detect worms, and other ailments, too. Get it FREE at your drug store, or write Sergeant's, Richmond 20, Va.

Sergeant's

WORM MEDICINES

Worms deserve to die—Pete

BE PREPARED FOR

SICKNESS or ACCIDENT

. . . THIS HOSPITALIZATION PLAN PROTECTS YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

Benefits begin the day you enter a hospital

FOR SICKNESS OR ACCIDENT
Hospital Expenses paid, up to $540.00

FOR ACCIDENT
Doctor Expense paid, up to $135.00
Loss of Wages reimbursed, up to . . . $300.00
Loss of Life by Accident $1000.00

WAR COVERAGE AND EXTRA BENEFITS
Childbirth Expense paid, up to $75.00

It's easy to run into debt when sickness or accident hit. Under the Family Mutual Plan, you'll be able to pay your hospital bills. And in case of accident, you'll be reimbursed for your doctor expenses, for loss of time from work. You can enter any hospital in the United States. Your family doctor may attend you. Benefits applying to children are 50% of those paid adults.

MAIL COUPON TODAY—No Agent Will Bother You

FAMILY MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO., WILMINGTON 99, DEL.

AH-21

Family Mutual Life Insurance Co.
601 Shipley St., Wilmington 99, Del.

Please send me, without obligation, complete information on your Economical Hospitalization Plan.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

It's the stuffing that "makes" this thrifty meat roll!

And it's the flavor of Del Monte Corn that "makes" the stuffing!

1–We put extra care here

Extra care where? Right in the natural "wrapper" that protects Del Monte Corn in the fields.

It took thousands of experiments to develop a husk that would close tightly over the tip of the ear, protect the kernels, and allow them to grow uniformly sweet and tender.

A small matter? Not for Del Monte! Details like that—hundreds of them—are responsible for the extra flavor of Del Monte Corn from seed, to can, to your table.

And *flavor is our responsibility*—to you and to our brand. We know every bit of extra care we take means greater enjoyment for you on your table.

2–You get extra flavor here

Give round steak a break with the rich goodness of Del Monte Brand Corn in

ROUND STEAK ROLL—CORNPATCH STUFFING

- 2½ lbs. round steak, cut ½ inch thick
- French Dressing
- 2 tbsps. butter
- ½ cup dry bread crumbs
- 1 12-oz. can Del Monte Golden Whole Kernel Corn
- 1 tbsp. chopped onion
- 3 tbsps. thinly sliced celery
- 1 tbsp. chopped pimiento
- 1 tbsp. chopped green pepper
- ¼ tsp. thyme
- ½ tsp. salt
- ⅛ tsp. pepper

Trim steak; pound both sides well. Pat into 11x15 inch rectangle. Brush both sides with French Dressing and let stand. Brown bread crumbs in butter; toss lightly with remaining ingredients. Spread stuffing on steak; roll up, securing with toothpicks. Brown in skillet, in fat trimmed from meat, turning frequently. Add ½ cup hot water and cover skillet tightly. Simmer gently for about 2 hrs. or until tender, adding hot water as necessary. Remove roll from pan; make gravy from drippings. Slice roll. If desired, serve with another can of Del Monte Golden Whole Kernel Corn, heated and seasoned, and sautéed green apple wedges (as shown). Serves 6.

And don't limit your corn enjoyment! Del Monte packs three styles—

Golden Cream Style White Cream Style

Golden Whole Kernel

Extra flavor? Sure—Del Monte always puts

flavor first

Del Monte CORN

Sugar, Spice and a dash of Red Pepper!

and all of her really "alive"

That's my Hemo girl!

MOTHER, do you know that lack of an essential food element—perhaps some vital vitamin—may rob your youngster of some of her "spice" and "pepper"?

And do you know what wise mothers do to help make sure their tykes get *enough* vitamins every day? *Right!* They serve them brimming glassfuls of the delicious vitamin-and-mineral rich *food* drink, Hemo. It's wonderful!

And the boys and girls *love* Hemo's glorious *milk-chocolate* flavor. *You* will, too. Hemo's grand, hot or cold. And only 59¢ a full-pound jar at grocers' or druggists'! About 2½¢ a serving.

Just 2 Glasses of HEMO made with milk supply a full day's needs of all these vital vitamins and minerals:

JUST ONE GLASS of Hemo gives you:

The Vitamin A in 3 boiled eggs!
PLUS
The Vitamin B_1 in 4 slices of whole wheat bread!
PLUS
The Vitamin B_2 (G) in 4 servings of spinach!
PLUS
The Vitamin D in 3 servings of beef liver!
PLUS
The Niacin in 3 servings of carrots!
PLUS
The Iron in ½ pound of beef!
PLUS
The Calcium & Phosphorus in 2 servings of cauliflower and 1 serving of cooked green beans combined

HEMO exceeds adult requirements!		
Minimum daily needs set by U.S. nutritionists		2 servings of HEMO, made with milk, give
4000 USP units	VITAMIN A	4900 USP units
333 USP units	VITAMIN B_1	400 USP units
2 milligrams	VITAMIN B_2	3 milligrams
400 USP units	VITAMIN D	410 USP units
(*Not set*)	NIACIN	10.3 milligrams
10 milligrams	IRON	15.7 milligrams
750 milligrams	CALCIUM	950 milligrams
750 milligrams	PHOSPHORUS	750 milligrams

© The Borden Company

Borden's Hemo

IF IT'S BORDEN'S, IT'S GOT TO BE GOOD!

Dear American Home

"AFTER having covered the problem of the home for the G. I., the modernistic home, the summer home, it seems to me the only problem you have neglected is that of dolly and her young mother. . .

"We needed a place to put all the little furniture belonging to our small daughter. It was either all over the basement playroom of our house or scattered through the garage.

"Without spending more than fifteen dollars, we built a playhouse which can be set up in one end of our playroom in the winter and outdoors in the summer. It is made of

five 4 by 9 sheets of wallboard put upon a light frame which is screwed together in four pieces to make the walls. The roof is one piece and can be removed. The hollyhocks, tulips and vines are painted on. The sink is made of three boxes, plus an enamel pan; faucets are valves salvaged from an old gas stove; scraps of linoleum cover the counter. Dowel sticks make the curtain rods.

"First we painted the house with waterproof varnish and then with regular outside paint so that the playhouse would weather a light rain. But since there is no floor, we put it in the garage in bad weather. Two people can move the playhouse easily by removing the roof—the children move in their own furniture.

Light up and Live

EXCITING NEW TABLE LAMPS FOR DECORATIVE CHARM

Add a brilliant touch of character to the beauty of your rooms, with a table lamp that combines smart styling with improved lighting quality. Banish gloom with flattering, easy-on-the-eyes light. Reflector bowls shield eyes from glare, and distinctive designs harmonize with your finest decorative setting.

MORE THAN DOUBLES YOUR LIGHT

You get *twice* as large a circle of light with the same bulb, because the new Railley Deep-Set Socket provides light-spread over 159% greater area; and gives two-thirds more light intensity at reading distance.

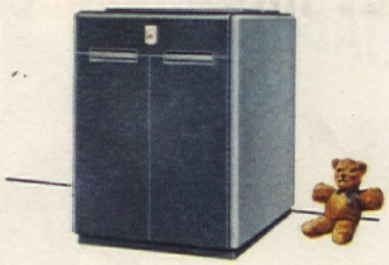
NO FUMBLING—THE SWITCH GLOWS IN THE DARK

The ivory Glo-Switch is moulded of a phosphorescent material—easy to find in the dark.

At Leading Stores Everywhere

Railley
CORPORATION
Cleveland 8, Ohio
ORIGINATORS OF THE PIN-IT-UP* LAMP

* Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.



For your family

A LIFETIME OF HEALTH AND COMFORT

YOU may make this gift to your family but once in your lifetime. It's the gift of a home that's planned in every detail for their lasting health and comfort.

And most important in that home are the heating and plumbing. For the sake of your loved ones, you want them to be right. And they *will* be right if you look for the American-Standard mark of merit.

This mark guides you to the finest heating equipment for any type of fuel. It will also lead you to the best in plumbing fixtures.

So look for this American-Standard mark of merit when you make the important decision to buy heating equipment and plumbing fixtures. American-Standard products cost no more . . . but they assure you a lifetime of health and comfort for your family.

Write for your copy of our illustrated Home Book. It describes American-Standard products—sold by Wholesale Distributors to your Heating and Plumbing Contractor. Explains time-payment plan for remodeling. **American Radiator & Standard Sanitary Corporation,** Dept. A612, Pittsburgh 30, Pa.

LOOK FOR THIS MARK OF MERIT

This lovely bathroom shows the Neo-Angle Bath, Companion Lavatory and Master One-Piece Closet. (Top of page) Mohawk Winter Air Conditioner.

AMERICAN-Standard

HEATING PLUMBING

Serving the Nations' Health and Comfort

HEATING AND PLUMBING products for every use...including Boilers, Warm Air Furnaces, Winter Air Conditioners, Water Heaters, for all fuels...Radiators, Convectors, Enclosures...Gas and Oil Burners...Heating Accessories...Bathtubs, Water Closets, Lavatories, Kitchen Sinks, Laundry Trays, Brass Trim...and specialized products for Hospitals, Hotels, Schools, Ships and Railroads.

...in every delicious sip of V-8 VEGETABLE JUICES

The blended *Juices* of all these tastier vegetables

All these different juices—tasty, pungent, sweet and tart—are blended together in V-8* Vegetable Juices. And this combination achieves a flavor that "wakes up your taste." That's why V-8 is so *bracing* at breakfast . . . so *good* with sandwiches . . . so *tempting* as a cocktail. And *always*, because of its wealth of fresh-vegetable nutrients, V-8 is as nourishing as it is refreshing.

Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping

Juices of
LETTUCE · BEETS · TOMATOES · CELERY
CARROTS · SPINACH · WATERCRESS · PARSLEY
Deliciously Combined
Contains Vitamins A, B1, C; and Calcium and Iron

*V-8 is a trademark owned in the United States by Standard Brands Incorporated; in Canada by Standard Brands, Ltd.

"I often wish I had had such a playhouse when I was a little girl. Perhaps some of your readers' little girls might like one, too."

Mrs. W. C. Ross

"IT HAS been about seven years now since we first met, and little did I realize then that the day would come when I would count you among my oldest and dearest friends.

"You've helped me to do such wonderful things! Who but you could have given the inspiration for papering the backs of my bookshelves with your lovely front covers?

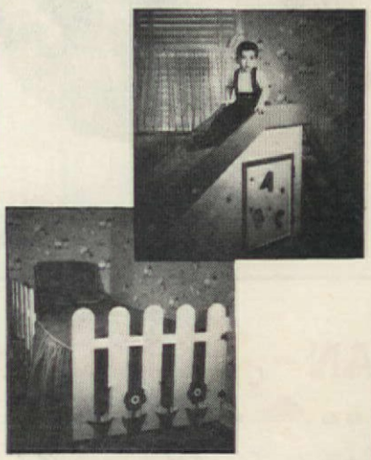
"It was shortly before Christmas last year when I sent for patterns for your doll furniture. You are probably still wondering why I sent for doll furniture since both my children are boys. But Lance, my seven-

year-old, wanted a bed and high chair for his beloved Teddy. When I saw those patterns, I decided I'd make the bed and chair myself.

"Each morning after the boys left for school, I'd hurry down to the basement and go to work. Then just before it was time for them to arrive home, I'd hide everything.

"I painted both pieces red with white trim, and, as a finishing touch, I added Teddy-bear decals to both pieces. For the little bed I also made a mattress, pillowcase and quilt.

"Both pieces were made entirely from scraps of lumber, but my sons say they're really neat. So what more could I ask?" **Helen Thomaier**



Inspired by the September, 1943, cover of THE AMERICAN HOME, Mrs. Gertrude Hotchner's brother decided to duplicate the children's cover room. Pictured above, child's bed and slide

There's old time cooking and choice ripe fruits in EVERBEST Preserves

Glorify each meal with hot biscuits and SEEDLESS GRAPE JAM

First we select the juiciest purple Concord grapes . . . then remove *every* seed . . . and then use an old-time recipe to bring you the most luscious grape jam you've ever tasted.

"How to Make Life Sweeter with Everbest" illustrates recipes for desserts, icings, tea goodies. SENT FREE

FREE RECIPES

Glaser, Crandell Company
Dept. F12
Chicago, 8

A Quick-Fix Meal FOR BUSY SHOPPERS

Morton's Chicken a la King

Ready to heat and eat

Holiday shopping calls for quick meals! Just heat and serve this favorite—made with tender chicken, pure cream sauce, select peppers. A tasty low-cost dish with families everywhere. Try it soon.

MORTON'S OTHER QUICK-FIX DINNERS
Noodle Chicken Dinner
Noodle Chicken Giblet Dinner

TRY THIS MENU
Morton's Chicken a la King on toast • Buttered spinach • Hard-cooked eggs • Fruit • Coffee

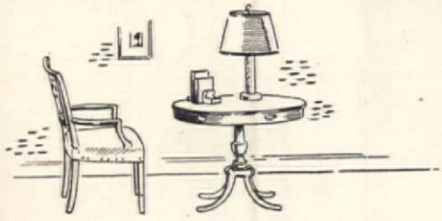
Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping

Morton's
QUICK-FIX DINNERS

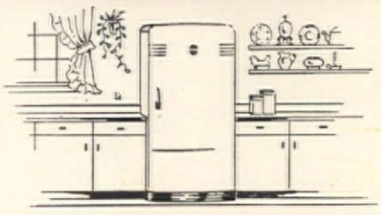
This wax takes the work out of woodwork!

The new Johnson's Cream Wax both cleans and polishes

You'll really begin to enjoy light woodwork when you discover Johnson's Cream Wax. This creamy white liquid combines quick-polishing wax with two special cleaning agents. Nothing could be simpler to use . . . rub on lightly . . . fingerprints and smudges melt away. Polish for a minute . . . and furniture and woodwork gleam with a rich wax luster. What is more, Johnson's Cream Wax leaves a hard, smooth surface that dirt and dust won't cling to.



No finer furniture polish! So much easier to use . . . and gives better results . . . than ordinary oily polishes. Johnson's Cream Wax cleans as it shines . . . leaves a smooth, satiny gloss that beautifies furniture.



And for kitchen equipment! Dirt disappears from refrigerators and cabinets when you give them a once-over-lightly with Johnson's Cream Wax. And the tough sparkling wax film that is left protects them from spotting for a long, long time.

Tuesday night, turn your dial to Fibber McGee and Molly—NBC

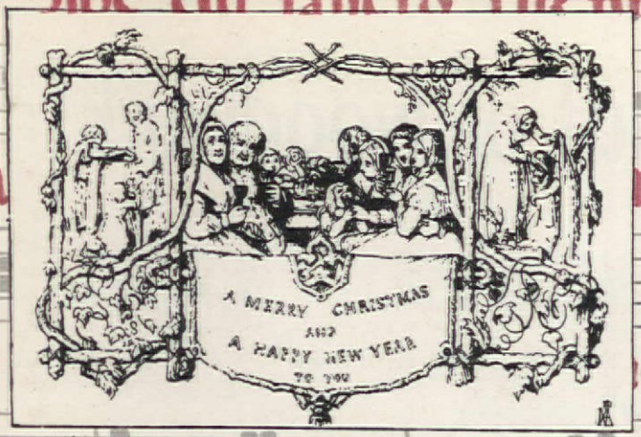
FIVE FAMOUS JOHNSON POLISHES

Cream Wax, Paste Wax,
Liquid Wax, Self Polishing Glo-Coat, Carnu for Cars

© S. C. Johnson & Son, Inc., Racine, Wisconsin, 1946

A Century of Christmas Cards

Julietta K. Arthur



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THIS year when you shop for Christmas cards, you'll find that the gamut of genuine beauty into which some of the best known illustrators and painters of our day are putting their energies, is wide in range. You may buy, for instance, John Steuart Curry's version of "Holiday Bouquet," a brilliantly conceived mass of flowers in a dazzling copper jar; or Dorothy Simmons' doves on a silver wreath against a deep maroon background.

A hundred years ago, no such choice would have been open to you. In fact, you would not have exchanged Christmas greetings in this fashion—so completely accepted by us—at all.

It all began in England, in 1846, when John Calcott Horsley, a member of the Royal Academy, was commissioned to design a personal Christmas card for a Mr. Henry Cole. Horsley designed an elaborate three-panelled card, hand colored in delicate pastel shades. In the side panels were figures representing two charities, "feeding the hungry," and "clothing the naked." In the center panel sat a jolly grandparents-to-grandchildren group happily quaffing wine, the whole enclosed in a grapevine trellis. A few years ago the British Museum announced that in its collection of prints it had discovered an elaborate Christmas card bearing the date 1842 and signed by William Egley, Jr. It depicted a festive Christmas party, a group of carol singers, a Punch and Judy show, a skating scene, the charitable distribution of soup, and two figures dancing the Roger de Coverley. When a writer in the illustrated London News proclaimed this as the "first" Christmas card, a descendant of Egley rose up to differ with the British Museum. He wrote that the date 1842 on the card was really an "8," and that his ancestor's own diary gave 1848 as the date of the design, so we can safely say that the Cole-Horsley card was the inauguration of the Christmas card custom.

The cards much favored in Victorian England were often unseasonable designs of lilies, violets, or spring birds on a spray of ferns. Even the great English firm of Raphael Tuck and Sons, purveyors of cards to royalty, were not averse to Victorian sentimentality, and presented coy young ladies with cupids against a congenial background of mistletoe.

By 1862 enthusiasm for Christmas cards had spread through Britain to the Continent, and to the United States by 1875. It was Louis Prang, an immigrant printer, who became the "grandfather" of the American Christmas card industry. He opened a shop in Boston in 1856.

1. Considered the first Christmas card, Horsley's rococo greeting started the custom in 1846

2. De luxe 1884 card of Louis Prang who was noted for his remarkable fidelity in color lithography. A priceless collector's item today

3. A Louis Prang flower Christmas card fashionable with Victorians, colorful, but unseasonable

4. Sentimental family scene and greeting dear to Victorian hearts. A famous Prang card

5. Continental influence sadly dominated for half a century; bad art, cheap sentiment, 1889

6. Early 1900 example of cheap workmanship, poor color, unnatural subject, sickly sentiment

7. Contemporary designer, Ruth Reeves, brings warmth, color, to traditional Christmas scene

8. Prize-winning Prang card of 1884 indicates that Christmas was children's day then as now

9. Easter lily Christmas greeting by Raphael Tuck & Sons who greatly influenced Victorian taste and design during the period 1850 to 1890

10. Elaborate Prang "hanging" card, brilliant colors, white satin background, 1880 to 1885

11. Dreary pastoral by R. S. Angell, a 1905 prize winner; misses Christmas spirit but was an attempt to recapture Prang beauty

Photographs by F. M. Demarest

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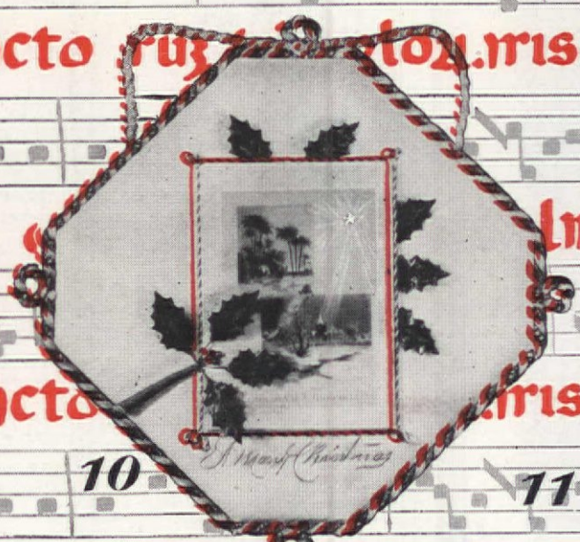

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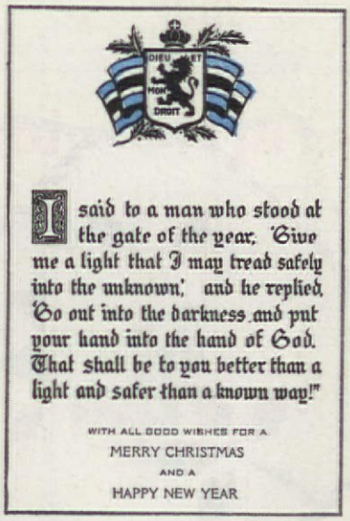

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Prang cards from The Greeting Card Industry. Other old cards from Picture Collection of New York Public Library. Numbers 7, 16, © by the designer. Number 13, © Designers and Illustrators

His first effort was a bouquet of roses, done in four colors, a forerunner of those brilliant seventeen-color cards which made him famous in England, and have never been surpassed even by our finest modern processes. In 1873, one of Prang's women employees suggested he print "Merry Christmas" on some of his floral cards. He tried it, and by 1875 his summery cards, usually in the genteel tradition of ladies' flower painting of that day, met with great success at home and abroad.

Within the next few years Mr. Prang invited the greatest artists of the day to contribute designs, and imposing awards were given annually for the best cards. Among those who designed for Prang were Elihu Vedder, a mural painter, Douglas Volk, portrait painter, J. Alden Weir, a genre painter.

But the public loved best the jewel-like flowers, the extravagant satin-backed cards with inch-long borders of silk fringe, many costing as much as a dollar each. One of the prize picture cards which received a $2000 award, was about 9 by 6 inches. It was painted in browns and greens, and shows the figures of a woman and two small children in classical dress, gaze bent on the vision of a wraith-like Madonna with the Child in her arms. On the back of the stiff board card was the kind of poem well loved by the senders, beginning, "Drifting of rosy vapors, wafting of wings—."

By the end of the nineteenth century, cheap cards with tinsel appliqués, and various novelties took the place of Prang's brilliant, true color printing. Designs became vulgar, and the rising vogue for picture postcards forced the Christmas greeting into the same format. Instead of America's best artists competing for the honor of design, there were cards decorated with everything from seaweed to cigar butts, and cards with blown glass frosting vied with brightly bejeweled ones for the public's favor. And still the sentimentality of Victorian felicitations persisted. To an acquaintance one might send the following:

"Prithee receive this unpretending card,
Prithee believe it carries my regard."

At the turn of the century, some attempt was made to revive artists' interest and public taste, but fads in Christmas greetings continued. In 1910, rosy-cheeked Dutch children were the vogue. In 1911, Hannah Pingee won acclaim with her set of six cards in six envelopes, to be opened at each of six hours on Christmas day. Cards set to music came into favor in 1912, but found themselves edged out in 1913, when the music industry stuffed postmen's bags with six-inch phonograph recordings of musical "Merry Christmas" rhymes.

The cards that were sent overseas in World War I combined the Christmas spirit with patriotic boosting, and carried the "best wishes" to the boys abroad.

At home, in 1918, the popular card was "My Hooverized Christmas card." Printed on cheap gray paper, tied with string marked "camouflaged ribbon," it bore on the cover three indistinct sketches titled, "This is Holly; this is Mistletoe; this is a Bluebird."

Not until the 1930's was there a definite resurging interest in good design. Then the American Artists Group came forward with reproductions of paintings or drawings by noteworthy contemporary artists. Every school of art was represented, but all depicted things familiar to the hearts and imagination of Americans. They are an inexpensive bridge over which art has traveled for eleven years from the walls of museums, galleries, and private collections to an appreciative public.

The frozen landscapes of Rockwell Kent, the homely snow scene of Dale Nichols, the typically American folklore painted by Thomas Hart Benton and Grant Wood, all are bought by the American people.

Ogden Nash once poked fun at the "arty" Christmas card in his *Epstein, Spare that Yule Log*, but he may have summed up the general feeling when he asked for ". . . a few more angels and a few less angles. . . ."

This year you may have gay little angels, or the artistry of Ruth Reeves' beautiful fawns in a winter woodland. For the perennially appealing traditional Christmas scene, there is Woiceske's "Prelude," windy snowdrifts piled high against a farmer's snug cottage, or Ernest Fiene's chaste New England scene, "New Snow." The era of expensive novelty cards seems gone, and this year our taste will be wistful. In retrospect, the Yuletide log and Dickens' Christmas goose seem a gentle, peaceful way to celebrate the end of one year and the beginning of another.

12. Poor in color and design, but was popular greeting for men overseas in World War I

13. World War II greeting designed by Barney Tobey was colorful, witty rather than dramatic

14. Attempt in '20's to make picturization of Christmas a work of art rather than of fad

15. A humorous and highly appreciated "home-made" greeting of the Depression era. R.E.Lee

16. Contemporary, Ruth Reeves' fawns in winter woodland express the wonder of Christmas

17. Card sold in U.S. 1941 by British War Relief Soc., replica of King George VI radio greeting

Santa and the Pup

Frances Hartsook

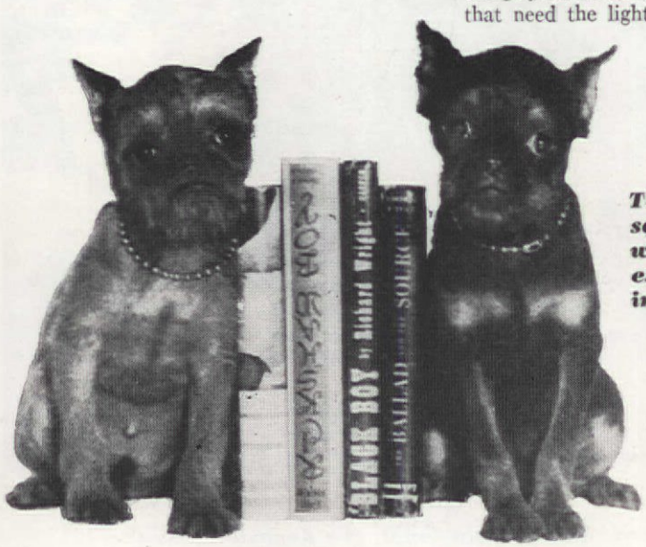
YOUR feet crunch through the first Christmas snowfall in an atmosphere as full of holiday giving as it is with dancing snowflakes. Maybe you've been traipsing from shop to shop, trying hard to hit on just the perfect gift for somebody very special.

Then you wonder what is attracting the crowd around that shop window and you stop to look. You linger with the others, grinning and chuckling, held there by the same universal pull that enchants your fellow-shoppers: an assortment of roly-poly puppies with their appealing antics, so sure to entangle themselves in the human heartstrings.

As you watch you muse, "Imagine being able to give as a Christmas present a parcel of affection, companionship, and life-long loyalty!"

Yes, this is a gift you *can* give—because a dog contains these precious qualities and more. But you must be careful that your adorable bundle of puppyhood isn't like Pandora's famous box, concealing little devils of weakness and orneriness which are ready to pop out when the lid is off.

So if you're planning to give a dog as a Christmas present or you're going to indulge the yearning to take to yourself a pup—go ahead! You certainly have the right idea, but there are a few things you should consider and some popular notions that need the light of truth and experience.



Toy Brussels griffons, with squashed-in faces, amusing whiskers, and monkeylike expressions, make enchanting pets for small-dog lovers

To begin with you should, you most certainly *must,* put yourself in the place of the one to receive the wagging bundle and its attendant responsibilities. If you don't consider the character, preferences, and living conditions of the prospective owner, you may be chagrined later to find you have given a burden instead of a blessing. So whether for yourself or another, we can approach the problem as between *you* and the pup you're going to buy.

The most important point to realize is that you are not buying a lifeless trinket you can toss on the rubbish heap if you don't happen to like it after you get it home. You're taking in a new member of the family; one you will adjust to—as he must adjust to you, one you will care for and, it is to be hoped, cherish for ten or fifteen years. Had you considered the undeniably exciting adventure of buying a puppy in this way? Do, but don't let these practical factors dampen your enthusiasm. They simply make for the most realistic and humane approach and, in the long run, the most enjoyment for you and your new addition to the family.

Size is a primary question. If you live in the country or have a large fenced yard and can offer an active life, then you need not limit the size of your dog. Choose freely—anything from a Chihuahua to a great Dane. It should be self-evident that the small dog is the wise choice for the city owner, yet we all know someone like the man on the umpteenth floor of a New York apartment house who could be satisfied with nothing smaller than a great Dane. Strangely enough, the Dane often adjusts to cramped quarters better than his more active sporting cousins such as the setter and the pointer.

Don't be too quick to sneer at the small dog. Even the toy breeds deserve your respect. The idea that they are all sissy lap dogs is the fault of most owners of toys. The tiny fellows are often big dogs in small containers with all the loyalty, courage, and intelligence of their giant relatives.

If you have fallen for a certain type of big dog, remember that there are small editions of many of the larger breeds. Here are some of the dogs for which you can find miniature duplicates: collie, Manchester terrier, Doberman pinscher, greyhound, schnauzer. There is even a miniature dachshund.

To most people the Welsh terrier looks enough like the Airedale to pass for a miniature of that breed. The toy known as the Brussels griffon is an enchanting little pet with a squashed-in face, amusing whiskers and monkeylike expression; and there is a smooth-coated variety resembling a Tom Thumb version of the boxer.

Many still think of the poodle as a tiny white animal that looks like a soiled mop. Actually, he comes in all colors and ranges in size from less than ten inches tall to more than two feet high at shoulder. The fashions of clipping the poodle need not prejudice the most virile he-man, because their curls may be kept sheared short to a tidy coat that no one could call ridiculous. And poodles don't shed.

It is too bad that the herd instinct governs so many in the choice of a dog. Let a breed or even an individual dog receive a lot of publicity and everybody rushes to buy one. The breed booms. At first this is fine, but when hundreds of pet owners without experience in selection or breeding decide to raise litters in their back yards the breed suffers. It suffers not only in looks but, what is far worse, in temperament. So don't be a sheep in choosing your four-legged friend. The American Kennel Club recognizes more than a hundred breeds of dogs.

There is another point in favor of choosing from a breed that has not been exploited too much. If your dog turns out to be a beauty, you can never tell when the show bug may bite you. Competition at dog shows in the top breeds is so tough that you have a slim chance of winning, even if you have a fairly good animal.

Volumes have been written to classify the breeds as to disposition. To a certain extent this can be done, but it is one of the popular notions that must be qualified. After you've made a mental note that all terriers are boisterous rascals suited to an extrovert owner with a sturdy nervous system, the next terrier you meet will probably be a sensible, sedate, model of decorum.

If what you want is a watch dog, the large breeds, especially those used for police and guard work, are considered the best. But even a Pekingese can be a lion for ferocity and noise when guarding his castle. And don't make the mistake of thinking every German shepherd or Doberman Pinscher you meet is a tough guy. Without looking far, you can find one of these as gentle as a spring lamb and averse to molesting anything larger than a flea.

The writer has owned many breeds and in the capacity of trainer has had hundreds of pupils and close dog friends. Once she came to the conclusion that all dachshunds were to be avoided as scholars because they seemed to have an innate aversion to getting an education. Then, within a month, two pretzel pupils came to school. Both were extremely intelligent, and exhibited an avid and gratifying desire to learn.

At another time the enrolling of a new boxer brought a sigh of resignation. Boxers of late had been a parade of hard-headed youngsters determined to have their own way at any cost to their families. Then Jerry came along. She was a female boxer of sweet reasonableness and high I.Q. She promptly became teacher's current pet.

"Ah!" said teacher. "Jerry is a poodle in a boxer chassis." Teacher loved poodles because they were tops in learning their abc's and most engaging pupils. But the dog professor needed a lesson. She was very soon confronted with a very stubborn poodle. So, you see, it's what's *in* the package that counts the most, and not its size or its long- or short-haired wrappings.

The argument of the pure-bred versus the mongrel is one we have always with us. There is no doubt that many dogs of questionable ancestry are bright, healthy, and lovable. And on the other hand, the fact that a dog is a beautiful show animal does not guarantee his good sense and companionable qualities. But there are a number of definite and convincing facts in favor of the pedigreed pooch.

All puppies are cute. When you pick a cuddly little morsel out of a litter of mixed breeds, he may have the same soft eyes, the same adorable asset of helplessness as any pure-bred pup you've ever seen. But—there is no possible way of knowing what he will look like when he grows up, or what size he will be. You know the embarrassed dog-fancier who, with faltering nonchalance, tries to explain the heredity of his half-German shepherd, one-quarter collie, one-eighth something else. He ends up by saying, "Oh, I fell in love with a puppy one day. I didn't know I was getting a young horse for a pet." The mongrel's grandfather may have been a mean old reprobate, and he may come to take after Grandpappy.

Since the pure-bred is valuable, his ancestors have been selected with attention to beauty, health and, if by ethical breeders, for good temperament. Because the litter represents an investment, mama and the pups are most likely to have had excellent care and nourishment. You know the pure-bred is going to be a reasonable facsimile of his parents, and he costs no more to support than the mongrel. By the way, don't call your pure-bred dog a thoroughbred. The accepted term is "pure-bred," and someone may think you're talking about your horse.

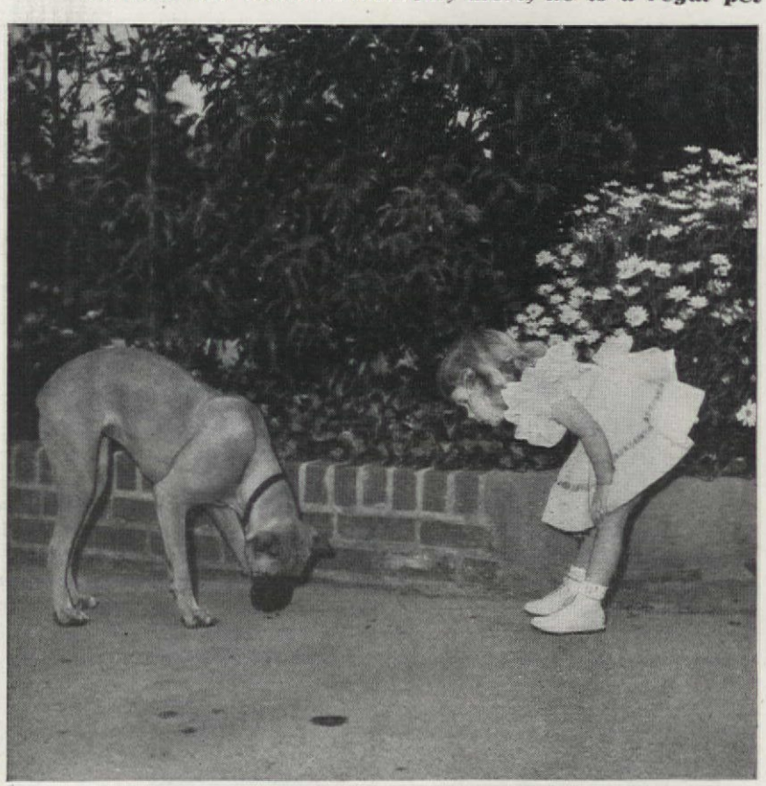
When you look for a dog, don't go bargain hunting. At least be sure it *is* a bargain you're getting. It costs money to raise good healthy specimens of any breed, and fifty dollars is a fair minimum price to pay for a pup with papers. Some breeds may run into the hundreds. A few breeders will sell at a lower price and withhold the papers, but if the price is not too great a consideration, pay more and get the papers. There are unforseeable reasons why you may want them later on and might not be able to get them.

Buying a pup "with papers" doesn't mean just a pedigree. A pedigree alone has practically no

H. Armstrong Roberts

Smooth-haired, lovable and loyal, the dachshund is the low-slung pooch with the perpetually worried expression

Judith Ann, daughter of Paramount star Brian Donlevy, watches her boxer. Powerful, alert, he is a regal pet



value. By "papers" is meant the application blank, properly signed by the owner of the dam or sire, showing the registered name and number of the parents and the litter registration number. When completed by you, this allows you to register your dog with the American Kennel Club. If the puppy is already registered, you should be given his registration certificate with a signed slip which will permit you to transfer the ownership to your own name.

Do you want a male or female? More and more the female is being recognized as a splendid pet. Her enthusiasts claim she is less aggressive, more eager to please, more affectionate, and less likely to roam. But there will always be those who prefer a male because of the inconvenience of the mating season which occurs in the female every six months, and lasts about three weeks. Few stop to think that the male is in his mating season twelve months of every year. The uninhibited masculinity of a male pet is sometimes embarrassing to a fastidious owner.

It may surprise you to learn that in the city apartment the female in season gives less trouble than in the country or small town, unless there is also a male dog in the household. Her cloistered environment automatically confines her so that she cannot go in search of a Lothario. The big headache is always the gang of suitors coming from miles around to pay court, and in the city there are few dogs running loose to find their ways to the inner doors of attractive ladies.

The female may also be altered. It is no longer a dangerous operation, and she need not lose her girlish figure if her diet is right. If your pet is altered, don't make the grammatical error of confusing your dog with a garden by saying you had her "spaded." The verb is to spay, and you have had the young lady spayed.

Now, please, oh please, don't put this important venture of finding your dog in the class with selecting a new hat. Take your time and search within the breed of your choice for the individual that suits *you*. Or the one that suits the friend for whom you are buying the puppy. Dogs differ in personality as widely as humans do.

Almost any dog book you pick up is likely to say something like this: "When buying a puppy, take the liveliest and most aggressive one in the litter." Well, don't—unless you want a very active and troubled career from then on. All healthy pups are lively. You naturally want strong bone, clear eyes, and a glossy coat, but a reticent pup is not necessarily coming down with distemper, and a pensive one is probably not a weakling. Get acquainted with each pup you consider. Stand quietly by and watch the litter at play. Boldness is not the most desirable trait. The one who fights to get his own way by force and bluster may prove a problem child for you to live with and control. Choose dominant character traits you would want in your friends.

Finally, buy from a dependable breeder or dealer. A pup bought on a street corner is a pig in a poke. There are still some pitfalls and a few unethical practices to be avoided, especially at the holiday season when puppies are so in demand, but there are also many honest and reliable sources of supply. It's fun to go hunting for a puppy, and now that you know the need for wisdom, you'll spend time and thought as well as your money to find the right dog, and buy it from the right person for the right master. Then the pup and his new folks will have a merry Christmas and live happily ever after.

Acquiring a dog is one of the most joyous experiences a human can have, whether it is the thrill of choosing your own, or that of discovering a bundle, most anxious for your love, in a basket under your Christmas tree. You will have a new friend, pupil—and mentor. As you train your dog, he'll be sure to teach you a few tricks. The collaboration will bring joy to both of you. Good hunting and blessings on your doggy adventure!

Three cocker spaniel puppies chinning themselves in a basket. Their long ears, soft wavy coats, and pensive eyes, make them a very popular breed

High canine I. Q. makes poodles most engaging pupils. Decorative, they come in all colors and they do not shed.

Photograph from Mrs. Sherman R. Hoyt by R. W. Tauskey

Dick Haymes (20th-Century Fox) and daughter line up for a picture with their beautiful collie

Sheila Jane Barnes

Essence of Moonlight

Honeysuckle in the silvery green moon shadows . . . jewels of dew on a full-blown rose . . . hemlock garlands over the mantel–here is perfume at its sweetest

As always, when an ear-splitting silence descends upon the yard, I poked my head out the door to see what my six-year-old was up to. It had rained in the early morning, and now the sun was shining warmly through the cold air, jewelling the shrubs with green diamonds, and showering rubies into the holly bushes. The world was sweet with tingling winter. My son was padding mysteriously about, his eyes squeezed tight shut, his button nose pointed in the air like a puppy's, and his glowing, rosy little face uncommonly, dangerously angelic.

"What in the world are you doing, Micky?"

He opened his eyes. "I'm smelling," he explained with astonishing intensity. "I'm smelling all the nice smells there are this morning."

That was a harmless pursuit, so I laughed, and went back into the kitchen. But all through the morning I thought about smelling, and what a lot of lovely smells there are. Finally, I had to sit down and go on a mental sniffing tour. I sniffed, savoring deliciously homely memories.

With my head crammed full of Christmas plans, it was natural that I should start with Christmas smells. I looked out the window and saw the bare gray and brown branches of the trees, and knew that before Christmas came they would be delicately clothed in white snow with stiff icy fringe. I thought of Micky's ecstatic "smelling," and I knew he was exhilarated by that indescribable freshness of clean, cold air pierced with sunlight. And wafting through to him was the smell of wood burning in the fireplaces of our neighbors.

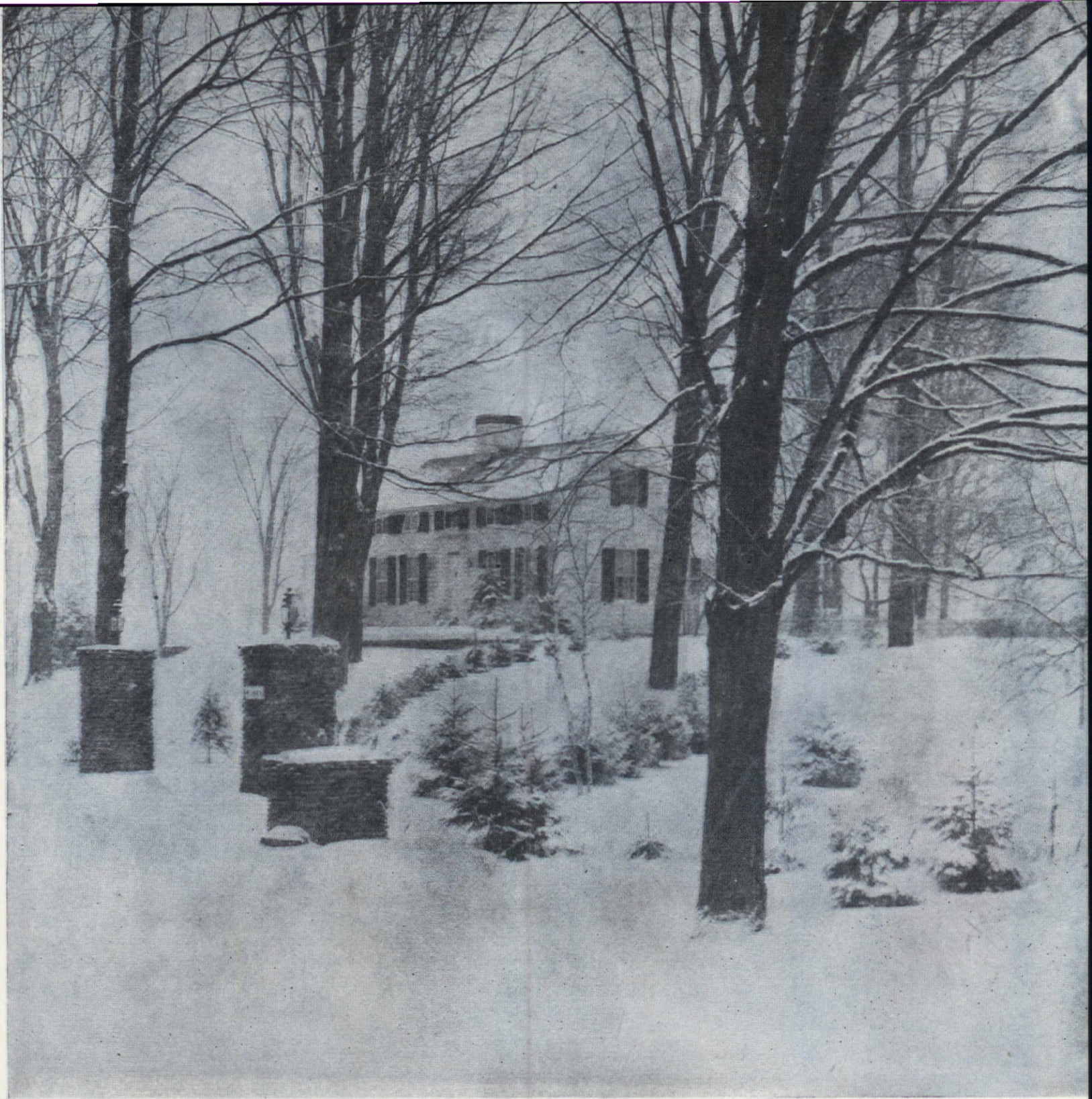
Our own fire crackled briskly exuding its smoky charm, and as I looked about the room, I could actually smell the Christmas tree that would stand tall and beautiful before the big window, its aromatic pine fragrance filling the house with its identifying essence. Mixed with that would be the tallow fumes of candles burning, the metallic odor of tinsel shimmering on the tree, and the sharp sweet scent of the decorative red-and-white peppermint candy canes hanging from its soft green branches.

On the mantelpiece and sideboard, sprays of pine and spruce would mingle their clean resinous odors with the delicious cooking smells from the kitchen. The roasting turkey so tantalizing to the taste buds, sizzled gently, accelerating its sputtering only when basted. The mince pie and plum pudding—*there* were aromatic fragrances not to be surpassed by all the rare spices of the Orient put together. And withal was the sweet fragrance of luscious red apples for which only Nature has the secret formula.

My tour started so delightfully, I was torn between a desire to linger over the smells of Christmas or to rush on to other nostalgic ones.

I grew up in the Midwest, and in the spring, when the young green things sprout, all their exciting new smells caress the world on warm breezes. The forsythia lavishly bursts into lacy, lemon-gold bloom; overnight exquisite tiny leaves clothe the brown woods with feathery green. On high windy days, when the skies are filled with giddy, tumbling clouds, all the exquisite scents of spring burst upon you with gladdening force.

We children always walked the three miles home from school, bursting into the sunny warm kitchen with appetites like wolves. Mother would have steaming plates of homemade vegetable soup for us. Ah, that luscious vegetable soup smell—heavenly compound of rich beef broth, hearty onions deliciously flavoring the tomatoes, potatoes, and carrots. Or, on Fridays, when she baked for the week, there would be hot home-



Home of William Gage. Photograph by Brad Smith

made bread, crusty, and dripping with sweet creamy butter and apple butter, and spicy cinnamon-sugar rolls. Sometimes there was hot chocolate with heavy, vanilla-flavored whipped cream, and warm devils' food cake. Some of the nicest smells I can remember came from the kitchen: bacon frying, coffee brewing, ham baking, beef roasting—but you know them all.

Then in summer, fresh-mown hay, and fields of spicy clover, and the moonlight nights, with the kittens mysteriously frolicking in and out of the lilac bushes, and the strange loveliness of the silvery green moon shadows. Somehow, the smell of the honeysuckle always seemed to me to be the very essence, the scent of moonlight, because that is when its perfume was sweetest, by moonlight, especially after rain.

And if spring and summer were lovely, the very queen of all the seasons for delicious scents was autumn. Indian summer, warm, drowsy days, with just a hint of chill in the air. Over the scarlet and gold hills would come the puffs of blue smoke of burning autumn leaves. How good, how sweetly nostalgic is the smell of smoke in the magic days of fall. The orchards would be full of ripened apples. Indoors there would be chili sauce and grape jelly bubbling on the range. Baskets of hickory nuts drying on the attic floor scented the house with their distinctive aroma. Spicy pumpkin pies were in the oven. Fresh wood being cut and stacked for the winter stirred one's nostrils with its good smell, and suggested the cozy warmth it would provide. Late in October, Daddy would put up the stoves, and the first fire would be lit. Can you recall how good the fresh stove polish smelled when it got hot? In the evening, Daddy loved to pare an apple and drop the curiously shaped peelings on the hot stove top for his own special autumn incense.

In Maryland, I first discovered the salty, fresh smell of the sea. I like the exciting odor of the tidewater marshes; there is both flatness and exhilarating tang at the same time.

New things—don't they smell good! New houses, new shoes, new tires? Then there's the odor of fresh paint and furniture polish and wax, which symbolize that feeling of virtue you have when you've just cleaned your house thoroughly. And laundry dried in a sunny yard and freshly ironed. And last—the sweetest essence of all—the petal-pink skin of a cooing baby!

I'm sure you will all agree there *are* a lot of wonderfully nostalgic and happy smells in the world—and most especially at Christmastime.

YULE LOGS

AND OTHER KINDS OF WOOD TO BURN

Acme Newspictures, Inc.; Culver Service

If you want a yule log this Christmas, tradition says it should be of oak, ash, olive, apple, or pine. Also, that the fire on which it is placed shall be kindled from a brand saved from last year's log, and that it shall not be allowed to go out during the night.

But Christmas is probably only one of the occasions when you hope to enjoy the comfort and good cheer of a well-made, long-lasting open fire. If so, note the counsel of one who knows and cherishes the arts of the hearth—which begin, of course, out in the yard or the woodlot where you can prove the truth of the old proverb, "Chop your own wood and it will warm you twice." We are going to quote, with the permission of the publishers, from an article by E. R. Yarham, of England, that appeared in *The Gardeners' Chronicle* of that country. Listen . . .

"Get hold," he says, "of all the wood you can. Some kinds burn better than others, but reject none these days. * * * If treated in the right way, there are few woods which have no virtue. * * * Embers are one of the valuable features of a wood fire, giving out much heat. Therefore one of the secrets is to preserve them so long as possible. If the grate is an open one, place a piece of thick sheet iron or cast iron in the bottom to prevent the embers falling out; or remove the iron grate, replacing it on the flat hearth by firebricks, and making it round at the front. [Unless, of course, there are andirons.]

"Another secret of success is the proper laying of a log fire. An old and true saying runs, 'One log can't burn, two logs won't burn, three logs may burn, four logs will burn, five logs make a good fire.' When laying the fire, first put paper at the bottom and over this small chips, afterwards laying half-a-dozen good logs horizontally. In the words of another old saying, 'If you be the woodman's friends, Put the log upon its end.' In that position it burns out more rapidly. * * * When renewing the fire, place the logs at the back and never lay a thick one over a thin one, lest it tumble out. Nor must a log fire be poked like a coal fire. What is wanted is an old poker, turned up at the end, for pushing and pulling the logs into place.

"It is essential to know the virtues and drawbacks of various kinds of woods, and how to handle them. Ash is highly praised; it should be burned without standing to season. It burns quickly, but throws off great heat. Just the opposite is poplar, which should be left outside for twelve months, or it will spark up in the grate. Some people condemn elm out of hand, but it is often plentiful and so must be used. True, it is slow to get thoroughly alight, but it lasts a long time and brightens up a lot when it gets going. It never flames, but on the other hand, it does not spark. To cheer it up, such quick-burning logs as birch, pine, and fir help. The last two contain much resin and are inclined to 'fly,' but if one is able to spend a quiet evening by the hearth, no fires are more comforting or cheerful.

"Chestnut is not first-class wood. Beech, hornbeam, and oak are among the best logs, beech especially; they have a beautiful aroma, light easily, and maintain a steady glow, without blazing or sputtering, giving a kind, level warmth. Oak has the outstanding merit of burning slowly and keeping alight for many days and nights. * * * Sycamore, if dried under cover before use, makes a good warm fire. Maple is not so good, but a close relative of these two, the planetree, is first-rate. Among the woods whose fragrance appeals, are Lawsons cypress and the junipers. A good substitute for them, to which all wood fires respond, blazing merrily at once, consists of pine cones gathered in autumn and stored under cover. Woods from all kinds of fruit trees are prime favorites because of their pleasant smell when burning. Mulberry, though somewhat scarce, is a splendid wood, giving off great heat."

So, give a thought to the skill of fire-making, and to its deeper significance, too. What better sentiments can we cherish these days than those expressed in the mediaeval Christmas toast: "This yule log burns. It destroys all old hatreds and misunderstandings. Let your envies vanish and let the spirit of good fellowship reign supreme for this season and through all the year."

You Can't Tell Some People There Is No Santa Claus!

Fannie Hurst • Katherine Brush • Betsey Barton

Julie Haydon • Ethel Merman • Helen Worden • Buffie Cobb Jr.

Maybelle Manning

"Betraying her, all dreams would die . . .
The child who trusted me was I"
"Obligation" by Geraldine Ross

Fannie Hurst: needs no introduction as a novelist. Her favorite color is red—even to ink. She is graciously tall and slender. Her skin is alabaster white. Her hair raven black. Her appearance is starkly dramatic—except for the foil of great laughing brown eyes and a voice merry as the tinkle of sleigh bells.

The aromatic smell of Christmas incense emanating from her penthouse is strongly pungent in your nostrils from the first to the fourteenth floor. Glittering and religiously dim as a silver-and-gold icon is the ceiling-high Christmas tree dominating the great candlelit room. cathedral-like in its domed proportions, the tall windows curtained in ancient church-red damask. Fannie will be dressed in regal scarlet.

Fannie Hurst's yearly Christmas party is a famous one. You'll meet the great, the near-great, the not-at-all great, anyone from eight to eighty. You'll be vastly curious as to the famous woman's prison warden, regal as a Gertrude Atherton in diamond dog collar; or Mary Roberts Rinehart in a Gainsborough hat; Helen Hayes and daughter, Mary, resembling big and little sister in gay velveteen frocks. Like as not you'll be regaled by America's favorite, ZaSu Pitts and her pretty daughter, Ann. You cannot believe that it is really Salvadore Dali, incredibly bizarre as his surrealist paintings, twirling at his satin-waxed pussy-cat whiskers. You will be thrilled over shaking the famous hands of Zimbalist, Heifitz and Toscanini. You'll mill through movie and radio stars and movie czars, and nobodies-at-all like myself.

"Do I believe in Santa Claus? Well, do I!" Fannie's laugh rang free. "I was the little heroine who knew and didn't tell. Being one of those brighter-than-they-knew brats, I read with precocity far beyond my years, discovering with my so-called brain, at the time, that Santa was a beautiful myth. It's been up to me through the years to turn the tables and keep my poor believing parents in full proof that I believed. In keeping their dreams intact my own never crashed. It is my belief that all things beautiful are what they seem. I'm the believingist rooter Santa has!"

Buffie Cobb, Jr.: of the slant eyes and gay repartee, as daintily Oriental as her latest role in *Anna and the King of Siam,* could write her own storybook of childhood Christmas's with her illustrious grandfather, Irvin S. Cobb. "Now 'Ivy', my grandfather, was all things to me, the moon—stars—and—sun. The surprise would not have been great had he also been God, Santa Claus and St. Valentine. Ivy knew that a little girl of five might be short on a sense of humor, so he was most careful not to be too subtle, but to move boldly. He was a brilliant raconteur, with such a gift of imagery that you saw things that some people said were not there. When Ivy boomed 'come quicker than quick,' I knew there was going to be 'something terribly something' to see. Once it was Santa Claus's reindeers in the courtyard looking inquisitively up at the roof. 'Didn't you see them?' Ivy demanded. In bewilderment I pressed my nose flat to the pane. 'Now don't tell me that you've gone and missed them; now don't tell me.' Ivy's voice had real disgust as I hastened to assure him quavering that I was sure maybe that I had seen the tail of one. But the disappointment on Ivy's face made me again reassure him that I had seen a whole one, maybe three.

"Ivy and I were once walking in the woods together. The sun in flame was going down behind the hill. Ivy suddenly grabbed my hand and shouted, 'There he goes!' I've never forgotten that moment of bedazzlement as I knew I'd seen Santa, like a flash of scarlet-and-gold enthroned in his sleigh, dashing just for that blinding moment through the autumn woods.

"There was the inquisitive Christmas when eavesdropping was the most exhilerating of experiences. Through a most inadequate keyhole I discerned two blue, fleece-clad creatures, one very, very small, the other very, very large. I presumed Mrs. Santa Claus had accompanied her husband and that it was she who had restyled her husband's attire from scarlet velvet and ermine-topped boots to blue outing flannel and brown suede shoes. I recognized Moie's, my grandmother, voice as she argued with Santa Claus and his garrulous response was none other than Ivy's. I was but the more illusioned that Ivy was in charge of the Santa Claus department with the full confidence that I would get from him a much better Christmas deal than from old Santa himself. Ivy once quoted Mr. Barnum when we went to the circus. He said, 'Most folks are humbugged by believing nothing far more than they are by believing too much.'"

Helen Worden: (in private life the wife of John Erskine, distinguished playwright and author) with a voice as gentle as falling snow and eyes as soft as brown velvet, has found such charming assets a magical sesame in her career as a world famous reporter. "Do I believe in Santa Claus?"—and here she says in her own inimitable manner:

"I never stopped believing. He is as real to me today as he was the December afternoon in our Denver home when I toddled outdoors with my grandfather and looked up at the red brick chimney to reassure ourselves it was broad enough to let Santa in. We decided it was. Grandfather pointed out how conveniently it led to the big, blue-tiled fireplace where we were to hang our stocking, near which already stood a beautiful Christmas tree.

"In the night I was certain I heard Santa's horn. Next morning I found proof in the fat stockings and marvelous toys beneath the tinsel-decked Christmas tree.

"The following year we moved to New York. There were no fireplaces but, on Christmas Eve, long after everybody had gone to bed, I felt sure I heard the music of Santa's horn through the coal furnace ventilator. When I awoke to a present-

Photographs by Ira L. Hill, Vandamm Studio, Ray Lee Jackson

The Real St. Nicholas

Holly Spence

EVERY year about this time, a new batch of parents finds itself bang-up against a major problem: the business of telling junior, or his sub-sub-deb sister, the truth about a certain red-suited gentleman.

It's bound to come, and when it does, there's a distinct tug on the heartstrings. You draw your child close, and cast about for the best explanation. The true story is the best and the easiest. Here it is.

St. Nicholas (or Nicolas) is the gentleman's real name. He lived in Asia Minor, and was the beloved bishop of the Greek Church of Myra in Lycia. He is the patron saint of the young, and in some European countries a person dressed as a bishop still assembles the children and distributes to the good boys and girls gilt nuts, sweetmeats and other gifts.

Children loved St. Nicholas, and trudged along beside him as he traveled the dusty roads of the Lycia countryside bringing fruit and candy to the sick and needy.

One of many stories told of his goodness concerns a poor and honest man, and his three good and beautiful daughters. The father was unhappy, for poverty prevented his giving the customary dowries to his daughters, and for this reason they could never have suitable husbands.

One night a bag of coins was tossed in at his window. The next night the act was repeated. But on the third night the father watched, and the anonymous giver was detected. The jolly bishop stood with the third bag of coins in his hand. The father was very proud, and he wouldn't accept the money. The good bishop begged the poor man to accept the gifts and use them for his daughters' dowries, requesting that his name never be revealed. At last the father accepted the money for his daughters, but he couldn't keep the name of the generous bishop a secret.

It is thought that St. Nicholas died about 345 A. D., and for thirty days following his festival day his genial spirit roams the earth, filling the hearts of mankind with love and generosity. He gave his gifts without the thought of return—the true spirit of St. Nicholas and Christmas.

hung Christmas tree, I knew I had not been mistaken.

"I was eight years old when a pinch-faced little girl with fox eyes suddenly became the center of attention at our school by dramatically announcing, the day before Christmas, that there never had been a Santa Claus.

" 'It's time you children grew up,' she said.

"I felt sorry for her.

"That night I again heard Santa's horn through the coal furnace ventilator. As usual there were heaps of presents on my Christmas tree next morning. At noon, while I was trying out a pair of roller skates, the little girl went by.

" 'What did Santa bring you?' I inquired.

" 'Nothing,' she said triumphantly. 'How could he when I don't believe in him?' "

Betsey Barton: (daughter of Bruce Barton, ex-Congressman and author) whose all-inspirational first book *And Now To Live Again,* is in repeat editions. Betsey is pansy-eyed with gleaming light brown hair. She looks like your idea of a poetess—beautiful in other words. The most enchanting and engaging thing about her is her free-ringing, realistic laughter. The laughter is really grand because Betsey had to find her way back to laughter. It is no easy accomplishment to find your way back to the sheer joy-of-living when you've viewed life from a wheel chair for ten long, youthful years. "It doesn't matter what kind of funny shell you find yourself in," said Betsey, "just so long as you know you're alive. being alive is the miracle!—and do I believe in that old gent, Santa Claus!" she laughed gustily. "Why, I'm still waiting for him. No one is truly happy without her pet delusion of some kind. Delusions are far more necessary to happiness than the grim realities.

"A small girl at school, with a small, small blue nose disillusioned me about Santa Claus. For some indefinable reason when she told me I knew in a flash that it was the truth. I also knew in that moment of the unwanted truth that I must protect my parents from ever finding out. Protecting my parents from the facts of life has been my aim ever since. I am tired of giving all the presents!"

Ethel Merman: with as straight a shooting wit as her hit song from *Annie Get Your Gun, 'You Can't Get a Man With a Gun'*—"and that applies to Santa Claus, too . . ." she quipped gaily. "There is no class of people who are so touched by Christmas and the belief in Santa Claus as stage people. They believe hard, and are pretty tough to disillusion. Every one, even a child, is the dupe of tomorrow whose days are not somehow beguiled by some sort of expectation. A lot of people have tried to tell me that childhood learns to glance beyond its grief. This theory I have not embraced for a moment. No thrilling new belief in all the years has quite replaced my sublime trust and all belief in Santa Claus. I still blindly hang up my stocking! And I am still frightened that I might find it filled with ashes and a switch if I'm not an awfully good Christmas girl."

Julie Haydon: brilliant young actress of the *Glass Menagerie,* is as crystal fragile, and fairy-tale-like as your favorite childhood story book heroine. "I was the kind of illusioned child impassioned with the horror of growing up. Joan of Arc possessed no more exalted courage than I did in my fervid defense of Santa Claus when the older, bolder girls in their smiling betrayal openly scorned me as one of the dumb little girls who 'felt that way.' I still have my memories of that little girl of six, which should keep one's life sweet against all reversals and disappointments. Unfortunately, little girls of six do not last very long. I am sure that all real childhood ends when one knows there is no Santa Claus. A little girl of six is an excellent thing to believe in because she is sure she knows everything. As at six one is fortified with inextinguishable beliefs: the world is round; God made us; my own childish faith, so my grandmother told me, was one of the vital forces which held the world together. Pointed out to me on the map was the North Pole. Here is this snow-encrusted area was Santa Claus land; Columbus discovered America—and best of all I learned early and still know that it is only what one believes in one's own heart that matters. I've often wondered what became of that child of six who was so much myself. Where did she go suddenly in a day never to return—that wild believing thing who wore a four-leaf clover in her shoe—who raced the wind and tossed her hair—who lived up in the bough of a big fat mulberry tree, descending at intervals to skin the cat or slide the banisters—that believing child whose prayers were sent straight to Santa Claus himself!"

Katherine Brush: as modern as tomorrow's headlines, whose inimitable, terse prose is the goal of every young would-be writer. Kay Brush has a low, unhurried voice with a listening quality which keeps any loquacious reporter on the alert. She collects blonde wood furniture, of the latest functional design. She maintains two secretaries to compile her vast research on current slang, social customs, and dress, her data ranging from the Scott Fitzgerald era to our present juke-box and cafe society. "Facts before fiction," is her motto. To our whimsical question, her response was characteristicly Brush style, brief, without adjectives: "Even when I watched my father painstakingly assemble a most complicated dollhouse for two solid hours, it never occurred to me that old Santa Claus might not come down the chimney when my eyes closed in sleep. There are some very strange people in this world who believe in everything but Santa Claus!—I believe in him. I always have; I always will, and wish to hear no more to the contrary!"

A VISIT from ST. NICHOLAS

Clement C. Moore

Drawing by M. H. E. Marsden

'Twas the night before Christmas,
when all through the house
Not a creature was stirring,
not even a mouse,
The stockings were hung by
the chimney with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas
soon would be there;
The children were nestled all
snug in their beds,
While visions of sugar-plums
danced through their heads;

1

And mamma in her kerchief,
and I in my cap,
Had just settled our brains
for a long winter's nap,
When out on the lawn there
rose such a clatter,
I sprang from my bed to
see what was the matter.
Away to the window I
flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters and
threw up the sash.

2

The moon on the breast of
the new-fallen snow,
Gave a lustre of mid-day to
objects below;
When what to my wonder-
ing eyes should appear,
But a miniature sleigh, and
eight tiny reindeer,
With a little old driver, so
lively and quick,
I knew in a moment it
must be St. Nick.

3

More rapid than eagles his
coursers they came,
And he whistled, and shouted,
and call'd them by name:
"Now, Dasher! now, Dancer! now,
Prancer! now, Vixen!
On, Comet! on, Cupid! on, Don-
der and Blitzen! —
To the top of the porch, to
the top of the wall!
Now, dash away, dash away,
dash away all!"

4

As dry leaves that before the
wild hurricane fly,
When they meet with an ob-
stacle, mount to the sky,
So, up to the house-top the
coursers they flew,
With the sleigh full of toys,
and St. Nicholas too.
And then in a twinkling I
heard on the roof
The prancing and pawing
of each little hoof.

5

As I drew in my head, and
was turning around,
Down the chimney St. Nich-
olas came with a bound.
He was dress'd all in fur
from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all
tarnish'd with ashes and soot;
A bundle of toys he had
flung on his back,
And he look'd like a peddler
just opening his pack.

6

His eyes how they twinkled!
his dimples how merry!
His cheeks were like roses,
his nose like a cherry.
His droll little mouth was
drawn up like a bow,
And the beard on his chin
was as white as the snow.
The stump of a pipe he
held tight in his teeth,
And the smoke, it encircled
his head like a wreath.

7

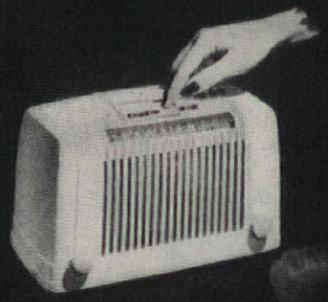
He had a broad face and a
little round belly
That shook, when he laugh'd,
like a bowl full of jelly.
He was chubby and plump—
a right jolly old elf—
And I laugh'd when I saw
him, in spite of myself;
A wink of his eye, and a
twist of his head,
Soon gave me to know I had
nothing to dread.
He spake not a word, but
went straight to his work,
And filled all the stockings;
then turn'd with a jerk,

8

And laying his finger aside
of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the
chimney he rose.
He sprang to his sleigh, to
his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew like
the down of a thistle,
But I heard him exclaim, ere
he drove out of sight,
"Happy Christmas to all, and
to all a good-night!"

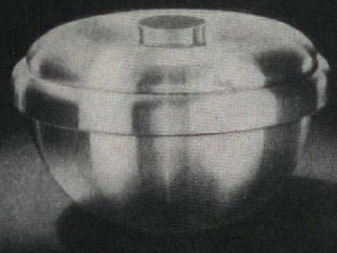
9

Marsden



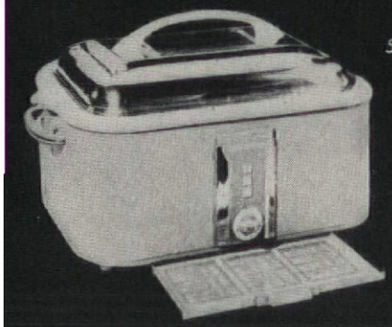
1. Arvin

2. Pauline Granichstadten



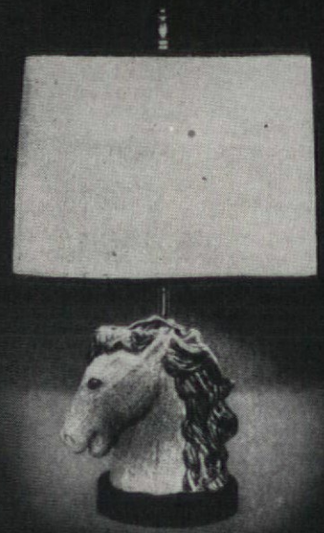
3. Yorkville Craftsmen

4. Flint

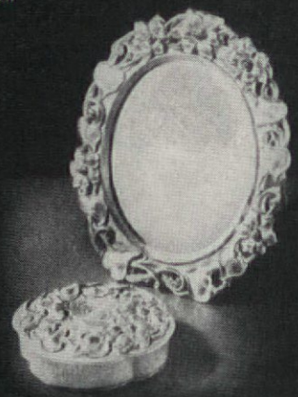


5. Westinghouse

6. Proctor



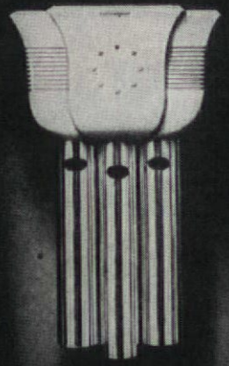
7. Dick Knox



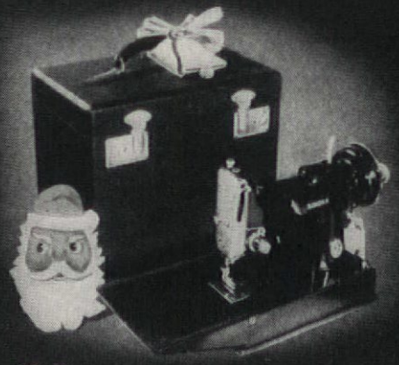
8. Syracuse Ornamental Co.

9. Universal

10. Wallace Silversmiths

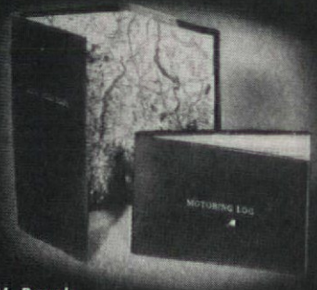


11. A. E. Rittenhouse Co.



12. Singer

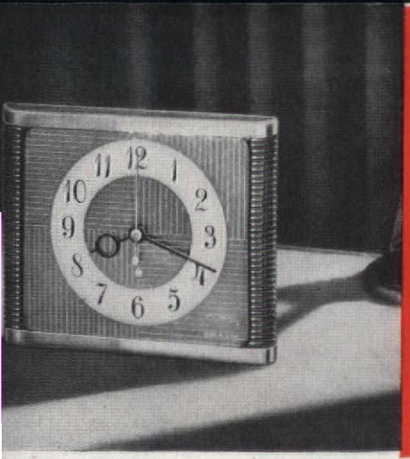
13. Alvin Silversmiths



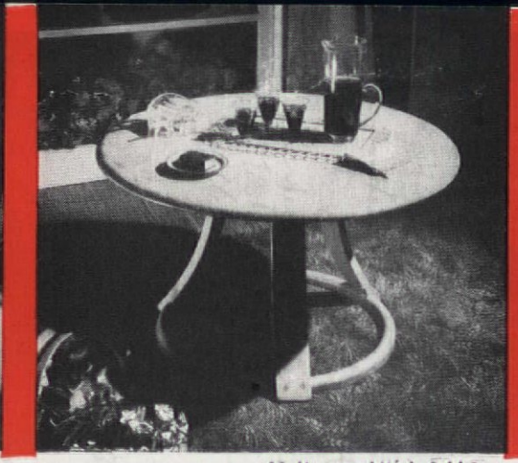
14. Frederick H. Beach

15. Weiman

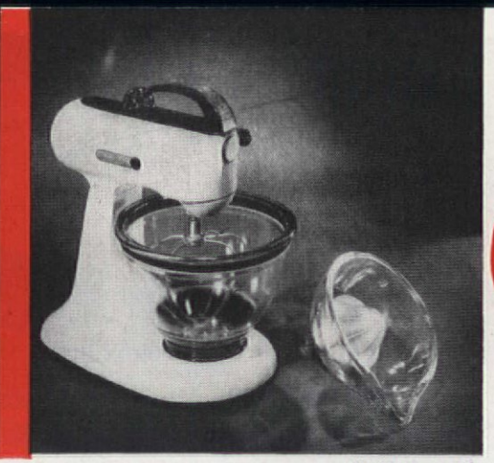
16. Teacher Tray



17. Seth Thomas



18. Heywood-Wakefield Co.



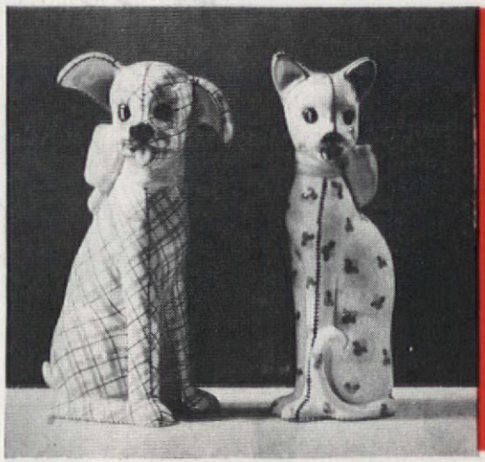
19. Kitchen Aid

20. The Old Mexico Shop

FOR CHRISTMAS.....

We suggest any of these as being just the right gift for almost everyone: ● 1. A smart table model radio (AC-DC) with a new "piano-key" type automatic station selectors which blend smoothly into the contour of the ivory plastic cabinet. ● 2. A soft, butcher linen place mat and napkin with colorful hand-blocked Tyrolean design. ● 3. This aluminum bowl, hand-spun, with deep emeried horizontal lines, and insulated with Fiberglas—the material that kept B-29 crews warm in 60 degrees below zero weather—will keep your ice cubes cold or your food hot. ● 4. A handsome gift for the head of the family—a new hollow ground, sterling silver handled carving set; tarnishproof cloth lines the gift box. ● 5. We present the new Westinghouse electric roaster with 18-quart capacity and a "look in" glass panel, a shelf with timetables. ● 6. A touch of the button, and the famous Never-Lift iron is at her service; plus a headlight for really finding wrinkles. ● 7. Handsome lamp for a man's room: a gray horse's head base with blue-green mane and a green eye, and a gray grass-cloth shade piped in green. ● 8. For the luxury gift, the Ramona Clematis vine reproduced on this SyrocoWood mirror and jewel box set, in white with gold. (Mirror with frame, 15½" by 18".) ● 9. Let her toast as-she-dials-it with this new automatic toaster; a hinged crumb tray cleans readily. ● 10. A classic sterling silver water pitcher in the Grand Colonial pattern. Its graceful lines would enhance a flower arrangement, too. ● 11. A gift for the whole family—this stunning Norman Bel Geddes designed ivory plastic door chimes with tubes of hand-polished brass finish; plays a 3 or 4 note chime sequence plus a single note signal for rear door. ● 12. A Featherweight Portable electric sewing machine in a light luggage-type case. ● 13. Sterling silver dessert or luncheon knife, fork and spoon in the rich, Regency- and Louis XIV-inspired Chateau Rose pattern to make every day gleam like Christmas. ● 14. Clever and convenient, this road map holder and motoring log, in suntan simulated leather, a happy gift idea for any motorist. ● 15. All-mahogany Regency step table with inlaid crotch mahogany front, brass grille in doors, and banded and hand-padded leather tops tooled in gold. ● 16. A gift for mother and junior, a new feeding tray, said to be psychologically planned to teach children perfect eating habits. Lightweight, practically indestructible, stain-resistant, with built-in feeding bowl and warming compartment; a bunny-shaped napkin ring, and knife-fork-spoon set. ● 17. A self-starting electric clock that will add distinction to any setting; rectangular frame is ebony and gold; dial has paneled background in dull gold with circular white numeral track; easy to read numerals and hands are black. ● 18. A handsome gift — bleached maple coffee table with modern tripod base. ● 19. Kitchen Aid is back with its stationary bowl and "Thoro Mix" action; built-in power unit; extractor for orange juice. ● 20. Distinctive the year round, these Indian pottery supper pieces from Santa Fe (part of a complete set of 19 pieces) is different, decorated by hand, entirely ovenproof. The gift comes packed in rustic crate made of small willow poles tied with rawhide thongs. ● 21. A calico cat and gingham dog of china painted in bright, characteristic colors, a charming gift, and engaging in any room. ● 22. For practicality in a luxury setting, this six-piece bath ensemble includes "two of each" in a peacock blue and pink box decorated with gay-sprigged floral ribbon. ● 23. For the whole family, an "Anchors Aweigh" tumbler set decorated with eight different yachting communication flags, and the message translated for the un-nautical guest at the base of each glass.

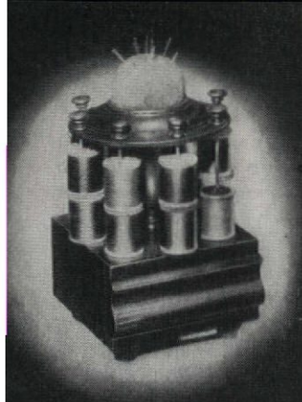
Photographs by F. M. Demarest; Banbury; Bus Howdyshell; Apex; Todd; Wesley Bowman; George Andrews; Hank Weber; Chick; Victor T. Fintak; Frank Willming; Metropolitan Photo Service; Paul Davis



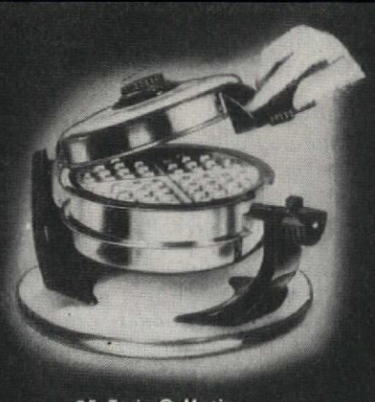
21. Brayton Laguna

22. Cannon

23. Libbey Glass Co.



24. Carl Forslund



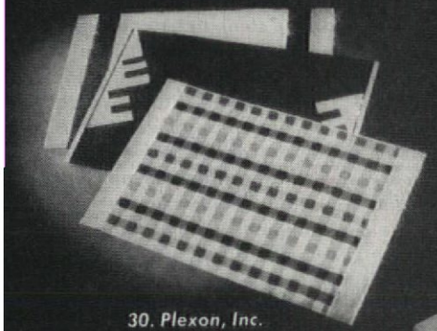
25. Twin-O-Matic

26. Guppy's California Ceramics—Modspe shade

27. Fulper Pottery

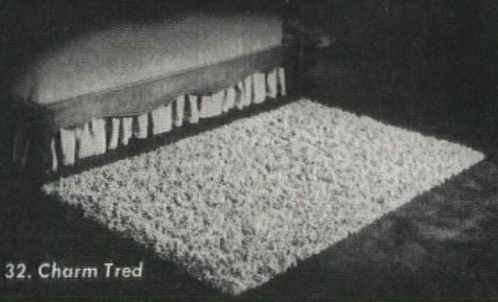
28. Thomas Clark Clayberger

29. Mixmaster

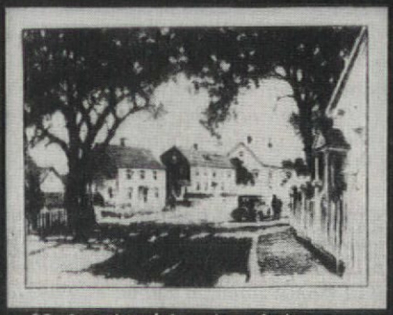


30. Plexon, Inc.

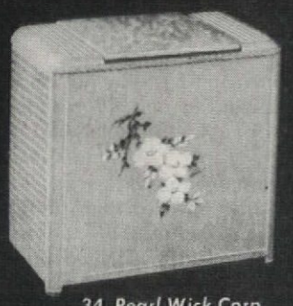
31. Ronson Bros.



32. Charm Tred

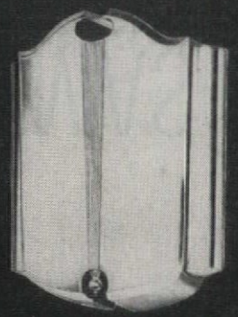


33. Associated American Artists

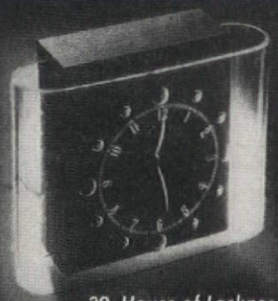


34. Pearl Wick Corp.

35. Consider H. Willett

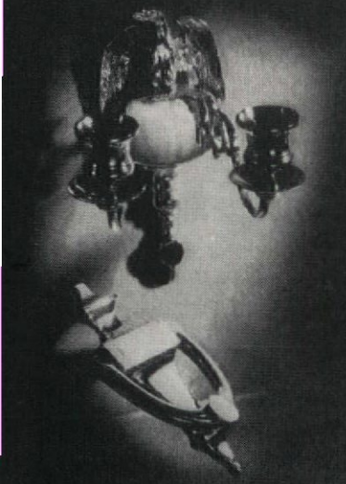


38. NuTone Inc.

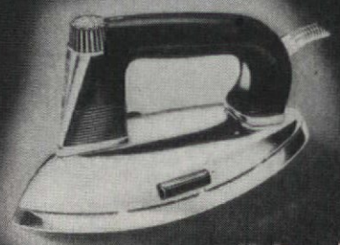


39. House of Lockner

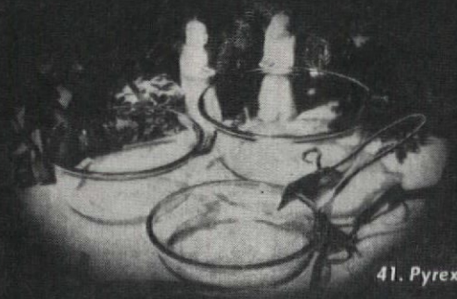
40. Jackson and Perkins



36. Art Colony Industries



37. General Mills



41. Pyrex

42. Hedi Schoop

43. Harper and Brothers

44. Whittlesley House

45. Simon and Schuster

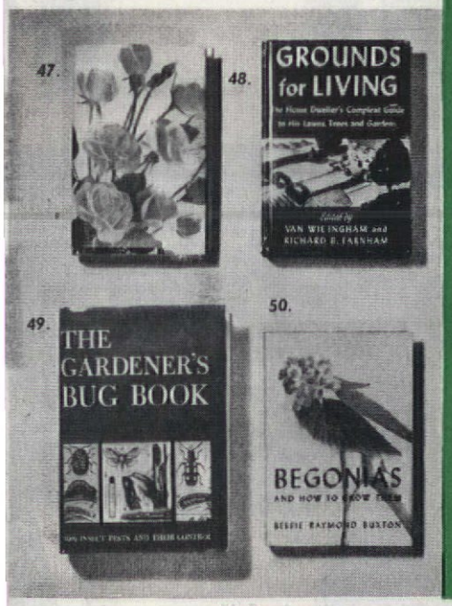
46. Museum of Modern Art

47. American Rose Society

48. Rutgers University Press

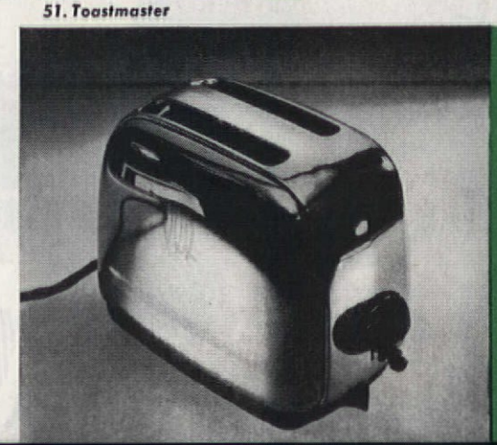
49. Doubleday and Co.

50. Oxford University

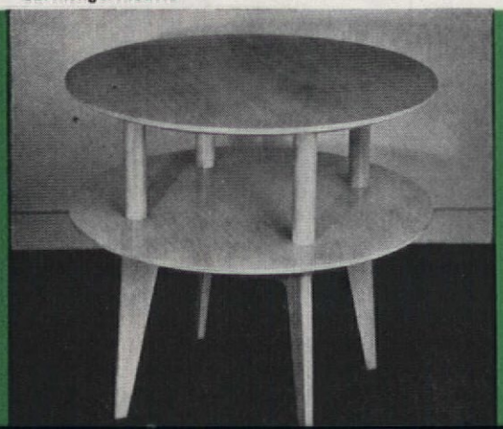


● 24. Completely charming for bedroom or guest room, a wood "Sewing Helper" with drawer for thimble and scissors, pegs for spools of thread, and a little pincushion to top it off. ● 25. For her to make waffles—two at a time automatically—in same space and time it used to take for one. ● 26. For a child's lamp, a pottery pony with coy eyes and gay trimmings. ● 27. Decorative—and authentic—a Stangl pottery blue jay, 10¼" high. Modern and gay, handpainted, interesting for table centerpiece or just perched on a mantel or shelf. ● 28. Transparent mailbox of Lucite in red, green, blue, or white, with steel paper holder—a homey gift with the modern touch. ● 29. The new automatic beater ejector with thirteen labor-saving devices makes a Mixmaster a Christmas must. ● 30. Color-fast, waterproof table mats of woven plastic yarn, come in multi-colored stripes suitable for luncheons, and in plain colors for more formal occasions; there's a specially designed mat for baby, too. ● 31. A "Mayfair" silver-plated table lighter, which would be prized by any hostess. ● 32. Small but rugged, a rug for bedroom, bath, or nursery, available in lovely pastels, and in sizes 24" by 36" to 34" by 54"; they're washable, too. ● 33. Art at a price—"East Main Street," a signed original lithograph by Gordon Grant. Plate 11⅞" by 8⅞", mat 18" by 14". Price, $5.00. ● 34. For the lover of practical gifts, a roomy, self-ventilating bench model hamper with hand-painted floral design on solid Tekwood panel. ● 35. A simply designed chair-side trestle table of maple, good selection for an Early American room. ● 36. Lasting and welcome, a Colonial knocker of solid brass, engraved with owner's name for that individual touch. Or eagle design on solid brass Colonial candle sconce. ● 37. The safety side rest, double-pointed iron is a newcomer and a welcome one in any home. ● 38. An all-brass Colonial door chime with a touch of the modern, and a jewel front-door push button to match. ● 39. A gift of usable beauty, this ultra-modern clock with a full-face molded Lucite plastic dial illuminated by concealed fluorescent neon. ● 40. Artificial rose and gift card in plastic container heralds the arrival, at planting time in the spring, of a gift of living rose plants. Order soon, while a good selection of varieties is available, from the catalogue of Jackson and Perkins Co. ● 41. A Flameware gift set from Corning: a pint-size skillet, and two saucepans with interchangeable handle to fit all three. ● 42. These charming porcelain figures are delicate candle holders, with a central flower holder; an attractive gift for table or buffet. ● 43. Home Ownership—Is It Sound? by John P. Dean, a regional Economist of the Federal Public Housing Authority, who candidly answers the question, Is home ownership good for your particular family? Price, $2.50. ● 44. The Key To Your New Home by Lewis Storrs, Jr. A primer on the proper selection of a beautiful and livable home, told mainly with pictures and plans, plus a short, informative text with new emphasis on outdoor living. Price, $2.75. ● 45. Tomorrow's House by George Nelson and Henry Wright. "Tomorrow's house is here today" is the theme of this up-to-the-minute book which explains how to select a home that looks right, lives right, is priced within your income. Aimed at those who wish the best in contemporary design. Price, $3.00. ● 46. If You Want To Build A House by Elizabeth B. Mock. Modern houses, beautifully photographed, combined with a simply written analysis of contemporary home planning, designing and construction by the Curator of Architecture of The Museum of Modern Art. Price, $2.00. ● 47. American Rose Annual for 1946—one of the rewards of joining the big, progressive fraternity of rosarians; a year book in the best sense of the term. Price, $3.50 (including membership). ● 48. Grounds for Living, edited by Van Wie Ingham and Richard B. Farnham. A garden guide for the home dweller by ten teachers of practical horticulture at the New Jersey State College of Agriculture. Price, $2.50. ● 49. The Gardener's Bug Book by Dr. Cynthia Westcott. Her latest and most comprehensive contribution to the cause of better, more successful gardens, and the enjoyment of more vigorous, healthy plants. Price, $4.95. ● 50. Begonias And How To Grow Them by Bessie Raymond Buxton. An acknowledged authority tells all about growing and enjoying all the many kinds of these popular plants. Price, $2.25. ● 51. The standby in automatic toasters, streamlined with improvements—a good clean-out device for crumbs, an excellent gift. ● 52. A revolving mahogany cocktail table, designed by Morris Sanders, with smart lines and the new "do it with a coin" construction. ● 53. For guaranteed popularity give a well-designed coffee maker. ● 54. White-crackled ceramic pieces in the well-designed modern manner, dark-toned bases, Dick Knox.

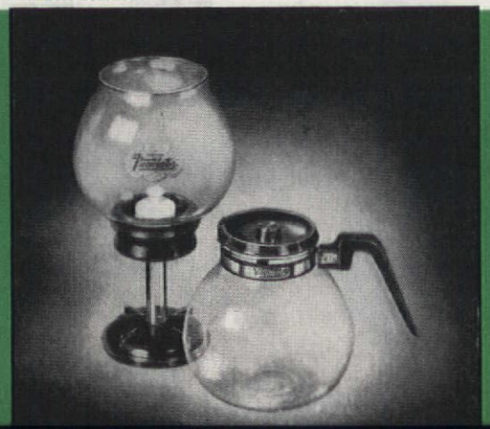
51. Toastmaster



52. Mengel Module



53. Vaculator



54. Barbara Willis Terrene Pottery

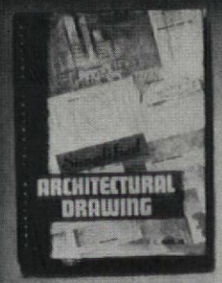
55. Edwards and Company

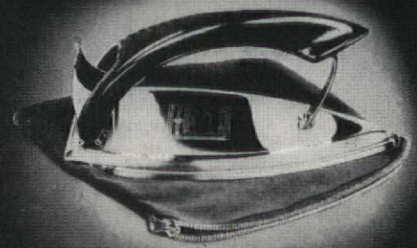
56. Silex Steam Iron

57. Brandt

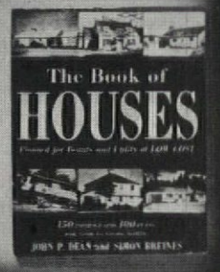
59.—60. American Technical Society

58. Burpee



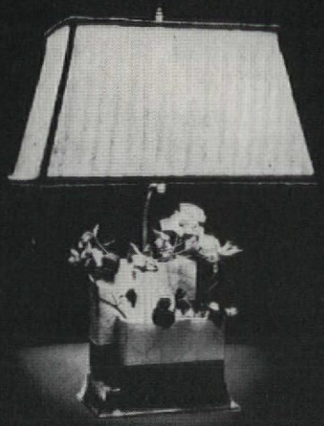


66. General Electric

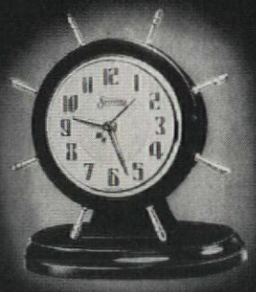


61. Alfred A. Knopf

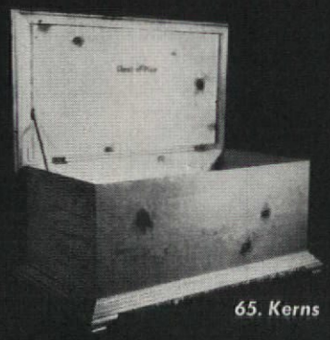
62. Crown Publishers



63. Paco Marketers



64. Sessions

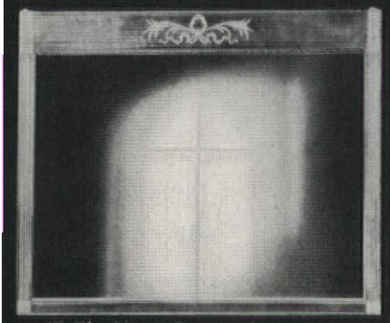


65. Kerns

72. D. Hill Nursery Co.

70. M. Barrows and Co.

74. Electresteem



67. The Nurre Companies

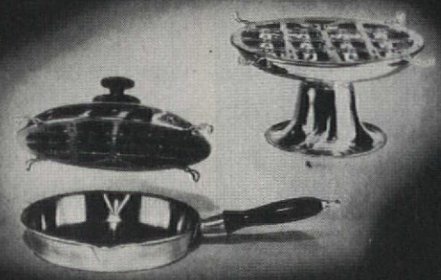
68. Knapp-Monarch

69. Linnea

71. Binfords and Mort

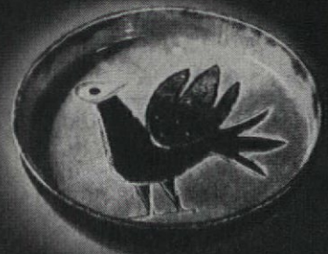
73. Oxford University Press

78. Museum of Modern Art

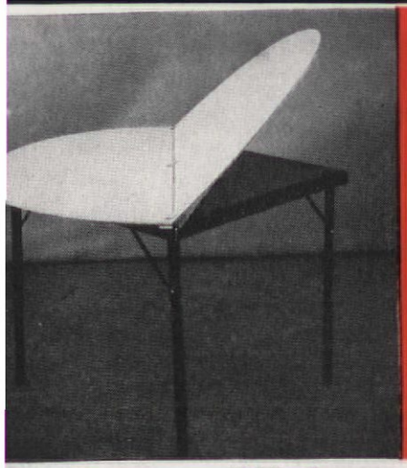


75. Broilmaster

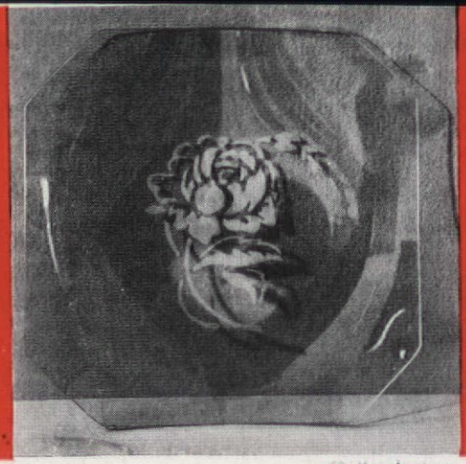
76. R. P. Morton Co.



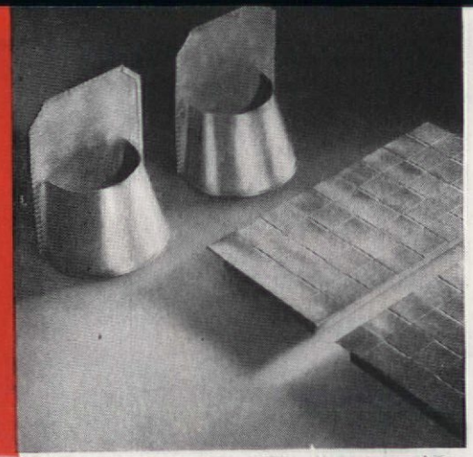
77. Ede Turnstyle Pottery



79. T-Top Company



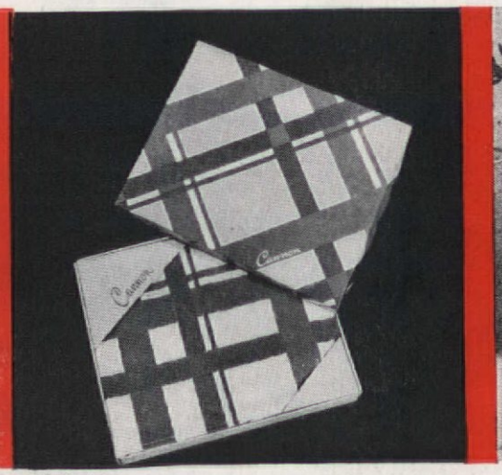
80. Kensington



81. William H. Fenton and Co.

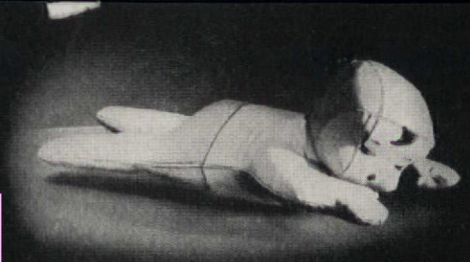
55. Something really new in door chimes—nonelectric—for him or her, for anyone can install it. It is a solid brass door knocker chime which fits all standard doors. Just drill a single hole. And there's a smartly framed mirror on the inside to conceal the chime mechanism and also to allow for last-minute glance at hat or necktie. ● 56. For the fastidious and efficient, two irons in one. Steam for modern fabrics; dry for usual ironing. A flip of the switch and she'll have a perfect servant. ● 57. For the home, an English antique-finish lamp table with swirl mahogany veneered top, underparts of solid mahogany. Boxwood inlay line around top. ● 58. A gift box of flower seeds for 1947 to delight any gardener. 12 seed packets of colorful, reliable, annual flowers, attractively packaged. ● 59. Simplified Architectural Drawing by T. C. Buss, Jr. Engineering and architectural drafting combined in a book which thoroughly covers what's needed by draftsmen from office practice to instruction in finished renderings. Price, $4.75. ● 60. Architectural Drawing and Detailing by Dalzell and McKinney. The general principles of architectural drawing, detailing, rendering in pen and ink and landscaping. Simply stated for student, layman, or draftsman. Price, $2.50. ● 61. Old Vermont Houses by Herbert Wheaton Congdon. History of early Vermont architecture, profusely illustrated by the architect-author, presenting the many little incidents which make these houses a vital part of our heritage. Price, $5.00. ● 62. The Book of Houses by John P. Dean and Simon Breines. More than 100 houses of all types with plans, costs and details, plus basic information along such complex lines as financing, neighborhood selection, and other necessary aspects of homeownership. Price, $2.00. ● 63. For the parlor gardener, a ceramic, metal and mahogany table lamp, planter type, with a white beige, and chocolate color scheme, deep glaze, white crackle. Ivy or philodendron are suggested plants. ● 64. A pilot wheel, self-starting electric clock with case of mahogany color in two tones, and spokes of polished brass, for his study. ● 65. A commodious gift is this simple, well-made storage chest of clear-waxed pine. ● 66. A treasure for travelers—this AC-DC two-pound traveling iron in zippered case. ● 67. Mirror with distinction and dignity (30" by 40") set in solid mahogany frame (36" by 43") with center ornament and corners in special gold finish. ● 68. She can dry her hair at home with professional efficiency with this handy electric hair drier. Practical and welcome. ● 69. A sweet-smelling gift containing lingerie-satin powder mitt of dusting powder, a bottle of cologne, and a bar of soap. ● 70. Geraniums, Pelargoniums by Helen Van Pelt Wilson. A practical, comprehensive, readable monograph of a diverse and valuable group of plants for indoor and outdoor cultivation. Price, $2.75. ● 71. Plant Magic by James P. Haworth. An attempt—and pretty successful, too—to explain in everyday language how scientific materials and methods are being applied in plant breeding and plant growing. Price, $3.00. ● 72. The Friendly Evergreens by L. L. Kumlien. A handsome, profusely illustrated, descriptive and cultural manual of the useful trees and shrubs that stay green the year around. Price, $6.00. ● 73. The Land Renewed by William Van Dersal and Edward H. Graham. The all-important story of soil conservation told in nontechnical language and striking pictures that Americans of all ages can read with interest, understanding and benefit—and certainly should. Price, $2.00. ● 74. What new mother wouldn't love to have this Electresteem 8 baby-bottle sterilizer. ● 75. Either new bride or veteran hostess will prize the Broilmaster for it broils, boils, toasts, fries. ● 76. For the home, a genuine mahogany end table adaptable for use as radio table, bookshelf, or magazine stand. ● 77. A fine example of modern ceramics is this dish with cock motif, turquoise inside, brown outside. For decoration or ash tray. ● 78. Picasso's "Le Chinois" silk screen reproduction for a very discriminating person. On format 16" by 12", and in colors, orange, yellow, black and gray. From the Museum of Modern Art. Price, $2.50. ● 79. For the inveterate bridge hostess, a light, rigid table top which slides easily over a card table and serves seven persons comfortably. Perfect for luncheons, or card games. ● 80. An attractive octagonal plate with rose design, a gift of decoration and utility. ● 81. Ivy bookends for her to use singly or as wall pockets. The accompanying hot plates come in single and double size, and both are of satin-finish lacquered copper or burnished copper or copper noir. ● 82. Circus set, new feeding plate for junior, the "big circus" with a lift-off lid, shaped and striped like the big top; the cereal bowl and plate fit under it. The mug has big ears for handles and a dunce-cap cover. ● 83. Kitchen towels are back—"Pantry Plaid" towel set, six printed dish towels in giant plaids, red with blue or green in the square plaid; chartreuse with turquoise, or bright pink with black, in the diagonal plaid. Packed in a gay, harmonizing box. ● 84. Modern in feeling for the modern hostess is this vase with stylized fish and seaweed design, a product of California.

82. Cleminson's Clay



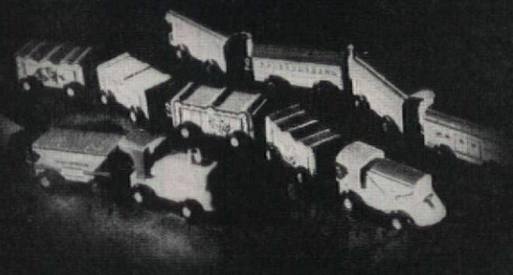
83. Cannon

84. Dick Knox



85. Dorzar

86. American Toy Works



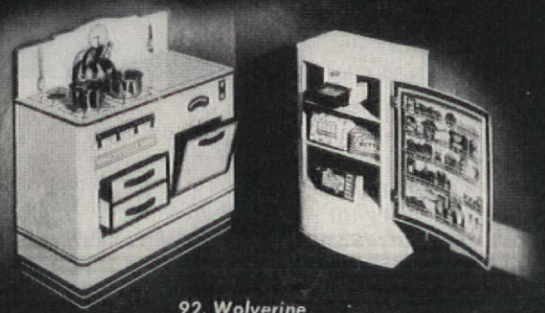
87. Taylor-Made Products

88. Lincoln Logs

89. Buddy L

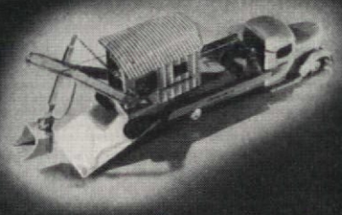
90. Tone Products Corp.

91. N. D. Cass Sales Co.



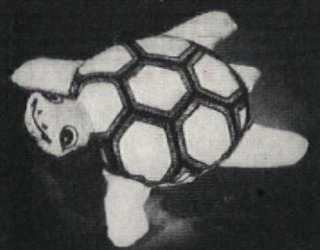
92. Wolverine

93. Ideal Novelty and Toy Co.

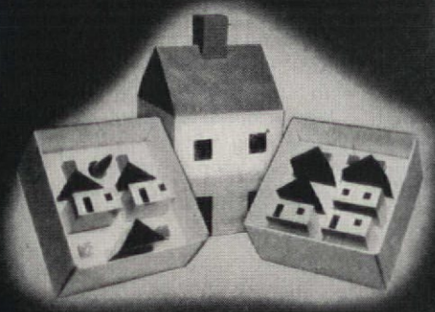


95. Structo Mfg. Co.

96. George K. Garrett Co.

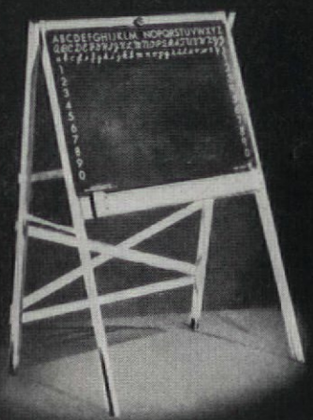


97. Cada Products

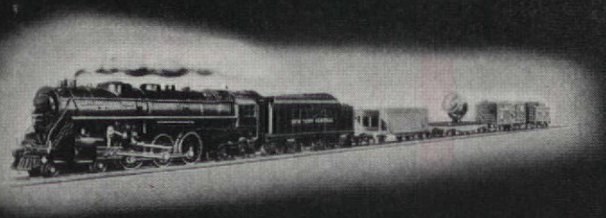


94. A. C. Gilbert Co.

100. Wolverine



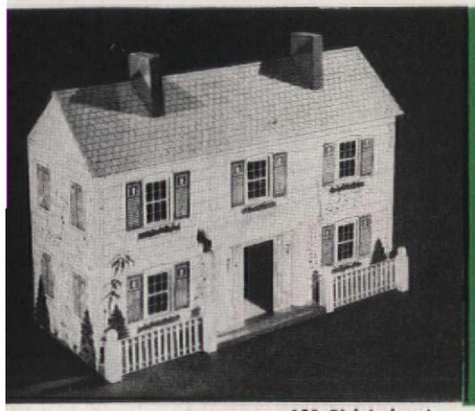
98. Transogram Co.



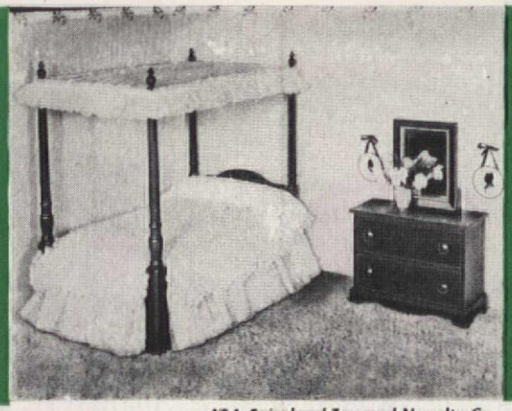
99. A. C. Gilbert Co.

101. A. C. Gilbert Co.

102. Kiddie Brush and Toy Co.

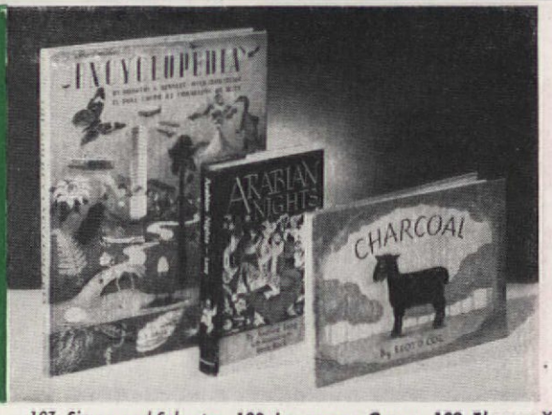


103. Rich Industries



104. Fairyland Toy and Novelty Co.

105. Dodd Mead and Co. 106. Houghton Mifflin Co.



107. Simon and Schuster 108. Longmans, Green 109. Thomas Y. Crowell Co.

15 photographs courtesy Toy Guidance Council

FOR A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS

There are innumerable intriguing toys this year. ● 85. A waterproofed, cuddly, washable floating doll, brightly colored with pure vegetable dyes. ● 86. A wonderfully complete toy to keep the 4- to 8-year old happily occupied round the clock. Hammering, chalk work, paints, crayons, and stencils. ● 87. Recommended for the young man 2 to 4, these miniature wooden trains. ● 88. For boys 4 to 8 is this building kit with logs of hardwood, stained and waxed with book of designs. ● 89. A steel delivery truck in two-toned enamel with removable riding seat for junior. ● 90. Merry-Go-Sound, a gay, red, gold, and blue velvet carrousel and calliope plays nursery and fairy-tale recordings to delight any child. ● 91. A doll's wardrobe trunk for the young voyager; wood frame, brass corners, also lock, key, drawers, coat hangers, and luggage labels. ● 92. A nonelectric metal play stove and toy refrigerator for the miniature cook, complete with little aluminum utensils, including a whistling teapot. Refrigerator has make-believe ice cubes and food packages. ● 93. She can wash this rubber baby doll, having a plastic head, eyes that open and shut. In various sizes, with complete layette. ● 94. Anne Farrell "Village Blocks" colorful, hardwood, smoothly finished and well balanced, in a cardboard house container. ● 95. Combination steam shovel and truck, of sturdy metal, recommended for boys 4 to 8, for indoor or sand-pile play. ● 96. A convertible skate kit which has red rubber-wheeled roller skates, plus two sets of blades. ● 97. This waterproofed turtle floats in baby's tub. ● 98. An educational and creative toy, a school-type easel blackboard with letters across top. ● 99. For junior (and dad) this plastic electric train that whistles and puffs real smoke. ● 100. An electric iron for the little housekeeper that gets warm enough to iron doll clothes or hankies, but not hot enough to burn her fingers. ● 101. A complete chemistry set that includes glass-blowing equipment, for boys over 12. ● 102. Lilliputian cleaning set with dust mop, dustpan, broom, and carpet sweeper. Workable and well made. ● 103. For girls of 4 and over, Colonial dollhouse made of gypsum hardboard. White with red blinds and green roof. ● 104. Reproduction in miniature of George Washington's bed at Mount Vernon, and dresser in mahogany finish. ● Our choices in books for little children: 107. The Golden Encyclopedia by Dorothy A. Bennett and Cornelius DeWitt. ● 109. Charcoal, written and delightfully illustrated by Lloyd Coe. ● 110. Greylock and the Robins, a perfect collaboration by Tom Robinson and the fine artist, Robert Lawson. ● 111. The Heavenly Tenants by William Maxwell. ● 112. Sunday in the Park by Janet Bell. ● 113. Peter Opens the Door by Roberta Whitehead, is completely delightful. ● 118. The New House in the Forest by Lucy Sprague Mitchell. ● 119. Monkey-face by Helen and Alf Evers. ● 120. The charming Mexican Indian story Gift of the Earth by Pachita Crespi. ● Also, At Daddy's Office by Robert Jay Mitch, illustrated by Roger Duvoisin (Alfred A. Knopf). ● The Boats on the River by Marjorie Flack (Viking Press). ● Jacoble Tells the Truth by Lisle Weil (Houghton Mifflin Co.). ● The Donkey Cart by Clyde Robert Bulla, illustrated by Lois Lenski (Thomas Y. Crowell Co.). ● For children a little older we highly recommend: Chitter Chat Stories by Margaret Cabell Self (E. P. Dutton Co.). ● Miss Hickory by Carolyn Sherwin Bailey (Viking Press), an exquisite gift book. ● GiGi in America by Elizabeth Foster (Houghton Mifflin Co.). ● 108. Arabian Nights by Andrew Lang and decorations by Vera Bock . . . Wakaima and the Clay Man by E. Balintuma Kalibala and Mary Gould Davis (Longmans, Green and Co.). Recommended for teen-age girls: ● 105. A story of the Cinderella of the White House, Glamorous Dolly Madison by Alice Curtis Desmond. ● 106. The childhood of the great poetess Emily Dickinson, Miss Emily by Jean Gould. ● Also recommended: Carol on Tour by Helen Dore Boylston (Little, Brown and Co.). ● Along Janet's Road by Alice Dalgliesh (Charles Scribner's Sons). ● Personality Plus! by Sheila John Daly (Dodd, Mead and Co.). ● Older boys will be thrilled with any of these: ● 114. Let the Coyotes Howl by Samuel D. Bogan. ● 115. Gid Granger by Robert Davis. ● 116. The Wild Dog of Edmonton by David Grew. ● 117. Counterspy Jim by Josef Berger. ● Also, the story of The Hudson's Bay Company, Company of Adventurers by Louise Hall Tharp (Little, Brown and Co.). ● Young Franklin Roosevelt by Rita Halle Kleeman (Julian Messner). ● Jonathan Goes West by Stephen W. Meader (Harcourt, Brace and Co.) ● Make Way for a Sailor by Nora Benjamin Kubie (Reynal and Hitchcock). ● The Angry Planet by John Keir Cross (Coward-McCann).

110. The Viking Press
111. Albert Whitman and Co.
112. Robert M. McBride
113. Houghton Mifflin Co.
114. G. P. Putnam's Sons
115. Holiday House, Inc.
116. Reynal and Hitchcock
117. Little Brown and Co.
118. Simon and Schuster, Inc.
119. Rand McNally and Co.
120. Charles Scribner's Sons

OUR CHRISTMAS PACKAGE

"'Tis the season for kindling the fire of hospitality in the hall the genial fire of charity in the heart."—*Washington Irving.*

Christmas is best of all the year! No day or event could be more inclusive—it is universal, ageless, joyous, reverent. Tradition is honored, and none but the hopeless misanthrope could fail to be imbued with the spirit and sentiment of this happy and best-loved holiday season.

If our hearts sing out, our homes will, too. Let's make them really sing this year! Corral the entire family—it's more fun when everyone has a hand in the Christmas preliminaries. Unshackle imagination and let spontaneous enthusiasm reign.

Our package to you contains a galaxy of ideas for decorating your house, tree, and presents—ideas selected primarily for their ingenuity. And what pleases us tremendously is that most of them call for little or no investment of money. We hope they will answer many of your needs and will help to make Christmas for you completely joyous from the time the first red bow is tied until the last

1. For an oddly shaped or circular gift, jovial clown package is good solution

2. Corsage of varicolored lollipops with lace paper frill attached to box

3. Use old Christmas cards to decorate a round box. Cut cards wedge-shaped

4. Another use for old cards—identical designs effective at opposite corners

5. One card especially selected for its color and design for focal decoration

6. A small stuffed animal attached to a box will bring special sparkle, too

7. For each day of the week a balloon with tiny trinket extends anticipation

8. Little figures of yarn scraps to be worn later on child's bedroom slippers

9. Paper patchwork of old Christmas cards is fun to make and to receive

10. Cereal box covered with wallpaper, filled with pine cones or nuts

Ideas 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 10 from Marquerite Fisher
Ideas 3, 4, 5, 9 from J. Leora Brown

FOR YOU

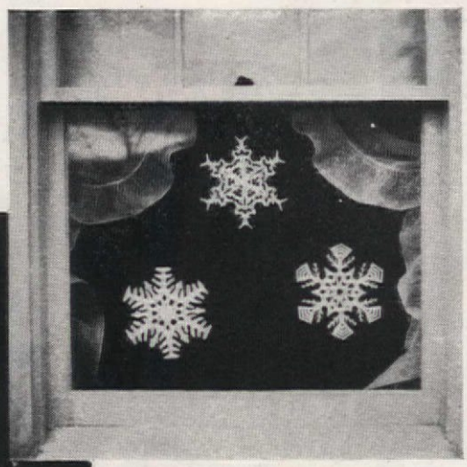
DETAILED DESCRIPTION AND PATTERN AVAILABLE FOR THE IDEAS IN OUR CHRISTMAS PACKAGE.
SEE PATTERN ORDER FORM ON PAGE 44.

shiny ball is packed away in tissue paper to await another Christmas.

Whether you are softly sentimental, mildly sophisticated, or modern as tomorrow in your taste, we'll bet a cooky the Christmas tree will be number one on your "thought list." You'll recall certain trees with unforgettable pleasure and, perhaps like Marion Rogers, who reflects in the succeeding paragraphs on trees she has known, you, too, will enjoy a nostalgic panorama of trees you have loved. Here is Mrs. Rogers' story of three generations of trees.

As a family we have always been, and I hope always will be, Christmas-minded. No matter how low the exchequer, or how firmly I make up my mind to be sensible, when December rolls around, it finds me hard at work. With fruit cake and spicy hermits already made, I start figuring out how much eggnog we shall need; what size tree to buy; and how many wreaths I'll need this year. I revel in every moment surrounding Christmas, from the mad rush to get the last packages mailed, to the final poignant farewell on Twelfth Night.

The other day my daughter remarked, "Now that Bobby is big enough for real toys, I think we should have our own tree. It is so hard to carry kiddie cars and sleds." I realized then, in a flash of remembering,



Snowflakes inside, too. Mrs. C. Edward Brown cut out authentic patterns for all her windows

Cathedral window, and angel choir, ecclesiastical beauty in small scale. General Electric

Santa's cap, a horn of plenty, filled with cards. June Cochrane Ortgies. Executed by Dennison

For mantel or shelf Peg Hall created these delightful little choir boys with lace paper cotta

Mantel arranged and exhibited in Macon, Ga., by "The Morning Gardeners." Mrs. C. C. Hertwig

F. M. Demarest

BUTTON BOX SCRAPS AND OLD JEWELRY
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11

OUR CHRISTMAS PACKAGE

With button-box scraps and old costume jewelry, Marguerite Ickis produced these enchanting tree ornaments: 1. Tiny box top, manger shadow box. 2. Wise man with earring incense burner. 3. Powder-puff boy. 4. Lantern bearer with ruby glass lantern. 5. Carol singers in box top. 6. Jewel pin snowflake. 7. Metal bottle cap medallion. 8. Tiny tree in relief. 9. Angel with glass ornament. 10. Santa with paper-doily trimming. 11. Powder-box house. 12. Coaster ornament with mirror inset. 13. Ping-pong ball snowman

Mrs. R. W. Wilmer created this glamorous angel from breastbone of a turkey

Realistic little wreath and candy cane of yarn for the tree. Ideas of Gen Ann Harris

F. M. Demarest

For top of tree this colorful angel has exquisite lacelike delicacy. Of Lumarith, designed by Emile Norman

Earl Scott

Small table tree has bulb in bottom of stand which lights up candles. From the Glolite Corp.

at I had enjoyed three generations of
ristmas trees. Perhaps, I thought sadly, it
time for me to sit back and let some one
e take charge. Then she added, "Bobby
n't know what day it is, so we could have
r tree on the twenty-second and come over
d enjoy yours on Christmas Eve."

My spirits soared at that decision. I knew
at once more December would keep me
busy as I love to be. With the last merry
ll in place, the room lights out, and the
ee lights twinkling, I shall be just as thrilled
, when a child, I saw my first tree.

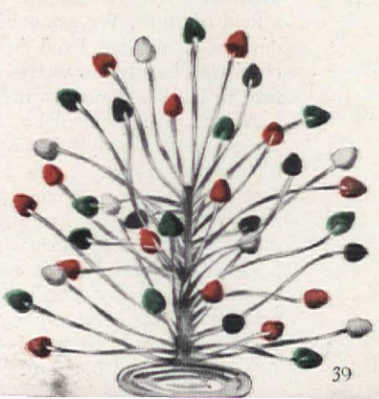
My first memory of Christmas is of a large,
corative room, several people talking, and
small boy sitting beside me under the
anches of a magnificent tree. Above our
ads hung wonderful glittering balls of many
lors, and among them gleaming lights. With
is picture goes the sense of rushing cold air,
e sound of runners on the snow. Over my
ad bright stars twinkled in the heavens.

I was three when I was taken by my parents

Pipe cleaner tree strung with tiny bells, and small plant with decorated pot fill that "more than a card" need. Ideas, Marquerite Fisher

Drawing by Maurice Gordon

Little wooden trees for a handy man to make. Decorate with gum drops, beads, and old costume jewelry. Idea from Mrs. J. Tarbox



Tin can gumdrop tree with slender branches that vibrate pleasingly. Made from one can

OUR CHRISTMAS PACKAGE

Christmas doorway of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Raft. Photograph by Nowell Ward from Ruth W. Lee

For the front door an oversized cand cane of artificial white foliage an red ribbon. June Cochrane Ortgie

Enormous pine cone twisted with shiny ribbon, effective as a door decoration. From Helene Schweikert

Two huge tassels made of silver Christmas tree trimmings, another door idea. June Cochrane Ortgies

Branches of long pine needles, red bow, Cellophane bells, and lights effective for an interior doorway

Sparkle for the table — tinsel tree with icicles, lighted packages at each place. General Electric ideas

to see a neighbor's tree. To me it was not just a casual call, but the beginning of a long series of yearly thrills, which were to find me in many places, and with many people, but which from that day to this, has climaxed each year with the beautiful excitement of Christmas. I can remember peeping cautiously through a keyhole for a meager glimpse of green boughs and tinsel. There were always huge trees towering to the ceiling. Canvas was stretched over the carpet for dancing, giving the picture of a brilliant tree on a field of snow. We seldom had Christmas without snow, for we lived in New England. The child who begged for skates and sleds was pretty sure to have a chance to use them on Christmas.

As the years slipped by, Santa Claus was not just an engaging myth but a symbol of the gayest of all the seasons. It was a shock when, on my first Christmas away from home, I learned that my husband's family had always treated the holiday casually. I was not discouraged. I purchased a small tree, fastened it somewhat precariously to the top of my wardrobe trunk, bought my first ornaments, and eagerly awaited Christmas. The next year our six-month-old daughter was the undeniable and best inspiration for

● Ray Rennahan's scientific use of the *energy in color* prepares the audience for the many moods of Pearl Chavez, heroine of "DUEL IN THE SUN," played by JENNIFER JONES.

How a Great Film was made still greater by COLOR DYNAMICS

Every Color is Given a Meaning of its Own in David O. Selznick's Technicolor Epic —"DUEL IN THE SUN."

DUEL in the SUN

"In 'DUEL IN THE SUN' we have applied COLOR DYNAMICS—the powerful influence of color upon human beings—in the same way that music is used. By adding this magical use of color we have underlined and heightened emotional effects and created moods that will contribute to the greater enjoyment of this dramatic spectacle."

RAY RENNAHAN, Technicolor Cameraman

AND NOW the motion picture industry makes use of Color Dynamics! Ray Rennahan, Technicolor's ace cameraman, utilizes the *energy in color* for the first time in David O. Selznick's dramatic epic of the Southwest—"DUEL IN THE SUN"—to quicken the pulse of its audiences.

Scientific tests have demonstrated that color influences the thoughts, emotions and actions of human beings. Certain colors may inspire and stimulate, others rest and soothe, still others depress and irritate.

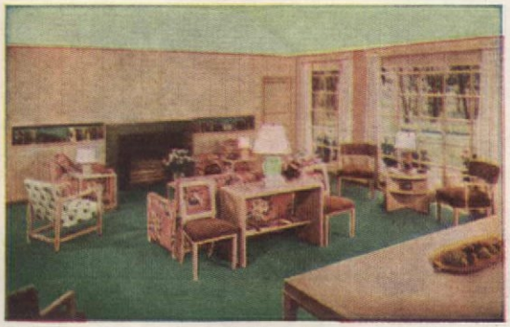
The results of such studies, confirmed by practical experiences in many fields, are the basis of Pittsburgh's painting system of Color Dynamics, by which color is utilized for functional as well as decorative purposes.

Color Dynamics has improved the efficiency of workers. In hospitals, it has speeded recovery of patients. In schools, it has helped pupils and teachers alike in their tasks.

These same principles can be applied with comparable benefits in your home. Instead of colors that depress or tire you, by following Pittsburgh's system of Color Dynamics, you can choose combinations that add to the comfort, cheerfulness and safety of the entire family—at the same time that they beautify the home.

Why not use COLOR DYNAMICS as your guide next time you paint? The whole interesting story of what it is and how you can use it is told in a profusely-illustrated booklet. You can get a FREE copy from your nearest Pittsburgh Dealer. Or write Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company, Paint Division, Dept. AH-12, Pittsburgh 22, Pa.

Paint Greater Comfort, Cheerfulness and Safety Into Your Home—with Color Dynamics!



● The color arrangement of this living room is built around the beauty of the natural wood finish of the fireplace wall. Sharp accents of Coral contrast with the room's restful pattern of Browns, Beiges and Greens.

● In keeping with its informal character, this lovely dining room is painted with fresh, clear colors. Blue Green is used on the walls below the chair rail. Light Ivory above it and the ceiling is in Pastel Yellow.

● The many wall and ceiling areas of this dormered bedroom are unified by the use of soft Horizon Blue on the walls and French Blue trim. Sparkling Red accents prevent cold or depressing effect.

Paint RIGHT with COLOR DYNAMICS . . .
Paint BEST with PITTSBURGH PAINTS!

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—says Mrs. Charles Hilary King of Martha's Vineyard, Mass.

"Decorating a 150-year-old house is no different from 'doing' a brand new one. Carpets are absolutely necessary to make a house a success. In planning my summer home in Martha's Vineyard I've had to take some second choices in fabrics, but there is no substitute for Alexander Smith carpets, so I've just been content to wait until my selections came in—because I HAD to have carpets on my floors!"

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HELP YOU WORK OUT YOUR COLOR SCHEMES

Clara Dudley says: "I agree with Mrs. King 100 percent. Carpet *is* essential to a lovely home, whether it's 150 years old or still in the planning stage. No single item of furnishing gives a home such a luxurious, homey, lived-in air. And, of course, carpet—or a rug *large* enough to cover *most* of the floor—is always the easiest starting point for a successful color scheme.

"Go to your favorite store and see for yourself how lovely Alexander Smith carpets and rugs are... deep-napped, all-wool pile... luscious Tru-Tone colors... exciting new textures and designs. Nowhere will you find longer-wearing or better-value floor coverings. Nor are they expensive—particularly as you can buy them on a budget basis as you buy a car. After you have seen them write me for 'Colorama,' my helpful free guide for home-planners." *Alexander Smith & Sons Carpet Company, Dept. A-31, 285 Fifth Avenue, New York 16, N.Y.*

ALEXANDER SMITH
FLOOR-PLAN RUGS • BROADLOOM CARPETS

Photograph by Nowell Ward from Ruth W. Lee

Completely charming is the treatment of Mrs. Herbert H. Pallat's fireplace. Being an artist, she did a painting of angels with mounted paper cutouts. Red satin pieces perfect for Christmas decor

The traditional tree with its ever fascinating and familiar ornaments which bring old memories to each new tree can be even more enchanting by the addition of a miniature snow village at its base

Photographs by Arthur T. Mayer

Photograph by George H. Van Anda

Gaily decked jade plants in red and white holders plus knarled apple tree branch decorated with birds' nests, potted plants and Christmas balls in window of the Donn Sheets home

a larger tree, and though somewhat disappointed that her only reaction was to go quietly to sleep, I felt there were bigger and better trees to come in the near future.

There was that never-to-be-forgotten year of 1918 when peace on earth took on an added significance, and the outstanding ornament was the cablegram saying my husband's destroyer would dock within the week. The next year there was one tree so big that, before it was in

Angels would naturally be a feature in the John Frank home, for Mrs. Frank has made a hobby of collecting them. Wooden Austrian angels and modern American angels shown. The water color is the work of Mr. Frank

Photograph by Nowell Ward from Ruth W. Lee

"Buttons" says:

"DAN RIVER SHEETS ARE JUST ABOUT THE WORLD'S BEST LULLA-BUY"

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For luxury—and value, too—
Dan Rivers are the sheets for you.
So petal-fresh and snowy-white,
They make your dreams a sheer delight.

They're loomed with uniformity
For smoothness and utility
From cotton picked with greatest care,
So you'll be sure these sheets will wear.

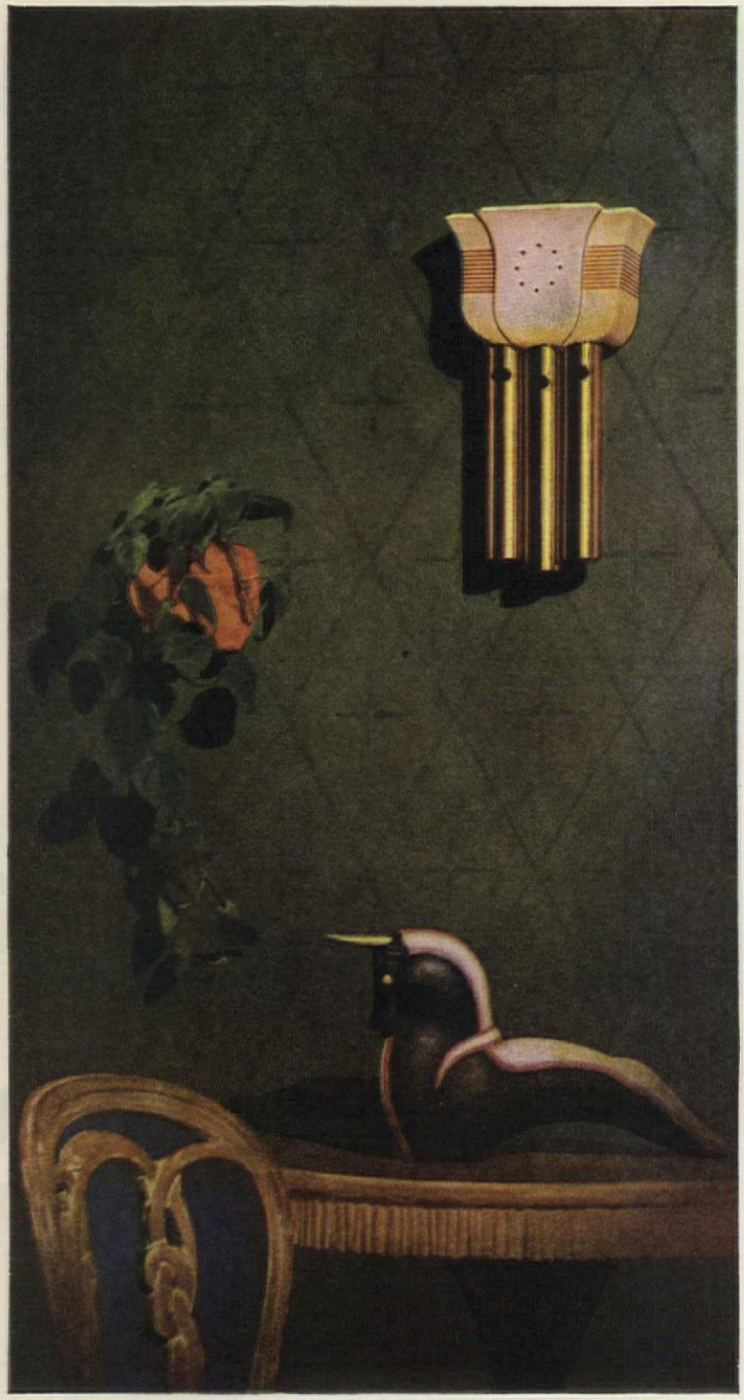
From every angle, they're tip-top.
Remember this next time you shop.
Don't ever buy sheets in the dark.
Look for the famed Dan River mark.

Look for "Buttons," the Dan River doll in your favorite store, made by Inez Holland House.

Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping

Sleep beautifully on DAN RIVER SHEETS

DAN RIVER MILLS, DANVILLE, VA



Pictured above, the graceful "Beverly"...a four-note model

For those of discriminating taste in the choice of things they will live with and cherish—the inherent craftsmanship and mellow tone of Rittenhouse Door Chimes bring beauty, charm and an arresting way of saying "A guest is at your door!"

And only in Rittenhouse *engineered* chimes will you find the remarkable new "Floating Percussion" mechanism . . . the unit that is setting new standards of chime performance and beauty of tone. If your choice is unavailable now your dealer will have it soon, for later delivery.

The Rittenhouse Company, Inc., Honeoye Falls, New York

Chimes by

RITTENHOUSE

Photographs by F. M. Demarest

Christmas is the one season of the year when we can decorate without restraint. So let's deck the hall with holly, ribbon, paper, bells—let it radiate good cheer and warm hospitality. Ideas executed by Dennison's

place, an ancient lamp was shattered into bits and the silver teapot was swept from the sideboard to land handleless under the table.

One year, in Coronado, the long leaf pine had been packed so tightly in its journey from Oregon that the branches reached straight upward like hands flung aloft in horror, and not until we covered bricks with silver paper to weigh down the branches could we trim the tree. The next year found us temporarily in a hotel in Shanghai, China. Here a small artificial tree was given the place of honor on the bureau where it fell over every time the door was opened and was rescued by Amah and the children amid mingled shrieks in English and Chinese. Another Christmas, with a *real* home in Manila, gave us a chance to have a beautiful pine from Baguio, strangely out of place amid the ferns and palm trees that edged the windows.

Back to the States and a Christmas in the country . . . this Christmas Eve was also the eve of the first wedding in the family. The rooms were decked with holly from our own trees, wreaths were in every window, red candles shone, the eggnog bowl was on the sideboard. The young people of the neighborhood, coming in from their round of Christmas carols to warm themselves at the roaring open fires, found, in spite of the glittering display of gifts, the tree still holding its place of honor.

So they pass, in retrospect, these many trees, some large, some small, but all symbolical of love and home and family ties over the years.

AMERICAN HOME ORDER FORM

A-840 Christmas Package.....40¢

Contains detailed instructions, diagrams, and patterns for making the tree decorations, gift wrappings and window and room decorations illustrated on pages 36 to 44.

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Street Address

City Zone No. State

PRINT name and address in coupon, which will be used as label for mailing Christmas package. Cut out order form along dash lines and send M. O. or personal check to: (Please do not send stamps)

AMERICAN HOME PATTERN DEPT.
55 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 3, N.Y.

Room for lots of living ... begins with LIVELY WOOL

Moderate-priced, luxurious-looking Bigelow "Serenade" carpets this cheerful living room.

PLANNING for this lots-of-living room began at the floor, as it always should. Wall-to-wall carpet was chosen to make the room seem larger. Bigelow's Serenade was selected because it looks hand-carved and expensive but isn't . . . *and* because Serenade, like all Bigelow rugs, is made of Lively Wool. Lively Wool is a special blend of the world's finest wools . . . springy wools, tough wools, lustrous wools.

Tightly woven Lively Wool rugs and carpets are resistant to matting, hold colors longer and are easier to clean.

Next time you're in your favorite store, be sure to see the rugs and carpets marked by Bigelow's blue-and-gold label. There may not be a full selection now but every month there will be more.

Bigelow rugs and carpets are made in B. H. F. colors . . . the nine official colors of the Home Furnishings Style Council. They are made in other colors, too, and in wonderful new textures, exciting new patterns. It's wise to *buy the rug you know . . . buy Bigelow.*

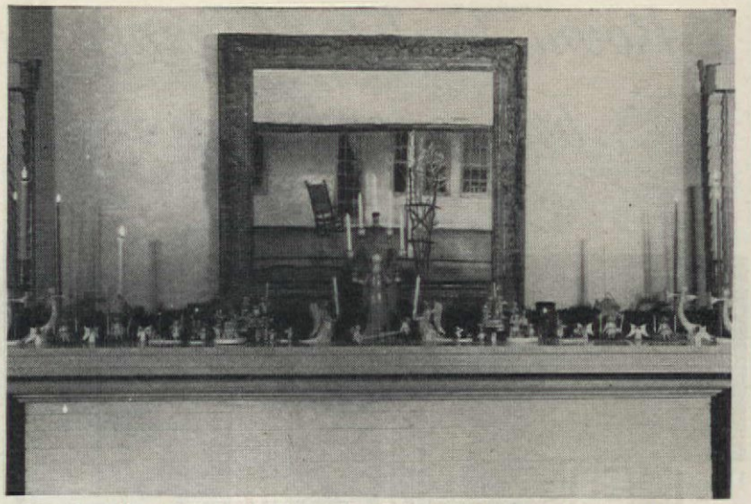
SEND FOR Bigelow's new, purse-size, color "Match Book," 72 paper color samples to use in harmonizing your rug, wall, upholstery and drapery colors. Send 10¢ to Bigelow Weavers, Dept. A-126, 140 Madison Avenue, New York 16, N. Y.

Copr., 1946, Bigelow-Sanford Carpet Co., Inc.

RUGS & CARPETS BY THE BIGELOW WEAVERS

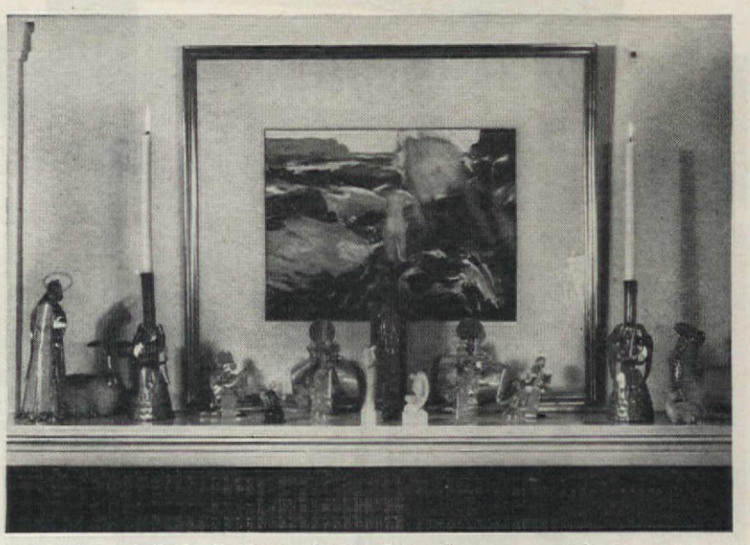
BIGELOW WEAVERS

Fine rugs and carpets since 1825



The kneeling figures in the collection on Mrs. Frank's mantelpiece are Swedish porcelain angels. Others are painted wood from Austria

From Ancient Cherubs



Angel at left is Du Pont plastic. Pierced-copper angels in center holding candles are Mexican. Tin angels were made by Mrs. Frank

to Modern Angels

Two of the angel figures which Mrs. Frank made from pieces of copper sheeting

James M. Wiley

Photographs by Nowell Ward from Ruth W. Lee

ANGELS and cherubs have been used as decorative motifs since the beginning of Biblical history. Almost every religion on the face of the earth has its own version of these other world spirits—some benevolent, some despotic. These statues and symbols were often works of art and labors of love, beautifully carved and wrought. In the older and more cultured forms of religion you often find that these religious idols were encrusted with precious metals and gems, and were objects of great veneration and respect. A notable exception was to be found in Persia, where the depiction of any form of human or animal life was expressly forbidden. In Persian architecture, decoration, and even in Persian carpets you will find the most delicate and intricately designed patterns fashioned with great beauty, but you will search in vain for a sign of animal life or the figure of a human being.

During the period of the Italian Renaissance, that brilliant time of

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Have you been wondering what the beautiful new Crane line will hold for you in '47? Here is a glimpse of one of the new bathroom groups—freshly styled—now in production.

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The traditional American system of free enterprise has made this possible. Thanks to this system, American homes consider as basic necessity sanitary conveniences which in all other countries are extreme luxuries enjoyed by a privileged few.

Your Crane Dealer has a beautiful, colored book showing the complete Crane line of plumbing designed to fit every home budget. If you are building now or if you plan to build in the future, drop in and ask to see it.

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Make your bedroom smile with bright, cheerful, welcoming furniture.

Select modern pieces like these. Friendly beauty basks in the vibrant warmth of the Sandy Beach finish. And lingers there.

And as you live with it you'll learn that Mengel furniture is built to stay sound and lovely for a lifetime. It's *Permanized!*

"Permanized?" Why . . . haven't you heard? Mengel has found a way to keep joints and veneered surfaces from ever coming apart . . . regardless of climate . . . no matter how damp or dry . . . how hot or cold.

And here's something else you've often wished for. A drawer you can pull out with your little finger. That's a *Permaslide** drawer, made only by Mengel, of molded plywood . . . guaranteed never to stick or loosen. Its smooth, rounded corners dust as easily as a flat surface.

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Please send me a copy of your "Better Living" booklet at no obligation to me. ( ) My home is already built. ( ) I am building in the future. ( ) I am a student desiring special information.

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gifted painters, sculptors and woodcarvers, the use of religious figures, and animal and human forms reached its height in architecture and decoration. The baroque churches of the period were alive with figures, gargoyles, winged cherubs and the like. The influence was felt in the furniture of the time. Besides the omnipresent cherubs, much use was made of the carved figures of eagles, lions, bears, horses, unicorns, satyrs, caryatides, and a veritable menagerie of grotesque animal forms.

In the country churches of the provinces amateur sculptors and carvers followed the lead of the metropolitan artists. Here you find some of the most charming of the religious figures, usually carved from a single piece of wood and beautifully gilded and painted. These are lovingly worked pieces ranging in artfulness from the most intricately carved specimens to the cruder varieties. The Italians possessed a great love of color and ceremony, and they made good use of color in the painting of these figures. The drapery clothing the figures is often painted in many shades and tints of colors with elaborate patterns outlined in gold. The winged cherubs and angels usually received gilded wings. Varying considerably in size, the figurines range from as small as six inches to life size or, sometimes, even larger.

Along Third Avenue in Manhattan, under the shadow of the elevated tracks, many of these figures are still to be found in the antique shops that line the street. The cherubs, particularly, have come into vogue in decoration in the past few years. You have seen the tiny, fat, airborne figures fastened high to window frames, clutching great swags of drapery fabric in their hands. Their small, gilded bodies have been used ornamentally in picture groupings, fastened to the wall and flanking a painting or a drawing.

An unusually fine collection of antique carved angels and saints was shown recently in the shops of James Amster at Amster Yard in New York. A decorator of unusual taste, Mr. Amster used the collection, gathered from Italy, France, Spain, Portugal and the baroque churches and palaces of South America, to decorate a tall Christmas tree. The exquisite figures were suspended from the branches of the tree and, aside from tiny candles, furnished the only decoration. On the topmost branch, surmounting the tree was an elaborate winged angel with gilded wings and a golden trumpet.

A striking collection of modern angels which we have photographed belongs to Mrs. John Franks, of Hubbard Woods, Illinois. Numbered in her collection are figures from almost every country in Europe, and many modern ones made in America. The most interesting items, perhaps, are the figures that Mrs. Frank has made with her own hands. Her materials are very thin copper sheeting and pieces of silver foil paper.

"Oh, Anne – you didn't take it personally?"

Don't take health chances! Don't let your drains stop up or harbor dirty sewer germs. Keep your drains free-running—free of sewer germs.

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Drāno makes septic tanks work better—cuts down odors

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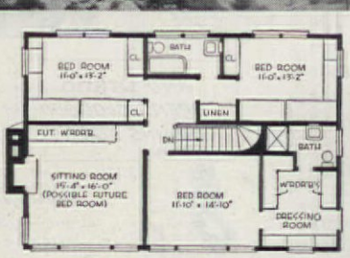
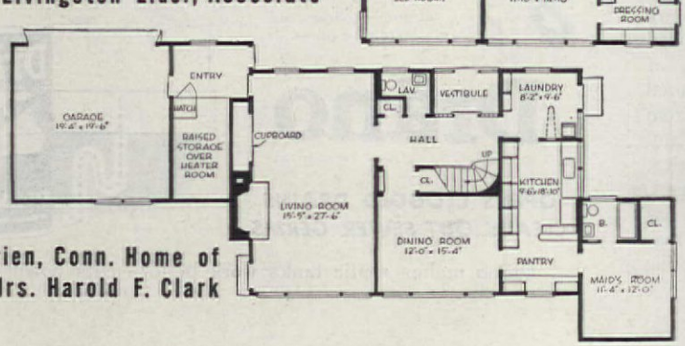
Connecticut

James Irving Raymond, Architect
Livingston Elder, Associate





Darien, Conn. Home of
Mr. and Mrs. Harold F. Clark

4 AMERICAN HOMES

Connecticut · Texas · California · Illinois

William J. Hennessey

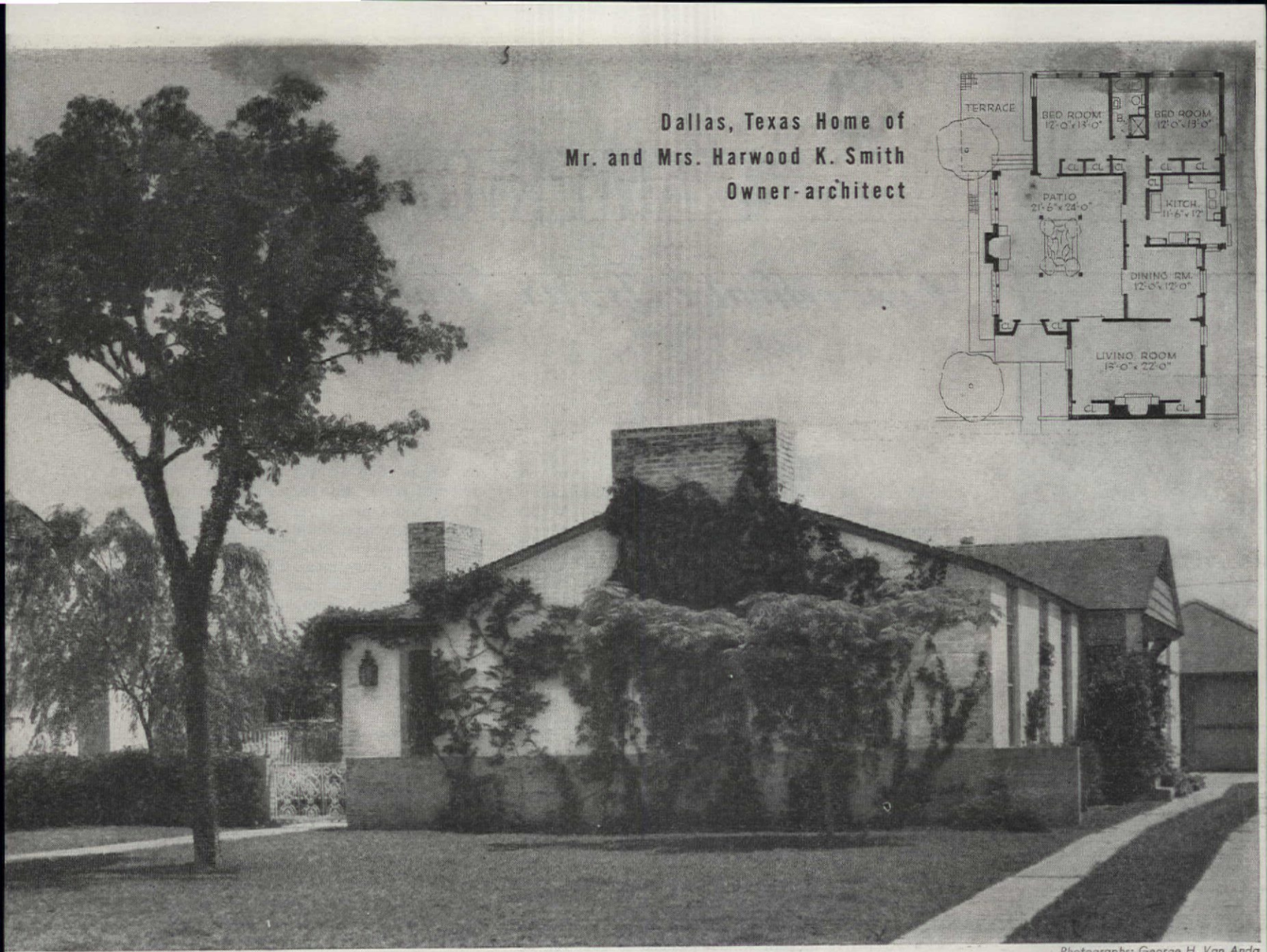
If white Christmases were part of your childhood, I'm sure that this bright, snow-clad picture of the Harold F. Clark home will waken many a nostalgic memory. Somehow the crystal-clear stillness of an early winter morning has been magically captured. No whisper of a breeze disturbs the grove of towering trees, casting their long, horizontal shadows across the snow. It is winter idealized. Yet, to me, there's a strangeness about its old-fashioned appeal since this is not an old house but one definitely contemporary in line and mass. Why then does it fit as naturally into the rural New England setting as any of its Colonial forebears? The answer is obvious. Here we have convincing and heartening proof that good modern design must not be restricted to any specialized background. By proper planning and study good modern design can be made perfectly at home, even amidst the most traditional surroundings.

In many ways the Clark house is newsworthy. Modern though it be in appearance, its very construction has been borrowed from other days. It is, in reality, a log cabin brought up-to-date. For the exterior walls, solid square timbers, approximately 10 by 10 have been piled on one another to form a solid wall. Only a preservative to add longevity has been applied to the natural finish. In design it is reminiscent of many Early American farmhouses, with extra-large modern windows added to gain full advantage of the surrounding luxuriant countryside. Living room, dining room, sitting room and master bedroom all face south for maximum sunshine during the long winter months. Windows on this exposure are well shaded by trees during the hot summer and so do not require wide, overhanging eaves for protection. This detail alone helps greatly in maintaining an over-all semitraditional appearance. The living room is large, 15′5″ by 27′6″, and may be entered through three doorways; two of these lead from outside. The one from the garage is completely protected from the elements and should prove a blessing during the changeable Connecticut weather. The main entrance is simple in design; a single door flanked by a series of small windows. In summer these are replaced by screens, thus transforming the vestibule into a small screened porch with its resulting welcome ventilation.

The house plan, itself, is a masterpiece of compact directness. A main first-floor hallway, complete with graceful curving stairs, leads directly into living room, dining room, and utility room. Even in many interiors the log construction has been left exposed, a detail adding greatly to the informal atmosphere throughout. In some cases the wood has been stained, in others varnished but, in every case, the natural grain of the wood, itself, was left exposed. Being a sport-loving family, many signs of individual taste are apparent. Mr. and Mrs. Clark are ardent table-tennis players, and their two young sons are fast becoming experts. They decided to have the living room custom-built around this hobby. It is a "family" room, with large fireplace, comfortable furniture, radio-phonograph, built-in bookcases and desk and, in the very middle, a Ping-pong table. Green carpeting further enhances the natural beauty of the woodwork. The dining room is a bit more formal, with soft-stained walls, beige rug, and light natural wood furniture. A large picture window frames a beautiful view of the grove and garden, and is the center of interest for an everchanging picture throughout the year. At one end of the kitchen is a breakfast bar and pantry, exceptionally handy for access to the dining room. Mrs. Clark, who manages the household alone, has found the utility room, with its deep-freeze unit, electric washer and ironer, a great boon to easy housekeeping.

Upstairs, in addition to the master bedroom and the two boys' rooms, there's a small, formal sitting room where the parents can entertain unmolested by the youngsters and their friends on the floor below. Here, too, the small fry may find privacy when grown-up parties are in session. Mrs. Clark finds the room a quiet haven during the day for those jobs which require serious concentration. Neither of the elder Clarks is native to Connecticut; she is a Californian while Mr. Clark was born in the Midwest. However, in selecting their home, they drew inspiration from the Colonial homes around them and have successfully evolved a composite design which includes a happy mix-

Data and photographs: P. A. Dearborn



Dallas, Texas Home of
Mr. and Mrs. Harwood K. Smith
Owner-architect

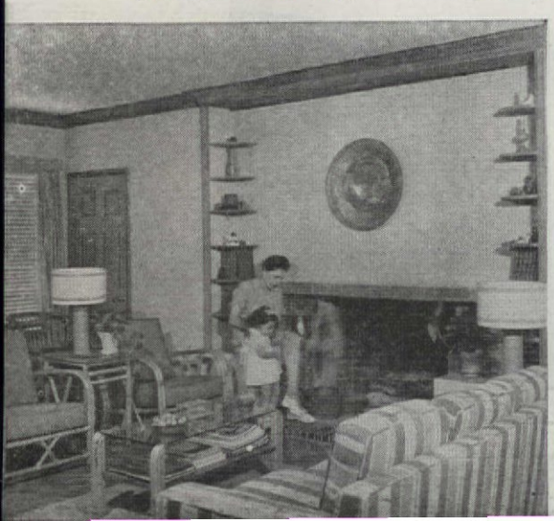
Photographs: George H. Van Anda

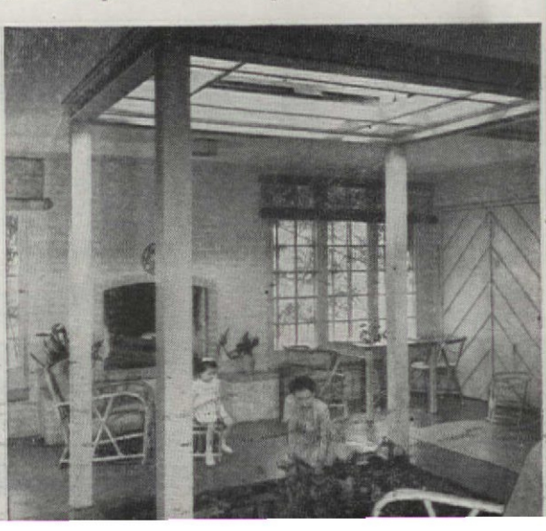
Texas

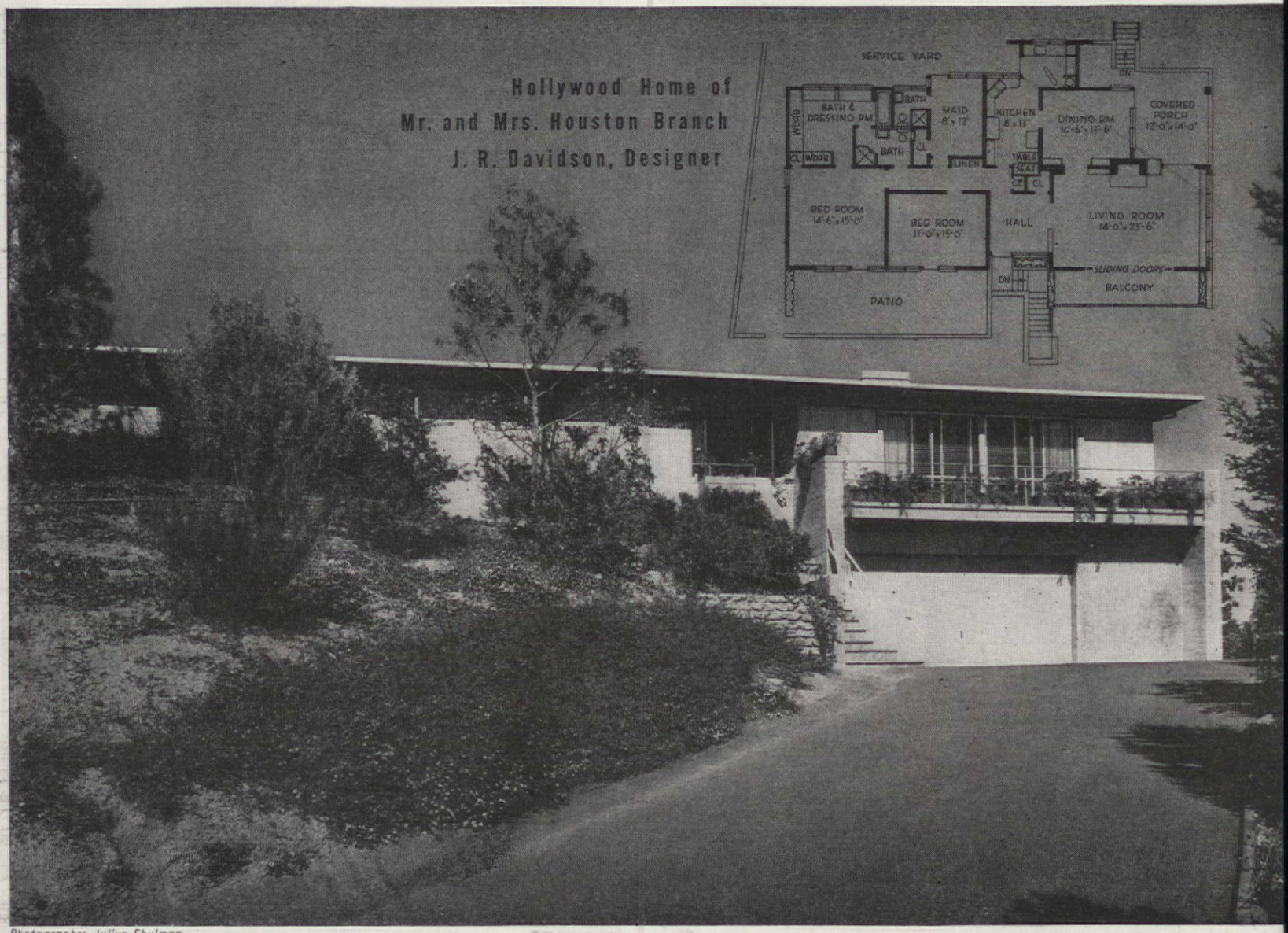
ture of both old and modern ideas. House and background thus become a perfect entity.

INFORMAL, too, is the Harwood K. Smith home in Texas. Here we find a blend of provincial architecture with just a hint of New Orleans creeping into some of the detail. The exterior brick walls are painted white with gray-green trim and wainscoting, the latter adding appreciably to the low, horizontal appearance. A gay, louvered front door, painted terra cotta, leads directly into the enclosed patio. All principal rooms are located around this unusual feature with its central skylight above an indoor garden of ivy, ferns, and tropical plants. On three sides its walls are of citron-yellow vertical boards, with remaining wall and barbecue fireplace of brick. An attractive terra-cotta cottage floor plus rattan rug help to add an out-of-doors look.

Three walls of the living room are also of brick, painted gray to blend with the driftwood finish of the remaining vertical molded board wall. Common brick in herringbone pattern covers the entire floor, and is finished with natural wax. Draperies are of English glazed gingham in tiny geometric yellow-and-white figures on a gray background. Rattan furniture has been used here, too, and has coral-colored cushions to blend with the brick tone of the floor. Flowered chintz, used as a wainscot in the small dining room, adds color and individuality. Walls above are of Chinese grass-cloth paper. One wall has built-in cupboards, with raised panels, finished in driftwood. The window between has draperies of raspberry-colored raw silk, a tone picked up on the inside of both cabinets. Double Dutch doors lead directly into the patio and, when open, are a great help for serving large informal gatherings. Two bedrooms and a centrally located kitchen complete the plan of this small, but unusually attractive house, whose inclosed patio might well be adopted for less temperate climates.







Hollywood Home of
Mr. and Mrs. Houston Branch
J. R. Davidson, Designer

Photographs: Julius Shulman

California

LOCATED on the narrow ridge of a steep hill overlooking the city and affording a glimpse of the distant Pacific, the Houston Branch house just about adds up to what its film writer owner asked for—a house that was small but made for luxurious living. Its general design is contemporary with a slight recall of early native Californian architecture. Because the architect took advantage of the natural topography, a great deal of unnecessary excavation was avoided. The approach is steep, leading directly to the garage, above which the main rooms of the house have been located. These rooms, approached by an exterior stairway, have been compactly arranged about the small entrance hall. Circulation is direct, with halls and corridors cut to a minimum. Interiors have been kept simple with many built-ins, producing an open, uncluttered appearance.

Sliding glass doors from hall and balcony make these areas part of the living room when entertaining is on a large scale. Stairs, too, from the dining-room porch lead to a playroom and loggia on the lower level. Attention to the most minute detail has resulted in a feeling of spaciousness often associated with houses of much greater size. This attention to detail is especially apparent in the owner's combination bath and dressing room, with its enormous storage closets and built-in lavatory-dressing tables. Guest and maid's bath are adjacent for concentrated plumbing installation. This detail, itself, with its use of every square inch, is reminiscent of the best in streamlined train and ship design. An efficient kitchen with adjoining utility room should offer inspiration to many who are planning the use of minimum areas in that future dream house.

A DOG of a house, the Paul C. Meads called it, until architect Ernst Benkert's sketches convinced them that their eighty-year-old antique could be transformed into a highly respectable looking Early American farmhouse. It required

Illinois

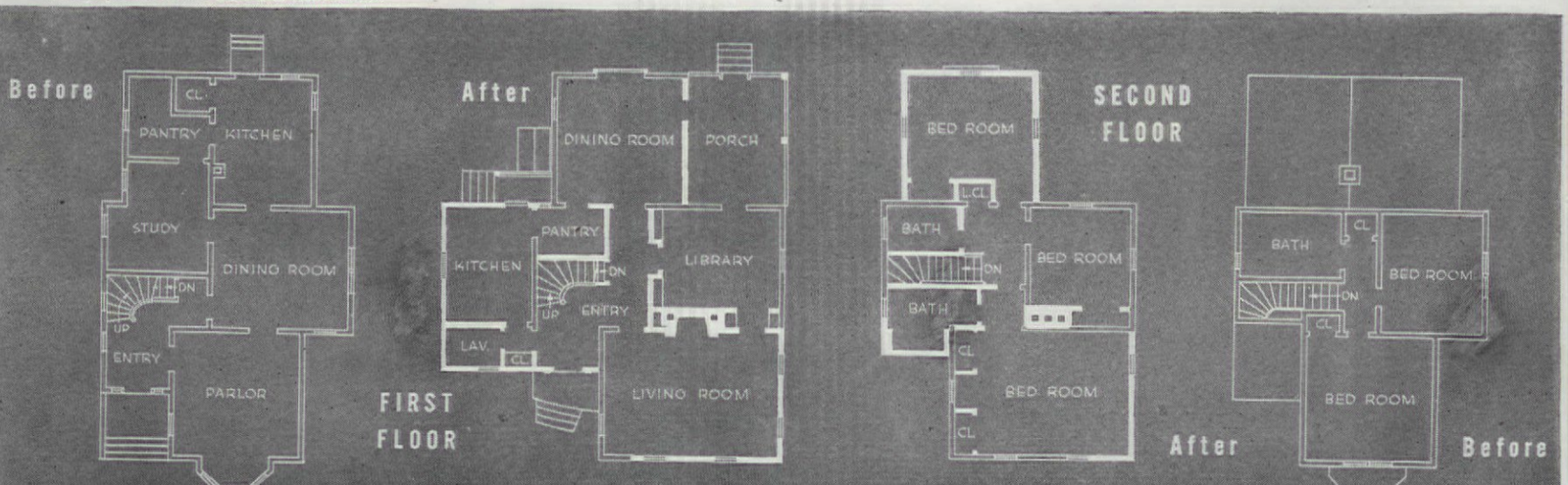
BEFORE

Remodelled Home of
Mr. and Mrs. Paul C. Mead
Evanston, Illinois
Ernst Benkert, Architect

a complete face lifting, but now with new dignity and modern conveniences, the owners are happy that they took the chance. The rooms are large, much more ample than they could have had in a new house. Besides, the woodwork and trim give it just the right quality as a background for their many Early American pieces of furniture. Originally, the exterior was painted an ugly brown. This has given way to gray clapboards with sparkling white trim and shutters. Naturally, the outmoded General Grant bay window was one of the first items dispensed with. The present hallway and study replace an old dining room, and a simple Colonial staircase was substituted for the pseudo-mahogany monstrosity of the original house. The new powder room, with a kitchen behind, is located in the one-story addition whose shed roof adds great charm to the front elevation. The present dining room with its large picture window, now filled with Mrs. Mead's glass collection, was formerly the old kitchen.

Since every member of the family has a hobby, these were taken into consideration during the remodeling. Choice old French floral plates grace the simple, white Colonial mantel in the living room. The new study with its pine-paneled book wall and cabinets is perfect for Mr. Mead's stamp collections. One of the sons shares his father's interest in this hobby. Mrs. Mead, a radio writer, uses the room, too, during the daytime. In each room, old china doorknobs were rescued and reused. Many of the doors and trim, too, were salvaged and, in combination with a white dado and provincial wallpaper, used in nearly all the upper-floor rooms, help retain the old farmhouse quality which the owners earnestly desired.

Photographs: Nowell Ward Data: Ruth W. Lee



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WHAT COLOR DOES TO YOU

Color dynamics has the power to create a mood, aid happiness or foster gloom. Find the key to your own character by judging your color preferences

Ray Rennahan

Technicolor Cameraman

on David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun"

Now stop a moment and consider this sentence well: Color is the most constant, the most inevitable and omnipresent companion that you will ever have in your life, from swaddling clothes to the grave. You cannot live without color; all life, and every living or inanimate thing has color, whether you see it or are aware of it or not. Your waking hours are a parade of color of which you are seldom conscious—habit dulls the senses. The only instances in which color is not a factor in your life are when you are asleep, in an absolutely dark room, or if you are blind or color-blind.

Do you wonder that color is important, and a thing to study and write about? The study of color dynamics is a fascinating and rewarding subject. In future years color may be required study in elementary schools.

Since earliest times man has been conscious of color and has reacted in exactly the same ways to certain colors through the ages. This is why human reaction to color can be studied and catalogued, from primary or obvious stimulation to the subtlest implications and overtones.

From the beginning of intelligence in man, the color red was observed and reaction determined. Red was fire, red was sun, red was blood running from a great wound in man's side. Red quickly came to mean danger, high excitement, fire; man knew his senses must be alerted at the sight of red. Today, fire engines and equipment are invariably red. Danger signals are printed in red. A red light pulsing a warning in the night will stop your automobile as quickly as you can apply the brakes.

Green was the color of man's earth—his trees, his plants, from which he salvaged food. Green was the color of his rush bed on which he rested. Green was safe and good. Man could relax when surrounded by green. Green and blue were the colors of water, and of the sky. From the water came food and liquid to quench thirst; from the sky came birds for food, and light, and rain. Blue and green meant many pleasant things. Today blue and green are by far the most universally liked colors in clothes and decoration.

The intelligent use of color in the home is a case of continuing study with decorators and interior designers. As a general rule of thumb, "cool" unobtrusive colors are a good bet for wall colors in any room—blues, greens, grays in infinite choice of shadings—but successful variations on this theme are legion. A living room, for instance, should be warm, comfortable, inviting. This definitely calls for a "warm" color—red, yellow, orange, or any variation thereof. However, there are many ways to achieve the effect. You can paint your walls a cool color for pleasantness and restfulness, and achieve stimulation in accent notes such as a red chair, ruby glass accessories, a yellow lamp shade, a red-and-blue plaid, a bowl of orange zinnias, a collection of copper ware on the mantelpiece.

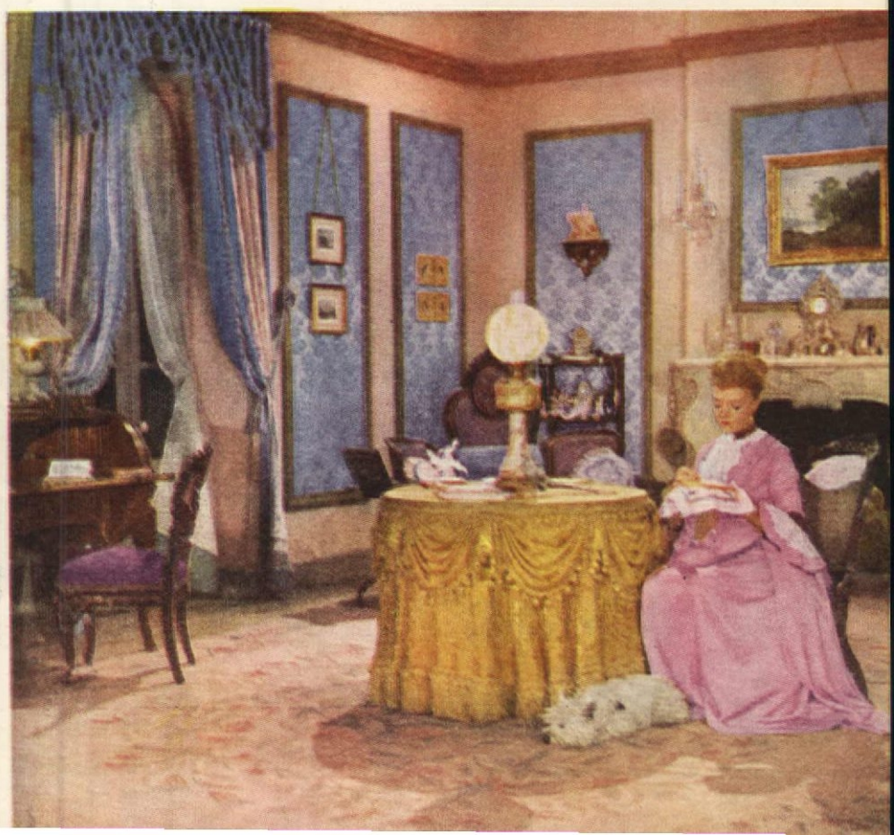
Top, a yellow room, a happy room to complement a brunette. The deep yellow rug and yellow background paper mean gaiety, fun, hospitality, warmth. The greens of draperies, chair and sofa counteract somewhat the yellow, cool the scheme

A blue room for a honey blonde. This room has peace, calm, speaks of serenity. Yellow of chair, golden wood tones are a livening note, signify hospitality, comfort

Blue, mauve and tints of peach form a pale background expressing the passive nature of Mrs. McCanles in "Duel in the Sun." Gold of table cover indicates her longing for her former gentle existence

Photographed by F. M. Demarest at R. H. Macy Co., New York

From the David O. Selznick production "Duel in the Sun"



Photographed by F. M. Demarest at R. H. Macy Co., New York

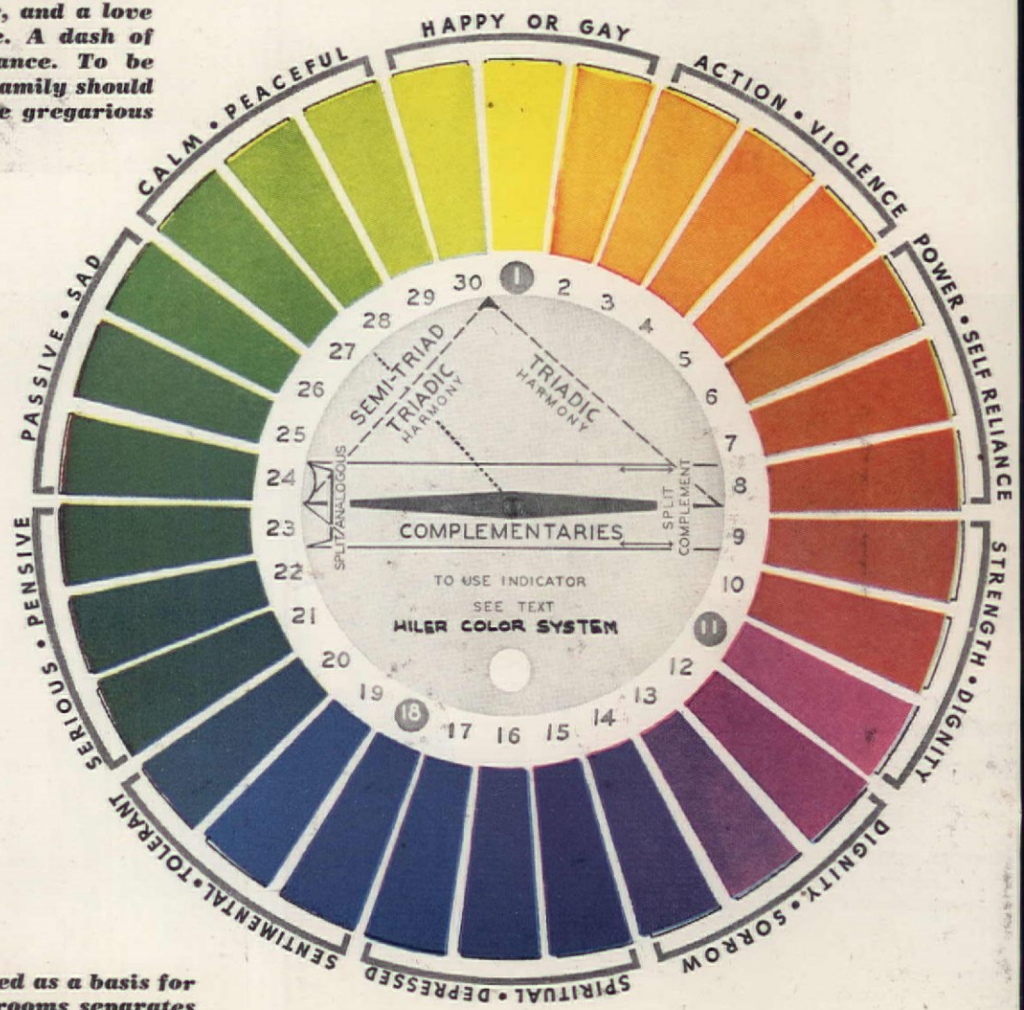
A self-assured, happy scheme for a confident, courageous person. Yellow indicates honesty, good cheer, and a love of life. Green walls point to serenity, poise. A dash of red-orange indicates inward strength, reliance. To be happy in such a mixture of primary colors a family should be positive and vital, well balanced and quite gregarious

People of more than usual drama or personality require unusual setting to complement their vitality. There is an amusing story about a famous playwright who never got out of bed before two o'clock in the afternoon. On an inspiration, he had the walls of his bedroom painted jet black to absorb the small quantities of bright morning sunshine that filtered through the drawn curtains. The room was bizarre and dramatic and quite to his satisfaction. Shortly thereafter he began to suffer insomnia. His nerves began to frazzle, he was irritable to his friends, and he was unable to finish a play that was in work. His doctor advised several remedies which had no effect. One day a friend, a stage designer and specialist in color and lighting, suggested that he redecorate his bedroom entirely in a muted shade of medium green. This was done accordingly, and now the playwright sleeps like a babe until midafternoon. Any good colorist could have told him that black is a somber, depressing color to live with constantly—its smartness used with crisp white accents cannot be denied—but it absorbs light and strength like a funereal blotter, and is not a good color to use in decoration. Technically, black is not a color: it is the absence of color, just as white is the presence of all colors. To prove this you need only go backstage in a large theatre and see the hundreds of lights in the footlights and surrounding the proscenium arch. They are all invariably covered with colored gelatin filters of red, blue or yellow—the three primary colors. When these great batteries of colored lights are all turned on simultaneously, from the audiences' point of view the light is not tinted; it is a brilliant, pure white light, dazzling in intensity. The color of costumes is not changed by it, but the colors blaze forth in their true intensity.

In David O. Selznick's picture, *Duel in the Sun,* the set designer, the director and I consulted on what colors would best express the personality of Mrs. McCanles, played by Lillian Gish. Mrs. McCanles in *Duel in the Sun* is a Louisiana aristocrat who comes to the wild cattle country of 1880 Texas and finds that her delicate spirit is destroyed by the savage happenings of the country. The predominant color selected for her bedroom was—white! Since all colors are in white in equal proportions, this indicated a passive person, potentially full of spirit or color or life, but with all qualities present only in equal or minute quantities—hence, a passiveness, a lack of a dominant spirit. Lavender was used in the room to denote the fact that she was delicate and frail, and to point up the passive attitude. The ruby touch of strong magenta used in the scheme added a note of sorrow, dignity, and breeding. (Purple has always been the color of royalty, and signifies a regal person, one of character, dignity and loyalty. Purple is often used in the church.)

Several years ago, in the game room of a house built for a movie set, a Hollywood designer painted the walls of the room bright red and used mellow pine wood for woodwork, fireplace, and a dado around the room. Furnishings were country pine and maple pieces. The room was filled with people, laughing and chattering, eating a hearty buffet breakfast after a brisk ride to the hounds. It was one of the gayest and most stimulating scenes ever shown on the screen.

A bedroom, as a place of rest, is happiest done in a cool restful color—any shades of blue, green or gray, from dark to light, or a mixture of these colors. Warm accents play a part here, too, but only in small quantities—red roses on a blue paper, sprigged yellow rosebuds on an apple green chintz.



The color wheel which Mr. Rennahan used as a basis for interpreting emotional values of these rooms separates spectrum colors and tabulates reaction of the average person to these hues when they are used in decoration

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BUYING AND CARING FOR
Blankets and Sheets

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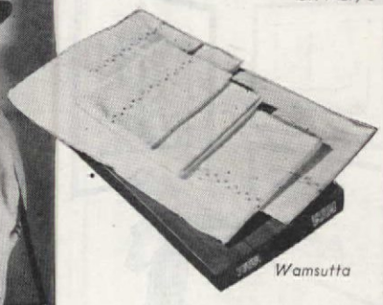
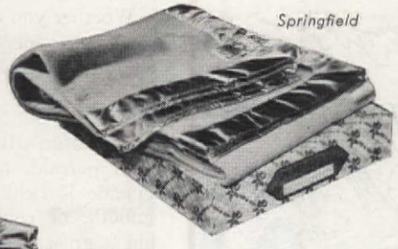


Wamsutta

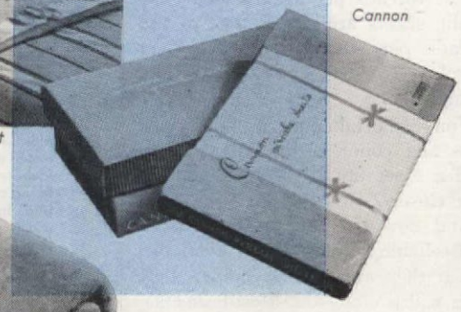
North Star



Springfield

Pearce

Fieldcrest



Cannon

Kenwood

Edith Ramsay

Underwood & Underwood Illustration Studio, Inc.; Johnston & Johnston; Leigh Charell Studio; Carl Klein Studios

BUYING for the sake of buying alone has never made good sense. But buying for purpose of utility—always bearing in mind quality and value—does make good sense. The new housewife will do well to purchase with care; the seasoned housewife will wish to exercise the same judgment as staples return.

The adage "the ill wind which blows no man to good" is still with us, for from the ravages of war have come many improvements in our household staples. Science and the manufacturer have worked hand in hand to bring forth better quality and fuller value for the homemaker.

The new housewife wants to know how many sheets and pillowcases the well-run household must have. The experienced housewife has been sailing along on a very skimpy stock these past few years but, now that bed linens are finding their way back into the market, it would be well to take an inventory and restock.

Count the number of each type of bed and pillow in your home and purchase an adequate supply for each. One must have *at least* 6 sheets per bed and 3 cases per pillow. This

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allows for one set on the bed, one set at the laundry, and one set in reserve. A third set of sheets for each bed, to use as a blanket cover, is smart unless you have special blanket covers.

Sizes of sheets are not the finished, sewn sizes, but the torn size before hemming. Allow ten inches mentally for the shrinkage and hemming, for you can expect about 5 per cent shrinkage or about 5 inches shrinkage in the length of the average sheet. Short sheets could be construed as "grounds for divorce," so a good general rule is never to buy one less than 99 inches, though the ideal is 108 inches in length.

Do purchase sheets wide enough for the beds—wide enough to cover the mattress, and to tuck in 6 inches.

Know the exact dimensions of your pillows before buying cases, for a pillow size given as 20 inches wide is 40 inches around and should have a 42 inch case to slip on easily.

No one will want a sheet which is all filler—that is starch or china clay. And the way to tell whether or not the sheet is "filled" is to rub it between your hands. If a fine powder comes off and, when you hold it to the light, a difference can be described between this area and that which hasn't been rubbed off, then a filler has been used and after laundering you will have a limp and sleazy rag—not a serviceable sheet.

Whether you choose muslin or percale sheets depends on your needs or your purse. Both muslin and percale sheets are made of carded cotton yarns, but the percale yarns are finer, softer. Muslin is less expensive than percale, takes a real beating. Percale is light in weight, soft and smooth, of course, more expensive, but a great pleasure to possess. The so-called "utility percales" cost less than the superfine percales and are a happy medium between the muslins and the luxury percales.

Look at labels, read them and know what the terms mean before you buy. The reliable manufacturers label sheets, and it is a government ruling that they must be labeled according to type.

Don't be frightened by the term "thread count." It means the number of threads per square inch. The muslin sheets are graded 112 to 140 threads per square inch, the finer percales 180 to 200 threads per square inch.

You can't take out a magnifying glass and count them, but you can hold a sheet up to the light and see how closely woven it is.

And now the care of our sheets. If a reliable laundry is not available, and if they are done at home, these rules will prolong the life of sheets.

The first thing to remember about caring for your sheets is the use they are to be put; for as carefully as we make our beds, the better we will rest, the longer we will prolong the life of sheets. Don't yank sheets off the bed—they may rip. Don't use sheets or pillowcases for a laundry bag.

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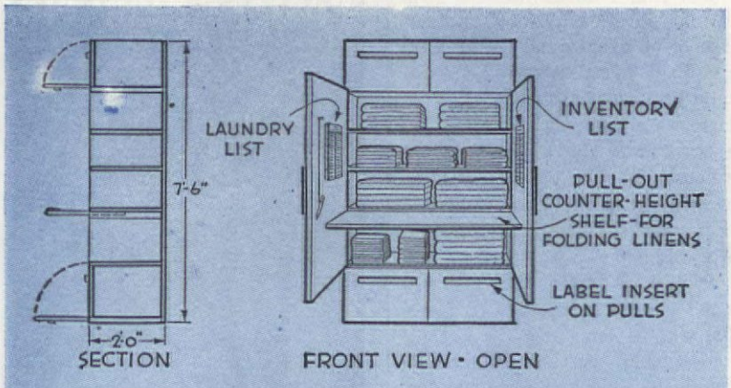
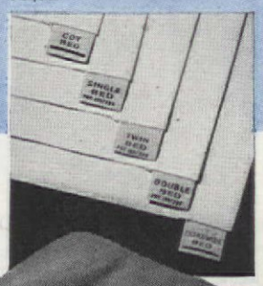


Pequot



The importance of convenient storage cannot be stressed too much. This closet for sheets and blankets is designed for the seasonal shifts of these covers

Lady Seymour

Esmond

General Electric

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Wash sheets and pillowcases frequently. Mend tears (there are several good mending tapes to be applied by hot iron that even beat the "stitch in time saves nine!"); mend them before they are to be laundered so the handling won't aggravate them. Remove stains. Soak for 15 minutes if necessary, but no longer.

To the tub of hot, soft or softened water, add enough good soap to make a rich suds. If bleach is necessary, use according to manufacturer's directions, but be sure to add the bleach to the tub of water before adding the sheets. There are several new products on the market which, if added to the last rinse water, will prolong the life of your sheets. One new product will make them soft and glossy, is not a starch, but repels stains. Another is a mildewproofer which will insure against this ravage if sheets are stored while damp or in damp climates.

Never wash sheets with colored articles, wash them alone or with other white things. Wash for 5 to 10 minutes, depending on soil.

Rinse thoroughly in clear, hot water, then cool water, but at least three rinses. Bluing may be used in the last rinse water, if necessary.

Dry sheets in the automatic dryer according to the manufacturer's directions, or fold them hem to hem and pin over the line about a foot from the fold. Hang pillowcases wrong side out, a few inches over the line from the closed end. Sunshine is not only the best bleach but a marvelous germ killer, so hang in the sun as much as possible, being careful not to let them whip in a strong wind or freeze.

Fold sheets as you take them off the line or from the dryer. Very often only the top hems need to be pressed but, if one has an ironer, the manufacturer's directions give the simplest way to handle the ironing.

Save your sheets and pillowcases by not using the same ones all of the time. Store the fresh ones at the bottom of the pile, and instruct your family to take only those at the top.

Fortunate is the bride whose hope chest is filled with blankets for a

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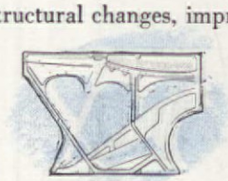

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☆ Introducing a beautiful newcomer to the favored family of traditional American furniture—the CHEST-OF-PINE. It serves as extra storage space for bedding, clothing, toys and knick-knacks. Its simple lines make it a fitting accessory in modern or period rooms. And the distinctive grain of ponderosa pine accents other furnishings from dignified mahogany to informal maple.

Ask your dealer for the new furniture accessory, CHEST-OF-PINE, skillfully constructed and finished by master craftsmen from selected clear and knotty pine, or write to Kerns Pine Craft, Pilot Rock, Ore.

Two lengths: 36 inches and 44 inches.
18 inches high by 18 inches deep.

Every room needs a "LIVING PICTURE"

This year for Christmas... a "Living Picture"

A distinctive, decorative Nurre Mirror is a gift every home will welcome and treasure.

To double the beauty of Christmas...to add radiant light, and warm, glowing color there's nothing like an everchanging Living Picture.

Nurre Mirrors are made by expert craftsmen from scientifically silvered plate glass. Ask for Living Pictures!

Living Genuine NURRE Mirrors Pictures

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Please send me FREE mirror book.

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lifetime. And I do not use the term "lifetime" facetiously, for with blankets of good quality and with careful usage, blankets can be passed on from generation to generation.

Here, as in the purchase of sheets, one must know the requirements of the household. For good wool blankets, one needs one lightweight and two heavier blankets for each bed.

A good blanket is 100 per cent virgin wool. It is "live" wool and you can tell this by the springy resilience it has, for its long fibers have come from the best part of the animal. Even all-wool blankets use some new and some reprocessed wool, but these have not the resilience nor glow of all new "live" wool.

The blanket should be firmly and evenly woven. Hold it up to the light, look for the evenness and closeness of the weave; if uneven, inferior yarns have been used. A further test is to take hold of the blanket with both hands and pull in both directions as hard as possible, at the same time pushing your forefinger against the surface from underneath. You can tell from the amount of give whether the weave is tight or loose.

The blanket should be thickly napped. Here again, when holding the blanket up to the light, be sure there are not thick or thin spots in the napping. If the fibers in the blanket are long enough and the weave firm enough, the nap won't fuzz and rub off when you test it by rubbing gently between thumb and forefinger. Sometimes blankets are double napped. Thick napping adds to warmth.

Heavy weight is not a standard of warmth in blankets. Heavy blankets are a burden. Remember that a blanket of long fibers, deeply napped, provides more warmth than heavier blankets of inferior fibers.

As in sheets, buy blankets long enough and wide enough. The average blanket, even with the best of care, shrinks four to five inches.

Colors in blankets should be clear and pure, pastels delicate, dark tones rich and deep. Spread out the blanket to make sure that colors are uniform. Check label for fading test.

Bindings should be perfectly matched in color; they should be sturdy enough to stand constant handling and tucking in; they should be firmly and neatly stitched.

Back on the market after a war service, using the same principle used for flying suits, is the electric blanket. Thermostatically controlled, it is safe, light in weight, economical to use, easy to launder and only one blanket per bed to store. The bed may be preheated. It is also manufactured in a dual-control model so that each sleeper may have the desired temperature for individual comfort.

New on the market is the electronic blanket which, too, is very safe, has no thermostats, but two wires, one of which is the conductor—the warming element—the other is the "feeler" wire actually governing the degree of warmth at all times the blanket is in use. Both electric and

PEACH APPLE TREES LOW AS 20¢
Pears, plums, cherries, nuts, berries, etc. Grapes 10¢. Evergreens, shrubs, shade trees low as 25¢. Catalog Free.
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Bright, colorful draperies and slip covers will add so much to the cheer and livableness of your house this winter. So drop in *now* at your favorite store and select your Fincastle Fabrics. Available in a riot of beautiful new color combinations and patterns.

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Novel—Useful—Desirable

T-Top is a light rigid top which slides easily over the surface of a card table, just doubling its size. It seats 7 persons comfortably—46" in diameter, 144" in circumference—it's perfect for luncheon, jig saw puzzles and card games. Can be tucked away in a closet or corner. Send for your T-Top now! Shipping weight approximately 16 lbs. Shipment made promptly. Shipped by express. No C.O.D.'s, please. Specify Color Wanted. Dark Green, Rich Red, Dark Brown.

Colors $5.95 No C.O.D.'s

Unpainted T-Top $4.95 F.O.B. Salem, Mass.

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ROSE EARRINGS

Order by mail for Xmas! Beautiful hand modeled ceramic earrings in white, pink, or blue. Earrings **$2.50**; Matching Pin **$4.00** Postpaid Add 20% Fed. tax.

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electronic blankets should be laundered by hand just as you would any fine quality wool blanket. These blankets should never be dry cleaned, for the chemicals destroy the insulation.

The care of blankets—their laundering is very important. More than any other factor, poor laundering of blankets has caused them to become napped. A hard-napped blanket is just a heavy cover. Animal fibers have an air space in them and this air space acts as insulation.

The major rules for laundering of blankets at home:

Use mild soap flakes.

Dissolve soap thoroughly in soft water.

Use warm (never hot) water, never warmer than your elbow can stand, preferably use a thermometer to test water at 98° F.

Watch the clock with your washing machine—two one-minute washings only. If you use a cylinder type washer, always have enough water in it to allow the blanket to float. If the cylinder goes over nine revolutions a minute, do not use the washer.

If washing by hand, squeeze the sudsy water through the blanket; use a plunger if you have one. Never wash more than one at a time.

After washing, squeeze the water from the blanket, but do not twist it. Then rinse thoroughly twice, in soft water of the same temperature used for washing. If rinsing in machine, give two *one-minute* rinsings.

After rinsing, let the blanket drip well before hanging it up to dry. Hang it over the line, the end bindings to the ground, and pull gently into shape. When partly dry, reverse it on the line. Never dry in the direct sun. When dry, whisk up the nap with a clean whisk broom.

Sheets and blankets should be stored in an accessible closet located near the sleeping rooms. Blankets should never be stored under heavier bedding lest their nap be crushed. Woolen blankets should never be stored unless first laundered. Store them in a cool, dry place, sealed and protected against moths.

Illustrated on page 63 is an ideal linen and blanket storage closet. The bin-like compartments at the top and bottom are used interchangeably for summer or winter blankets. These bins should be lined with the vermin-resistant wallpaper now available or with your own mothproofing method.

The shelves are so designed that specific sizes of sheets and pillowcases may be kept separate. The sheets may be tabbed for size, or different color binders for specific sizes may separate them.

On one door is a laundry list, on the other a running inventory of the contents of the closet and the sizes of blankets and sheets that are needed for each bed in the house.

If you would like a copy of sizes of sheets and blankets with washing directions for blankets reprinted on a convenient filing card for your Menu Maker, send 6 cents to **THE AMERICAN HOME, Department K., 444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N. Y.**

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"NOT EVEN A PUR-R-R!"

Take your choice of any of the lovely electric clocks made by Sessions, and you will get, not only one of the handsomest clocks made today, but also one mechanically without a peer.

For Sessions clocks are built on a principle of mechanical simplicity that requires *only half the number of moving parts required by other leading clocks* . . . and that means, logically, a quieter, longer-lasting clock.

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For forty winks and frosty nights—give a Lady Seymour Snoozer 100% wool basket-weave in drowsy-eyed colors, perfect for cat-naps or as an extra bed-time coverlet.

Size 60 x 72 in.

Also makers of *Seymour* all wool fabrics

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Paramount Photo by Malcolm Bulloch

It's Simple

TO TRAIN A CHILD TO LOVE MUSIC

Kay Campbell

MUSIC is one of the most amazing, most beautiful, and most expressive of all the arts. It can reach corners of the heart and the soul that are too deep for words; it expresses what is otherwise inexpressible; it articulates what is beyond the grasp of other arts. At the same time it is one of the most popular forms of entertainment. Yet, the teaching of music to children has not kept pace with the interest.

This is the contention of Boris Morros, professor of music at the University of Southern California, graduate of the St. Petersburg Conservatory, of Music, Director of Music for Paramount Theatres for twenty years, and currently, producer of *Carnegie Hall.*

"You would think it strange," he says, "if your child went through school without having read *Ivanhoe,* or any of the other classics, but you accept, without complaining, the fact that he completes his education never having been taught to understand a Beethoven symphony."

It's so simple, Mr. Morros feels, to train a child to love music—if you approach the problem the right way—and it's a tragedy to allow his appreciation of music to be undeveloped. The right approach is through familiarity—through lullabies and tunes that he has heard.

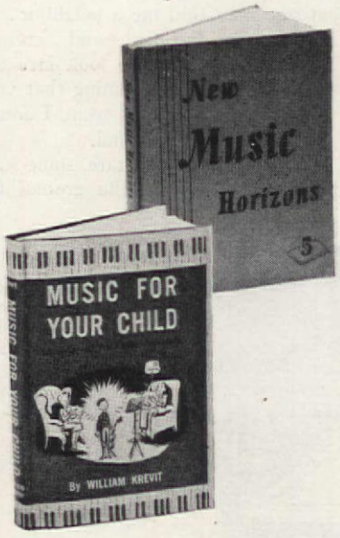
"Teachers of music are apt to overlook the element of recognition," he believes, "for the way to teach a child to love practicing his lessons is not through etudes, which in a child's experience is comparable to a dentist's chair, but through tunes he hears often. If I were an instructor working with children, I should compose five-finger exercises based on themes with which they are familiar . . . such a one as "Hi Ho Silver," an adaptation of the *Wilhelm Tell Overture,* and others.

In the top picture Robert Young, who appears in Hal Wallis' "The Searching Wind," enjoys records with his daughters. The little girl above entertains herself by playing on a Duncan Phyfe Musette made by Winter & Co.

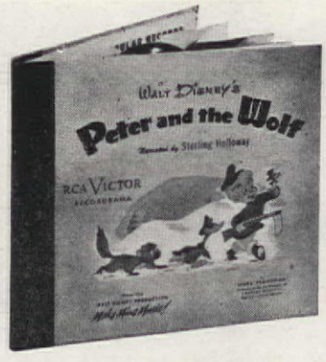
Most compositions children love are strongly rhythmical. They may be encouraged to dance to these, sometimes skipping, or running, or dramatizing them. The *Hall of the Mountain King*, the *Hallelujah Chorus*, the *Barcarolle*, or *Waltz of the Flowers* are special favorites with most children. The storm and rain sequence in Beethoven's *Sixth Symphony*, or the Czechoslovakian *Dance Gypsy* usually capture their fancy. And, unlike adults, children may want to listen to the same section of a symphony over and over again.

"Don't be afraid to let your child listen to popular music," he says, "for a child who does not like Irving Berlin will never learn to like Grieg. He will arrive at Grieg through Jerome Kern, Cole Porter and many other popular composers."

You can develop his taste for good music as you do a taste in food—through trial. Listening to music should be a pleasure, however, so don't try to take a youngster to a lengthy concert, for he will have difficulty sitting through it. Instead, have song-fests in your home. Invite the neighbor's children in, and play for them. Get them to sing with you. If you can't play, put on recordings. There are numerous classics which a child enjoys singing. The world of music is so great that you have a tremendous choice. Not everyone will like Bach or Wagner, but a little trial and error will show what your group likes best.



Stimulating and useful are these two books: "New Music Horizons," Fifth Book, Silver Burdet Co. illustrated by J. Gotlieb, "Music For Your Child" by William Krevit, Dodd, Mead & Co.



From Walt Disney's "Make Mine Music" comes "Peter and the Wolf" by Serge Prokofieff. It's an RCA Victor Recordrama narrated by Sterling Holloway

Some records are popular with almost all children. Among these are *Ride of the Valkyries*, *On the Beautiful Blue Danube*, and the *Nutcracker Suite*. If records become regular among birthday and Christmas gifts, your child will have an invaluable library in a few years.

"Describe the dramatic role music has played on many historic occasions as the *Marseillaise* heard at the Fall of the Bastille, the elevation of *Yankee Doodle* from an Army joke to a march of triumph at the Yorktown surrender of Cornwallis."

Children can study national characteristics through folk music. There is no mistaking the character of an Hungarian rhapsody, an Irish jig, a Polish mazurka, or a Viennese waltz. Try a music quiz. If you're not sure you can do it alone, work out a series of quizzes with your child's music teacher. Offer prizes for working them at your child's next party.

These are sample questions:

1. In which operas do these animals play a part?
   A horse, a dragon, a golden cock.
2. These rivers have inspired famous compositions; name them and their composers: Danube, Moldau, Mississippi and Rhine.
3. In what operas are these choruses: Pilgrim's, Anvil, Flower Maiden, Soldiers?

Plan your party favors, your place cards around these music quizzes. Give each child a card bearing the name of a composition. Then, tell him he must find his place at the table by matching the composition to the composer. For example, give Mary a card with *Moonlight Sonata* written thereon. When she finds a place card on the table bearing "Beethoven," she will have found her place. Children like games, and there is no better way to intrigue their interest in music than through this medium.

The movies provide another means of interesting your child in music. Today, great singers and musicians appear more and more often on the screen. Any number of productions are scheduled in the various studios which are based on operas, the lives of composers, or their compositions.

Bands and orchestras attract any child, so encourage the forming of school orchestras. There are fifty thousand of them now, Mr. Morros reports, playing away for all they're worth—and some of them are worth a great deal. Junior symphonies not only stimulate an interest in music, but have been found to eliminate the problem of juvenile delinquency.

"The subject of music," he concludes, "is endless, and the possibilities of enjoyment are infinite. The miracle of music is that it can achieve its own magic without the help of words—if you will give it a chance with your children."

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• Lift up the ivory knob on the Edwards Door Knocker Chime and a merry two-note melody rings inside the house. What a perfect Christmas gift!

It's new . . . beautiful . . . and utterly different from any other door chime! So easy to install that the man of the house—or even your young man—can put it up in a jiffy. It's non-electric—no wires, no push buttons. Simply drill *one* hole in door and fasten the chime—it fits all doors.

Outside, callers see a handsome weatherproof knocker of bright solid brass . . . designed by world-famous Lurelle Guild to blend with any style of architecture.

And inside . . . a beveled, hand-polished mirror for that last peek at tie or lipstick before you open the door. Mirror cleverly conceals the finest chimes ever made . . . accurately tested for perfect tone on the *Sonoscope*—an amazing electronic "detective," exclusively Edwards'.

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Tank rust that ruins precious laundry ...corrosion dirt that stains your bath—both are banished with the modern water heater that *cannot* rust and *cannot* corrode.

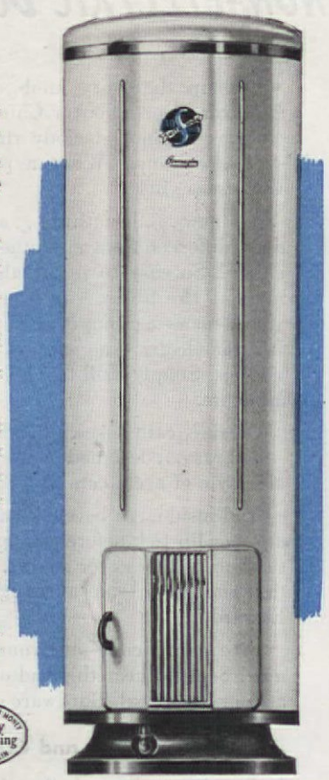
Only the *Permaglas* Water Heater promises you this protection. For its tank surface is mirror-smooth, sparkling blue glass-fused-to-steel. Sanitary as a clean drinking glass!

Yet the *Permaglas* tank is only one feature of this water heater.

Controls are safely concealed; nothing mars the smooth white beauty. Rear-Vu Connections hide unsightly piping. The handsome pyramid base eliminates gawky legs.

In every way, the *Permaglas* Water Heater matches the beauty and efficiency of your modern kitchen, your modern bathroom. It assures you years of truly carefree hot-water convenience.

At all leading public utilities and better appliance dealers.



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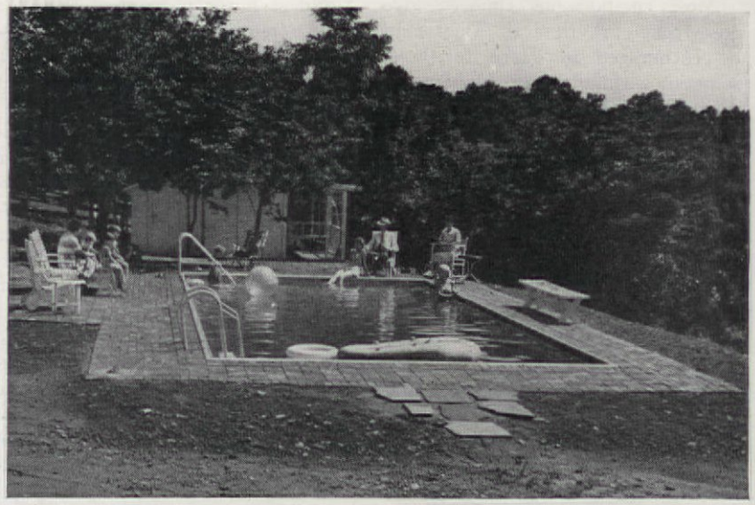


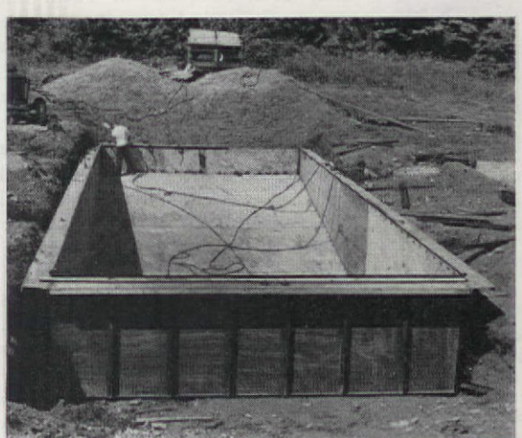
From Mr. and Mrs. Roy Slagle's New Jersey home, one looks across this fully equipped, blue-painted steel pool to a glorious view over the valley

Pools of STEEL!

Alden Stahr
Photographs by the author

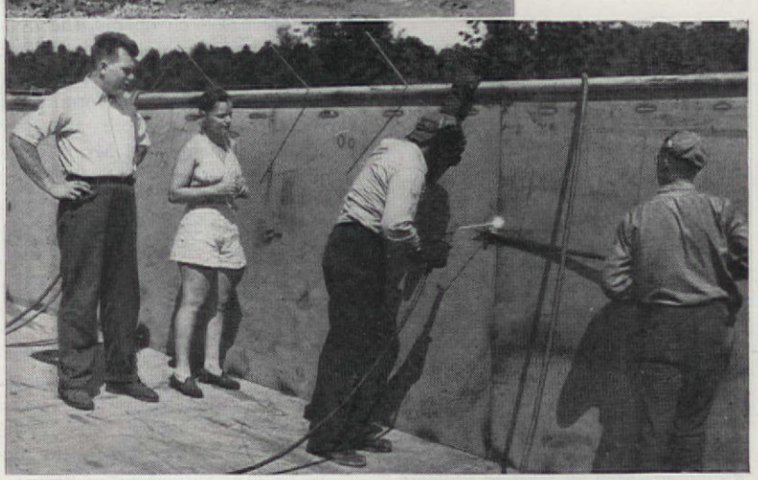
With political campaign oratory still echoing, I suggest as an appropriate slogan, "A pool for every plot." For there seems to be more interest than ever before in having a dunking hole in the back yard for the family to enjoy. Ever since the article, "That Fool Pool" appeared in the May American Home, I have received letters, telephone calls, and visitors from all points of the compass. One old-time acquaintance, coming out to see our concrete block creation, was pursued by a salesman for a brand-new kind of pool, made of steel! I had just heard of it—our garbage man told me a neighbor was having one installed—and, curious about it, I decided to look into the subject. So here—assuming that you, too, are interested—is what I found out about the steel pool.

First of all, though rare, some such pools have been in the ground for



A steel pool under way for Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Barabas, also in New Jersey

They are seen here, in happy anticipation, watching the welders at work on pool



1-2-3 AND KITCHEN WORK'S DONE
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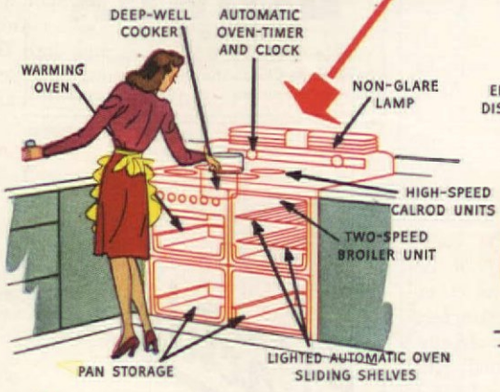

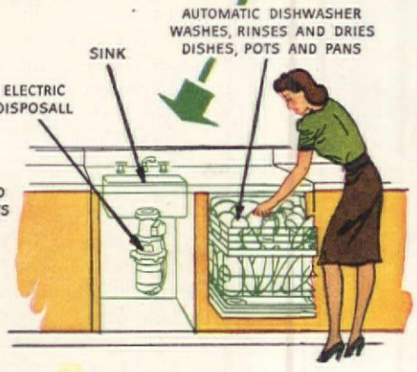

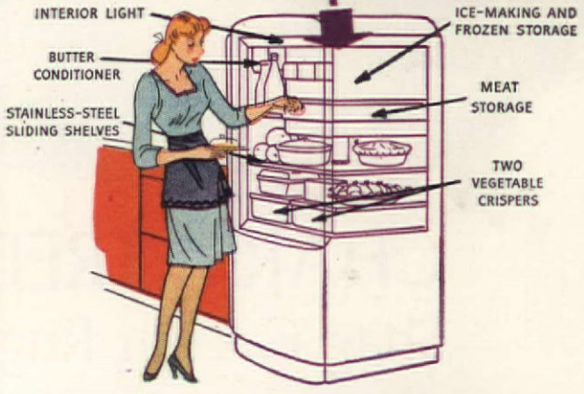

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quite a while; one is still in service after thirteen years, I'm told. However, when you think of it, the idea isn't so surprising. Factories, railroad yards, and communities have steel water tanks; you may have steel hot water tank and a bathtub of the same in your house. So it's a natural evolution (as one railroad man found when he turned a discarded tank into a successful swimming pool without much trouble.)

You'll probably ask, won't such a pool rust, and how much will it cost? Steel will rust, of course, but pool builders coat the outside with tar or other rust preventive, treat the inside with a chemical, and then apply a special pool paint. Thereafter, the owner paints it once a year.

The cost? From $2,000 up, depending on size, extras, and the amount of the construction work the owner will do. I gather that that figure will cover a pool 15 by 30 ft. if the excavation is provided; installers allow from $500 to $700 if they don't have to build the hole.

Steel pools are supplied with square or round ends, and with or without scum gutters, and ladders or stairs. They are made of large ¼″ steel plates, lap-welded on the site. The bottom rests on a sand foundation, sometimes with concrete under strategic points, and the sides are braced to prevent buckling. A 2″ pipe welded to the upper edge all around makes a nice finish, both to look at and to protect your feet. Also, a ledge surrounds the pool to act as a further support and as a basis for a brick or flagstone border. An outlet is provided at the lowest point, but provisions for filling and draining are up to the owner. Some companies merely install the pool or tank and leave the grading and other details to him or to a contractor.

Six of these pools have already been built in our neighborhood, and I understand that a number of steel firms are going into the business. One East Coast manufacturer has extended his operations into the West Coast region, and it would seem natural that, as competition and efficiency in the field increase, costs should go down. Even now, the price of a steel pool is lower than that of a reinforced concrete pool of the same size, and about the same as that of a concrete block job if done by a contractor under present conditions.

The steel pools I have seen are truly beautiful with their bright paint and smooth finish, and their owners are delighted with them. The one criticism I have heard is that the high enamel finish on the bottom is slippery. One man plans to remedy this by using an emery paint on the walking area. Of course, the selection of a paint is highly important in any case. Whether the water should be left in the pool over winter is optional, according to the builders, because of the resiliency of steel.

*(On page 83, Mr. Stahr describes a homemade vacuum cleaner he made for his pool.—*EDITOR.)

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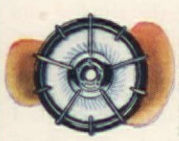
AT HOME ON THE RANGE . . .

Possession of this exciting new divided-top gas range will lift your morale . . . spur you to new cooking triumphs . . . win you greater praise from your family! Here are some of the engineering advancements that contribute to its amazing efficiency:



SPIRO-SPEED TOP BURNER, non-clogging and easy to clean; delivers an intense, blue-tipped flame in a new spiral pattern. The flame adjusts to any size utensil—no heat is lost. Great economy results.

ONE-PIECE DIVIDED TOP. Two persons can attend the range at the same time, comfortably. At each side of the porcelain top, burners are spaced to accommodate large utensils.

BIG CENTER OVEN has plenty of room for a large turkey, six loaves of bread or four layers of cake. Contents of oven may be inspected through glass window . . . no need to open door and lose heat.

DROP-FRONT, ROLL-OUT BROILER, adjustable for height, has flat-ribbon grill that protects fats from intense heat. No smoke, no flame, no spatter.

SPUN FIBERGLAS INSULATION in an extra-thick blanket completely wraps both oven and broiler. An extra layer on top of the oven prevents the work-surface above from becoming hot.

TWO UTILITY COMPARTMENTS, each divided into two storage areas, provide a handy place for those often-used pots and pans.

ACCURATE CONTROLS are the rule with Norge . . . the oven heat control system takes the guesswork out of cooking; automatic top burner lighter, safety oven lighter and dial-type click valves aid in the precise, safe operation of this range.

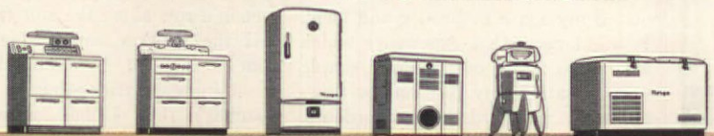
It will be to your advantage, definitely, to see the new Norge gas ranges—as well as the other new Norge household appliances. To find your nearest dealer, look for "NORGE" under the proper section in your classified telephone directory. The best dealers in town sell Norge.

A BORG-WARNER INDUSTRY

Norge is the trade-mark of Norge Division, Borg-Warner Corporation, Detroit 26, Michigan

In Canada: Addison Industries, Limited, Toronto, Ontario

Revolutionary new home heating units are now offered by Norge-Heat Division of Borg-Warner



Electric Ranges | Gas Ranges | Refrigeration | Home Heaters | Washers | Home and Farm Freezers

SEE NORGE BEFORE YOU BUY

Can you equal these records at the sink?

Try this faster, easier, better way to clean aluminum

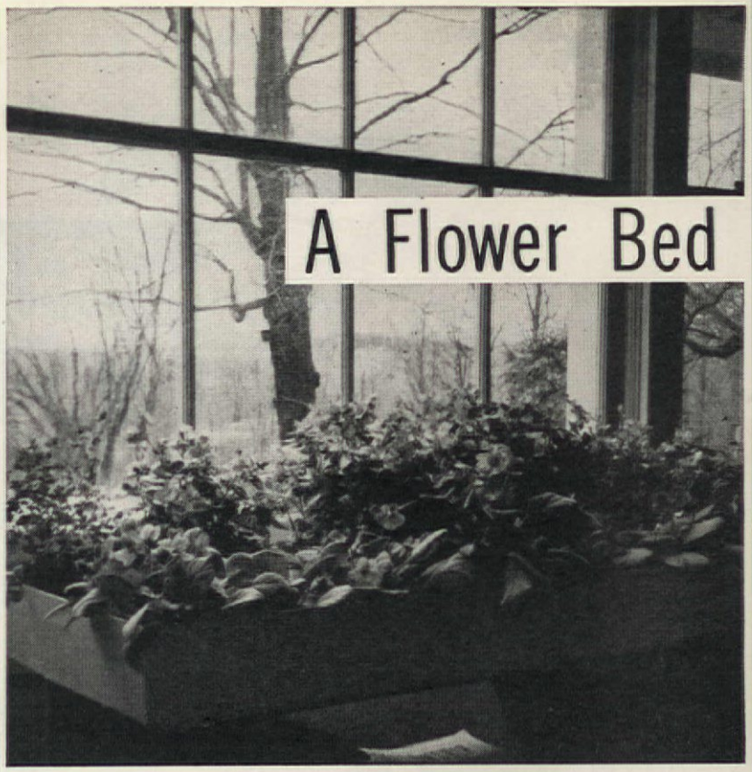
A faster way to sail through blackened pots and pans is this: take S.O.S. — take a skillet heavy with burned-on food. Rub briskly to clean it. Rub lightly to shine it. In record time, the job is done—the skillet glistens.

An easier way to empty that sinkful of greasy pans is this: dip the edge of an S.O.S. pad in water. Instantly, its magic combination of grease-cutting materials is ready to go to work. Now, whisk it over a pan — top, bottom, sides. How easily grease goes, shine comes!

A better way to add to the life of your prized aluminum is this: clean, scour and polish it in one simple operation with S.O.S. — regularly! S.O.S. is as gentle to aluminum as it is tough on grime. And it's complete — the one cleanser you need for all pot-cleaning jobs.

S.O.S magic cleanser of pots and pans

The S.O.S. Company, Chicago, Illinois U.S.A. • S.O.S. Mfg. Co. of Canada, Ltd., Toronto, Ont.



A Flower Bed in Midwinter!

Adele Wehmeyer

I GARDEN for beauty and mass effect in winter, indoors, just as I do in spring and summer in the outdoor flower border. Here, too, I have learned the lesson referred to by Virginia Scott in her article, "When You Have a Good Plan, Leave It Alone," in the May AMERICAN HOME. That is, I refrain from accepting promiscuously donations of slips of this and roots of that when offered with the best of intentions by kind friends and neighbors. I realize that they are likely to result in a hodgepodge which is neither pretty nor easy to care for.

I once looked after a friend's household while she was ill, and to me the most tedious chore was the attention demanded by the plants she kept all over the place. They seemed to be stuck in every possible corner and on innumerable glass window shelves. True, each had a saucer underneath, but in watering them I always managed to spill some on the rugs, and their leaf- or petal-shedding proclivities made sweeping imperative every morning. Most of them were straggly things kept for sentimental reasons, because they were old, or because of the pretty flowers they furnished—for a short time once a year! These reasons do not appeal to a busy housewife; besides, the collection violated my sense of beauty and logic. It was largely that experience which led me to figure out a really simple way to satisfy my passion for flowers when blizzards rage outdoors. And, as often happens, the process of simplification resulted in creating beauty to a gratifying degree.

We have in our home a large south window, some 50 inches wide. For it I had the plumber make a watertight box 50″ long, 15″ wide and 4″ deep. He used a single piece of sheet zinc, turning up the four corners, bending them in and soldering them fast, then turning down the sharp upper edge all around to give a smoother and also a stronger finish. (Galvanized iron would no doubt do as well, but might not be as lasting.)

To support this box I asked the man of the house to build me a simple bookshelf of knotty pine, the same length and breadth, and high enough so the top was level with the window sill. Besides serving as a base for the box, the shelf fills the vacant space under the window and holds all our current magazines and newspapers. When I had painted the outside of the box a chartreuse yellow to match the couch cover, I was ready to undertake my bit of winter window gardening.

Two ordinary pink begonias in pots had been blooming profusely for me for months. Grown from slips I had brought home from a friend's (because I really wanted *them*), they were ready to be divided. So a little rich compost from the heap outside and five clean clay pots were all I needed to increase my stock of begonias. The seven new plants were set in a row along the zinc tray nearest the window, and inside them I put a row of seven smaller pots containing African-daisies (Saintpaulias) that I had grown from leaves taken from one original plant.

That TRIPLE-THICK BOTTOM is tops with me!

...in Reynolds Lifetime Aluminum Utensils

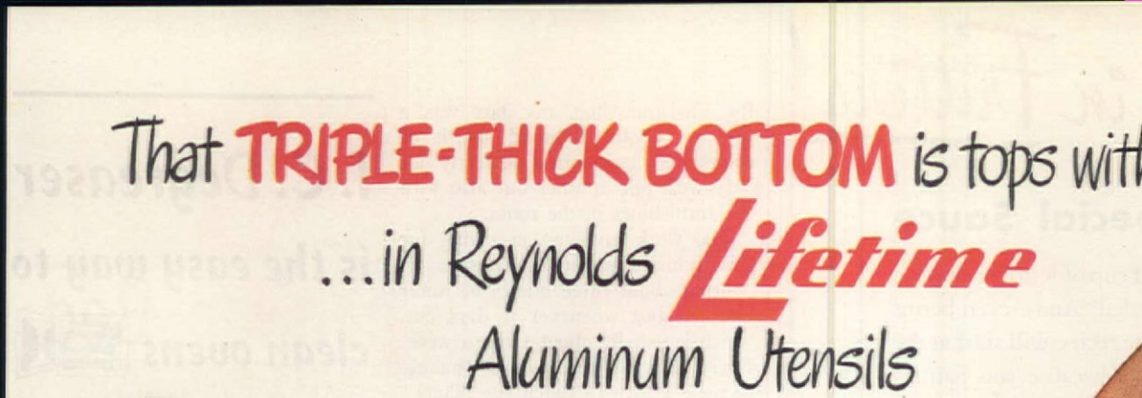
Look for this ridge ↗

—the sign of the Reynolds Lifetime Triple-Thick Bottom. Above: 3 qt. Covered Sauce Pan.

TURKEY SUPREME

Melt ¼ cup butter or margarine in Lifetime Triple-Thick-Bottom Sauce Pan. Blend in 6 tablespoons flour, 2 teaspoons salt, ¼ teaspoon pepper, ¼ teaspoon curry, ½ teaspoon paprika and 1 bay leaf. Stir in 2 cups milk. Cook over low heat, stirring until thickened. Add 3 cups diced, cooked turkey, 1 cup blanched almonds, slivered and toasted, and 1 cup cooked peas. Heat, then stir in 1 cup light cream. Heat again until piping hot. Serve in noodle ring made by molding hot cooked noodles in a buttered and crumbed ring mold. Unmold and garnish with pimiento and green pepper stars. Makes 8 servings.

6 qt. Dutch Oven with cover | 4 qt. Sauce Pot with cover | 3 qt. Sauce Pan with cover | 2 qt. Sauce Pan with cover | 11" Fry Pan with cover



no hot spots to cause scorching . . . perfect for "waterless" cooking

Go to your nearest housefurnishings or department store and see for yourself

this Lifetime **Triple-Thick Bottom** that gives uniform heat distribution . . . rich, even browning . . . no "hot spots" . . . and enables you to cook the "waterless way."

Moisture Seal Covers are precision fit to prevent evaporation of juices.

Recessed cover knobs enable you to keep foods warm on the stove by stacking one utensil on top of another in which food is still cooking.

Reynolds Lifetime Triple-Thick-Bottom Utensils have perfect balance—weight is in the bottom—Bakelite handles—dent-resistant sides. Brilliant hard finish makes them easy to clean!

Lifetime guarantee! If you are in any way dissatisfied with your Reynolds LifetimeTriple-Thick-Bottom Utensils, send them back and they will be returned like new, or replaced, *without charge*. Reynolds Metals Company, Housewares Division, 2000 South 9th Street, Louisville 1, Ky.

Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping

REYNOLDS METALS

REYNOLDS Lifetime ALUMINUM COOKING UTENSILS

TRIPLE-THICK BOTTOM

GUARANTEED FOR LIFE

Something New in Fritters!

. . . and a very special Sauce

HERE'S a way to make a mere half cup of leftover chicken or veal go so far you'll be startled! And—even better—it tastes so good that begging for the recipe will start at the first bite. These are easy Fritters too, because you pan-fry them in delicate MAZOLA* Salad Oil. Pressed from the hearts of golden corn, this pure oil is ideal for salads and for cooking. See how it plays its part in the Sauce, too! A Sauce you'll want to use with rice, minced chicken, hash, croquettes and so on. Flavorful . . . utterly delicious!

© C. P. R. Co., 1946

CHICKEN FRITTERS

1 cup sifted flour
1½ teaspoon baking powder
½ teaspoon salt
1 egg, well beaten
½ cup milk
½ cup minced chicken or veal
2 teaspoons chopped parsley
¼ teaspoon grated onion
½ cup Mazola Salad Oil for frying

Sift together flour, baking powder and seasonings. Combine egg and milk and add to flour mixture, stirring just enough to dampen flour. Fold in chicken or veal, parsley and onion. Heat Mazola about 3 minutes over medium heat, using large skillet; drop batter by tablespoonfuls. Fry about 2 minutes, or until golden brown on one side; then turn and fry 2 minutes longer. Drain on absorbent paper. Serve hot with Chicken-Curry Sauce. Makes 12 fritters.

CHICKEN-CURRY SAUCE

¼ cup Mazola Salad Oil
¼ cup corn starch
½ teaspoon salt
⅛ teaspoon pepper
½ teaspoon curry powder
2 cups veal or chicken stock
½ cup light cream

Blend first 5 ingredients in saucepan. Gradually add stock, mixing until smooth. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until mixture thickens and comes to a boil. Boil 1 minute. Remove from heat and add cream. Serve hot. Makes 2½ cups sauce.

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

By Christmastime, my box was a joy to behold, a broad splash of colors that harmonized perfectly not only with one another but also with the furnishings in the room.

The work involved in caring for this miniature garden consists of pouring about three quarts of water into the box whenever it drys out, which is usually about twice a week. Every two or three days (mainly because I love to touch the plants), I pick off the faded blooms. This does improve their looks, but is not really necessary, for without this attention the faded flowers fall in due course—right into the box where they can be gathered up easily from time to time. The plants seem to like being together, they are kept supplied with moisture from the box, and, so the scientists tell us, the air in the room is improved by their presence. Visitors in midwinter are astonished at the abundant bloom and try to tell me that only a "green thumb" could enjoy such good luck. But that's simply because they have not tried my foolproof plan.

Late in May, when spring has arrived here in eastern New York, I move the pots of begonias to a semishaded part of the outdoor border where, by fall, they grow so large and yield so many new plants that only a fraction of the original lot can go back into the window garden. The rest go to other gardeners—*if* they want them. I wait until the first frost wilts the tops, which I cut back to within an inch of the ground. Then I separate the plants into divisions of the right size for my pots, using fresh compost in planting them. Incidentally, I discovered the beneficial effect of cutting back the tops quite accidentally one year when an extra early frost caught us unawares. It renovates the plants completely, results in a profusion of new shoots and a wealth of bloom, and helps control the bothersome aphids.

The African-violets remain indoors all summer, keeping the box attractive after its spring cleaning. They go right on blooming as if the year was all one season to them. Once a year, I work a teaspoonful of bone meal into the soil in each pot, and when these plants become too large, they, too, are divided or new ones are started from leaf cuttings.

You say that begonias and Saintpaulias do not suit your color scheme? Or that you live in the city and don't have a well-lighted window in which to grow anything? Well, don't be discouraged, for there are other, easily handled things to choose from. Impatiens, for instance, which anyone can root from a slip and which blooms even while it is rooting, comes in rose, salmon, and white, grows rapidly, and does well with little sunlight. And the ferns that will thrive in such a window-box garden are many. But, as far as I am concerned, if plants don't bloom freely all winter, they are not wanted in *my* window garden, thank you.

I. C. Degreaser is the easy way to clean ovens and to remove grease from pots and pans without rubbing, scrubbing or scouring!

Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping

Hearty Holiday gift

$5.85 postpaid

Fine Cheese Assortment from America's Dairyland

A thoughtful Christmas present to delight close friends and business acquaintances: Nationally famous Wisconsin cheeses (5 lb. 6 oz. net wt.) Edam, Gouda, Mel-O-Pure and American, plus epicurean cheese foods containing hickory-smoked aged Cheddar and aged American . . . in a colorful Dairyland gift box. We will acknowledge orders, supply gift cards, and ship prepaid anywhere for holiday delivery. SEND US YOUR GIFT LIST NOW!

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Please send _____ gift boxes.
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Schuster's MILWAUKEE
3 GREAT DEPARTMENT STORES IN WISCONSIN'S LARGEST CITY

BRANDED

"Diamonds" give you grander salads any time

WALNUT GLAMOUR SALAD

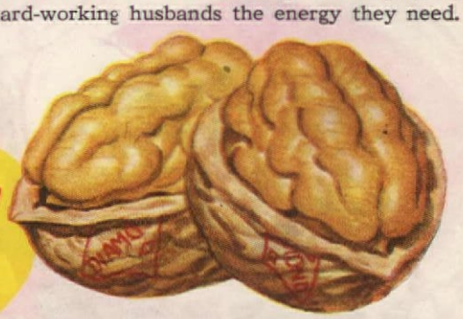
1 pkg. lemon-flavored gelatin
¼ tsp. salt
1 cup hot water
1 grapefruit
2 or 3 medium oranges
Grapefruit and orange juice, plus cold water to make ¾ cup
1 tbsp. lemon juice
1 tsp. grated onion
½ cup chopped Diamond Walnuts
1 cup grated raw carrots
Diamond Walnut halves

Dissolve gelatin and salt in hot water; set aside. Pare grapefruit and oranges, and slip out segments from between membrane walls, saving juice. Drain; to juice add enough cold water to make ¾ cup; add to gelatin; add lemon juice and grated onion. Cool until it begins to thicken, then divide in halves. Into one half, fold drained grapefruit and orange segments, ¼ cup *Diamond* Walnuts, and arrange in 1½ quart mold (add maraschino cherries if you wish). Chill. Remember, by adding *Diamond* Walnuts, you add nourishment, too—protein, energy-oils, minerals, vitamins A and B_1. All this—and glamour, too!

To remaining gelatin, add grated carrots and rest of walnuts. Pour over first part in mold; chill. Turn out on lettuce, garnish with mounds of cottage cheese, topped with big, tempting *Diamond* halves. (Cottage cheese doubles for dressing—or, if you have plenty of dressing, pass it separately.) Serves 6-8.

Memo: Add *Diamonds* to meat loaf, vegetables, cheese dishes—for new flavor, added nourishment. And toss a few tasty *Diamonds* into lunch boxes to give hard-playing children or hard-working husbands the energy they need.

Whenever, wherever you use Walnuts there's nothing finer than "DIAMONDS"



Have you ever seen such walnuts? Such plump, golden kernels—such clean, thin, easy-to-crack shells?

Lady, you're looking at *Diamonds*—the only walnuts that *guarantee* you quality like that! Only the very best of California's walnuts are branded *Diamond*. And that's your guarantee of *more* perfect, usable kernels per pound!

Look for the *Diamond* brand on every shell—your "best buy" in walnuts—every time!

HAND-SELECTED

"Diamonds" for cakes you'll bake again and again

Yes, they'll all want second helpings of this festive walnut cake. And it takes crisp *Diamonds* to guarantee such rich, mellow flavor—such crunchy goodness!

CRACK-TESTED

"Diamonds" do wonders for plain-Jane puddings

Turn your old favorites into treats like this walnut sherry pudding. *Diamonds* do the trick, of course. Extra goodness—with those extra good walnuts—*Diamonds!*

branded
DIAMOND WALNUTS
California's finest

Finest new treat
for an old tradition
Finest
RECIPE FOR YULETIDE DESSERT-SALAD
½ cup peanut butter
2 tablesp. Stokely's Finest Orange Marmalade
Maraschino cherry slices
Blanched almonds
Stokely's Finest Whole Apricots
2-inch stick cinnamon
6 whole cloves
Few drops red vegetable coloring
Stokely's Finest Pears
Stokely's Finest Pineapple
Stokely's Finest Peaches
Blend peanut butter with marmalade. Stuff drained, pitted apricots with mixture; top with cherries and almonds. Next, add cinnamon, cloves and coloring to pear syrup. Bring to boil; boil 5 min.; add pears. Chill; drain. Arrange fruits on spears of romaine; garnish as shown. This memorable finale to a hearty holiday feast is as good as it is beautiful . . . for you save needed wheat and sugar. Every forkful will set your guests to dreaming of nectar and ambrosia, for these sun-drenched, holiday fruits were carefully chosen for prize-winning perfection . . . for nothing but the finest . . . Stokely's Finest.
P.S. Don't forget to glorify your Christmas bird by serving luscious, satin-smooth slices of the finest, tangiest Cranberry Sauce . . . Stokely's Finest, of course!
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Finest
ALWAYS DELICIOUS
Products of
Stokely-Van Camp, Inc., Indianapolis

NERVOUS AND CONVULSIVE DISORDERS

Photograph: Graphic House

in our series on child health care

NO. 12

Morris Fishbein, M.D.

Editor, Journal of the American Medical Association

INFANTS and young children seem to be more liable to convulsive disorders than adults. Indeed, the nervous system of the child reacts to infections and intoxications with an instability of the nervous system that is quite different from that seen in older people. The exact cause for this is not well understood. By actual tests the nervous system of the child is less sensitive than that of the adult. The response to irritation of the nervous system is least at the time of birth and increases until maturity.

Regardless of the cause of convulsions or the mechanisms by which they are produced, parents confronted with twitching or spasms in a young child are likely to become greatly alarmed. Certainly they cannot be blamed for it. The best advice is to report to the doctor the appearance of any convulsions, twitchings of the hands or feet, spasms or, in fact, anything that seems to be different from the ordinary behavior of the infant, so he can decide if anything is wrong.

For many years people have been told that the best way to quiet a baby in spasm or convulsions is to put him in a hot bath. However, doctors report any number of serious accidents from this self-treatment, principally because people confronted by convulsions in a child are likely to lose all sense of balance and judgment. They are anxious to get the water hot and to get the child into it, so children have been scarred or maimed because of someone's anxiety to stop a convulsion. Actually, the convulsion itself is far less dangerous than the panic-stricken activities of those who are anxious to help at this time.

The contributory causes of convulsions may include irritations of the nervous system resulting from fever, from serious infections, or from intoxications by waste products of the body. Sometimes even a mild inflammatory reaction in the bowels or the kidneys may be responsible for a convulsion. Convulsions have occurred in children with whooping cough simply because they were entirely out of breath from long-continued coughing and, as a result, were partially asphyxiated. In cases of inflammation of the kidney the waste products fail to be excreted from the body; their accumulation in the tissues may result in a convulsion. We have learned from studies on people with diabetes that changes in the level of the sugar in the blood may be associated with convulsive reactions. Whenever the sugar in the blood passes a certain critical low level, convulsions occur exactly as they may occur in people who take overdoses of insulin unintentionally.

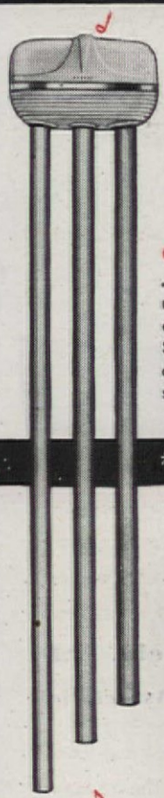
A common superstition is the belief that teething and worms are the causes of convulsions in children. Actually, teething, in itself, is seldom sufficiently severe to arouse a convulsive disorder in a normal child. If, however, there has been a deficiency of calcium in the diet resulting in the condition called tetany, any painful, continuous irritant may arouse a convulsion. As far as is known, worms are not directly the cause of convulsions, but the severe diarrheas, with loss of fluid from the body, or the constant irritation in the bowel, associated with the presence of worms, may become a stimulus.

While it is true that convulsions may be preceded by restlessness and slight twitchings of the muscles of the face, hands, feet or eyelids, parents should not scan the child's face constantly for the presence of twitchings or be greatly disturbed by ordinary restlessness. In the true convulsion the twitching is definite, and sometimes the entire body shakes as in a severe chill. The muscles of the face may contract, the head be thrown back, the hands clenched with the thumbs buried in the palms. The child may lose consciousness for from one to three minutes, and breathing may be shallow. Since asphyxia is a frequent associate of a convulsion, the face may appear blue, especially around the lips. Because of the inability to control the tissues of the body, rattling sounds may be heard in the throat. Parents should remember, however, that convulsions terminating fatally are rare. A convulsion seldom is a cause of death. True, there have been instances in which the asphyxia or loss of oxygen from the body in long-continued convulsions has resulted fatally, but these are exceedingly unusual.

Since the convulsion rarely lasts longer than two or three minutes, it is usually over by the time someone has filled a tub with hot water,

they chime right in with your gift ideas!

A door chime is delightfully *different*. And these NUTONE beauties are *lasting*. They sound good cheer whenever a caller comes — reminding someone of you a thousand times a year! NUTONE Door Chimes come in these exquisite new designs, each superbly rich in tone. They're gifts you'll be proud to give because they're the kind you'd like to get.



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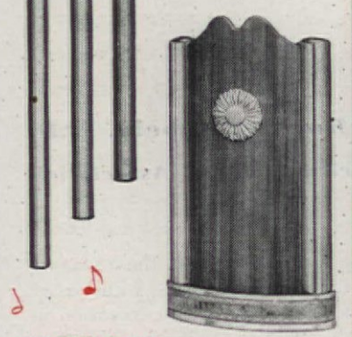
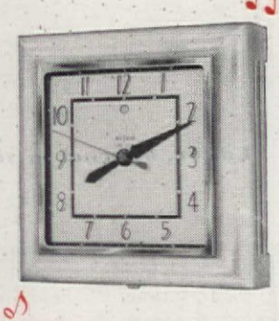
JEWEL . . . Satin-brass finish; for modern and Colonial settings. Packed with matching "Jewel" Front-Door Push Button, beautiful gift box. **$9.95**



SYMPHONIC . . . *Eight* Westminster notes! Yet only 14 inches high! Walnut finish and brass. Gift-wrapped. **$26.95**



TIME-CHIME . . . combination *Telechron* clock and NUTONE Chime. White enamel with chrome trim. Gift-wrapped. **$14.95**, *plus tax.*

made sure of the temperature, removed the clothing from the child, and transported the child to the bathroom. Modern physicians, therefore, deprecate the idea of controlling convulsions by putting the child in a tub of hot water. Until the doctor arrives, the child may be placed in a warm bed and, if the child has a fever, an ice cap may be applied to his head. Parents should not try to quiet the convulsions by giving the child drugs of any kind, because these may interfere with the study of the condition that the doctor will want to make upon his arrival.

The doctor should be called immediately, so that he can see the child as soon as possible after the convulsion to try to determine its cause, and then decide the method of treatment. If the cause of the convulsions is seriously in doubt, the physician will want to make studies of the blood or want to take a specimen of the spinal fluid for examination; he will measure the blood pressure and study the condition of the tissues back of the eye. He will want a specimen of the child's urine so as to determine the presence of albumin—an indication of inflammation of the kidneys—or of blood or of pus. He may wish to determine the level of sugar in the blood. In exceedingly difficult cases he will wish, perhaps, to have an X-ray picture made of the spine and of the skull, and perhaps also a tracing of the areas of excitation in the child's brain.

In many instances a child who has had a convulsion at the beginning of an infectious disease or in association with whooping cough may never have another similar attack. If, however, convulsions are prolonged and if they occur again and again, the condition demands the most careful study so that the proper procedures may be applied at once.

CHOREA. One of the disorders seen in children in which there may be twitching of the muscles of the body is called chorea and is better known as St. Vitus's dance. Nowadays this condition is believed to be due to infection by a germ of the streptococcus type. Girls have St. Vitus's dance about two and one-half times as often as do boys, and more than eighty per cent of all of the cases occur during early childhood. A person who has St. Vitus's dance makes involuntary muscular jerks and twitches, and when the twitching affects the muscles of the face, it is, of course, even more noticeable.

The child with chorea needs to be studied particularly with relation to the nature of the infection, because chorea may be associated with rheumatic conditions and even with the condition which affects the heart and is known as rheumatic fever.

TETANY. Tetany should not be confused with the word *tetanus*, which is lockjaw. Tetanus is caused by a germ. Tetany, on the other hand, is usually associated with a lack of cal-

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With an Electromode handy, clean warm air is ready *instantly* when and where desired. Because of its safety-type patented heating element, the Electromode Portable can be used anywhere in the home; for nursery, sickroom, bathroom, living room or bedroom. There are no exposed glowing wires—resistors are sheathed and cast in a one-piece finned aluminum casting. . . . No chance of shock even if a screw-driver or rod is inserted through the grill to the element—no danger of a fire if paper or corner of bed-sheet accidentally falls over the heater. The high conductivity of the aluminum plus fan circulation throws off heat to the room so rapidly that the element remains relatively cool. See your appliance dealer or send for Pamphlet EB-1 to ELECTROMODE CORPORATION, Rochester 3, N.Y.

A TRICKLE OF WATER in an upstairs bathroom doesn't necessarily mean low pressure. It means, in all probability, that pipes are clogged with rust deposits. There's no need to put up any longer with rustable pipe or with rusty red water.

Put in COPPER, whether you're building a new home or remodelling your present one. Anaconda Copper Tubes will never rust, and cost, installed, but little more than rustable pipe. Look for the name "Anaconda" stamped on every length. It identifies a product made to the highest quality standards.

Write for Publication B-5, "How to Protect Your Home Against Rust."

4010

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Works differently!

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Fireplace
warms ALL the room!

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● The Heatilator is a steel form around which the masonry is easily laid. It assures correct construction of any style fireplace, eliminating faults that commonly cause smoking. Saves labor and materials. Adds but little to the cost of the fireplace. Ask your building material dealer, or write for illustrated folder to

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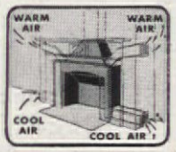

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cium in the body and hence is frequently associated with rickets. Most parents now know that every child ought to have adequate amounts of calcium and vitamins A and D in order to prevent the bowing of the legs, the bending of the ribs, and the pot belly and deficient growth of the bones that are characteristic of rickets. We know that the nervous system can be excessively irritable if there is a lack of calcium taken in.

The characteristic symptom in tetany is spasm, with which there may be pain. Since the spasm may even affect the tissues of the throat, there may be associated asphyxia with blueness and secondary convulsions. Indeed, convulsions are exceedingly common in the presence of tetany. Because of the irritability of the nervous system, any stimulus, even a mild one, may bring them on.

The doctor can determine the presence of the condition by a careful examination, and proper treatment controls it. The symptoms of tetany can be prevented by the proper giving of calcium to the child. Nowadays, people have been so well educated in the necessity of preventing rickets by the use of adequate amounts of calcium and cod-liver oil, that tetany is seen much less often than before.

EPILEPSY. Epilepsy in all of its forms is a fairly common disease. Probably as many people in the United States have epilepsy as have diabetes or active tuberculosis. The word *epilepsy* comes from a Greek word that means seizure, when translated literally.

In the typical epileptic attack there is a temporary loss of consciousness, accompanied by muscular movements, which may include anything from the slight twitching of the eyelids to a violent shaking of the entire body. We do not know the exact cause of epilepsy. Apparently, there is a tendency to development of a constitution of the body and the brain that is excessively irritable and particularly responsive to certain stimuli. The response is an attack of a convulsive type mentioned.

Nowadays, a new device called the electro-encephalograph is capable of measuring the irritability of the brain. The use of this device shows that one person in every ten has some irregularity of the brain-wave pattern, and about one in every two hundred has seizures of this type of epilepsy. These seizures come when the irritation factor reaches a certain threshold. Mothers need not be unduly alarmed, therefore, if a young child has several convulsions. Seventy out of a thousand children have one or more convulsions during their first five years of life. That is because the nervous system of the infant and young child is much more irritable than that of the adult. Many people tend to acquire lessened irritability as they grow older, so that only five out of every thousand grownups have convulsive symptoms or disorders.

Doctors recognize several varieties of epilepsy, from the very serious

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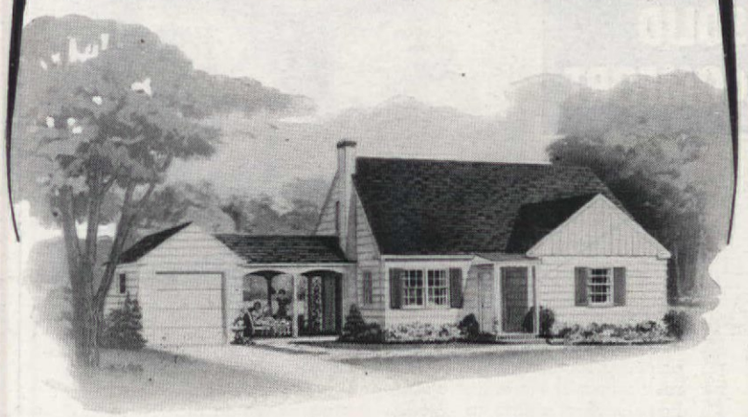

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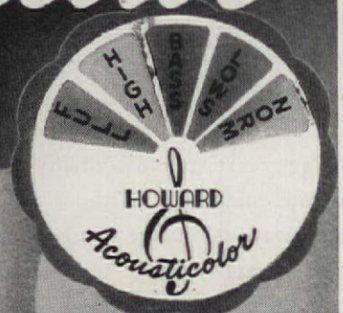

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type known as grand mal to the minor seizures, which are called petit mal. Frequently these may involve only rhythmical twitchings of the eyelids, a sudden, slight loss of consciousness, or the presence of temporary confusion. In the majority of cases, these symptoms tend to disappear or to be relatively insignificant as the child grows older.

Parents should realize, however, that first aid for a person with epilepsy requires calmness and judgment. The ordinary mild petit mal attack does not require special attention. In the case of a severe convulsion of the grand mal type, the person who wants to help must make certain, first of all, that the epileptic does not injure himself during the attack. He should be allowed to lie on the floor and away from contact with furniture or machinery of any kind. A folded handkerchief placed between the back teeth on one side of the mouth will prevent the person in a convulsion from biting his tongue or breaking his front teeth. Above all, the parents, or those who are taking care of a child in a convulsion, should be calm because panic, tension or fear in an adult is readily transmitted to the sick child. Be sure to prevent the earnest-doers-of-good from throwing buckets of water on a person in a convulsive attack, from pouring whiskey down the throat, or from rushing the child to a hospital. Remember again, that nothing is to be gained by plunging the child into a tub of hot water at this time.

Fortunately, modern medicine has developed a variety of useful drugs for lowering the threshold of irritation of the person who is subject to a convulsive disorder. We have learned that diets which are small in amount and properly chosen, help to diminish the threshold of irritation and lessen the number of convulsive attacks. New drugs include not only a variety of barbituric acid derivatives, but also dilantin and tridione, which have been described as capable of eliminating convulsions entirely in many cases of petit mal. More research is now being done on epilepsy than ever before. Out of this research must come, eventually, progress sufficient to solve the problem of this strange disease. Several of our greatest universities are now giving consideration to every aspect of epilepsy and its control. Two organizations have been set up to help finance research and to tell the truth about epilepsy. These include the American Epilepsy League and the Laymen's League Against Epilepsy. There is also an association to control epilepsy, which is educating people about the disease so that their attitude toward it will be scientific and proper.

We urge your support of a very worthy cause. The National Cancer Foundation, 85 Franklin St. New York 13, N.Y.

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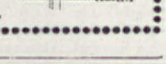

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Master of the House

Hawley R. Everhart

"KEEP an eye on the boys for a few minutes while I go uptown," says the little wife as she jumps into the car and speeds away.

An apparently innocent remark—akin to tossing a hand grenade, pin out, to a sleeping man—is responsible for more damage than most parents care to admit. This friendly domestic command is usually hurled at an unsuspecting, relaxing husband. Its full implication is not understood for several seconds, and they are seconds never to be regained.

Suddenly, with inner terror surging within him, the panicked husband bolts from his chair and collects himself for the initial move—that of locating his charges. This act is instinctive and should not be confused with any intelligent planning. What subsequent planning does arise in the father's mind is usually abandoned in the light of that which follows. It is almost unbelievable how much can transpire between the time mother drives off and father collects his meager forces.

If the boys were peacefully riding their tricycles in the driveway when mother left, they are now at least three blocks from home, blissfully playing in a puddle when daddy reaches the scene. Or, perhaps they have uncorked the oil drum in the garage. Maybe they are hiding in the garbage can. Nothing is too improbable to warrant consideration.

Of course, there is some direct relationship between the principals involved and the carnage wrought. I am convinced, however, that the explanation of this ratio is valid only up to a certain point. For example, my two boys, Randy, four, and David, two, are so accomplished that I would match their skill against any larger group of similar age.

Most of the better books on the subject will inform you that patience is the key factor in your dealings with children. Give them time and they'll co-operate. This may be true enough, but when you walk out into the back yard and discover your two best tennis rackets being used as snowshoes, or that the basement windows have become kicking blocks, the most patient man alive realizes it is time for action, not patience. All this demands a lot of adaptability from a man, when five minutes before he was peacefully reading.

Eschewing violence, it becomes obvious that you'll have to sit down and try to talk things over with the boys. You fathers with a comparable genetic setup, you know the feeling of futility that sets in. Calm explanations are interspersed with exas-

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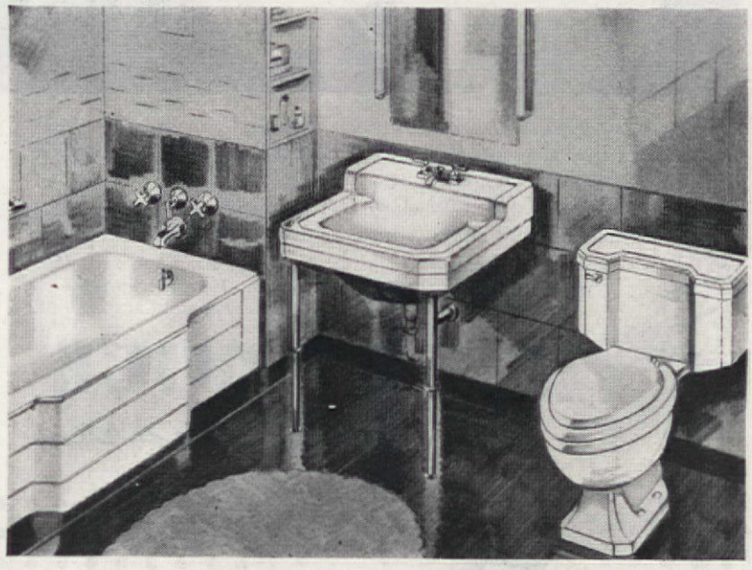

"There'll be no delay shopping for bathroom fixtures when we build our new home. Our builder knows exactly what we want—thanks to Eljer's booklet entitled *'Women Tell Us'.*

"Tom and I went for the graceful lines of Eljer's Riviera bathtub, with matching lavatory and closet combination ... and we liked Eljer's idea of elbowroom in the bathroom. All this, plus their other suggestions, made it easy for us to make our choice."

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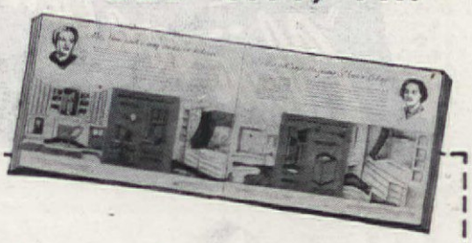
Get this free book of ideas for your kitchen or bathroom of tomorrow



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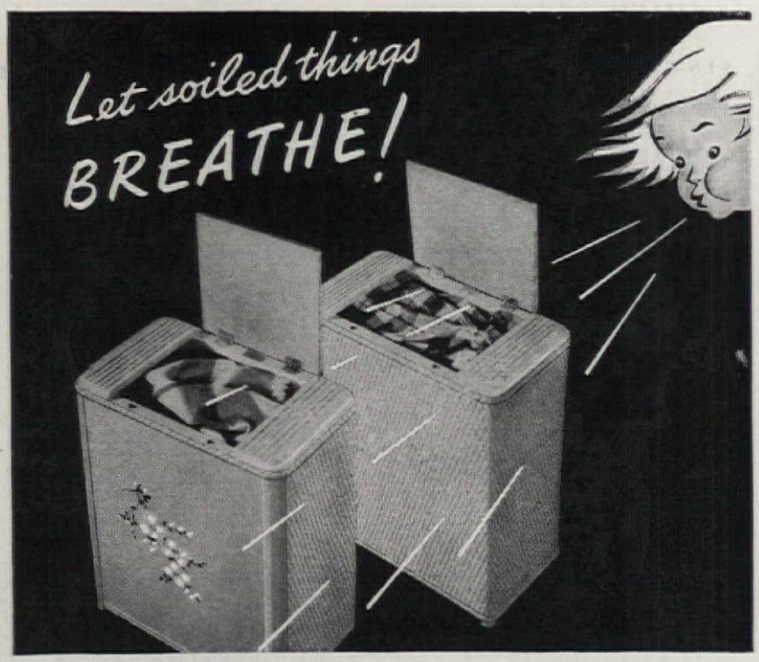

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perated threats of "or else." But the boys simply aren't interested in anything but action, and reprimands are discarded with pleas of, "What are we going to do now, daddy?"

"Let's all go in the house and play until mother gets back," you say hopefully. In they charge. Exactly what is to be done, once inside, is not fully thought out, but you have evoked a display of obedience. Your prospects seem somewhat brighter. Too late you recall your wife's oft repeated ultimatum that the boys are *not* to play in the house when they could play outside—especially with clean slip covers on the furniture. Knowing full well what to expect, you rush into the front room to witness a wrestling match on the davenport. In the turmoil, the evening papers have been shredded, and general disaster has crushed you and the house, so peaceful and well organized until mother uttered that sweet challenge. About this time, a sinister thought of permanent confiscation of your wife's set of car keys is going through your distracted mind.

Now and then the boys slow down from sheer exhaustion. Usually it's only the infamous lull before the storm, but anything helps. Then, too, there's the long chance that mother will show up before they get their second wind. In any event, it gives daddy a breather and time to brace himself for the next tornado.

I have read somewhere that a child of four should have a vocabulary of 1000 words and a child of two somewhat less. If this is true, then the majority of these words are not yet familiar to me. Some words, such as "ice cream" and "bye-bye" are understood by both parents and children almost from the crib. But others, such as, "stop that" and "be quiet" never seem to find a compatible meeting place in which to become a matter of mutual understanding. The disturbing thing is that Randy and David have no difficulty in understanding each other. The trouble begins when I try to break into the conversation. Take two energtic wills opposed to one frantic, apparently weak will. Add two men of action against one man of peace. Consider the lack of a common ground of language. The result: the "master of the house" becomes painfully aware of the quotation marks.

When mother finally does get home, things have an astonishing way of evaporating back into normalcy. The boys seem to sense the soft touch is over, and they settle down. But daddy is given another roasting for ineffieiency and is put to work cleaning up the damage. Mother sighs audibly and is strangely unsympathetic. The whole thing resolves itself into the same old story—she never should have left the house.

Thirty minutes later, with a lap full of confetti-like newspaper, you settle once more into your chair to relax. "What a life," you think to yourself. "What a life—and I wouldn't trade it for a million dollars."

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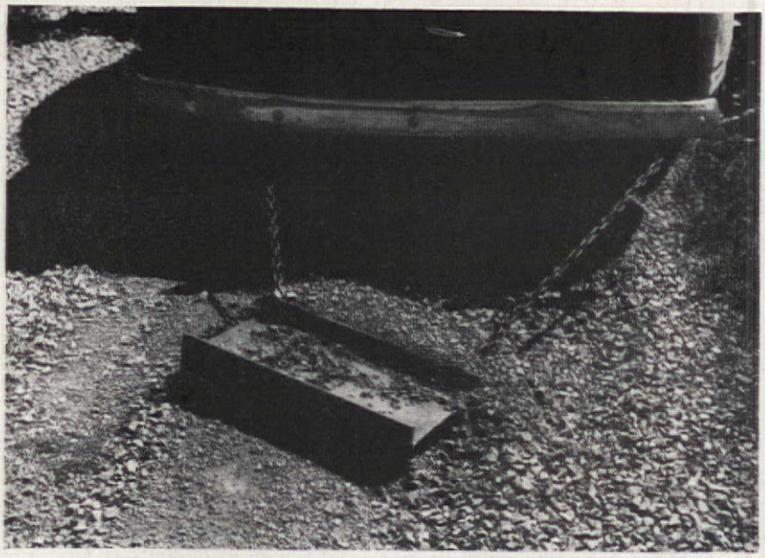
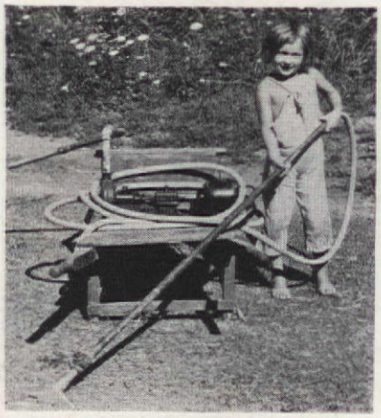


2 Ideas That You Can Use



DRIVEWAY DRAG — *To keep gravel surfaces in place and prevent ruts, pull a piece of heavy I-beam behind your car, as demonstrated above*

TO VACUUM A POOL—*Make a simple, electrically operated, aquatic suction cleaner like this. Both the devices were conceived and developed by . . .*

Alden Stahr
Photographs by the author

GRAVEL driveways, especially on slopes, often fail to "stay put," as you may have noticed. When we moved "back into the woods," one of our problems was a 3,000 foot driveway, half of which was on a fairly steep hill. Three weeks after the contractor had finished it, automobile traffic had flung the gravel aside, right down to bedrock in the ruts in some places. We tried raking it back by hand in our spare hours, but by the time we reached the far end, it was time to start again. Blisters, lame backs, and a sense of wasted effort set us experimenting.

A snowplowlike arrangement of 2 x 4's in V formation sashayed all over the place and left the drive worse than before. Then we put angle iron on the face and bottom of a heavy piece of 8 x 10 and dragged it behind the car. It worked fairly well on quarter-inch gravel, but on bigger stuff it slid over the top. Next, we tried a real snowplow and a tractor, but the road crown and ruts made that combination ineffectual.

Then finally, after three years, we hit it, by using a 2-ft. piece of heavy steel I-beam, 10 or 12 in. wide, with holes for eye bolts drilled at the ends of one flange. Attached to the car as shown in the picture (the angle can be varied by adjusting the length of the two chains or ropes) and dragged at low-gear speed, it scrapes the gravel from the middle or the edge of the roadway back into the ruts and works beautifully. Now we do our whole drive in about half an hour; and the scraper cost only $2.38 in a scrap iron yard. In fact, we later bought a second piece, to have in reserve, for only $1.00 in another yard. If there are rocks or other solid obstructions in your drive, it would be well to insert a heavy coil spring between car and drag in each chain to absorb the shocks and prevent damage to the automobile.

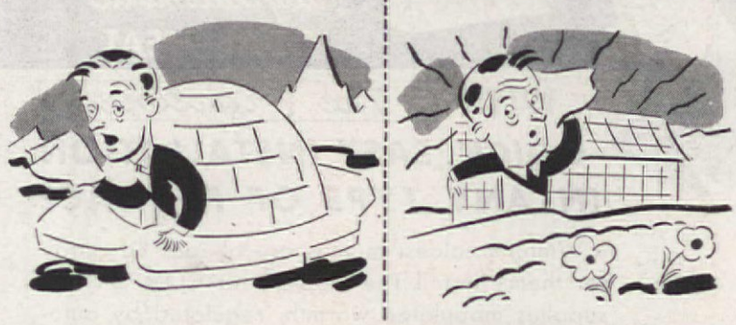
* * *

(Among the numerous letters stimulated by Mr. Stahr's story about his "Fool Pool" in the May issue, was one that we particularly enjoyed. Because it raises a point that other readers may be interested in, we are printing it, together with his informative reply.—Horticultural Editor).

It says, "Dear Sir:

"How nice it is to find someone with the same interests as yours. Our swimming pool, too, has been called 'that fool pool'; my mother-in-law couldn't see why 'John spent all that money for it'. But we have found it the best investment we ever made, a dream come true. The children stay in it from morning till night, diving in

Do You Live in an IGLOO? or a HOTHOUSE?



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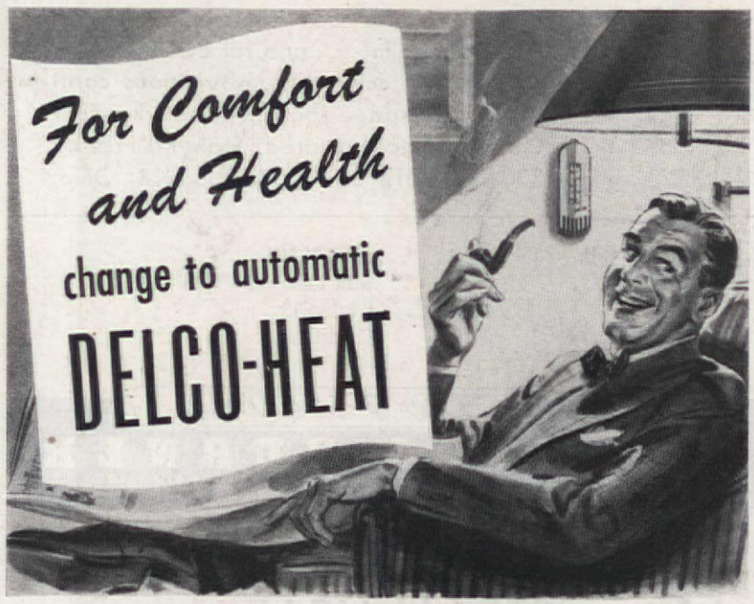

GENERAL MOTORS DELCO-HEAT does away with old-fashioned "shiver or swelter" home heating! Sensitive, accurate Delco-Heat thermostatic controls assure you steady, even warmth—by keeping the temperature constantly *within one degree* of your preferred "comfort level."

Automatic Delco-Heat is clean, efficient, healthful—fine for new homes, or for modernizing your present heating system. Exclusive General Motors features give you *more* heat with *less* fuel...*dependability* through the years.

Delco-Heat equipment is available for steam, hot water, or warm air heating... oil, coal, or gas. Five types—fourteen handsome, compact models. Why not investigate?

Delco-Heat Oil-Fired Conditionair, Model DA-0

SEND FOR NEW FOLDERS telling the entire Delco-Heat story. Write Dept. A126 Delco Appliance Division, General Motors Corp., Rochester 1, N. Y.

Free Heating Survey

Getting the most out of your heating system? Ask your Delco-Heat dealer to make a complete, impartial heating survey of your home, without cost or obligation! Your local Delco-Heat dealer is listed in the classified telephone directory. Call or see him today!

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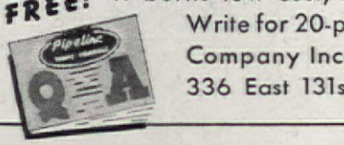
FREE! Write for 20-page booklet. Pocahontas Fuel Company Incorporated, Stoker Division, 336 East 131st Street, Cleveland 8, Ohio.



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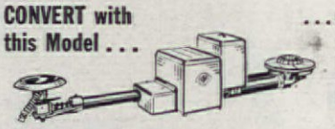

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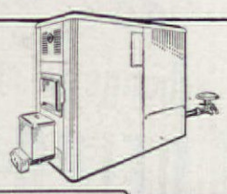

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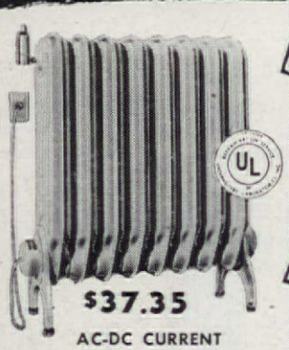

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whenever they feel like it, in whatever they have on—which isn't much in the summer. It has been wonderful for me and my friends, too, because we have passed the age when we look cute in midriffs lying around a club pool. They call my house 'their country club,' and most any time you can find an assortment of old maid school teachers, overweight matrons, and even grandmothers squealing and splashing in the cold water. But the point of this letter is that you seem to have solved the problem of keeping the bottom of the pool clean. *Please,* Mr. Stahr, tell me about your centrifugal pump, hose, and pick-up apparatus—where you got it, what it cost, etc. For two years I have looked for something of that kind, and now I'm so excited."

WE SENT the appeal to Mr. Stahr, and here is his answer:

"The underwater vacuum cleaner is really worth-while; I'll send a photograph of it to make things clearer (see page 83). It consists of a ¼ H.P. AC motor coupled to an ordinary centrifugal water pump (obtainable from any good plumbing supply dealer) with ¾" intake and outlet. At the intake, screw in a short fitting with a ¾" pipe thread at one end and hose thread at the other, to which attach ordinary garden hose with a second female coupling at the far end. To this fit another combination coupling so you can attach a 5' length of galvanized (or, better, brass) pipe. To this screw a ¾" check valve to prevent water from flowing back through it into the pool. The last step is to fit an ordinary vacuum cleaner pick-up nozzle to the check valve. (I did this by shaving down a ¾" coupling on a metal lathe until it fitted snugly into the vacuum-cleaner nozzle, then joining it to the valve with a short nipple.)

"I set the pump beside the pool and run an extension cord to it from the house. *Take care not to short any connections or the motor with water, or touch the motor with wet hands while the current is on.* The pump must be primed, and I do this by turning the outlet pipe upward,

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holding the pick-up at the same level, and pouring in water until all air is driven out of pump, hose, and pipe. Just as the motor starts, I put the end of the pick-up into the pool, then I jump in myself and run the pick-up back and forth over the bottom just as in cleaning a rug. But if the end of the pick-up comes out of the water while the pump is running it will suck in air, stop, and have to be primed again. If the line becomes clogged, you can usually clear it by jiggling the pipe up and down under water. We could filter the clean-out water, but this would call for cumbersome equipment.

"Sounds complicated? Well, it is a little until you have wrestled through the first cleaning. After that, it isn't bad at all."

SPEAKING of swimming pools, the fact that we frequently print articles about them may have given you the impression that AMERICAN HOME readers are keenly interested in them. If so, you are completely right. Looking back through our files over the years, you can find stories of little wading pools for the tiniest of tots, made of heavy, waterproofed canvas supported by low, wooden framework; of glorified "swimmin' holes" made by damming up a stream.

We have described—or let proud owners describe—eminently satisfactory pools made by lining excavations with various types of building paper. Then there was one pool—it cost just $92 as we recall it—that an ingenious homeowner made by digging out a form, lining it with common brick, (secondhand, too), and on that foundation pouring a coat of thin cement that bound the whole thing into a durable, reinforced shell.

Concrete is, of course, standard material for pools, whether inexpensive and homemade, or more costly and contract-built. And there are cement- or concrete-brick types like "the pool that Alden Stahr built." The last word, we suppose, is the steel pool, but perhaps we are overlooking plastics, or other industrial products. All right. Who is going to be the first reader to report one of those?

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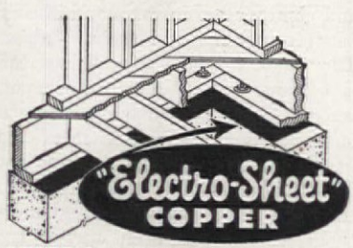

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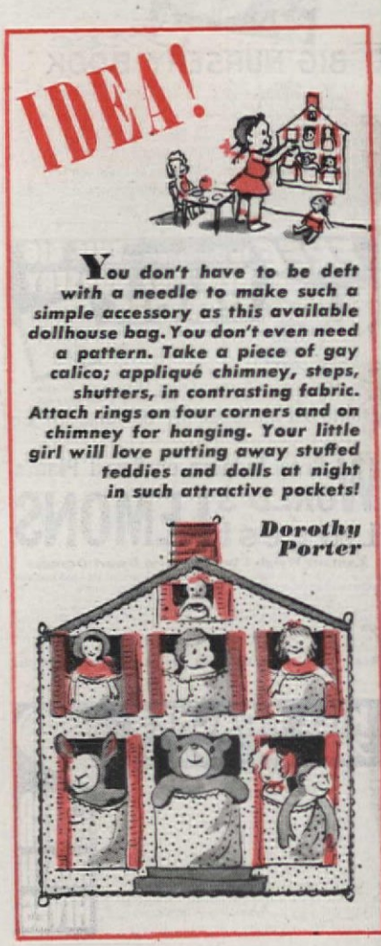
How Often Have You Done Your Children's Homework?

Ruth Heller Freund

EDUCATORS are well aware of the fact that parents are doing more than just helping Tommy with his homework. They shake their heads and smile and say, "Mr. Man's homework was excellent today. But, of course, he exaggerates when he says that he never worked as hard on his own homework as he does on Tom's." I heard a mathematics teacher remark, "I no longer count the mathematics homework in the quarterly grade because I have found out the boys seldom make a mistake in it. Still those very same boys, when I have them do the work in class, show that they do not understand the problems." He had a sense of humor and an understanding of what is going on when he added, "I still give homework because it gives the parents a good workout." What most teachers do not seem to realize is that Mr. Man is probably doing more of his child's homework than he admits he is doing, and that he started so early in the child's school life that the youngster has come to rely too heavily on parental help and advice. Where this has occurred, the child has literally become incapable of working and reasoning things out on his own. This applies not only to homework but other problems as well.

Education has advanced, and with its advancement has come parental co-operation. Educators have attempted to develop an understanding and comradeship in work and in play between parents and their children. They are attempting to bring the school and home closer together, and want to develop a feeling of mutual understanding between teachers and parents. However, this idea was not intended to encourage parents to do their children's homework. Unfortunately, this has been one of the outcomes. Some parents would be shocked if we faced them with this fact. Some would nod their heads in assent, although they would probably add as an apology, "We are only helping and explaining." However, we must realize that it takes more than an average teacher with years of training to be able to help and explain without doing—so how can we possibly expect the average parent to be qualified for this type of teaching? They just can't be, and since they aren't, does not their so-called "help" go far in undoing the basic foundations of study which teachers have endeavored to build?

Is this parental competition of which we have suddenly become so conscious a recent development, or is it that we have just become more aware of the facts because people have become less reticent in speaking of them? Fathers and mothers have been led to believe that they are better parents if they give assistance to their children in their homework and, as in many other experiments, they have gone to the extreme. Of course, there have always been parents who have given their children help, but they have been in the minority in the past, and the majority handled the situation by saying, "Certainly I'll be glad to hear your spelling, but I don't think I ought to help you with those arithmetic problems or with the punctuation in your composition, because I was taught so differently that I might be apt to confuse you. Why don't you look it up yourself, ask your teachers, or perhaps listen more attentively in class. Also, I believe it is important that your teachers know that you do not understand,



You don't have to be deft with a needle to make such a simple accessory as this available dollhouse bag. You don't even need a pattern. Take a piece of gay calico; appliqué chimney, steps, shutters, in contrasting fabric. Attach rings on four corners and on chimney for hanging. Your little girl will love putting away stuffed teddies and dolls at night in such attractive pockets!

Dorothy Porter

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because they will then know that they must do some more teaching on the subject." Another important observation you should make is that children were formerly not thought dull because they didn't understand the first time that something was explained to them in class, and there was no stigma attached to a child who needed explaining to more than one time. Several or more explanations were taken then as a routine course of day-by-day learning.

Certainly spelling lists, vocabularies and dates should be heard by parents if the children ask for them to be heard. Also, a discussion of the work should be carried on provided it is work done by the children. Many parents know that they are giving more assistance than should be required of them and admit very openly that they do not approve. Then they add in self-defense, "Mr. Sell helps his son, Pete. It is only fair that I should help Tommy."

One seldom goes out for an evening that one does not hear discussed the atomic bomb, the world situation, and children's homework. There is usually a great deal of arguing pro and con on the first two subjects, but there is almost always agreement that children are given too much homework and that it is too difficult. The question then arises, what is wrong with the schools of today that they leave so much work for the children to do at home at night. Have the academic requirements been raised to such an extent since our own school days that the average young mind cannot now keep pace during prescribed study hours? Or could it be that our children dawdle away their time or have become just plain lazy in their study habits because they know that Mother and Dad will come to the rescue at the appropriate minute and take over for them. This could be, you know.

It is not even unusual these days for adults to have their friends help them do their children's homework. Sometimes their friends wonder why they have suddenly become so interested in an arithmetic problem or the correct pronunciation of a word, only to find out on interrogation that it all has something to do with Buster's homework. One evening recently, when I was visiting in a friend's home, one of the guests was called to the telephone and a lengthy conversation with his son ensued.

The gist of the conversation was that his boy had written a composition about the quotation, "These are the times that try men's souls" and he didn't know who had originally made the remark. His father assured him that he would find out and let him know. There was no suggestion that the boy try to find out for himself. The guests spent the rest of the evening looking through encyclopedias and telephoning various intellectuals of their acquaintance. We finally got in touch with someone who knew someone else who knew practically everything, and we did find out that Thomas Paine had

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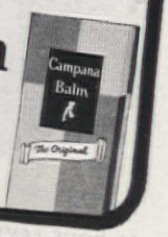
THE SKIN SOFTENER



uttered that remark on December 19, 1776. Perhaps this was excellent adult education. That is not the point. Perhaps in this particular case it did not matter too much that the boy had adult assistance. But when his father was questioned in detail as to how it happened that a boy of twelve had chosen to write on this particular quotation, he said that he had suggested it to his son. He had started out to give the boy assistance in writing it, but had forgotten he had a date to go out for the evening and thus was unable to give his son the help needed. So you see, unfortunately, help does not always end with suggestions. Too often adults do the research and also the actual writing of the piece.

Mrs. Night passed the remark at another gathering, "I do hope Jane gets a better report this month. I have worked so hard." She was not being facetious. She meant it—and what is even more important, she looked weary. Mr. Weeks is always in his son Bill's room when we arrive at his house for dinner. After dinner, he excuses himself and closets himself with Bill again. I happened to pass by Bill's room one evening, when the door was left slightly ajar, and saw Mr. Weeks poring over his son's books at the desk while Bill amused himself by throwing a tennis ball against the wall. Mrs. Day never makes a date on a school night because Susan has so much homework and needs so much assistance. The Pails never arrive at anyone's home until almost ten o'clock because they cannot leave their own house until all the homework is done and out of the way. As a final example, there is Mrs. Months, a widow who supports herself and her daughter by doing free-lance fiction writing. Just the other day she complained bitterly to me that she had not been able to touch any of her own work for several weeks. It was midsemester "theme" time for her daughter—and since the girl was not very eloquent at expressing herself, her mother felt that the only way she could make a passing grade was to do the writing for her. No, it didn't dawn on the woman that the child's teachers would undoubtedly recognize a professional's touch and would disregard entirely the work turned in by the child as her own.

Where is this competition going to stop? The following is another example of what is happening, and I believe it needs serious thought. A boy I know wrote the first draft of a story which he was to hand in to his English class. His father said, "Give it to me, Jim. I'll have my secretary type it for you." Jim's father, an executive of a large business, has his own private secretary. She is a college graduate and so, of course, supposedly knows a great deal about spelling, sentence structure and pronunciation. Mr. Smith also took his son's composition to be typed. He had it done by his

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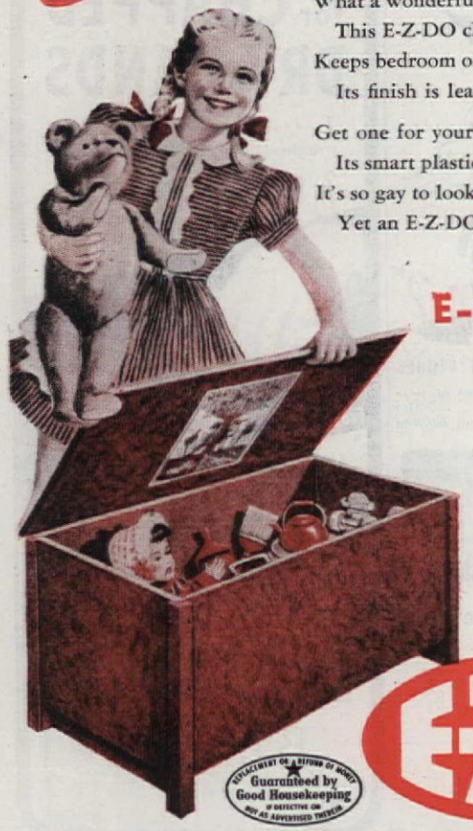

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This E-Z-DO chest for their Christmas toys!
Keeps bedroom or playroom neat as a pin;
Its finish is leather-like outside and in!

Get one for your room, keep linens in it,
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It's so gay to look at, sturdy and strong,
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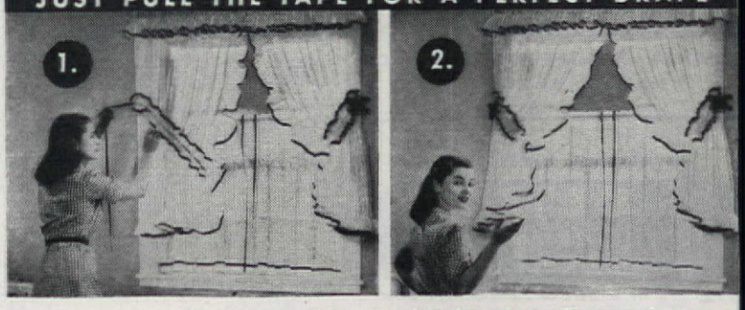

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WRITE FOR DESCRIPTIVE BOOKLET

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Dinnerware by Salem — real American patterns to recall the lore of early America — to match your decorative schemes. Budget priced, too. Retailers' stocks may be low but keep asking at good stores — there'll be more soon.

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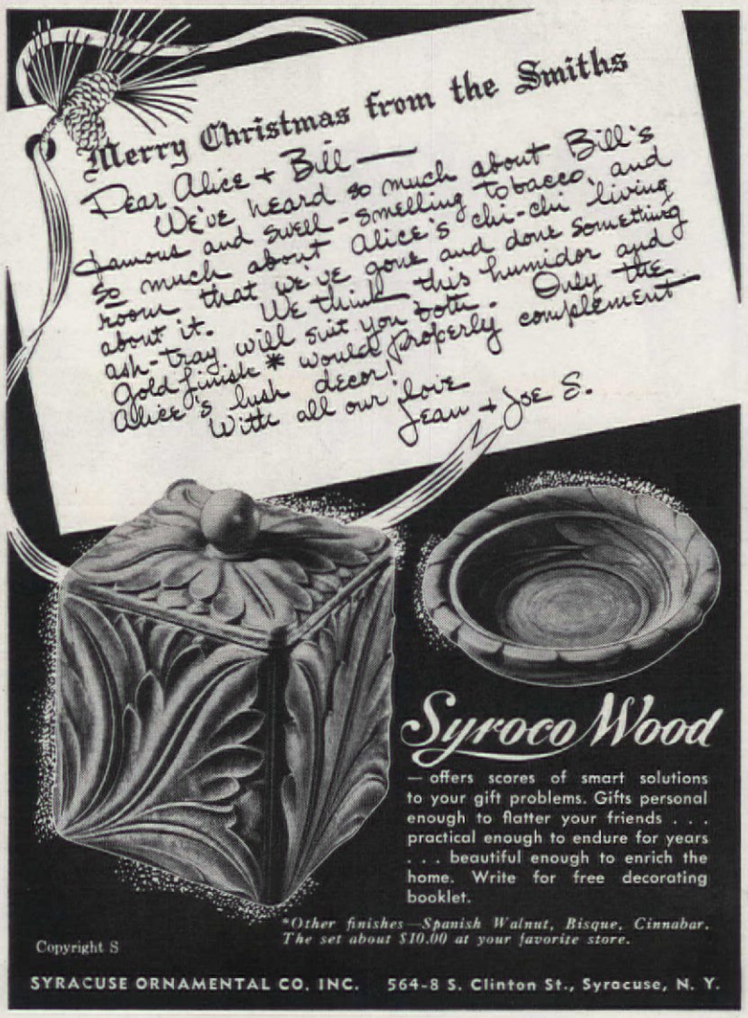
stenographer, a girl with a high-school education. So now we have the secretaries and stenographers competing. We must not forget to mention the boy who really is only satisfied with his own work. He wants to do his own work because then the marks he receives are his marks—and when he improves his work, it is his improvement. This is as it should be. But then what happens when this boy wants to get into college and has to compete with the other boys' parents', secretaries' and stenographers' marks.

Let us try to analyze why things are as they are. Is it due to the teachers? I don't believe so, because we have better teachers than ever before. They are better trained to teach, better equipped with knowledge, better able to handle children as individuals, better adjusted themselves. What else could be the reason for the need of so much parental help—or perhaps we had better call it parent competition, since that is what it has become. Is it because parents have demanded a program so enriched that it is impossible for the teachers to cover all the ground during the school hours and, therefore, the school work must be supplemented in the home or the child will fail? Or is it the fault of the colleges because they use the system they do for entrance into their realms? There are so many children who want to and can afford to go to college these days but, because space is so limited, colleges cannot accept students unless their high-school marks are exceptionally high. Therefore, parents, afraid that their children may not make the grade, are competing with one another to make sure their offsprings will get into the college of their choice. It would be interesting to check on how many students who receive honor marks in high school do as well when they go away from home to an out-of-town college. Have the high schools made their curriculum more difficult because children of today are better able to grasp this advanced work at high-school age? If so, how do we account for it? If this is not the case, why are we forcing this advanced work on our children?

Let us stop this parental competition before the momentum becomes so great that we lose control. Let us once again allow our children to compete among themselves. Let us give some thought as to whether the ultimate outcome is worth the nervous tension which is found in both children and parents. Let us ponder what this unfair competition must be doing to the characters of our children. What ideals are we helping them to set up, what kind of standards are they planning for themselves, and what must they honestly think of their parents who sanction dishonest competition? By the way, who are we fooling when we do our children's homework?



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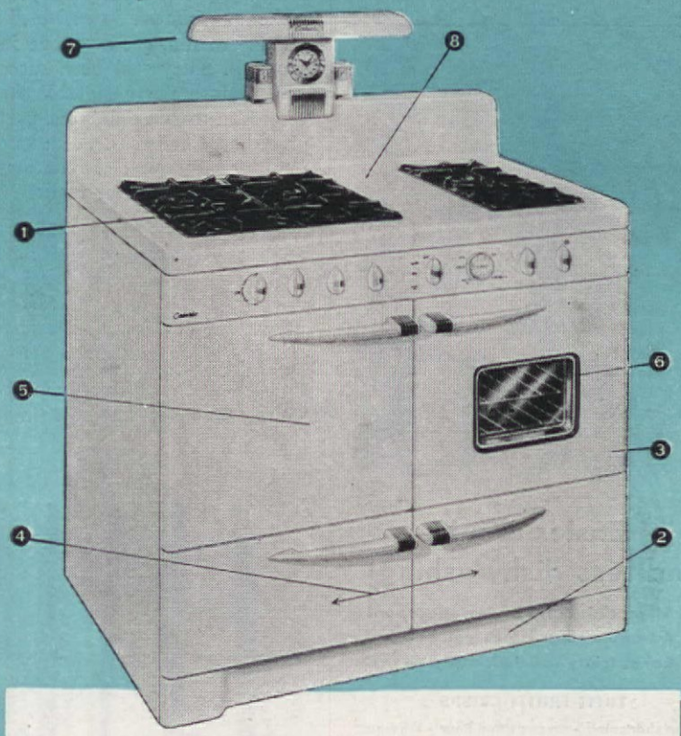
New Features Every Woman Wants



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Cooking on an Ultramatic CALORIC is so much faster, cleaner, cooler—and so much more convenient it's virtually automatic. And the smart, modern beauty of the Ultramatic CALORIC makes it America's easiest range to keep clean.

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Cookies made in a Saucepan

Easier to mix—and less dishwashing!

- √ **All mixing done in one saucepan!**
- √ **A handle to grasp as you beat!**
- √ **Crisp, fruity . . . deliciously sweet!**

TUTTI FRUTTI CRISPS

1 cup shortening • 2 cups sifted flour • 1½ tsps. baking soda • 1 tsp. salt • 1 tsp. cinnamon • 1 tsp. nutmeg • 1 cup Brer Rabbit *Gold Label* Molasses • 1 egg, unbeaten • 1 cup raisins • 1 cup nut meats • ¾ cup combined citron, orange peel and lemon peel.

No creaming of shortening. Melt it in 3- or 4-quart saucepan over very low heat. Remove from heat; cool. Mix and sift dry ingredients.

No beating of eggs. Add molasses and unbeaten egg to cooled shortening; blend well. Add dry ingredients; mix thoroughly. Put raisins, nut meats and peels through food chopper, using fine blade; stir into batter. Drop by heaping teaspoonfuls 2" apart on greased cookie sheet. Bake in hot oven (425° F.) 10-15 minutes or until brown. Makes about 60 cookies.

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Brer Rabbit

Iron is essential for good red blood! Brer Rabbit New Orleans Molasses is one of the richest food sources of iron.

Two types: GOLD LABEL, highest quality fancy *light* molasses—mild and sweet. GREEN LABEL, rich-flavored *dark* molasses.

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A Christmas party combining the joyou

THE theme of our postwar period is world co-operation and fellowship, so a Christmas party pointing up that idea is most appropriate this year. The business of the season is to cultivate and give evidence of good will, an indispensable ingredient of Christmas. Start by giving a party and, as Miss Geneva Smith says, make "merriment infectious." Start your party with a prelude to fun, get everyone in a jovial mood, and your good-will party will be a success.

Here is a party suitable for any age group. It is a good idea to schedule your party for a night in the week preceding Christmas. A closer date might interfere with family gatherings. Invitations written on little red American Santas can read:

Come join us in some Christmas fun,
Next Saturday nite at eight.
Hidden in Santa's hi-top boots
Is the idea for this date.
A UN party planned for you,
Note our wishes to see it through.

On separate slips of paper, folded and placed inside Santa's doubled boots, write the following jingles, or similar ones about other countries for additional gues

Come prepared to tell us much,
How Christmas is celebrated by the Dutch.
Tell us how the people dance
At Christmastime in the land of France.
Tell us of China's "tree of lights."
We've heard it's among the unusual sights.
In England, land of rain and fog,
Explain the burning yule log.

Each guest looks up the requested information and com prepared to tell it in a sparkling and interesting manne

As each guest finishes the story of Christmas in t land assigned her, the hostess gives her a daintily wrapp box containing a doll dressed in the costume of th country. (You can buy them or make them yoursel Or the dolls might be put on the tree or on the tab But most fun is had if all open the gifts at one tim

Geneva Smith suggests another lively party starte "To start the feeling of gaiety, pass a lighted peace pi among the guests. Those who refuse to take a puff a promised dire consequences, to befall them later on.

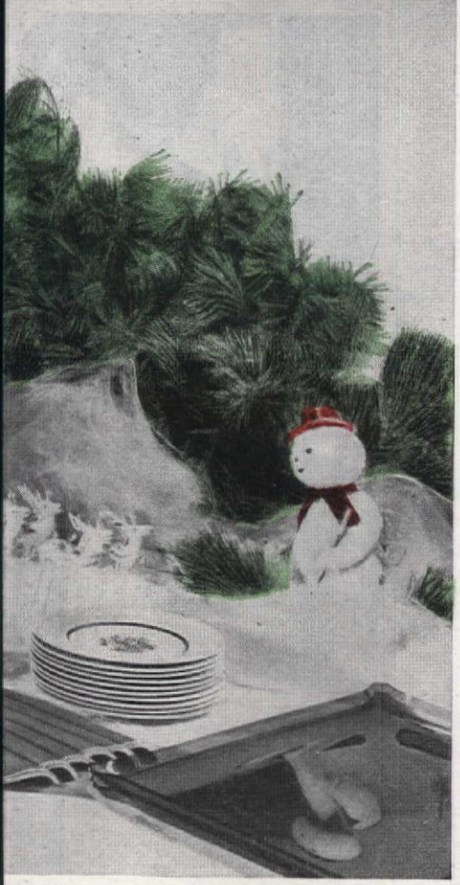
Gary Merrill, Judy Holliday, and Paul Douglas, stars of Max Gordon's production of Garson Kanin's comedy, "Born Yesterda

While the pipe is being passed, four designated guests make ready for the first of twelve charades—or at least that is what we call them. Explain that places will be represented, and a prize given for the most correct answers. For instance: four people stand in a row. The first sips from a glass of water, hands it to the next who takes a sip, etc. You've guessed it—the Mississippi. Then there is Manhattan—a girl wearing a derby hat and a false moustache. Everyone enjoys a contest, and you can see it is inexpensive entertainment (except for the prize).

As we finish the charades, the doorbell peels loudly, sleigh bells tinkle. One of the guests (preferably on the plump side) bursts into the room dressed as Santa Claus. In a pack on his shoulder are all the gifts which the guests had placed in a basket when they arrived. Santa distributes these, passing by those who had refused the

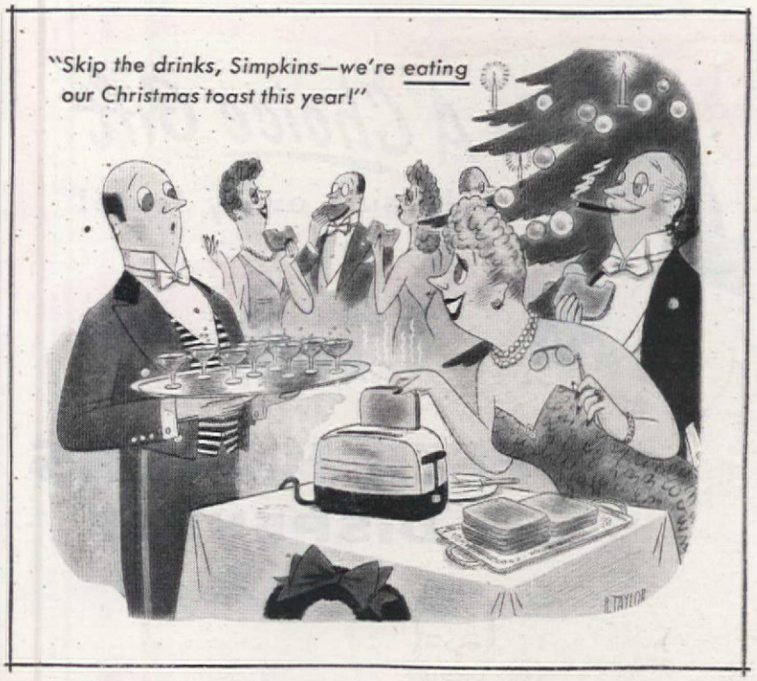
GOOD WILL AND GOOD CHEER

Anna Berg and Geneva Smith



Photograph by F. M. Demarest

Cotton & rayon damask tablecloth, Lutfy Bros. Dress of DuPont rayon, designed by Ceil Chapman. Lucite punch bowl—Hunton Plastics Co., Lucite individual trays, Neo Designs. China, Tree of Life, Gladding, McBean & Co. Snowmen—Sun Glo Studios. Lazy Susan hors d'oeuvres tray, Yorkville Craftsmen. Storybook dolls, Nancy Ann Dressed Dolls. Sylkglass—Radiant Glass Fibre Corp. Silver compote—Wallace Silversmiths. Silver cigarette box and individual ash trays—Georg Jensen. Mayfair silverplate lighters by Ronson. Christmas tree balls—Max Eckardt & Sons, Inc. Tree & table decoration lights by Noma Electric Corp. and Sylvania Electric Products, Inc. (Fluorescent)



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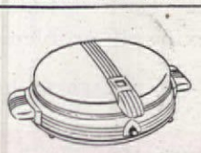

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The Club Coffee Dispenser holds 3 pounds, dispenses just enough for one cup at each flip of the lever. $3.00

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THIS CHRISTMAS give year-round coffee pleasure—with a coffee maker you know will please! Club Glass Coffee Makers give them coffee the way they like it best—whether it's drip, perc or vac! And the handy Club Coffee Dispenser measures out the "makings" neatly, accurately . . . for uniformly good coffee!

See the attractive Club Glass Coffee Makers and the handy Club Coffee Dispenser at your favorite retailer's today. They solve many perplexing gift problems.

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Club Glass COFFEE MAKERS

In most leading housewares departments. Ask to see the new Club Glass Tea Kettle, Tea Pot and Double Boiler

pipe. They have to hunt for their gifts hidden about the room."

For our Christmas buffet table setting, we banked the walls behind the table with pine boughs, lined with a few strings of Christmas lights. We covered the lower section with Sylkglass (spun fiber glass), a fireproof material, pliable, safe, and giving the appearance of snow, and arranged like a snowdrift against the boughs in back. Two snowmen were placed on either side of the sleigh centerpiece, and filled with dolls for the guests. We used two types of lighting strings: one with patented berry bead which holds lamp in position. Washers are provided to keep lamp tight, and insulate socket from metallic decorations. The fluorescent lamps need no special auxiliary equipment to operate. You can plug a complete string of fluorescent tree lights into extension socket of string of incandescent lights, or you can buy separate fluorescent bulbs and insert them into a string of incandescent lights, provided the latter operate individually. Since they burn cool, the new lamps help retard drying of tree.

The frame for the tree is chicken wire, rolled cone shape. A pole may be placed in the center and inserted in a stand, or the bottom of the cone can rest on the floor. With lights strung around wire frame, cover it with Sylkglass, which comes in various colors—white, green, red, blue.

Serve refreshments simply, in buffet style. Foods of many nations should be on the menu. The delicacies should be colorful, but simple—preferably dainty finger-foods, which are exquisite to eye and taste buds, and fun to eat. If you serve individual English mincemeat pies or plum puddings, you might top them with a lump of sugar moistened with lemon extract. Set it afire, and it will produce a lovely bluish flame, and a heavenly odor.

Geneva Smith suggests an attractive idea for table and food display: "On a long table covered with a white linen cloth, place a large, round metal container. Fill with sparkling cracked ice—not ice cubes—and bank greenery around the edge. In the center, sunk into the ice, is a large ruby glass bowl filled with your favorite Christmas punch, and around the bowl, ruby cups. White candles in silver holders decorate each end of the table. We had three silver trays filled with olives, assorted crackers, and tiny homemade cookies."

Conclude your party with the burning of the yule log, and the singing of Christmas carols. Prepare the yule log in advance. Bore holes at irregular intervals in a large log. Fill these with a powder (obtainable at any drug store) which produces colored effects when burning. Seal the holes with paper until ready to light. When it is time for the yule log burning, turn off the room lights, and your guests will be enchanted by the unusual, colorful display of Christmas fireworks. And I'm sure your party will be a tremendous success.

—Why Not Buy an EXTRA Package?

Why let an unforeseen headache spoil your plans . . . Interfere with your work? Keep an EXTRA package of Alka-Seltzer in your purse or car. Drop a tablet or two into a glass of water. Let it dissolve . . . drink it and presto! Relief can be yours in a hurry! Remember Alka-Seltzer also helps ease muscular aches and pains, helps relieve an upset stomach and the discomforts of a cold. Next time you visit your drug store why not . . . "Buy 2 packages instead of one?"

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FOR PANCAKES—AND FOR LUSCIOUS SWEET DESSERTS, TOO!
THIS WONDERFUL NEW-TYPE SYRUP MADE FROM CORN

America now offers you an outstanding food discovery. A new type of sweetener, the finest ever developed, for many household uses.

It's really sweet. Sweet enough to do things with. Sweet enough to give you all the luscious sweet desserts and mousses and frozen custards you want.

It isn't a substitute. It isn't a "stretcher". It's something new that stands on its own. The name is Sweetose. You use it just *as is*.

Thousands of women, who have tried Sweetose, prefer it to sugar for many uses.

It blends easily, mixes well, and gives a really satisfying sweetness.

Sweetose is a new type of syrup made from corn. But not like any corn syrup you ever tasted before. It's new! It's patented! It's a basic invention! You owe it to yourself to try it.

So let us send you some new, modern recipes for eleven luscious desserts—husky desserts that men and boys just love! All made with this wonderful new-type syrup made from corn.

Just fill in and send the coupon to us today ... you will be glad you did. A. E. Staley Mfg. Co., Decatur, Illinois.

A. E. Staley Mfg. Co., Dept. A-12
P. O. Box 1091, Decatur, Ill.

Gentlemen: Please send me free, your recipes for eleven luscious desserts made with your patented new-type syrup, Sweetose. Also other information about this new food discovery.

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... *State* .....

Sweetose... It's Really Sweet!*

*"Sweetose" is a trade-mark of the A. E. Staley Mfg. Co., Decatur, Illinois, registered in the U. S. Pat. Off.

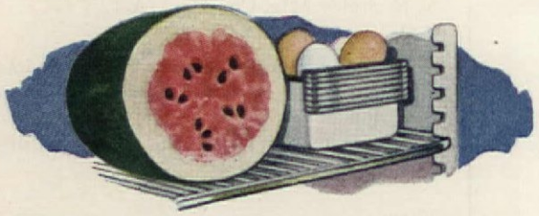
New Greater

STORES A BUSHEL OF FROZEN FOODS

It's a wonderful new refrigerator! It's a big frozen food locker! *Both in one!* Now the famous silent Servel Gas Refrigerator brings you the finest in modern food storage to save you hours of marketing time—make every meal more exciting!

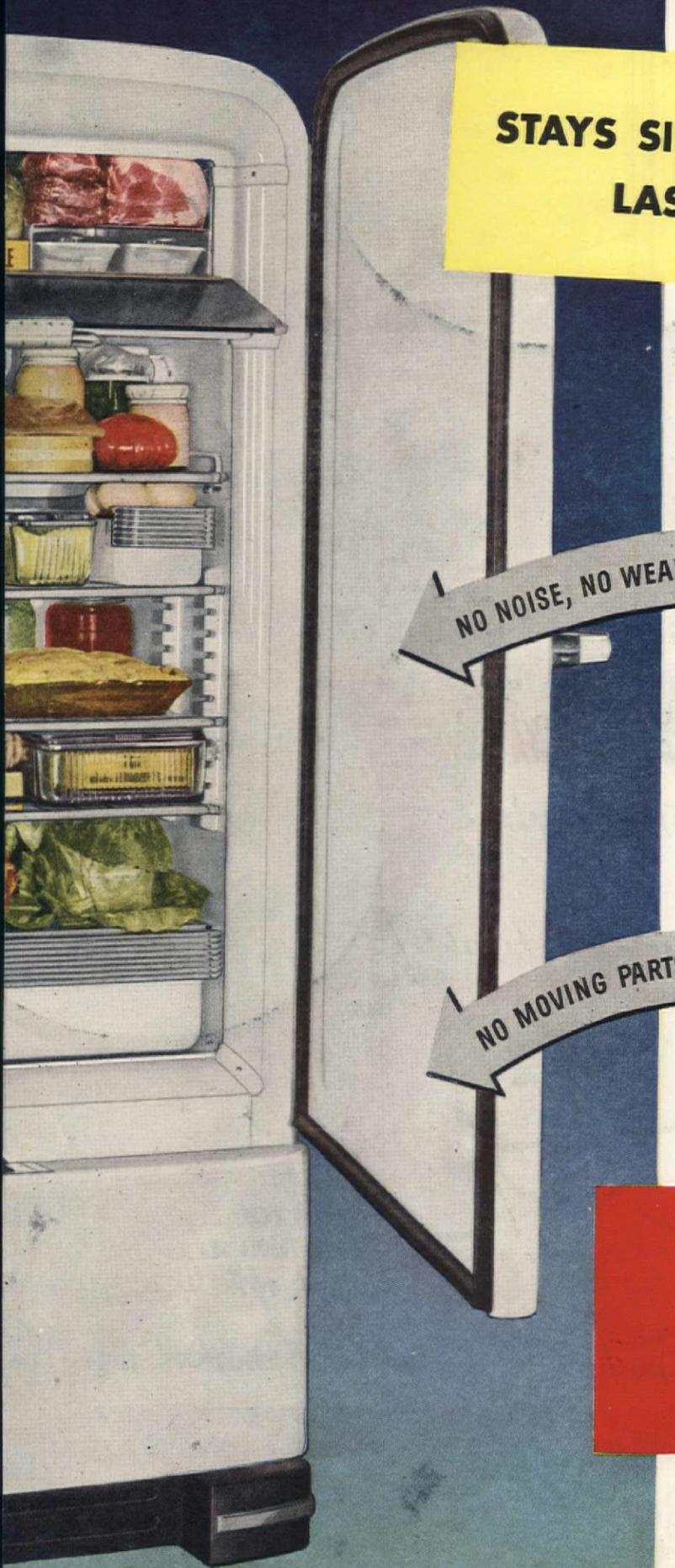
Up to 60 packages of frozen foods (standard size) fit easily into Servel's big family-size Frozen Food Locker. You can keep roasts, chickens, fish, vegetables, fruits, ice creams—even frozen cakes, biscuits, pie—ready to serve the year round. You can shop far ahead, store foods frozen for months, if you wish. And Servel's big ice trays hold plenty of sparkling ice cubes—easy to get at.

Two dew-action fresheners in Servel actually crisp up your garden vegetables, keep fruits fresh. And meats stay tender for days in the generous Servel meat keeper. You can market less often for all perishable foods—knowing they'll stay appetizing and safe in your Servel Gas Refrigerator.



You've extra roominess, too, in the new 1947 Servel—thanks to its flexible interior arrangement. The big clear-across shelves adjust to eleven different positions, so it's easy to store even a big turkey or a mammoth watermelon. Shelves are Plastic Coated by a special Servel process with the most durable rust- and scratch-resistant finish ever developed for refrigerator shelves.

Servel for 1947



STAYS SILENT . . . LASTS LONGER

Tops in new convenience, the new 1947 Servel Gas Refrigerator is tops in silent, worry-free performance, too. It has the famous freezing system without a single moving part. No wonder more than 2,000,000 happy owners report, "Servel stays silent, lasts longer!"

NO NOISE, NO WEAR

Yes, it's silent—forever. You'll never hear a sound from your Servel Gas Refrigerator. No hum of stopping or starting. And silence means no wear, no loss of efficiency. Year in, year out, Servel will give you the same dependable, noise-free service it did when new.

NO MOVING PARTS

Just a small gas burner takes the place of machinery in the amazingly simple Servel Gas Refrigerator. Its heat circulates the refrigerant that produces constant cold and cubes of ice. There's no motor, valves, pistons or pumps. Only Servel brings you this different, simpler freezing system with no moving parts.

Servel

The GAS Refrigerator

Your Gas Company and neighborhood dealer *will soon have the new 1947 Servel Gas Refrigerators on display. (For farm and country homes, Servel runs also on Bottled Gas, Tank Gas, or Kerosene. For information write Servel, Inc., Evansville 20, Ind. Or if you live in Canada, write Servel Ltd., 457 King St., W., Toronto 1, Ont.)*

Christ is born in Bethlehem!

12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Esther Foley

SPARKLE and glitter, laughter and light surround Christmas. These are gifts, intensified in value by the memories of many Christmas seasons. Each year the cool whiff from the prickly pine bough comes as a dearer thing. The rustle of crisp gift-wrapping has a sweeter sound. The demands on both time and strength are much more easily met, and excitement takes complete charge of life for the time being.

But underneath any new excitement is the steady, warm, ever recurring excitement that each year is set in motion by the fragrance of holiday food. Cookies, candy, fruit cake, plain food in fancy guise, the perfume of roasting turkey, or beef, the sharp aroma of sage and onion, give substance to sudden spurts of joy. Such foods are very deeply set in the idea of Christmas feasting. How far back goes the remembered fragrance of fruit cake baking in the oven? How strong is the ghost-perfume of tangerines, glacé fruit, ginger cookies?

THE AMERICAN HOME tree is heavy this year with the gift of recipes. Each one is a pattern for a traditional holiday dish, and each one calls for as little fat as is consistent with quality, and for a minimum amount of sugar. These foods glitter proudly on our pages, sure of their worth. They are designed to carry a family safely through the twelve days of Christmas . . . from the 25th of December to the eve of January 6th. And, because the celebration really starts the 24th in the quiet of Christmas Eve, for one day more. The most important foods deserve first mention. Let's begin with those pictured on the tree-page.

Steamed fruit cake is a moist cake, close fruited, easily sliced. Wrapped well in wax paper, and kept in a tightly covered tin box, this cake increases in tenderness and flavor. But it does not have to be made far ahead of time and then left months to ripen. It is at its best made the week before the great day, carefully cooled, wrapped, and used as needed.

The ***crabmeat tree appetizer*** can introduce any meal between Christmas and Twelfthtide. Self-service makes its intricate attraction a conversation piece. Care in cutting the avocado will enhance the grace of the swags that are "tree-trim." Peel, rather than pare, the fruit after pitting, and cut crosswise in thin slices. Turn each slice at once in lemon juice to prevent darkening.

Cranberry delight is a bridge dessert and should be brought in on a long dish and sliced and served in the sight of all. This gay version of the baked Alaska is best made with plain vanilla ice cream, as it will contrast well in color and flavor with the sharpness of the berry frosting. A sponge cake layer or lady fingers form the best base, but vanilla Christmas cookies or vanilla wafers or a thin strip of pastry will do as well.

A jellied-meat salad, when set on a red or white plate and garnished with water cress and large stuffed olives, is absolutely the most attractive way of using bits of leftover turkey or roast when meat must be stretched into a dish with a party air. Neatly and with dignity, gelatin gives form to that which has none, and flavor, too, if the jell is made from stock.

Christmas supper is always a hard meal for the little ones. They can't bear to go away to bed, yet they cannot stay up for-

◆ steamed raisin pudding

◆ cranberry orange relish

◆ cheer filled cider

Mugs and Jug, Purinton Slip Ware
Sauce Dish, California Petal Ware
Relish Dish, Southern Potteries
Candles by Emkay, Will and Baumer
Christmas Paper by Gala Giftwraps
Photographs by F. M. Demarest

CHRISTMAS SUPPER

Jellied Chicken *Sliced Tomatoes*
Bread Sticks *Butter*
Stewed Fruit
Cookies *Tea with Lemon*

◆ steamed raisin pudding

Preparation time: 1¼ hours

1 egg, beaten
½ cup molasses
½ cup milk
1 tsp. baking soda
2 tbs. melted butter or margarine
½ cup raisins
1 cup sifted flour
1 tsp. vanilla flavor

COMBINE egg and molasses. Stir in milk, in which soda has been dissolved. Add butter and raisins. Stir in flour until batter is smooth, then add vanilla. Turn into a greased mold, cover and steam 1 hour. Turn out onto serving plate and serve with hard sauce or any desired pudding sauce.

Serves 6 ***182 cal. per serving*** ***Source of vitamins A, B complex***

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

◆ cranberry orange relish

Preparation time: 20 min.

1 medium-sized orange
1 can cranberry sauce

WASH orange well, cut in slices and put through food grinder. Break up sauce, stir in ground orange. Put in serving dish and chill from 1 hour to overnight, before serving. If fresh berries are at hand, wash and pick over 2 cups of berries (about ½ lb.). Put through the food grinder, mix with the ground orange and add 1 cup of sugar, or ½ cup sugar and ½ cup light corn syrup. Store in the refrigerator.

Serves 6 ***81 cal. per serving*** ***Source of vitamin C***

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

◆ cheer filled cider

Preparation time: 20 min.

¼ cup firmly packed brown sugar
Dash of salt
1 tsp. whole cloves
1 tsp. whole allspice
3 sticks cinnamon
Grating of nutmeg
2 qts. sweet cider

COMBINE sugar, salt and spices. Add cider and bring very slowly to boiling point. Strain into warmed pitcher and cool to drinking temperature with additional sweet cider. Serve in warmed mugs or heavy cups.

Serves 8-10

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

ever. Plan a good-night meal just for them and present our **Santa-supper plate** of peas and mashed potatoes.

In fact all the days of the Christmas season present menu problems. Rich food must be balanced by leafy foods, fruit and whole-grain bread. Time must be saved and it is an element that can be stretched by planning. The following pages carry many feast day menu suggestions for your convenience.

For their gaiety and charm these meals feature Christmas cookies. With coffee at breakfast, with fruit or ice cream at lunch or dinner, for nibbles in between, no other holiday food fits the cheerful mood of this time nearly as well. Christmas cookies are almost as old as Christmas itself. Way back in 1563 mention of them is made in English history. It is recorded that "Simnel cakes are small cakes which could not be refused to children who came asking for them on Christmas morning."

The Christmas cookies we have today date from that time . . . and each one has the characteristics given by the foods available in the country of its origin. If eggs were plentiful, the mixture was leavened by long beating of eggs and sugar, as in the famous Anise drops, which were first made in Germany.

Our recipe for Tree cookies originated in Hungary. They are as rich a concoction as can well be made in this year of scarce fat. Hungary and Austria use the "pie crust" method of mixing doughs and batters to advantage, and a light, cool touch is needed for perfect results. The cookies must be carefully watched during baking, especially if rolled very thin, as they brown quickly.

Our Hermit recipe is strictly American, though the basic recipe could have originated in any of the countries surrounding the Alps. Cookies very like our Hermits in flavor and texture can be found in these countries, the recipes calling for honey, or almonds, or figs, and leavened with eggs. But our version is American because our markets make it possible to say "nutmeats," and any one of the many nuts available can be used. Our markets make it possible to use raisins, currants, chopped dates or figs, whichever is best liked. And the mix is leavened with baking powder in place of many eggs. Drop the batter in large or small spoonfuls, bake and cool cookies completely before storing them in a stone crock or jar. They will keep a long time.

Different kinds of cookies should be stored separately. Place thin, crispy ones in tin containers. Heavy, soft cookies keep best in stone crocks or jars. Light-colored cookies must be kept separately from dark, spicy ones, or there will be an interchange of flavors, not at all agreeable. Spongy kinds of cookies, such as the Anise drops, should be carefully packed in layers of wax paper to preserve their delicate, crushable crystalline tops.

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Minced Clam Bisque
Carrot Sticks
Roast Beef or Roast Turkey
Browned Potatoes
Peas and Celery in Butter Sauce
Cranberry-Orange Relish
Fruit Cake *Fruit Bowl* *Coffee*

CHILDREN'S AFTERNOON PARTY.

Creamed Chicken
Toast Sticks, spread with Currant Jelly
**Steamed Raisin Pudding*
Hard Sauce
Milk

BUFFET SUPPER

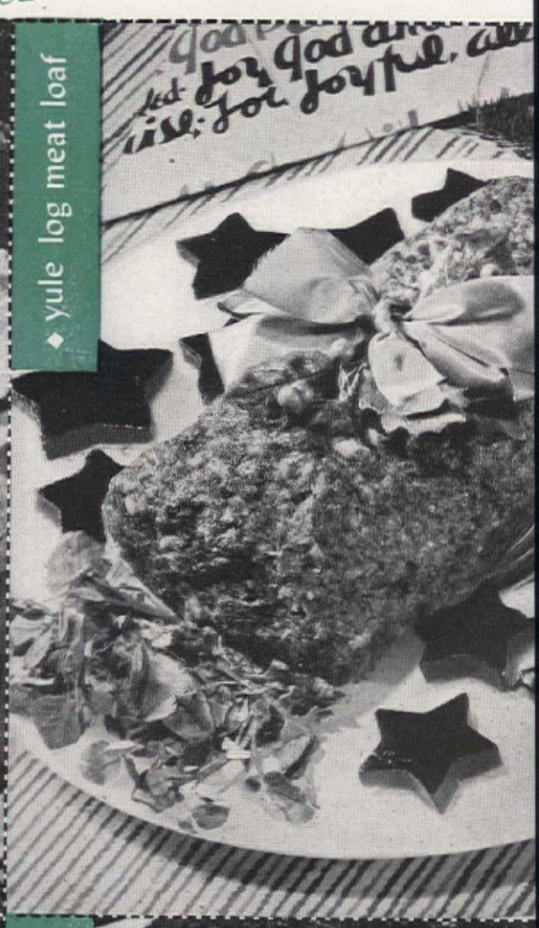
**Crabmeat Tree Appetizer*
Cold Turkey and Ham Platter
Mixed Pickles *Celery Curls*
Apple Betty with Cream
Coffee

THE DAY-AFTER DINNER

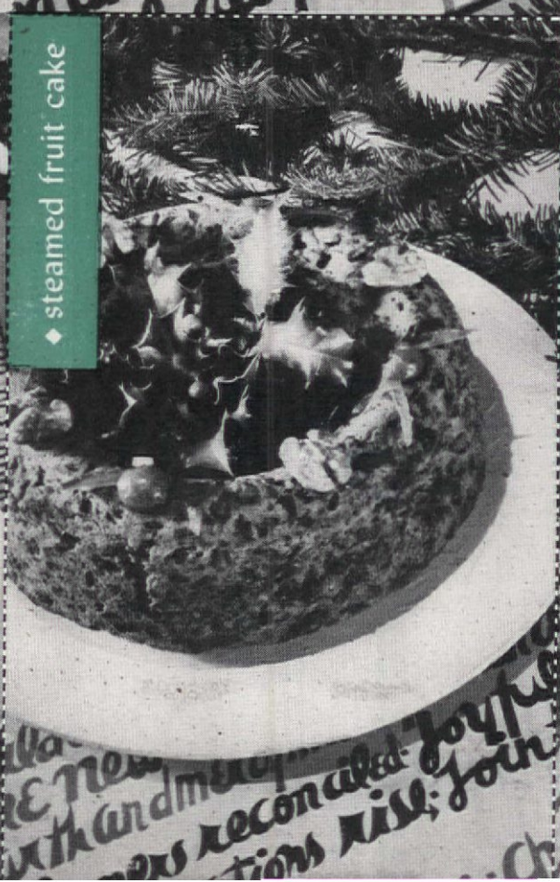
Vegetable Juice Cocktail
**Yule Log Meat Loaf* *Cranberry Stars*
Carrot and Carrot Slaw
Chilled Canned Peach Halves
Coffee

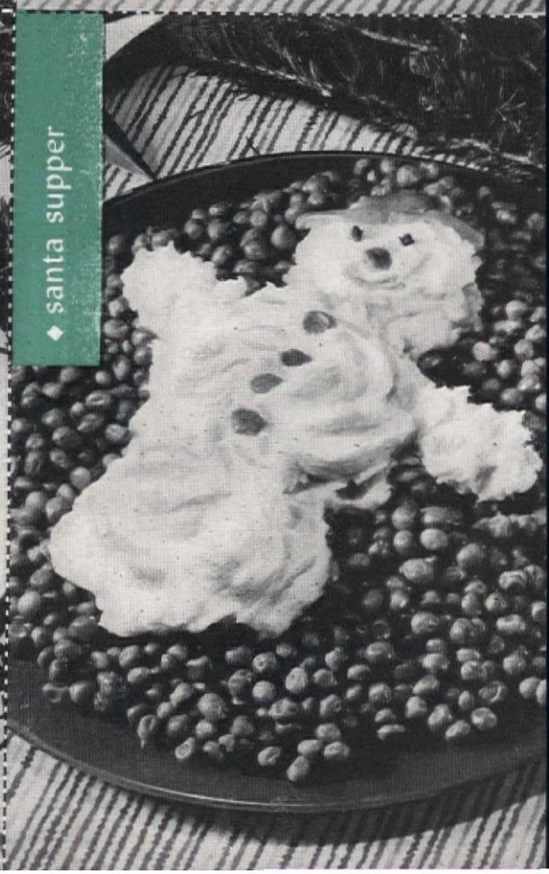
◆ jellied chicken salad

◆ crabmeat tree appetizer


◆ yule log meat loaf

◆ frosted cranberry delight


◆ steamed fruit cake


◆ santa supper

◆ santa supper

Preparation time: 20 min.

3 cups freshly cooked or canned peas
1 tbs. butter or margarine
1 tbs. finely grated onion
4 cups freshly mashed potatoes
Cloves
Pimiento

DRAIN peas. Sauté onion in butter until golden yellow. Add peas and toss until well glazed. Place potato on heated plate, and form it into the shape of Santa or a snowman. A round ball, about the size of a tennis ball will be the head. Shape the body with a spoon, working quickly, so that the potatoes will not cool. Arms and legs can be outlined roughly. Add a hat cut from pimiento, eyes of cloves, and nose, mouth and buttons of pimiento. Surround the white form with the green peas. This is effective on a red glass or china plate.

Serves 4 ***218 cal. per serving*** ***Source of vitamins A, B complex***

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

◆ yule log meat loaf

Preparation time: 1¼ hrs.

1 lb. ground beef
½ lb. ground veal
2 slices bacon, ground
½ cup fine, dry white-bread crumbs
2 tbs. grated onion
1 egg, slightly beaten
¼ cup milk
Salt and pepper
Dash of thyme

COMBINE meats in order given, mixing lightly and completely with a two-pronged fork. Add remaining ingredients and mix well. Adjust seasoning to suit taste. Form into a log shape, place in a shallow baking pan and bake in a moderate oven (350° F.) for 1 hour or until done. Serve on a platter and garnish with water cress and holly. Stars cut from cranberry jelly make a pleasing relish.

Serves 6 ***257 cal. per serving*** ***Source of vitamins A, B complex***

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

◆ steamed fruit cake

Preparation time: 1 hour

1 (7 oz.) pkg. seeded raisins
½ lb. citron
¼ lb. candied orange peel
¼ lb. candied lemon peel
1 (10½ oz.) pkg. pitted dates
½ lb. walnuts, chopped
2 cups sifted flour
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. baking powder
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 tsp. nutmeg
½ tsp. allspice
¾ cup shortening
¾ cup firmly packed brown sugar
4 eggs
¼ cup cider
¼ cup fruit juice

FRUITS and nuts should be cut very fine, then mixed well together. Mix and sift flour, salt, baking powder and spices and add half to the fruit. Cream shortening, blend in sugar and then add eggs, beating well after each addition. Stir in the remaining flour alternately with cider and fruit juice, mixing until smooth. Then stir in floured fruit. Stir until all traces of flour have been absorbed. Turn into well-greased ring mold, packing dough down firmly. Tie two thicknesses of paper over the top of the mold. Steam over boiling water 3 hours. Remove from steamer, turn from mold and cool. Wrap in paper and store. To use as a pudding, spoon a few tablespoons of juice over it and steam for an hour.

Serves 8-10 ***429 cal. per serving*** ***Source of vitamins A, B complex***

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

◆ crabmeat tree appetizer

Preparation time: 45 min.

4 cups flaked crabmeat
2 cups chopped celery
1 cup mayonnaise or boiled dressing
Salt and pepper
Dash of cayenne
1 ripe avocado
Pimiento
1 lemon

PICK over crabmeat removing all traces of bony tissue. Add celery and mayonnaise, then seasonings. Place on large serving plate, arranging it in the shape of a fir tree. At the tip, place a star cut from pimiento. Pare avocado, cut in half, remove seed, and cut each half in thin slices, crosswise. Dip in lemon juice to prevent darkening, then place these so that they appear to drape and so decorate the tree. Here and there place small circles, cut from pimiento, to heighten the effect of a trimmed tree. A trunk made by cutting a piece of avocado into a thick strip will complete the illusion.

Serves 6 ***461 cal. per serving*** ***Source of vitamins C and B complex***

Idea submitted by June Cochrane Ortgies

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

◆ frosted cranberry delight

Preparation time: 15 min.

THIS is a version of the favorite dessert baked Alaska. Use as a base any cake that is at hand—from fruit to sponge. Slice it into a base about 9 inches by 5 inches, and ¾ inch thick. On this place a quart brick of ice cream, or heap a mound of bulk ice cream. Over this spread a meringue made as follows: To 1 cup of canned cranberry jelly add 2 egg whites and a dash of salt. Whip until the mixture stands in peaks. Spread completely over ice-cream mound. Keep in refrigerator until ready to serve. Garnish, if desired, with thin red gelatin stars.

Tested in
THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

◆ jellied chicken salad

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

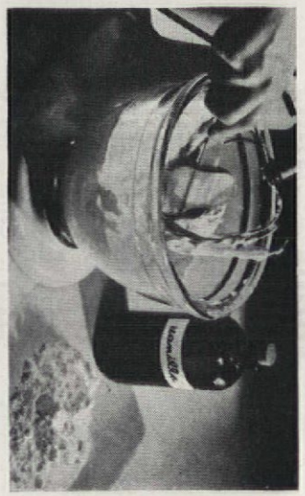
1 tbs. unflavored gelatin
¼ cup cold water
1 cup hot water or broth
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. sugar
3 tbs. lemon juice
½ cup finely chopped celery
¼ cup diced pimiento
1½ cups diced, cooked or canned chicken or turkey
½ cup mayonnaise (optional)

SOFTEN gelatin in cold water, and dissolve in hot water or in broth. Add seasonings and lemon juice. Cool. When mixture begins to thicken fold in remaining ingredients. Turn into star mold, which has been rinsed in cold water. Chill until firm. Unmold and garnish with stuffed olives and fresh water cress.

Serves 4-6 ***232 cal. per serving*** ***Source of vitamins A, C, B complex***

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

Keep mashed potatoes, when dinner is late, by making them quite moist



Cream cheese can be the basis for an inexpensive hard sauce. Add just a little cream and beat it to smooth whipped-cream fluffiness

Always serve gravy piping hot, and if the meat has cooled slightly, no adverse comment will come from critical late diners

NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

*Oyster Stew

Crackers with Paprika Cheese Carrot Sticks

Celery Curls

*Christmas Hermits

Coffee

OPEN HOUSE

*Cheer-filled Cider

Popcorn White Bread Sandwiches

Marmalade Bran Bread Sandwiches

*Plate of Tree Cookies

Salted Nuts Candies

SUNDAY SUPPER

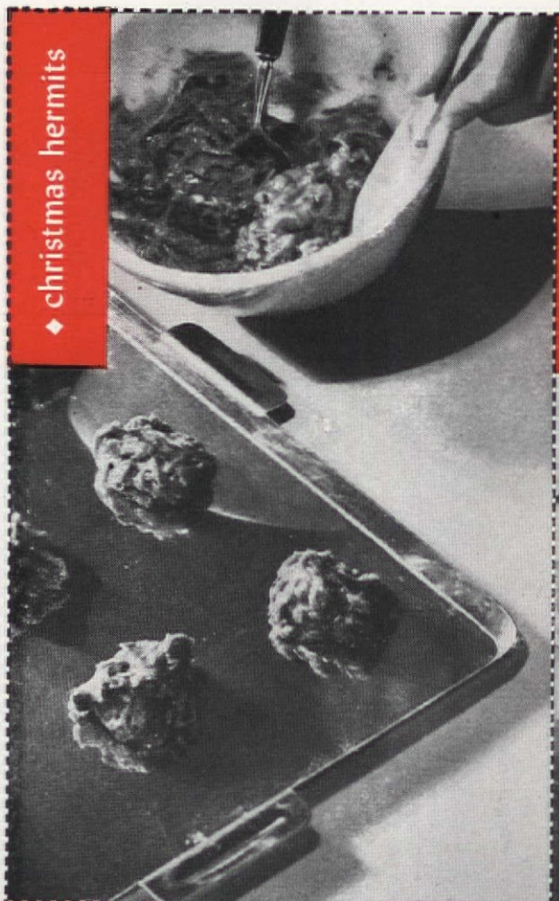
*Macaroni with Cheese Sauce

Broiled Sausage

Muffins Jelly

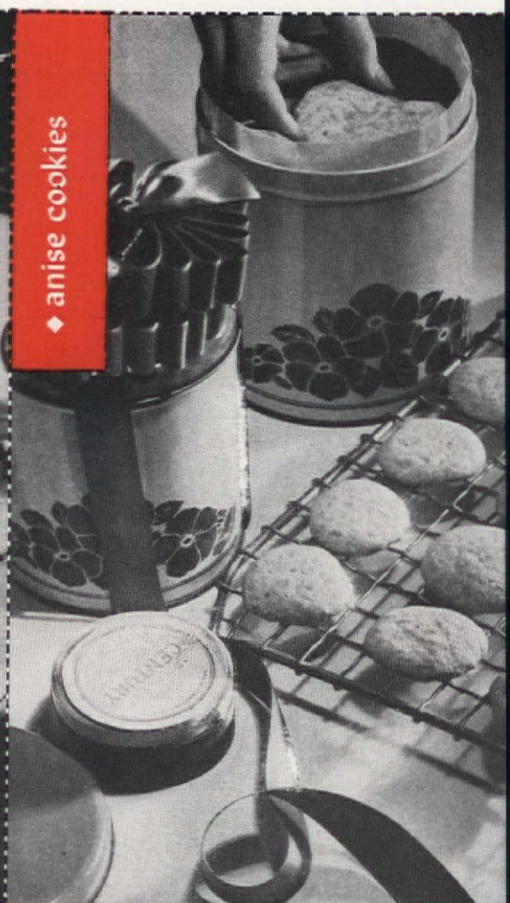
*Wreath Salad

Coffee or Tea

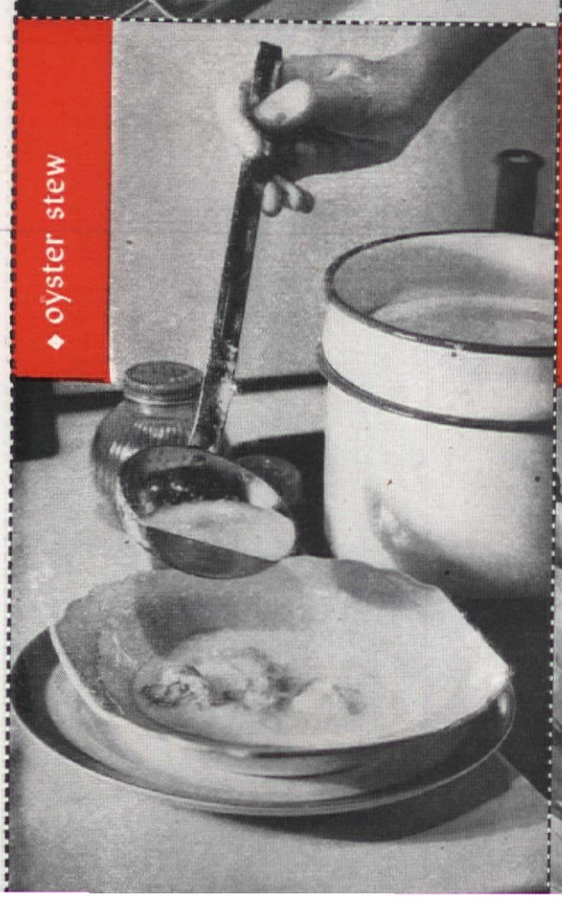


◆ christmas hermits

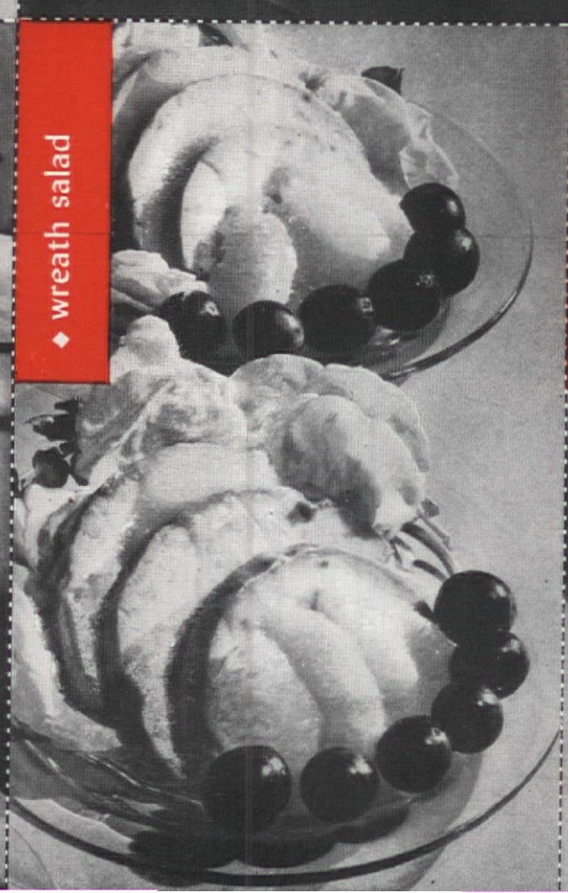
◆ tree cookies



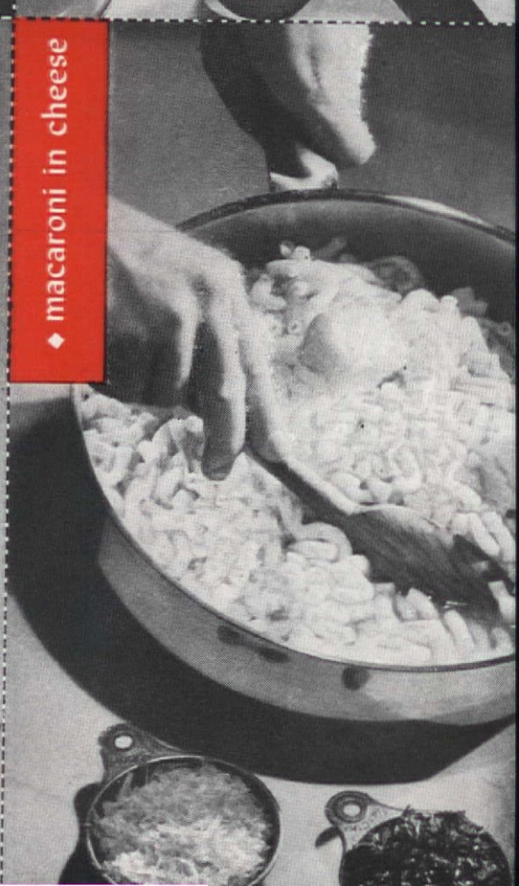
◆ anise cookies



◆ oyster stew



◆ wreath salad



◆ macaroni in cheese

◆ macaroni in cheese

Preparation time: 25 min.

1 (8 oz.) pkg. macaroni or spaghetti
¼ cup butter or margarine
½ cup grated cheese
½ tsp. onion salt
½ tsp. Worcestershire sauce
Salt and pepper
2 tbs. coarsely cut parsley

Cook macaroni or spaghetti according to the directions on the package. It is best undercooked. Drain off all but ¼ cup of the water. Add butter and cheese and toss over low heat until macaroni is covered with smooth sauce of cheese, butter and water. Season with onion salt, Worcestershire sauce and salt and pepper to taste. Turn into serving dish and garnish with a generous sprinkling of parsley.

Serves 4 ***339 cal. per serving*** ***Source of vitamins A, B complex***

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

◆ anise cookies

Preparation time: 45 min. (stands overnight)

3 eggs
1 cup sugar (fine)
1½ to 2 cups sifted flour
½ tsp. baking powder
1 tbs. anise seed

Beat eggs until very light, add sugar slowly, beating well, and then continue beating in electric mixer at slow speed for 20 minutes, stirring down the bowl with a scraper at least three times. Sift flour with baking powder and add anise seed. Add to egg mixture. Beat at low speed 5 minutes. Drop about an inch apart from a teaspoon onto baking pans that have been well greased and lightly floured, let stand overnight to dry out. Then bake in a moderate oven (350° F.) 10 minutes or until light gold in color. Remove from pans at once and cool. Keep in a tightly closed tin box.

Yield: 5 doz. cookies ***25 cal. per cookie*** ***Source of vitamins A, B complex***

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

When measuring molasses or any sticky substance, grease the cup or spoon very lightly to obtain accurate measurements

◆ wreath salad

Preparation time: 30 min.

2 medium grapefruits
2 medium avocados
1 cup Tokay grapes
Water cress
Orange dressing

Pare the grapefruit and cut into sections. Pare the avocados, remove the seed and cut in ¼ inch slices. Arrange the lettuce or other greens on salad plates and place 3-4 grapefruit sections and avocado slices on each plate. Garnish with a few grapes and sprigs of watercress. Place the salad plates on a round side table to form a huge wreath. Decorate with a large red bow at top of wreath. Serve with salad dressing made as follows: Combine 2 tbs. sugar, 1 tbs. flour, ½ tsp. dry mustard, ½ tsp. salt and a dash of paprika. Add ½ cup orange juice, 2 tbs. lemon juice and ½ cup water, mixing well. Cook over low heat or over hot water, stirring constantly until thickened. Remove from heat and stir in 2 tbs. butter. Chill. If necessary, thin with additional orange juice before serving.

Makes 8 salads ***277 cal. per salad*** ***Source of vitamins A, C, B complex***

Idea submitted by June Cochrane Ortgies

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

◆ tree cookies

Preparation time: 30 min. (1-2 hrs. to chill)

2½ cups sifted flour
½ tsp. baking powder
1 cup sugar
1 cup butter or margarine
2 eggs
1½ tsp. vanilla flavor

Mix and sift flour, baking powder and sugar. Sift again. Cut in butter as for pastry until very finely divided. Add slightly beaten eggs (reserve one white for brushing), and vanilla. Work mixture lightly but persistently, until a smooth dough is made. Chill 1 or 2 hours. Take a small amount at a time and roll thin on a lightly floured board. Cut in any shapes desired. Place on ungreased baking sheet and bake in a moderately hot oven (375° F.) 5 to 7 minutes or until done. To sugar-glaze, brush while hot with beaten egg white and sprinkle with sugar immediately.

Yield: 5 doz. thin cookies ***57 cal. per cookie*** ***Source of vitamins A, B complex***

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

A fancy cutter that is very dry and flour-dipped will insure a clearly patterned, cookie edge after baking, even on soft dough

◆ oyster stew

Preparation time: 20 min.

1 qt. oysters, fresh or frozen
2 tbs. butter or margarine
¾ cup cold water
1 qt. milk, scalded
2 tsp. salt
Dash of pepper
Paprika

Pick over oysters and remove any bits of shell. Melt butter in skillet, add oysters and turn in warm butter. Then add oyster liquor or water and bring to a simmering point. Remove oysters with a slotted spoon and place in hot milk. Add seasonings to oyster liquor and strain into milk. Top with a sprinkle of paprika and a bit of additional butter, if desired.

Serves 6 ***171 cal. per serving*** ***Source of vitamins A, B complex***

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

◆ christmas hermits

Preparation time: 30 min.

½ cup sugar
¼ cup shortening (half lard and half butter)
¼ cup molasses
¼ cup lukewarm water
½ tsp. baking soda
1½ cups sifted flour
½ tsp. cloves
½ tsp. cinnamon
½ tsp. salt
½ cup raisins or dates, cut fine
½ cup chopped nuts
1 egg, beaten

Combine sugar and shortening, creaming until smooth. Stir in molasses, then water in which soda has been dissolved. Mix and sift flour with spices and salt. Add to molasses mixture, stirring until smooth. Add fruit and nuts, then egg, mixing only until blended. Drop on lightly greased baking sheet and bake in moderate oven (350° F.) 10-12 minutes or until done. Cool, and store in a stone crock.

Yield: 36 cookies ***65 cal. per cookie*** ***Source of vitamins A, B complex***

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

Any canned fish can be mixed with a white sauce, brought to flavor heights with onion salt. Result, a quick lunch for one or six

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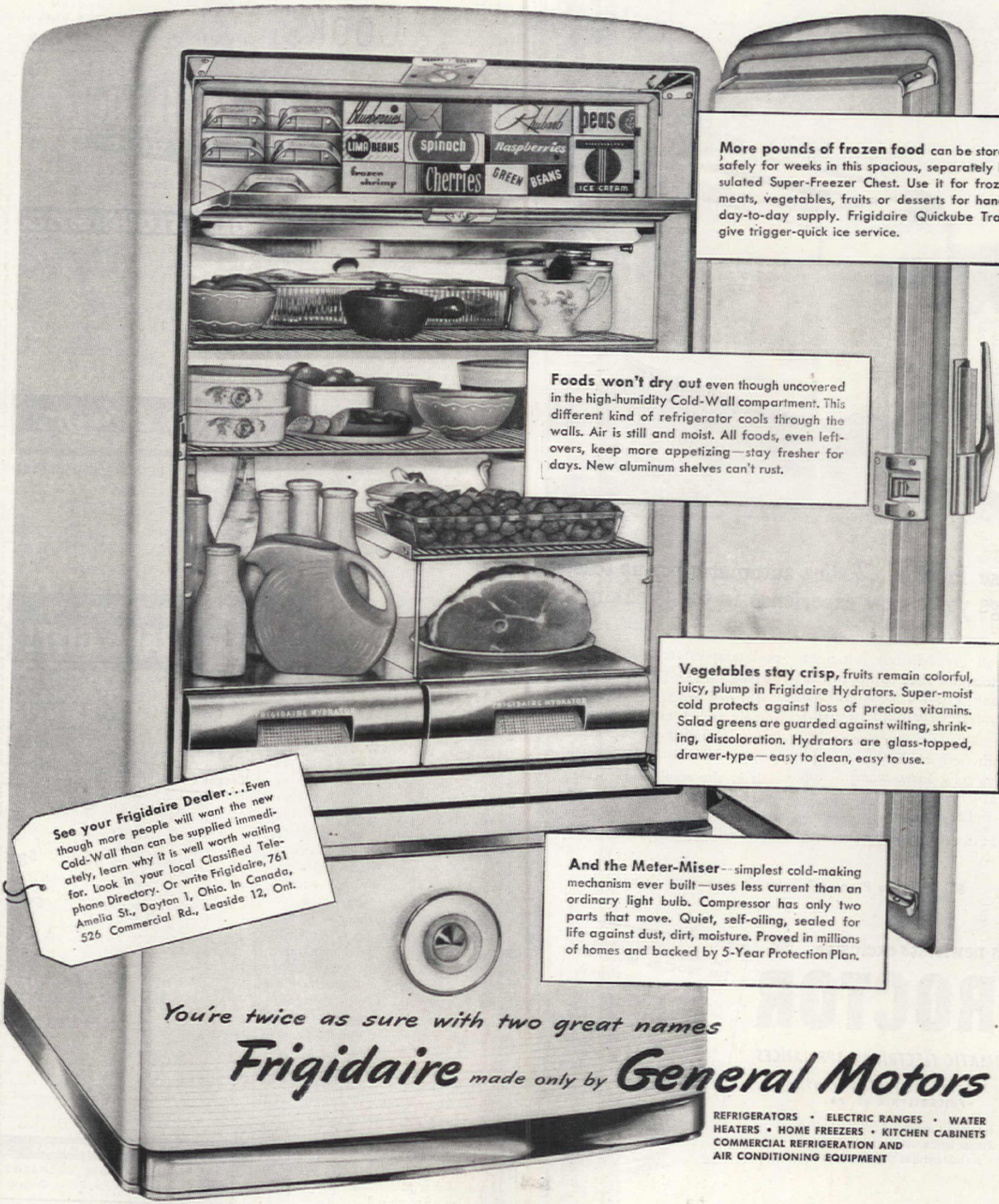

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Many Merry Cooks

Esther Foley

ON Christmas morning the kitchen is the busiest room in the house. The turkey is in the oven and the baby is underfoot. The celery is curling in the ice water and father moans the loss of ice cubes. Sonny pretends to be occupied with his new toy, but he keeps peeking into the oven, and grabbing at the fruit bowl.

No force is going to keep the family out of the kitchen when the fragrance, the warmth, the glow of it draws them there. But a well-laid plan can make kibitzers useful. Christmas can be a day when many cooks mean less work for mother.

Does Suzy like to set the table? Does father like to preside over the first course? Do the children like to curl celery and shell peas? Is the new daughter-in-law a specialist in salads or in holiday canapes?

Then, start this minute to plan a menu that will use all the talent in the family. Reserve for yourself the pleasure of cooking the turkey, knowing full well that if the turkey is good the dinner is good. But farm all the other work out. Assign a definite space in the kitchen to each worker, provide utensils for the work, and directions for cleaning up. Constant supervision will be necessary to regulate traffic, but you would be there anyhow so it's no matter.

Actual work on the plan begins the day the best china is taken from the top shelf, the silver cleaned, the glassware removed from its protecting tissue, wrinkles pressed from the linens, a bowl selected for the centerpiece. Place all this together. Mark it "Suzy," and forget about the table.

Let the man of the house decide on the appetizer, and arrange with him for easy access to any dishes necessary, and give him an isolated spot in the pantry where he can prepare the fruit cup or shrimp or vegetable juice. Then plan the menu. Soup perhaps? This depends on the appetites of the family, and on the complications a soup service can cause in a large group in a maidless household. But if there is a daughter quick of hand and light of foot to remove cups and spoons, plan on soup. Select one mild in flavor, moderately thick, such as clam bisque. This will keep hot without harm in a double boiler for an hour or more and is no kitchen problem. As you decide on each dish, select the recipes from the Menu Maker and reread them. Then the order of work will complete itself

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MVP Shelf PAPER

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Gift Box No. 15 Similar, but 21-24 pears. **$5.65**

NOT SOLD IN STORES

All shipments prepaid. U.S. only. No charge or C.O.D.

Arrival in perfect condition guaranteed. Supply of these rare fruits is limited. We must *receive* Christmas orders by Dec. 1—already they're pouring in. So, by *wire* or *airmail*—

ORDER NOW FOR CHRISTMAS

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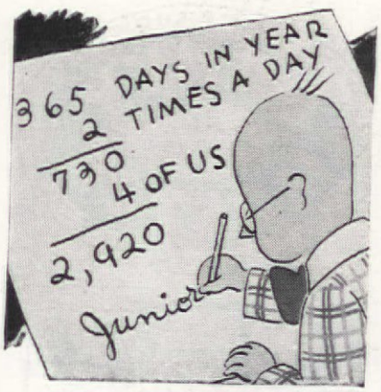

Junior figured this one out . . .

he's a regular "quiz kid"—always figuring things—papa and mama and sister Jane were surprised to learn from his calculations that together they brush their teeth 2,920 times a year. Papa said, "Whew! that takes a lot of dentifrice". Mama said, "Lucky we discovered that Arm & Hammer Baking Soda is pure Bicarbonate of Soda". Sister Jane said, "That's the dentifrice our dentist told us to use." Junior said, "It sure cleans teeth, and pop, are we saving money—why a package of Arm & Hammer lasts us for weeks—and it costs just a few pennies".

Arm & Hammer Baking Soda and Cow Brand Baking Soda are among the dentifrices that meet the exacting requirements of the American Dental Association's Council on Dental Therapeutics. Both are classified among the Council's "accepted" dentifrices.

Accepted COUNCIL on DENTAL THERAPEUTICS AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION

ARM & HAMMER BAKING SODA OR COW BRAND BAKING SODA

CHURCH & DWIGHT CO., Inc.
10 Cedar Street, New York 5, N.Y.

Please send me FREE BOOK describing uses of Baking Soda; also a set of Colored Bird Cards.

This offer good only in the United States

Please print W-48

Name_____

Street Address_____

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in your mind and the grocery list can be made out in advance.

Three days before Christmas get in the staples. The day before shop for all the perishables, the salads and the fruits. Also on this day, check the amount of extra milk and cream, coffee, tea and carbonated beverages that will be required for the holiday and fill the refrigerator.

An uncooked turkey or chicken should not be kept in the house more than two days. The order for it can be placed as far ahead as the butcher demands, but the bird should reach the house at the last possible moment for its leisurely preparation. Late in the day, two days before Christmas is a good time. Wrap the bird in clean paper and store in the refrigerator until time can be found to work on it. This year turkeys will be in every market in some form, but which of the many sizes will appear in any one market is difficult to say.

Market dressed turkeys or chickens are weighed with the head and feet on, picked, but not drawn. The butcher should draw them, cut off the head, and clean the giblets.

Full Drawn or Eviscerated birds are cleaned entirely and sold all ready to wash and cook. The cleaned giblets are stored in the cavity, wrapped in wax paper. Such birds are marketed unfrozen or quick-frozen. If frozen, 24 hours in a household refrigerator are required to defrost to the right degree to allow stuffing and trussing. Half of very large turkeys—split lengthwise, are available in some markets. Any of these will roast well when handled properly. And since you, the woman of the house, will be responsible for this course, exact directions should be on the tip of your tongue. Allow 1 hour for cleaning. First, collect scissors, sharp knife, clean cheesecloth and tweezers on a tray and sit down comfortably at a table.

Place bird on a piece of wrapping paper and with the tweezers or a small knife, take out all pin feathers. Then singe, holding bird over a high gas flame, or put it under broiler heat for a minute or two, turning to burn off all hairs. Then wash well with a clean, damp cloth. If necessary, scrub with a small brush, gently, so as not to break the skin. Cut out the oil sack which is just above the tail. Rinse the cavity by holding bird under cold running water. When the water runs clear, drain well and dry well inside and out. Remove any excess fat from vent opening, and cut away any discolored skin. Slit neck skin down the back to where the neck joins the body. Cut off neck bone at this point, leaving the skin intact, and remove windpipe and any excess fat which clings to neck skin.

Wrap the bird well in wax paper and place in refrigerator until the stuffing is ready. Stuffing is not necessary to the birds appearance, and an unstuffed bird will roast very well. But stuffing is a Christmas delicacy, and the odor of sage and onion is part of the family dinner

Try these delicious BRAZIL NUT desserts . . .

save on shortening sugar and flour

—says Kernel Nut of Brazil

Yes, Brazil Nuts are back at your grocer's. Let their large, delicious, crunchy kernels help you solve your dessert problem. You see, Brazil Nuts have a natural oil content of 66%—which is why you can make a marvelous Brazil Nut cake and pie crust with *no shortening—no flour—and very little sugar.* Brazil Nuts are so wholesome and nourishing, too. Their protein content is complete. And they are one of the richest of all sources for Vitamin B1.

BRAZIL NUT CAKE

Made without shortening or flour

RECIPE

2 cups finely crushed Brazil Nuts — 1 cup sugar
¼ teaspoon salt — 6 eggs, separated

Spread shelled Brazil Nuts on a baking sheet and bake 10 or 12 minutes in a moderate oven (350°F.) Remove from oven, cool, and roll as fine as possible with a rolling pin. Combine Brazil Nuts, sugar and salt. Beat egg yolks until thick and lemon colored, add Brazil Nut mixture. Beat egg whites until stiff but not dry; fold carefully into first mixture. Bake in a greased tube pan (8½ inches) lined with buttered wax paper in slow oven (325°F.) for one hour. Invert until cold and remove from pan. Makes 8½ inch cake.

BRAZIL NUT PIE CRUST

No shortening or flour—only 3 tablespoons sugar

RECIPE

1½ cups ground Brazil Nuts — 3 tablespoons sugar

Mix Brazil Nuts with the sugar in 8-inch pie plate. Press mixture with palm of hand against pie plate. Fill with your favorite chocolate, lemon, cream or custard filling, and chill.

TOASTED BRAZIL NUTS

You'll love toasted Brazil Nuts. Just heat nuts (in the shell) in a moderate oven for 15 minutes. Toasting gives them grand new flavor . . . and makes them easier to shell. Keep the nut bowl filled with Brazil Nuts. They are wonderful after meals or for nibbling any time.

Buy them in the shell, or shelled. Enjoy Brazils once more in your Mixed Nuts.

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atmosphere. Fill the cavity not more than 2/3 full as stuffing expands during cooking. Put lacing pins across the vent opening and lace with string. Tie ends of drumsticks to tailpiece with the same string. Fill out skin over breast with dressing, using just enough to round it firmly, then fold back the neck skin and fasten it to the backbone with a small, sharp skewer or aluminum pin.

Bend the wing tips back under the bird, so that they are braced firmly against the back and, if the bird is heavy, tie a string to keep them in place. Otherwise, no additional trussing is necessary. Trussing helps the bird to roast evenly, and sets it in a pleasing form for the platter. About 1 cup of stuffing is enough for each pound of bird . . . if purchased market dressed. For a quick-frozen or eviscerated bird allow 1½ cups per pound purchased weight.

The neckbone with the gizzard and heart can be put on to cook plus a few celery tops and a small onion, in water to cover generously. Cover but watch, adding water when necessary, as this broth will go to make the gravy. Cover the pan to prevent too rapid evaporation, and simmer very gently until the gizzard can be pierced by a fork. Then add the heart, which has been well washed, and simmer 15 minutes longer. The liver can be added at the very last, as it will cook tender in a very few minutes. When all are done remove the giblets and chop with a sharp, heavy knife. Strain the broth, add the chopped giblets, cool, and then place in the refrigerator. When making gravy, this broth can be brought up to the required amount of liquid with water. Plan to put the turkey, covered with cheesecloth dipped in fat, in the oven early enough so that it will be done a full hour before dinnertime. While it is cooking, the children can shuck the peas, daughter-in-law can fix the relish tray or salad. Suzy can set the table and arrange the fruit bowl that is to be dessert as well as centerpiece, all as planned. Everyone should be out of the kitchen an hour before dinner to give you the freedom you need. This is the time to make gravy. Potatoes, mashed or browned, can be kept warm indefinitely in a slow oven, and water to cook peas can be put on the simmer flame. They will cook as the soup course is eaten.

Here is a chart that clocks the cooking time of all size birds. When market birds are stuffed, they are equal to their "bought weight". If an eviscerated bird is purchased, add 3 pounds to the "bought weight" to figure the exact roasting time.

Time Chart for Turkey Roasting

Oven Weight	Oven Temperature	Cooking Time—Minutes Per lb.	Cooking Time—Hours per bird
8 to 10	325° F.	25	3 to 3½
10 to 14	325° F.	20	3½ to 4
14 to 18	300° F.	18	4 to 4½
18	300° F.	15	4½ to 5
20	300° F.	15	5 to 6

EVERY BOTTLE SHOWS HOW
GRAVY MASTER
Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping
MAKES RICH, DELICIOUS GRAVY

JOLLY TIME POP CORN
FOR CHRISTMAS
TENDER—HULLESS
PACKED AIR-TITE
POPS PERFECTLY
WHITE OR YELLOW

NO BAITS
NO TRAPS
NO MUSS
25¢
MOUSE SEED
KILLS MICE
Here's the easy and clean way to kill mice. Chemically treated seed, the kernels of which mice eat—then they die. Simply put *Mouse Seed* in saucer and place where mice appear. No baits, no traps, no muss. Excellent results for over 50 years. Avoid substitutes. Get the genuine. At drug and other dealers. No mail orders. W. G. Reardon Laboratories, Inc., Port Chester, N. Y.

Sure—circuses are lots of fun . . .
But golly—watch that Toro run!
TORO
POWER MOWERS
TORO MANUFACTURING CORP'N, MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., required by the Acts of Congress of August 24, 1912, and March 3, 1933, of THE AMERICAN HOME, published monthly at New York, New York, for October 1, 1946. State of New York, County of New York ss.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared W. H. Eaton, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Publisher of The American Home Magazine and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, W. H. Eaton, 444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N. Y.; Editor, Mrs. Jean Austin, 444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N. Y.; Managing Editor, Marion M. Mayer, 444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N. Y.; Business Manager, W. H. Eaton, 444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N. Y.

2. That the owner is: The American Home Magazine Corporation, 444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N. Y.; W. H. Eaton, 444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N. Y.; Jean Austin, 444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N. Y.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, 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, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

W. H. Eaton, Publisher.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27th day of September, 1946.

(Signed) Theodore F. Gloisten
Notary Public, Nassau County No. 584
New York County No. 1146
(My commission expires March 30, 1948)

[SEAL]

"Relax—Sister!"

Margaret Scott
Drawing by John Normant

JUST let me read one more magazine article on how to do sixteen hours of work in the homemaker's usual twelve-hour day, and I'm going to retire from a misty cloud of inferiority complexes into the restful atmosphere of my husband's hunting magazines for a good long dream.

I often wonder—do men write articles of advice to each other on how to organize their time so that they can accomplish twice as much as ought to be expected of them? If they do, I have never seen one.

In our home, when the dinner dishes are washed and the children finally bedded down, it's time for my husband and me to settle down in our respective chairs to read our favorite magazines. I pick up a beautifully illustrated job and am soon immersed in advertisements of food that looks too good to eat and electric gadgets that sound too wonderful to really work. Then I start in on the reading matter. At once I am entranced to learn how Mrs. Workaday, with six children, does twice as much work as any other woman in her community. I pant along right beside her and finally find myself worn out and breathless at the end of her very busy, long day.

My husband, meanwhile, has a breathless air about him, too. Is he reading how Mr. Busyman of the Eyebrow Tweezer Corporation can organize his day so that everything is spic-and-span and accounted for promptly at five p.m.? Not on your life, he isn't. He is reading and reliving how Bill Johnson, of Stillwater, Mississippi, treed a family of possums with a couple of old hound dogs, and how he shot the possums down with an old muzzle one night in the dark of the moon when the air was brisk.

After taking a good look at him in his blissful state, I turn back a bit wistfully to Mrs. Workaday and her sixteen-in-twelve-hours day. Has the organizing genius of American women turned so much to the home that our lives are run on timetable efficiency? I sometimes wonder.

Our women's magazines carry plenty of well-written articles offering tried and true suggestions on how to budget one's time down to the last split second. Mathematical precision is needed at times to fit all of the daily tasks into their grooves. The

Merry, Merry Meals with an EKCO pressure cooker to cook and serve in... too!

NOW IN LEADING STORES... THE NEW 1947 EKCO PRESSURE COOKER

So simple! Just a twirl of the Fingertip Knob seals the Ekco tight.

So safe! Cooking cover can't be removed while pressure is on. And, if you *should* forget and leave your Ekco over high heat too long, it will simply boil over like a kettle.

So good for food! Quick-cooked in your Ekco, even winter vegetables taste fresh-picked . . . meats are so tender they melt in your mouth. And, my, those vitamins!

And you get TWO covers with your Ekco Pressure Cooker, one for the kitchen, one for the table.

Plan your meals around the Ekco Pressure Cooker and you're a hostess to your family . . . instead of cook! With the Ekco you spend mere minutes in the kitchen, not weary hours. With the Ekco you serve food steaming hot . . . appetizing . . . brimming with flavor. And just a simple change of covers makes your Ekco Pressure Cooker your *serving dish* . . . as handsome at the table as it's helpful in the kitchen.

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the EKCO pressure cooker *stays to dinner*

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

Make this an *Aluminum* CHRISTMAS

"Royal Chef" *heavy-gauge, solid* aluminum kitchen ware. A Christmas star that will shine in your kitchen throughout the year.

★ Royal Chef's steam seal and self-basting features keep vitamins locked in, keep foods juicy and savory.

★ Royal Chef's heavier bottoms distribute heat evenly, cook quickly.

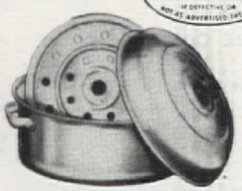
★ FOR A MEAL FIT FOR A KING, USE "ROYAL CHEF" *HEAVY-GAUGE, SOLID* ALUMINUM KITCHEN WARE

Stars in the Kitchen

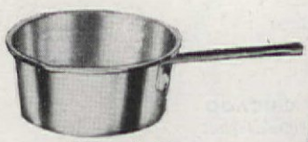
MARTHA VICKERS, currently starred in, "The Time, The Place and The Girl," a Warner Bros. Production

Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping

Satin-tone finish
LARGE DOUBLE ROASTER
and trivet



Satin-tone finish
MEDIUM DUTCH OVEN
with trivet



Mirror finish
SAUCE PAN
1½, 2 and 3 quart capacity

"Royal Chef"
HEAVY-GAUGE, SOLID
Aluminum
KITCHEN WARE
At leading department and hardware stores

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POULSEN & NARDON, Inc.
LOS ANGELES 11, CALIF.

resulting exact balance leaves no odds and ends of time for reading a new book, or for knitting an extra pair of mittens, or for patching up Junior's newly skinned knee.

"Relax, sister, relax," is what I always want to counsel many of the Mrs. Workadays of the magazine articles on how to run our homes. "Don't you know that life is really made for living and not for trainlike schedules in the home?"

I want to do eight hours work in eight hours and enjoy doing it. Housekeeping is a science. Housekeeping is an art. And it is also just plain, honest-to-goodness hard work. No amount of organization can ever make housework nonexistant or painless. But overorganization can and does take the pleasant personality out of our ordinary everyday living.

If there is any more work to do in a day than can be done easily and comfortably, I always say just don't do all of it that day. Sheets and towels don't have to be ironed. Floors and window sills don't have to be mopped and scrubbed continually. And those dishes can be washed "en masse" and left to drip dry.

There are a thousand and one shortcuts to housekeeping, but the shortest is one of attitude. So just resolve to do as much work as can be done easily and no more. And always remember that housekeeping is merely an adjunct to homemaking.

"Home is a place that my father likes to work to support, that my mother likes to work to keep comfortable, and where we all like to be." That is the best definition of "home" that I have ever heard. A young boy wrote it, and sometimes children can cut the Gordian knot of generalities amazingly well and get swiftly to the heart of an issue.

I firmly believe that twenty years from now, our children aren't going to remember if they had a fancy dessert for dinner every evening. I do not think they'll remember either, whether or not their clothes were always pressed or if it was absolutely dustless under the sofa. But I do think that they will remember if I had time to sit down and listen to their confidences when they rushed home from school . . . if their father and I had time to read to them at bedtime, and if we took them on picnics and outings once in a while.

Relax and enjoy your children

ARE YOU GOING TO MOVE?

If you wait until you actually move before advising us or the Post Office, copies of THE AMERICAN HOME will continue to go to your former address and the Post Office will notify you to send postage to have the magazine forwarded. Because of scarcity of copies we cannot duplicate copies to new address.

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The American Home Magazine
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...also broken china, glassware, torn luggage and books. This handy adhesive is waterproof, transparent and flexible. Get a tube today!

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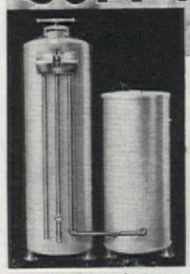

FREE CATALOG tells all about Stover's latest and greatest water softener improvement.

"AUTO-SHIFT Single Control" To rinse mineral once or twice a month you simply shift one lever as easily as you "shift speeds" in your car. No bother—no chance of turning wrong valves. If you like to drive your own car you'll like to own your own

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Better, Easier "PICK-UP"
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Permanent • Rustproof
Inside or Outdoors • Winter or Summer

Light, attractive, and durable—absolutely rust-proof as Aluminum *cannot* rust. Merely wipe it with a cloth before using and it's shiny and clean as new! Put it in the attic or basement for winter use or outside the year around. Gone is the bother of the old-fashioned clothesline that you had to put up and take down. The new Nichols Aluminum Clothesline protects your clothes—saves you time and work. Available wherever homeware is sold.

SOLD EVERYWHERE — Ask your local hardware or department store to show you the new clean-looking and permanent NICHOLS ALUMINUM CLOTHESLINE.

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WIRE & STEEL CO.
Mason City, Iowa — DAVENPORT IOWA — Battle Creek, Mich.

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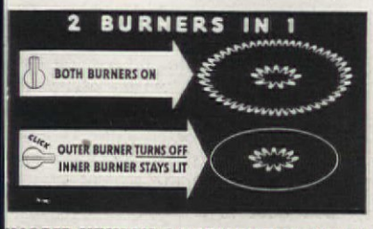
NEW RANGE

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

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

Insist on Harper Burners!

**18 Leading Gas Ranges are Harper Equipped*



HARPER-WYMAN COMPANY, CHICAGO 20

was what we labeled a report on our last year's work in a Child Study Group that a lot of the young mothers in our community attended. We put the answer to the main problem of each of us into that title. The problems of homemakers and mothers are amazingly similar when you sit down and compare notes. Some of the tenseness and anxiety flits away when we realize that we are not unique in what worries us. A feeling of relaxation comes when we sense that no woman ever does all the things that she wants to do for her family in her own home.

Golly, how I wish that I could bake a cake more wonderful than anyone else in the neighborhood. I wish, too, that I could find time to keep the closets as neat as a pin, and a way to serve dinner always at the same time every evening. But I have not and probably never will. So what? I'm not going to let it worry me! And I'm sure, because of my attitude, that I'm known in our immediate vicinity as a definitely casual housekeeper. But who cares when we do have fun around here!

One small, grimy boy—grinning at me with "Gee, we sure do like to play in your yard," makes me forget that I haven't swept off the front porch today. And when my cordial young son casually announces to his friends, "Sure, you can stay for supper . . . Mom always has lots to eat" —it makes me remember that hospitality is not not what is cooking on the stove but how it is served.

Perhaps women can't retire from the world as completely as their men can—into ivory towers of masculinity where mundane affairs of the household are nonexistant. But we can relax and enjoy our homes and our children. And believe me, it doesn't have to be on a split second time schedule either.

1946 CHRISTMAS SEALS. The greatest gift of all is health. Buy Christmas Seals and help stamp out tuberculosis. Your Christmas gift this year to "the greatest number."

U. S. SAVINGS BONDS. A wise Christmas present to yourself or to your family—a United States Savings Bond. Continue to buy these Savings Bonds at regular intervals as part of your savings program and by so doing build up a sound future reserve.

Hey! you forgot my pants!

ISN'T THAT JUST LIKE A MAN?

He waits till Christmas Eve to remind me that I haven't washed his only pair of red pants.

If I were an ordinary wife with an ordinary washer, I can't think what I'd tell him. But with an Easy Spindrier it's no problem at all. Because the Spindrier is the *fastest* washer I ever saw. Does an average week's wash in less than an hour because it has *two* tubs working at once. One washes a full load while the other spins a full load damp-dry. Actually gets out up to 25% more water than a wringer . . . with no deep, hard-to-iron creases. More water removed means faster drying. Less drying time indoors on snowy days. And clothes are much lighter to handle!

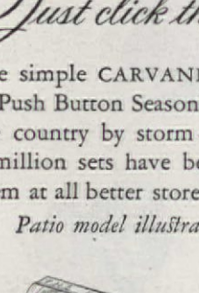
The Spiralator washing action is so thorough . . . yet safe. My best blankets and comforters come out soft and fluffy. It even does washable drapes and slipcovers.

See Easy in action. Tell your husband it's a Christmas present you're willing to wait for! Easy Washing Machine Corp., Syracuse 1, N.Y.

MORAL: DON'T BUY HER THE "BIG" PRESENT UNTIL YOU SEE EASY IN ACTION!

The better Way...

for perfect seasoning



NO CORROSION **NO CLOGGING**

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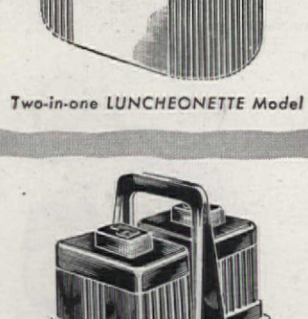
The simple CARVANITE principal of Push Button Seasoning has taken the country by storm — more than 3 million sets have been sold. See them at all better stores, everywhere.

Patio model illustrated above.



Individual PETITE, four in plastic gift box

Two-in-one LUNCHEONETTE Model

The COTTAGE Model

The PATRICIAN gift set with Cigarette Box

Photograph by F. M. Demarest

YOUR CHRISTMA

Peppermint North Pole centerpiece with toy Santa and cupcake igloos. Right, cinnamon apple Santa favor

Christmas wreath table and North Pole centerpiece by June Cochrane Ortgies

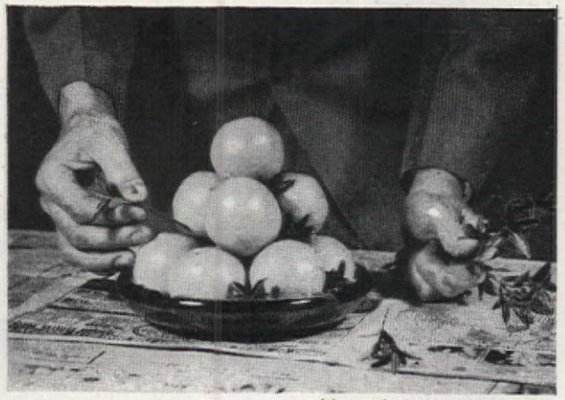
YOUR Christmas table- the happy gathering place for fami and friends—should be impressiv and lovely to remember. It shou also be a pleasure to create and a semble, providing it does not co sume too much time or money. Wi these requisites in mind we presen on these pages, some ideas for yo very special holiday hospitality.

The salad wreath table is a charm ing idea for a Christmas luncheo party. Colorful red and green ind vidual salads, placed on a snow white tablecloth, are arranged in circular fashion, and a huge red ri bon bow placed at the head of t table carries out the wreath mot

For a centerpiece that sparkl with ingenuity and the Santa Cla tradition, try a huge peppermi stick North Pole placed on whi paper sprinkled with silver du Grouped around the Pole are u turned white-frosted cupcake iglo a hole cut for the door. Fork mar outline the ice blocks. In front each door is a make-believe fire crossed chocolate sticks, with flam of maraschino cherry bits. A t

An artistic, well-balanced, and colorful centerpiece of oranges in the making. Symmetry of design is important. Color alone won't make attractive display

Stack oranges pyramid fashion, enliven with sprigs of holly—or orange tree leaves—and you will have an eye-pleasing yet most edible main attraction



Idea and photographs by Tatsu

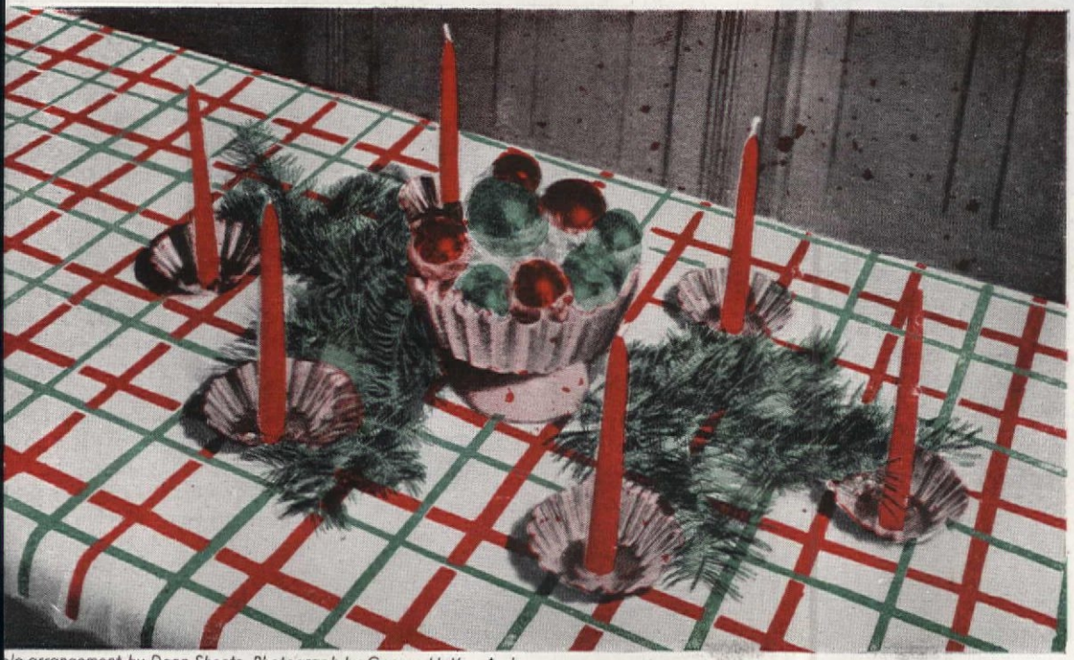
TABLE

Santa Claus holds a big bag of Christmas packages—square white candies tied around with red string. You could also use a toy reindeer-drawn sleigh to hold the packages.

The delicious Santa favor is a fat cinnamon apple with marshmallow legs, arms, head, and beard, bright maraschino cherry for cap and mouth, whole cloves for eyes and buttons.

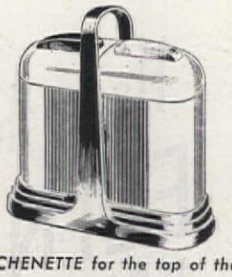
Oranges, those traditional Christmas delicacies, can become a festive and artistic fruit centerpiece if properly displayed. For instance, pile them in pyramid fashion, inserting bits of holly or orange leaves. Placed on table or buffet, they will look as good as they are to eat.

Here is a gay Christmas table in the traditional color scheme of red



ble arrangement by Donn Sheets. Photograph by George H. Van Anda

A colorful and handsome Christmas table arrangement: candles in fluted tin molds surround a large fluted mold mounted on wooden base. The center bowl contains red and green Christmas tree balls. Tablecloth of hand-blocked linen



The KITCHENETTE for the top of the stove

The TOM THUMB, modern as tomorrow

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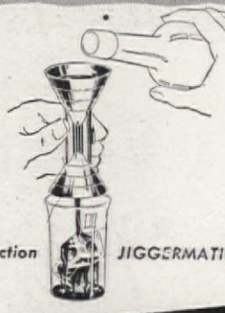
for the

Christmas Season

Whether you spend a few cents or a few dollars, the CARVANITE line of perfect seasoners and gifts are available at all the better stores.

The SILENT BUTLER for the modern hostess



The valve action JIGGERMATIC

CARVANITE PRODUCTS

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6 Flint Hollow Ground Knives
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CUTLERY

Every Flint® Knife is *High-Arc* Hollow Ground like this 'way up into the blade, to have and hold a razor's sharpness.

You've *always* wanted a handy place to keep knives comfortably within reach. Here is the Flint Holdster for you, to be hung on the wall or housed in a drawer. The Holdster comes complete with six FLINT Hollow Ground Knives for every carving, cutting, peeling or paring task. Famous Flint Ham Slicer is included. Each balanced blade is of chrome vanadium steel, high-arc hollow ground, with imported hardwood handle. Could there possibly be a more thoughtful gift? $13.95

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Send your illustrated book, "Edward Arnold Shows You How to Carve Meats and Poultry." I am enclosing 10c in coin.

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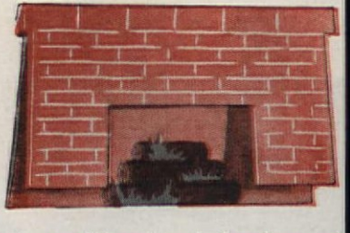
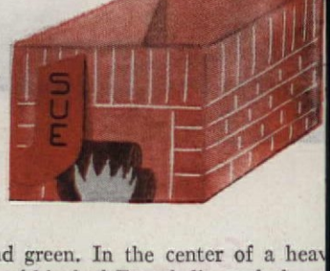
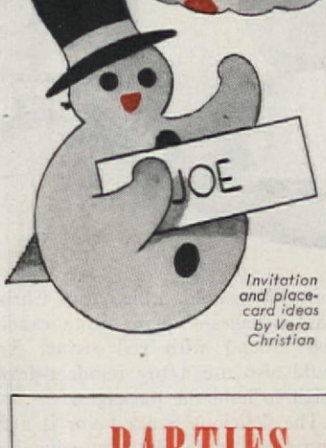
Santa Claus favor and invitation by Anna Berg



The traditional red fireplace wi stocking becomes a colorful irvi tion or a nut cup or candy favo





Invitation and place-card ideas by Vera Christian

and green. In the center of a heav hand-blocked French linen cloth, a mounted on a wood base, is a lar tin fluted cake mold filled with r and green Christmas tree balls. T candle holders are smaller flut molds. Sprays of fresh green pi branches give the group continui and the seasonal note and perfume

Whatever individual decoratio you choose to work out the Chris mas theme, your table will be lo ingly remembered if, as shown these pages, you let color and si plicity be your Christmas guides.

Ingenious and appropriate Santa Cla invitation, and angel and snowm place cards you can easily ma

PARTIES AND PROBLEMS

HOLIDAY PARTY PARADE.....25¢
(From Christmas to Twelfth Night)

Colorful bulletin. Make your own Christmas and New Year room decorations, invitations, favors, place cards, centerpieces. Enjoy games and a Twelfth Night playlet. Address Department E.

OUR Party Department is prepared to plan a special party for you. Tell us the kind of party you wish to give, how many guests you expect, date, time, and place, description of your table appointments, and entertainment your guests prefer. Suggestions will then be sent you for room and table decorations, centerpiece and favors—all for **50¢** a party. Please print name and address clearly. Address letters to Department E.

WHY worry about minor or major decorating problems? Our staff of trained decorators is at your service. Describe your problem room, and we will send you our solution. If a furniture arrangement is desired, please draw us a scaled floor plan, ¼ inch equals one foot, including over-all measurements, exposures of the room, location and size of the radiators, windows, doors, and all openings. Please indicate which doors open into the room. List furnishings you plan to use and we will send you a plan showing furniture arrangement plus a color scheme. Our fee is **$1.00** per room. Simple questions will be answered for the usual stamped envelope. Address Dept. D.

OUR architectural experts are at your service. For the minimum fee of **$1.00** we'll analyze and criticize your house plans. If it's a dream house you're after —why not send us your ideas, in plan form? Sketch plans are easy to make and ¼ inch to one foot is the accepted scale. We'll study the problem, tell you any weak points and offer suggested improvements. For remodeling problems, send us a plan of the house as it is now and tell us on another plan, what changes you wish to make. Address Dept. A.

Send problems and remittance to:
(Please do not send stamps)
American Home (Indicate Dept.)
444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N. Y.

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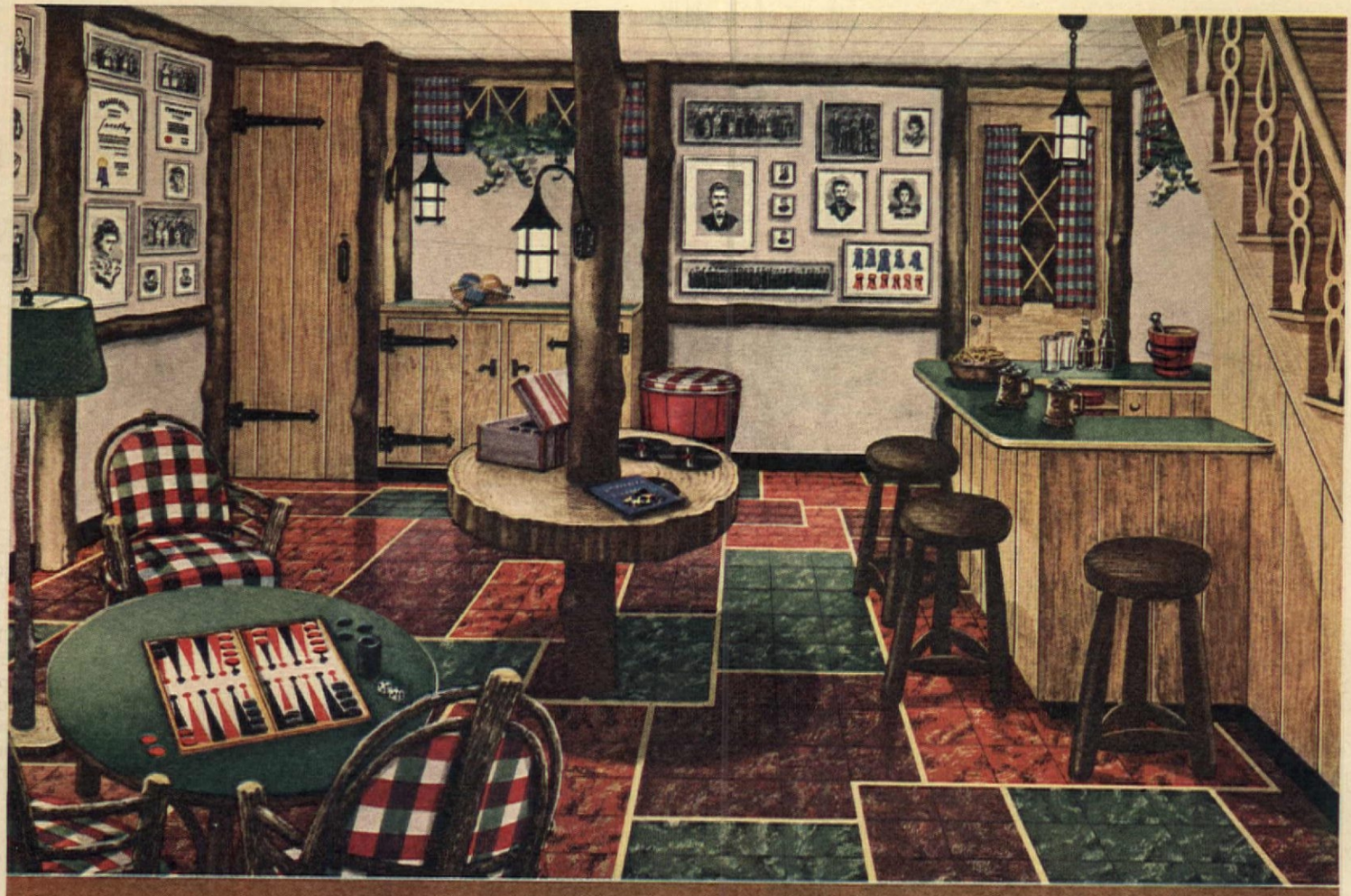


Here's an Easy Way to Add An Extra Room to Your Home

THE LOW-COST FLOOR MAKES IT POSSIBLE

IT'S SURPRISING HOW EASILY a dull, wasted basement can be transformed into a gay, colorful room everyone will enjoy. A little paint, a few fresh ideas, a new floor of Armstrong's Asphalt Tile, and the basement becomes one of the most livable rooms in the home.

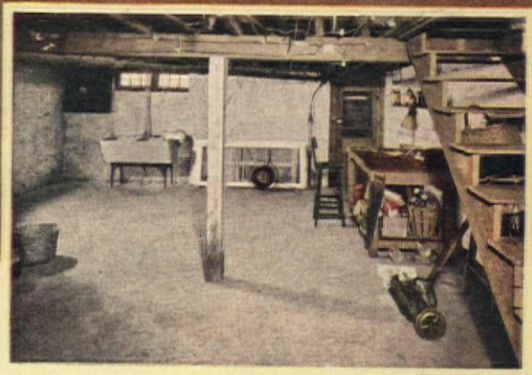
Yes, a pleasant recreation or work room downstairs is practical today—with a floor of Armstrong's Asphalt Tile. For, unlike other flooring materials, it's not damaged by the moisture that comes up through concrete basement floors. Its many beautiful colors (all alkali-resistant) can be combined in an almost limitless range of designs, so you can have a floor that exactly suits your decorative scheme. Because it's laid by hand a block at a time, practically any design you can draw on paper can be reproduced in Armstrong's Asphalt Tile.

But, you ask, how about taking care of such a smart floor? Is it easy? The fact is, smooth, mirror-like Armstrong's Asphalt Tile is very easy to clean and keep clean. A light sweeping—and once in a while a washing and waxing—is all the care it needs. What's more, neither the colors nor the material itself is harmed by scuffing feet or most spilled liquids.

And here's the best part of the story. This floor is actually low in cost. Just ask your local Armstrong contractor for an estimate. You'll be amazed how economically you can change your neglected basement space into a room for work or play—with a floor of Armstrong's Asphalt Tile.

• • •

WRITE FOR YOUR FREE COPY of new booklet, "Basement Rooms for Work and Play." Illustrated in full color, this booklet is crammed with practical, easy-to-follow suggestions you can use in your basement. Write Armstrong Cork Company, Resilient Tile Floors Dept., 4612 Plum St., Lancaster, Pa.



IT WAS JUST ANOTHER BASEMENT BEFORE. But now it has become a practical "fun" room for every member of the family—and without sacrifice of washday efficiency. The laundry equipment is hidden behind rustic cabinets, which add to the decorative scheme. To complete the gay Swiss air, a durable floor of Armstrong's Asphalt Tile was installed in a design that suggests multi-colored flagstones. The colors used were Sea Green, Florentine, and Cedar, with feature strips of White. If you would like the floor plans and details of furnishings in this friendly room, we will be glad to send them free on request.

ARMSTRONG'S ASPHALT TILE

The low-cost floor (A) with the luxury look

MADE BY THE MAKERS OF ARMSTRONG'S LINOLEUM AND ARMSTRONG'S QUAKER RUGS

The Amazing New *Self-Starting*

KELVINATOR "AUTOMATIC COOK" ELECTRIC RANGE!

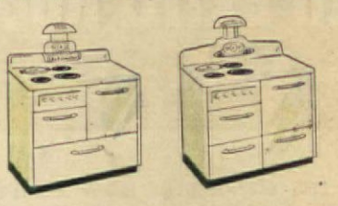
Imagine sitting right down to a delicious dinner when you've been out all afternoon . . . or coming down to breakfast in the morning to find muffins all baked, ready to melt in your mouth. That's living . . . with a Kelvinator "Automatic Cook" Electric Range.

The secret is an automatic timer that controls not only oven operations but deep-well cooking, too. It turns current on and times the cooking process you want. Then, it turns the current off when the meal is done. And it's so easy to use! Just set the dial and forget it.

And you've never eaten more delicious food . . . crusty roasts, tender and juicy . . . flaky pastry, delicately browned . . . vegetables with all their garden-fresh color and flavor . . . and with the vitamins all there, too. It's electric cooking at its finest, quick, clean, cool, *effortless.*

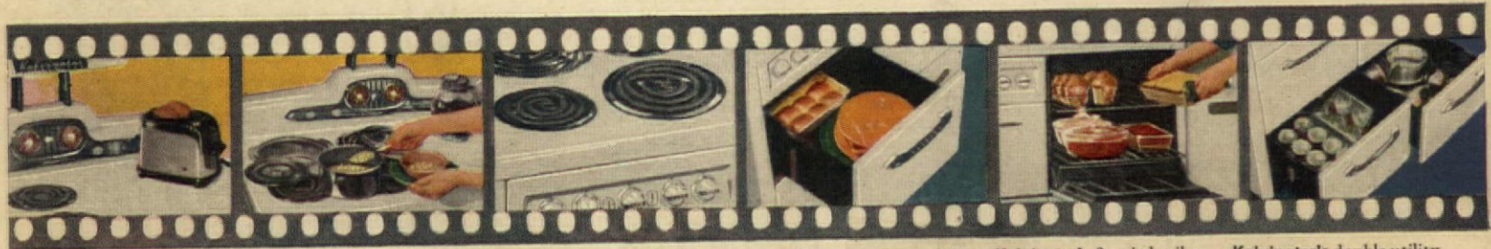
The Kelvinator "Automatic Cook" range is a beauty, too, and scientifically designed to make your cooking job easier. Just look at the features listed below and then make a date with your Kelvinator dealer today to see the "Automatic Cook."

KELVINATOR DIVISION, NASH-KELVINATOR CORP., DETROIT



THERE'S A KELVINATOR ELECTRIC RANGE SPECIALLY MADE TO FIT EVERY BUDGET! In addition to the "Automatic Cook" model, there are two other beautiful models, loaded with exclusive Kelvinator features!

Get the Best things First... Get Kelvinator



Kelvinator's "Automatic Cook," the "brains" of the range. Turns current on and off. Times cooking operations. Just set it and forget it!

Kelvinator's Scotch Kettle with trivet and inset pan cooks whole meals economically, stews, steams, bakes, deep-fat frys, sterilizes the baby's bottles.

Kelvinator high-speed surface units get hot quick. Seven accurate cooking heats from simmer to high. Floodlighted knobs indicate unit in use.

Kelvinator's Warming Oven is a deep, spacious drawer, with thermostatically controlled heat for warming dishes, keeping foods deliciously hot.

Kelvinator's 2-unit broiler oven takes a 25-lb. turkey, or 5-dish oven dinner. "Automatic Cook" control. Radiant heat broiling (like charcoal).

Kelvinator's double utility drawers give ample storage for pots and pans. Smooth sliding, on ball-bearing rollers with automatic stops.