The AMERICAN HOLLE

January 25¢

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WOMAN'S COLLEGE UNIVERSITY OF MORTH CAROLINA



JACKSON & PERKINS NEW 1950 The Perennials or roses

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(P.R.R.)

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finally red / 10 to 25 buds on
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The American Home, January, 1950. Vol. XLIII, No. 2. Published monthly by The American Home Magazine Corporation, 444 Madison Ave., New York 22. N. Y. W. H. Eaton, President-Treasurer; Jean Austin, Vice-President-Secretary. Executive, Editorial and Advertising headquarters, 444 Madison Avenue, New York 22. Subscription Department, American Home Building, Forest Hills, New York. Copyright, 1949, by The American Home Magazine Corporation. All rights reserved. Title registered in U. S. Patent Office, Subscription price in United States and Canada \$2.50 a year; two years, \$4.00; three years, \$5.00. Foreign postage, \$1.00 per year extra. Entered as second class matter December 31, 1935, at the post office at New York, N. Y. under act of Congress March 3, 1879. Postmoster: Return undeliverable copies to American Home Bidg., Forest Hills, New York.

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Others write, "It's most helpful and inspiring."... "The cultural instructions are a refresher course to a good many old-time gardeners."... "After looking at a lot of catalogs (all the same) yours was a revelation."

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BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Contributors



... PETER COWLAND, born in Hollywood, the son of silent picture star "Greed" Gibson Gowland and screen writer Sylvia Andrew, seemed almost fated to try his luck at screen-acting, too. But after a few small parts, he turned to standing behind, not in front of the camera and to snapping pictures for magazines. (For us, he took the photos of the Wynne House on page 35.) Married to model and writer, Alice Adams, the Gowlands often collaborate on stories and have built a new studio-home in West Los Angeles for which Peter also designs and builds furniture.



. . . ABRAHAM LEVITT, world famous as the constructor of an entire town of low-cost private houses, actually began his career in 1903 as a New York lawyer-drifted into industry 17 years later when his clients were mainly builders. Now that the enterprises of Levitt & Sons require the planting of hundreds of carloads of material each year (almost 20,000 fruit trees, about 100 tons of grass seed), Mr. Levitt, the firm's senior partner, devotes his entire time to landscaping. He has developed many ideas for small gardens, describes some on page 72. "What keeps me going," he says, "is the hope I am making the world a bit more beautiful and fruitful than I found it."



tectural work to keeping an eye on cost—designing low-cost houses, low-cost schools, even acting as cost estimator and construction expeditor on large housing projects. He interrupted work to enter the Army Air Force and was a prisoner of war in Germany. Back in private practice, he designed the modern Haygood house to incorporate a lot of living space in a small amount of house, managed to include two large living rooms.



with a diversified background—her an ad agency art director, illustrator of children's books, lither apher, graphic designer—and, as hobby, a painter of fanciful nurse walls. He's had lots of practice at tlatter—designing murals for liftends' offspring, for his own year old daughter, and for America Home readers. As a hobby for hown pleasure, however, he is a collector of African objets d'art.



she does her best writing while he six-year-old son machine-guns que tions and her 18-month daughter trie a fast right at the typewriter, bega her writing career in more standar surroundings—the advertising depar ment of a Los Angeles store. A gradu ate of the U. of Southern Californishe married a rival U.C.L.A. man an spent several war years sampling the rigors of Army life. In "Know-Ho Saves a Has-Been," she tells how the antique-collecting Wynnes remodele an old farm dwelling.



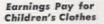
petite Texan, hardly seems the brawny, building type. More surprising, she was never even interested in construction until she married architect Owren Aftreth and had to hold her own in conversation. She has not only "held her own" but has proved that energy counts more than muscle, and can proudly display a small stone house (page 66) which she and her husband built. Formerly a newspaper writer, Mrs. Aftreth is now learning to keep house and to care for the Murphys, two prize Persian cats.

OMISSION: American Home's editors have inadvertantly omitted to give credit where credit most certainly was due: to Virginia Lee Gordon with George Hall for designing the cozy, livable interiors of the Eddie Bracken home ("As a Family Man, He's a Natural"—October, '49, page 29–31). Our apologies to Mrs. Gordon, Mr. Hall, to The American Institute of Decorators, and to American Home readers.



Makes Money—and Friends Too

"Cards were so attractive my friends gave their orders unhesitatingly. Am making friends in this new ven-ture."—Mary Pasciucco, N. Y.

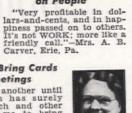


"Needed things for my 2 boys, but couldn't afford them. Extra money earned paid for more than needed. Now helping pay for home."
—Mrs. D. Hance, Penna.



Invited to Bring Cards

to Meetings "One tells another until my business has surely grown. Church and other groups, call me to bring cards to meetings." — Lida W. Smith, Seattle, Wash.



"Like a Friendly Call

on People"

Beginner Gets 10 Orders in 1/2 Hour

"I received these ten orders in about 30 minutes. Everyone just 'ah'd' and 'oh'd' over your cards. It's going to be very easy and enjoyable."—R.J. Shaw, N.Y.



"My customers grateful for chance to buy such lovely cards; eagerly tell their friends. Planning to remodel a room in our home, as card shop."—Pau-line Sargent, Beatrice, Neb.



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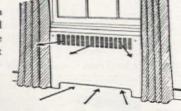


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Books

The Plant in My Window, by Ross Parmenter. (Thos. Y. Crowell Co.) Price \$2.50 . . . A city-dwelling, ex-G. I. newspaperman tells simply and delightfully the absorbing story of his eye- and mind-opening tour under the guidance of a Philodendron scandens which he inherited with an apartment. From it he learned not only about its own complex existence, but also about plants in general, the people who grow them, and some of the mysteries, meanings, and laws of life and nature. Here's horticulture and philosophy as neither horticulturist nor philosopher could express it. Among the many conclusions it leads one to is: "Don't underestimate the power of a plant!"



Upholstering Home Furniture, by Blanche Romick Pope. (The Manual Arts Press) Price \$3.75... Instructions and accurate diagrams to guide you in upholstering your worn-out or out-moded furniture. The author describes the making of covers, paddings, springs, and even branches into drapery matching and chair constructing itself. The clear, concise directions are good insurance against time-consuming errors, and the book is a helpful "how-to" aid for those who do their own work.

Memoirs of a Rose Man, by I. Horace McFarland. (Rodale Press) Price \$3.00 . . . For all who knew the late Dr. McFarland, this little collection of informal reminiscences and impressions will be a welcome renewal of the pleasure of listening to him. For those familiar only with the results of his skill and energy in the fields of printing, photography, editing, rose-growing, conservation, community improvement, it will be a friendly introduction to a great man; a lovable, dynamic character. Dr. L. H. Bailey, Dr. R. C. Allen, and Robert Rodale contribute interesting, revealing comments.

How to Paint Trays, by Roberta Ray Blanchard. (Charles T. Blanford Co.) Price \$3.00... For the amateur who has always aspired to painting trays, boxes, and furniture but has been timid about trying, here is a guide containing very simple instructions, color guides, and 22 pages of easy-to-follow tracing designs.



Pour Yourself a House, by Frazi Forman Peters. (Whittlesey Hous Price \$3.95 . . . Here's another boo to add to the library of our ne pioneers, those hardy folk who has decided to buck the high cost building and do the job themselve This particular volume presents in a easy-to-follow way a step-by-step d scription of a concrete house th can be built for less than \$4,00 The basic floor plan may be varied fit individual needs, and the author a well-known architect, goes beyon the house itself, pointing out met ods of lot selection, electrical wor plastering and even the installing of heating and sewage disposal system

Home Repairs Made Easy, by Le Frankl. (Nelson Doubleday Inc. Price \$6.95... Here is a veritabl gold mine of information for hom owners who make their own repairs In 438 pages, with over 2,000 pic tures, the house and all its parts ar analyzed, then carefully indexed fo easy finding. Starts with basic fact about the whole house, progresses to details on such subjects as woodwork plumbing, heating, electricity.



A Baby Is Born, by Milton I. Levine and Jean H. Seligmann. (Simon and Schuster) Price \$1.50... To help parents answer the queries of six- to ten-year-olds, a doctor and his wife have composed a simple explanation of "how life begins"—and have illustrated the text with drawings by Eloise Wilkin. Written simply, warmly, and directly, the authors have used terms within a child's understanding, have designed the book to be read by parents to their young ones.

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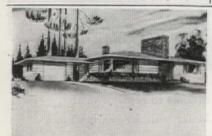
and we'll pay postage).

For Outdoors, to protect shrubs,
evergreens, gardens, etc., use
Liquid Chaperone, also \$1.

Dry bathe your dog—Hygienic Cleaning Powder
cleans dogs better than water, avoids colds. Stops
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Sudbury Laboratory, Box 112, S. Sudbury, Mass.

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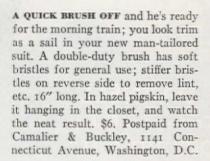




COD orders—\$1.25 plus postage

Welcome to the Market Place! Merchandise, except personalized items, may be returned within seven days for a refund of the full price. Most of the firms mentioned in the Market Place prefer not to handle C.O.D.'s.

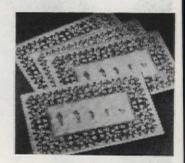
A FAMILY AFFAIR. Send in your surname, each family member's name, each pet's name, and you will receive a stock of white paper doilies with silhouettes representing each of your kin! Silhouettes, done in dark brown, are identified by name. The mats are 10" x 15", and have cut-out filigree borders. 100 for \$2.25; 200 for \$3.50. Postpaid from Miles Kimball, Oshkosh, Wisconsin,



WHEELA-TOY CHEST is the lifesaver you've been looking for these many years. After the children have turned the playroom, front porch or yard into a shambles, they can stow their toys in this rolling covered shelf, which will stand on end out of sight. In red, white and blue, 33" x 18" x 13". Shipped knocked down for \$8.50, express collect. Massachusetts House Workshop, Lincolnville, Me.

BLOOMER GIRL. For a touch of welltimed ribaldry, guaranteed to set a party off in high spirits, a duck apron comes in the curvaceous shape of a bloomer girl for you or your husband. Marked with such provocative truisms as: "Let's Get Tight," "Stop Ribbing," etc. \$1.95 ppd. Shocking, yes, but riotous, too! The Game Room, 1538 Connecticut Ave., Washington, D. C.

REMEMBER THE DAY that your stomach did flip-flops as the organ pealed out, and your hand lay limp on your father's arm? A black metal Chippendale tray, handpainted with two names and the wedding date will keep the memory as vivid as the colors decorating the tray. Alcohol-resistant, 7" x 91/2", \$4. 12" x 17", \$10, postpaid. Order from Agnestrong, Williamsburg, Virginia.













Photographs by F. M. Demarest



A FRENCH ACCENT is that mysterious something that gives to a dinner a touch of elegance, an elusive mood of romance, an atmosphere of gracious enjoyment. A French Food Warmer for your table comes in wrought iron with a verdigris green finish, 51/4" high, a chunky vigil light glows underneath to warm the food and plates. \$4 ppd. Mastercraft, 60 South St., Boston 11, Mass.



DOLL'S CLOTHING, as fine as anything in Grandma's hope chest, is beautifully handmade and represents a magnificent pride in handiwork. The set photographed is for a 20" doll, but you may order for sizes to fit 14" to 24" dolls. Pajamas to dolly's Sunday best in fine dimity, cotton, batiste, etc. \$10.95, ppd. Judy Ann's Doll's Clothes, 2020 Seminole Blvd., St. Petersburg, Fla.



IT SHOULDN'T HAPPEN TO A DOG. so it's up to you to do something about it. The Dog Duster insecticide comb will aid Rover in his fleafight by covering him with insectkilling powder. The combing method leaves your hands clean, as you simply pump the handle and it releases powder as you comb. In red or blue plastic, \$2 ppd. Kenwar-Williams, Inc., Box 121, Stratford, Conn.



BAG YOUR BRUSH after painting bureau or floor, and have it fresh and ready to go the next time you get a spurt of ambition. A plastic bag keeps the brush soft and pliable. Simply wipe off excess paint, place brush in bag and add an ounce of linseed oil or turpentine. Hang up bag until your next job. 6 bags, \$1 ppd. From Requa Mfg. Co., Inc., 1193 Atlantic Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.



PICTURE SHOW. Gather up your grandmother's favorite snapshots of her pets (animals and children!), fill an ivory genuine leather album, 31/2" x 21/2", marked "Grandchildren," and give it to her with love and kisses. For yourself, in pink or blue marked, "Baby." Each, \$1.50. Also available in plain assorted colors, \$1.50. Ppd. Terrace Yarn & Gift Shop, Winchester, Mass.

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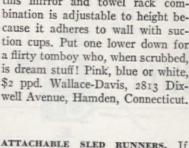
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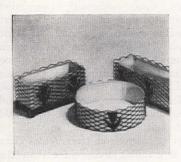




MIND YOUR BUSINESS. A litter of notes on backs of bills, letters from pal Judy, and shoe advertisements inundated our desk until this bulletin-board blackboard introduced us to Organization. 18" x 24", marked "Minding My Business," it has plastic pins for pinning up recipes, etc. Red, green, or white, \$6.95 ppd. Add 35¢ W. of Miss. Robin Ridge Studios, Stockton, N. J.



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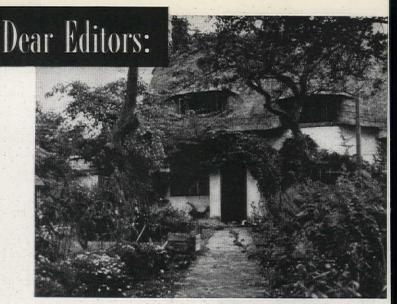
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About the thatch-roofed home of an English family. Fourth in a series of letters from Judith Gellert Tennyson

Thile searching for a truly authentic thatched cottage, I came across, in the quaint village of Weston Turville, one of the most beautifully adapted specimens in all of Britain. The charm of this house, sitting quietly behind high hedges in an acre of garden, drew me up to its door where I met the owners. They are Jack and Tiny Blake who, with their children Tessa and John, prefer country cottage life to a flat in London—hence live under the heavy thatching that keeps them cool in summer and warm in winter.

Jack found and bought the house in 1926 when it was in three parts. One section, built in the early 15th century, was once a duck run, is now the Blakes' living room. The outside walls are of flint and brick; the rustic interior, of dung and wattle (clumps of sticks). Here in England, the old is accepted with a sense of casualness-as something not just to look at but to live with and enjoy. There is personality in walls crooked with age, fancy in legends that surround old structures. Perhaps antiquity even lends an aura of security -proof that, regardless of the storms of history, everyday life goes on.

The Blakes, although they have retained the original style of their old cottage, have converted it into a modern home. Now there are two shining tile baths, running hot water, electricity, central heating, fireproof thatching, a fully equipped kitchen, and more conveniences than are found in most English homes.

In appearance, however, the house is still one of the past-with walls of flat white and beams of heavy dark oak that Jack took great pains to uncover. The ground floor is covered with small rust and black tiles (some as old as the house), but the floor above is cloaked with rich, plum carpeting. Bright chintzes frame the small leaded windows. The house is furnished with antiques-15th century carved oak pieces, a 14th century desk with hidden drawers, a Spanish - Happy New Year!

olive wood commode (companion piece to one in London's Albert museum), and a dining set that effects the look of an old Flemish painting. Everywhere, something gleams with centuries of polishing and is treated as furniture to be used.

In summertime, the gardens around the house are a maze of both wild and cultured blooms; in fall, of heavily laden fruit trees. Vines cling to a creaking well, older than the house itself. And for winter, there is a small greenhouse for tomatoes and little glass tents for growing spinach.

Jack and Tiny's hobby interests lean to both the old and the new. Jack is a buzzing amateur inventor and has turned out, among other machines, an electric power mower and an ingenious boiler that heats 60 gallons of tap water plus an inner cylinder containing water for the central heating system. He is also an avid collector of Persian prints, and can throw an accurate dart in the local pub down the road.

Tiny may be found thatch-mending, weed pulling, preserving, even delving into her history books. Often she judges competitions for the National Skating Association or invades antique shops in search of old silver or china. Most of her time, however, is devoted to homemaking chores and child-care tasks. And shopping means hopping a bus three days a week to travel to Aylesbury, the nearest town. (Gas rationing eliminates the use of a car; food rationing allows her to buy rationed items only at stores where she is registered.)

The children, John and Tessa, play in the garden with Punch, their curly blond spaniel. Every summer their Swiss Nanny takes them to Switzerland for a holiday. But the happiest time of the year for all the Blakes is Christmas. With a blanket of snow on the thatching, a bright fire in the hearth, a goose in the oven and candlelight shining on dark beams, it's a storybook Yuletide at the Blakes.

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Zone



Pasadena is proud of "Children's House"

Neighborhood Church, a non-denominational church in Pasadena, California, is rightly proud of its "Children's House," the new building it has put up for little children from two to seven. Many churches have erected new buildings since the war, but Neighborhood is one of a handful that have built plants especially designed to meet the needs of young children.

It all began when the congregation felt the necessity for a proper place for youngsters' activities and decided to create one. Property adjacent to the church was bought, and upon it was erected a modern building of brick, redwood, and glass to house the nursery, kindergarten, and primary departments of the Sunday school. Conscientious work on the part of church members raised the funds necessary to erect this new building, planned in latest nursery-school style.

The minister of Neighborhood Church, Rev. Curtis Beach, was anxious to have church facilities serve the community whenever possible, so suggested the idea of using the new building for a weekday nursery school as well as a Sunday school. His idea has been carried

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 20



Tri-Graphic Photography

Youngsters sing to the tune of a gay coral piano during nursery school session. "Choo-Choo Song" is popular-request number



It's an up-to-date bathroom with these smart new walls

Remodeling this bathroom was an easy job with the walls and ceiling of Armstrong's Monowall[®]. This thrifty material can do wonders in any bathroom or kitchen, new or old.

Armstrong's Monowall is easy to use. It saves time because the big panels are quickly cemented right over the old walls. In new homes, Monowall can take the place of plaster, and it eliminates the need for painting or papering every few years.

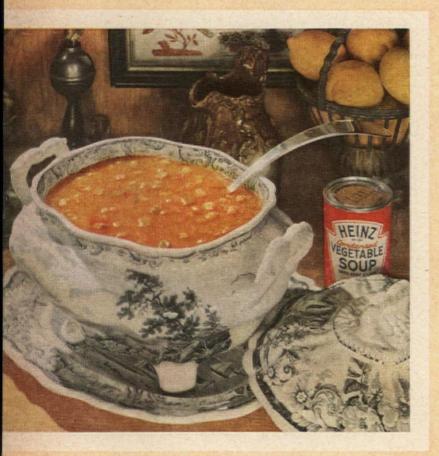
You'll like the way Monowall saves work, too. Dust and dirt can't stick to its glossy surface. Smudges wipe clean in a jiffy.

The lovely Primrose Yellow in this bathroom is just one of the new 1950 Monowall colors, styled to the latest decorating trends. They all come in plain colors, the smart streamline design shown on these walls, and a neat tile pattern. Ask your lumber dealer to show you the new color samples of Armstrong's Monowall.

SEND FOR FREE BOOKLET, "How to Remodel an Old Home." It's packed full of information on methods and materials, illustrated in color. Write Armstrong Cork Company, 5001 Orange Street, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.



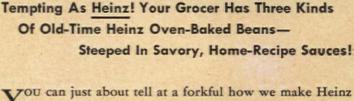
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Listen To "Ozzie and Harriet" Friday Evening Over aBC



Beans As Thoroughly Mellow And Wonderfully

Only Honest-To-Goodness Oven-Baking Makes

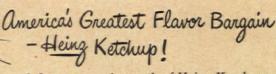
You can just about tell at a forkful how we make Heinz Beans. They're so plump—so mouth-watering, so marvelously tender to the very heart—that you know they're oven-baked. For only honest-to-goodness oven-baking captures such deep-down, old-fashioned goodness. And that's only part of the story! You've never tasted such luscious sauces—savory, ruddy tomato sauce made from Heinz "Aristocrat" tomatoes and rare, fragrant spices—and rich, dark molasses sauce made to a down-East recipe.

You have your choice of three delicious kinds of Heinz Beans: in tomato sauce with succulent pork; in tomato sauce, vegetarian-style; in molasses sauce with pork. They all taste homemade because they're oven-baked!



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• Every week, persons from various departments throughout H. J. Heinz Company in Pittsburgh sit on a taste jury—thoughtfully sampling our new varieties and writing down their reactions. Here's just one more precaution we take to make sure that our products will really appeal to you!

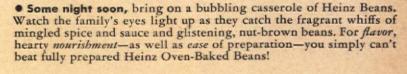


• Just a penny's worth of Heinz Ketchup adds a million dollars' worth of flavor to your cooking. For Heinz Ketchup is extra rich and fullbodied. And it blesses every dish it touches with the cooked-down goodness of "Aristocrat" tomatoes, fine vinegar and special spices blended to the world's most-valued recipe!

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Friends' Corner

My wife sits by the radio With pad and pencil busy, She copies recipes until she's dizzy.

She writes of puddings, cakes and pies, And how to mix and bake 'em, Until, alack, she hasn't time to make 'em.



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NAME	
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Neighbors

(Begins on page 17)

out, and today the nursery school serves the community as a non-profit, self-supporting part of the church program.

The building itself, designed by Whitney R. Smith, a prominent California architect, and Wayne R. Williams, associate, is beautifully planned to meet the needs of young children. It provides for a maximum of light and air, and large sliding doors of glass bring the outdoors indoors. A partition divides the structure into two separate sections, each of which may be subdivided by large sliding partitions, thus allowing flexible spaces for the varied activities of different age groups.

In a corner of one of the rooms, a movable screen sets off a small chapel, complete in every detail, even to child-size pews. Just outside is a charming "chapel garden," where children's worship services are held on balmy days. In California this means most of the year.

An outdoor play area provides ample room for swings, teeters, and a jungle gym. There is also space where the children may ride their wheel toys, do easel painting, play with hollow blocks, work with wood and clay. The entire play area is used to good advantage, not only on weekdays, but also on Sundays, when children are cared for here while their parents attend morning services.

When the building was completed, Mrs. Sarah Margaret Beckman, the director of the nursery school, suggested that a professional artist be called in to plan the decoration of the nursery-school interior. Lietta, a well-known artist whose enchanting designs are familiar to AMERICAN HOME readers, was chosen for the job because of the success she has had in designing for children.

Knowing how important color is to a child's well-being, Lietta gave a great deal of thought to creating a quiet and harmonious atmosphere. To make the rooms practical as well as decorative, chairs, tables, and chests were painted dark gray, blue, and blue-green. Accents of coral and chartreuse add sparkle to the color scheme.

One corner of the large playroom became a playhouse, which can be made larger or smaller, as desired, with the aid of movable screens. Screens and part of the wall were covered with plastic-coated wallpaper, designed by Lietta. If a little artist trys his own hand at decorating this wallpaper or gets fingermarks on it, no harm is done as the surface can be washed.

The development of Children's House has been a success, for it is attractive as well as functional, and it serves its purpose well. Parents are grateful to the church for providing a perfect spot in which children can play, learn, and worship. The children appreciate it, too.





Lietta, a well-known artist, is responsible for happy decoration that enlivens nursery interior. Children find "strawberry tree" plaque beautiful and amusing

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• White walls and ceiling with Colonial Blue trim contribute an inviting atmosphere of hospitality and spaciousness in the lovely living room of Craft House, at restored Williamsburg.

As practical as they are lovely, Pittsburgh's exclusive Historic Wall Paints bear the hallmark of the Williamsburg Restoration, Incorporated. They give you a double bonus of value—COLOR DYNAMICS to insure the right choice of colors and Live Paint Protection to make your home decorations look better longer!

By scientific use of the energy in color, Pittsburgh's COLOR DYNAMICS helps you bring out the best in every room. Used with Williamsburg colors, it enables you to harmonize these lovely colonial hues to best advantage in modern surroundings. The beautiful results you obtain are made more enduring by the Live Paint Protection of Pittsburgh Paints. Enriched with "Vitolized Oils", these quality wall paints afford a smoother, richer finish that far outlasts ordinary paints.

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Just as careful research paved the way to the faithful restoration of Colonial Williamsburg, so the painstaking work of Pittsburgh scientists and technicians makes it possible to offer you the soft, satin-like lustre of Williamsburg finishes in a wide range of lovely shades, adapted to modern usage and priced well within the range of ordinary paints.



• Reminiscent of colonial days is the lovely St. George Tucket House which adjoins the Williamsburg site of the first theatre built in America • • • Painstaking work by Pittsburgh scientists makes possible reproduction of famous Williamsburg colors now exclusively available in Pittsburgh Wallbide wall paints—famous for easy spreading and long life.

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If you say these are the mellowest — juiciest — most completely delicious canned peaches that ever graced a golden-crusted shortcake —

Well, take it from millions of other people, you're absolutely right! DEL MONTE is — and always has been — the most popular brand of peaches in the world. It's easy to see why they're such a popular dessert and salad, too. Have you noticed their price lately? My, how easy on your budget!

And families never seem to tire of such luscious, full-ripe goodness. So be sure to get Del Monte—the brand that's proved itself for superb flavor in peaches.

Del Monte Peaches

- the brand that puts flavor first

1900



There's something mighty wonderful about that family up above. You might not notice it if you passed them on a Sunday hike. He's an ordinary guy, packs a lunch box to work, brings his pay home Saturdays in a manila envelope. She lugs her weight in grocery bags, makes 21 meals a week, hasn't been to the beauty parlor in years. The kids are gangling, growing boys.

The wonderful thing about these folks is that they are Americans—1950! They were just plain born lucky! If they haven't inherited the earth —they've certainly inherited the best part of it!

They're young, hardworking, homemaking American pioneers. They're the symbol of you and me—they're us. We're celebrating, all of us, the half-turn of a century—50 years of Progress, as they say in the fairs and exhibitions. It behooves us to look backward and see where we've been but, American-style, it's more our nature to look forward and see where we're going. On the

debit side we've had two bloody, global wars, a couple of depressions, and other assorted mishaps. But we've come out of them on top; we shook our heads, cleared our eyes, and took the next step forward—whatever that step was, individually or collectively, we took the next step forward.

On the credit side—who could begin to enumerate our blessings! A generation which can produce the wonders of movies, television, air conditioning, atomic energy, jet propulsion . . . such a generation is on its toes, we'd say!

With all we have to look back on, as we look forward into the next half century—can you doubt for a minute that we're going somewhere? The tantalizing curtain of the future holds many secrets behind it, and only a fool prognosticates so far. But this, we think, is safe to say: Curtain Going Up! It's going to be a grand, exciting show! Care to come along?

Meet John Doe, the wife and kids.

They've come a long way. And they're still climbing that hill. There's room for everybody up there—and they say there's a peach of a view from the top...

JAMES M. WILEY



1950 photographs: George de Gennaro, Robert C. Cleveland, P. A. Dea Plumbing & Heating Ind. 1900: Brown Bros. American Standard

But if that's what you want—"the good old days"—you're welcome to them! Personally, we'll take the present, today, right now!

What's good about old-time plumbing, old-time heating, old-time lighting, except that they're gone and, as far as we're concerned, forgotten. What's good about a woman working like a pack-horse from morning till night—or a man whose only hope of rest was old age, when he became too old to enjoy it? There simply wasn't time to play—to relax and have a little fun—in the "good old days." The effort to live took too much and there wasn't any left over.

What was good about the old-fashioned bathroom, or as far as the majority of the people were concerned, the outhouse? Or kitchen? Or parlor? You know very well you wouldn't trade your little modern, warm, beautifully appointed bathroom for one of the old-timers. And nothing could drag you from your shiny bright, crisply efficient kitchen back to that drab looking, mammoth cooking-cave of 1900—nothing! You'd have a fit if you actually had to give up your streamlined, simple but sumptuous living room and spend the rest of your social life in one of those bird-cages that they used to call parlors, full of fuss and gewgaws.

Look at the pictures on the other side, look at the one above. They're authentic and they're eloquent, and can tell you more than all the words we could think of.

Of course we know you didn't really mean it! So dry your eyes, put your hanky back in the sachet, and let's join the party—1950 style, that is!

What do you mean—"the good old days"?

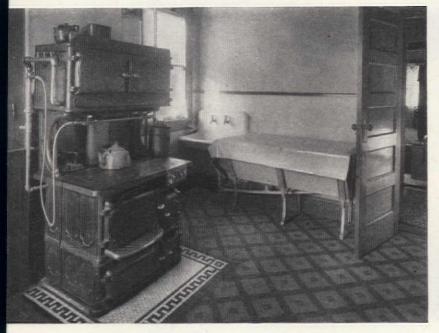
Living, 1950, is half the work-

twice the comfort-three times the leisure!



900

Imagine dusting this room every day. Where's the stepladder so we can see the picture and mirror? We'll race you to the Morris chair—on'y soft spot in the room!



900

The kitchen shown does not fill us with ecstasy. Guess how many miles have been walked from table to stove to sink? All that space—no cupboard. Poor grandma!



1900

The bathroom of the early 1900's had all the coziness of a marble hall! B-r-r- look at that cold floor! How'd you like to have the job of cleaning behind the bathtub?



1950

Won't you step into my parlor, 1950 style! A beauty to behold, a pleasure to live in, dream-lined for right now. Through the glass wall you'll see a sunny future!



[950

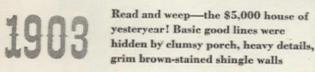
Here's what we mean! Today's kitchen is easy on the footsteps, easy on the eyes and hard to relate to the other one! Come out of the kitchen? No, you come on in!



1950

This is more like it! A loud hosanna to modern plumbing, overhead showers, and bright color schemes. The wall radiator takes up little space, but certainly gives comfort!







1936

Just a face-lifting job, but what a difference it made. House looks smaller, but likewise fresher with white paint. New window sash and entrance add formal Georgian look

ROGER STURTEVANT

Frankly Forty-seven

- yet the home of Mr. and Mrs. George A. Davis

is worth six times original cost in 1903!

The year 1903 was one of stable living, stable building prices—and large families! Houses, by necessity, had to be in proportion. They were built sturdy as oaks, family homesteads to be lived in with pride and security, to be handed down to future generations. But times do change and customs, too. What had been a source of joy to grandpa often as not became a millstone about the neck of his grandson. With the steady decrease in the size of the average family, many such houses lost their usefulness, were turned into boardinghouses, schools, or completely destroyed.

In 1903 such a house was built in Berkeley, California. It was typical of the times, big, bold of detail, with shingles stained a dull, dark brown to eliminate future painting. A clumsy front porch, heavy with columns, lead into innumerable rooms—front and rear parlor, large dining room and kitchen, four bedrooms, a cavernous storage attic—and, as might be expected, only one bath! Original cost—\$5,250, including also a two-story stable at the rear.

The house still stands today, 47 years later, still good, perhaps more livable than ever, and well able to compete with the more modern dwellings about it. What, then, is its secret of perennial youth? Why did this house survive while its contemporaries quietly vanished from the scene?

Actually there's no secret at all. The owners, from first to last, had treated their investment with respect, knowing that it was basically sound in plan and structure, its residential neighborhood wisely selected to remain conservative for years.

When new owners took over in 1936, a garage had been attached to the house, the stable had been remodeled into a house and sold with 50 feet of the lot for \$3,500. The sale price of the large house plus its 50 by 98-foot lot was \$5,300! Ground planting, which had been introduced to afford privacy to the rooms facing the street, now almost obliterated the house from view and cast the interiors into deep shade. This was immediately pulled out, and an entire face-lifting job on the front included removal of the entrance porch, dormers,



Forty-seven years older but definitely circa 1950.

Family living has moved to rear overlooking garden and terrace.

Open stair leads to redwood-lined upper porch where family meals are served amidst treetops. Door at right leads to kitchen. Playroom bay window follows lines of one directly above in dining area

Architect for 1936 alterations; Frederick L. Confer Architect for 1941 alterations; Howard Moise

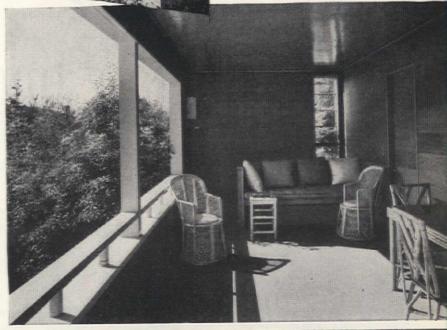
and a squat Palladian window. New double-hung sash, uniform in size, were substituted, along with decorative slat-shutters. A high band of brick, which blended with the new entrance stairway, took feet away from the original over-powering height of the house and was continued to form a garden wall with gate. A new entrance door with delicate Georgian details was the crowning jewel on this wall, and then the house was given a bright coat of white paint.

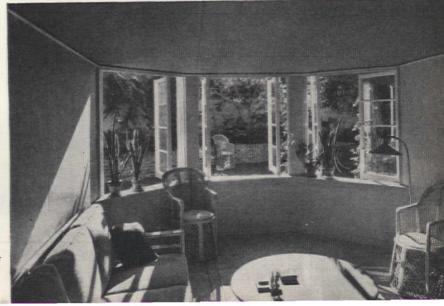
Inside, front and back parlors were combined to form one enormous living room. Two new baths were added; the original one was modernized, heating and plumbing systems brought up to date. Though structural changes were few, the house now had four bedrooms, two baths on the second floor, a bedroom and bath below. The house was now appraised at \$8,500.

When Mr. and Mrs. George A. Davis bought the house in 1941 for \$9,500, they, being ardent advocates of outdoor living, concentrated their remodeling efforts on the rear. At their suggestion, architect Howard Moise took advantage of a slight slope, excavated 18 inches farther, and so gained headroom for a basement playroom level with an outdoor terrace. Part of this terrace is covered by a new redwood-lined porch that leads directly into the kitchen. Access between terrace and porch is by means of an open stairway. Weather permitting, the Davis family have most of their meals served on this porch which commands a view of both treetops and neighboring gardens.

Inside, the living room, now too cumbersome for a small family, was divided by means of a hinged, louvered screen in order to form a dining area. Directly below, the playroom follows the lines of the original bay window and is planned for the activities of different age groups. This was the only inside room where any structural changes were necessary and, even here, they were not extensive.

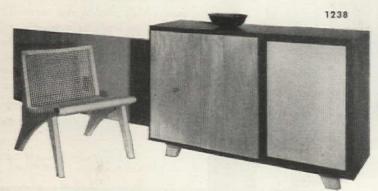
Including architect's fees and landscaping, the job cost the Davis family \$8,000 and the entire cost of their new home reached the sum of \$17,500. They feel the effort was worth while since to produce a comparable house today would cost twice that amount. And so our \$5,250 house of 1903 is still going strong and worth six times its original cost.





ETHEL MCCALL HEAD

An open and shut case of workable beauty designed and built by Ward to house an old radio and record changer and record collection. Design features: pull-out drawer for record player, cloth-covered panel to conceal loud speaker, spacing of shelves for records, combination of honeypale American elm and California redwood





Photographs by Robert C. Cleveland

How one couple is filling





There's a nice pitch to the seat, a good curve to the top member of the ash chair being "upholstered" with nylon parachute cord. Similar in design to radio cabinet are storage cabinet and end-table chest, the latter with piano-hinged door





Good news for hobbyists! Tools for making silverware are inexpensive, take little space. Ward is shown using them in successive basic operations. Cutting tools shear through piece of sterling silver to make bowl form for salad spoon. With anvil and forming hammer, he shapes bowl, solders it to handle with handcontrolled torch, gives it initial polishing on electric felt buffer

There's no limit to the size of a hope

chest if you have ideas as unlimited

as these two-plus follow-through!

their Hope Chest

The Ward Helmans, like many other young marrieds, have pretty firm ideas about the kind of house they want to live in and the kinds of things they want to put into it. Like so many others, they know their tastes out-run not only their present budget but also their anticipated earnings for some time to come. They've chosen a down-to-earth approach to their problem by taking advantage of those priceless commodities—ideas, time, and four willing hands—and putting them all to work.

An undergraduate student of architecture, Ward planned a simple modern house for his parents. During its construction, he became interested in proper furnishings and their cost. He and his father designed and made some pieces that suited the house and the family purse. Ward and Jean are ahead of the game, for they are building their furniture now for their home of the future. Somewhere along the way, Ward discovered that he could save at least half the cost of sterling silver by making it himself. Mastering the fundamentals

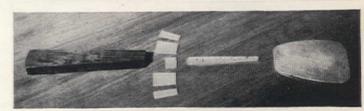
of this craft in a short course, he is getting a great kick out of creating an individualized silver service for his young bride. The home-sized Helman hope chest is brimming with things they've made.

Like all good craftsmen, Ward first lays out all parts, including Macassar ebony handle, as they are rough cut. After shank is shaped and fitted to handle, bowl is soldered on. Buffing is followed by finish polish with coarse abrasive and jewelers' rouge. Two more gleaming, original bits of beauty are ready for the Helman hope chest



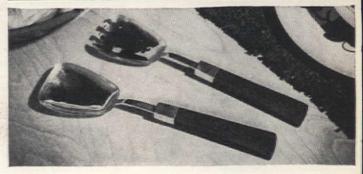












Now comes a new year of promise and opportunity,

of planning and planting for future harvests. So-

Let's Go Shopping for a Garden

use the term "shopping" not in a derogatory sense of seeking the biggest effect at the lowest price, but to suggest the maximum application of knowledge and judgment in securing the greatest, most lasting values for what is spent. How and where shall you shop for a garden? Why, wherever you are. Under whatever conditions may surround you. But always with a clear understanding of what those conditions permit you to do, and what other things they make it impossible or unwise to attempt; and also just what kind of results you wish most intensely to harvest from your garden.

Shopping for a suit of clothes, I seek one that fits; that will give good service under the treatment I give it; that will be appropriate, and comparatively easy to keep in presentable condition. I examine it in the light of what I know (or can learn from experts) regarding the materials of which it is made, its design, and its workmanship. So, too, you want to secure-whether by purchase or through your own efforts as a craftsmana garden that will fit your needs, moods, and interests; that will provide the exercise, recreation, or hobby enjoyment that you desire: that can be maintained at reasonable cost in terms of time, effort, and money. You willor should-satisfy yourself as to the quality and suitability of its materials; the skill and taste with which they are combined; the expertness with which they were prepared and established, the intelligence with which they have been cared for.

These materials from which your garden has been, or will be, fabricated include such things as plants of all kinds for the production of color, fragrance, food, or some other useful or enjoyable quality; plants for carpeting certain parts of the area and others for forming divisions or boundary barriers; plants for casting shade or giving protection from wind and storm; plants to clothe the house and soften its lines in the landscape, and others to frame and enhance pleasing vistas. They will include inanimate details such as stone or gravel walks, fences, walls, trellises, and furniture; decorative details such as lanterns, sundials, bird shelters and bathing places; and accessories for quiet living, for eating, for sports, for study and research in the field of gardening. They will include various tools, devices and supplies to make the care of the place and its plants easier. All these things you will shop for, using your own knowledge and discretion plus advice and assistance gained from divers sources.

What sources? Why, the pages of books and journals, of which modern gardeners have so many at hand; neighbors and friends in garden clubs and outside them; the catalogues of horticultural tradesmen who have made worthy names for themselves; visits to their places

of business, to plant collections of many kinds, and to successful existing gardens wherever you can find them—but especially in your own vicinity. You will listen to other gardeners tell how they have achieved results—but always with the realization that your methods will have to be developed and perfected by careful trial, close observation and comparison, and not slavishly copied.

You will depend—at least, while you are a novice—on time-tested, generally recommended plants and varieties, remembering that a home garden can use many kinds that are too delicate and fastidious to be successful commercially. Then, as you gain experience, you will venture away from the traditional lists, and explore the fascinating possibilities of novelties of each current year—like those few among many that are noted below.

So will you carry on your garden "shopping"—trying, testing, appraising, weighing, discussing, judging; making mistakes and suffering occasional disappointments, but gradually coming to know, with assurance and expertness, the rich reward of realizing the garden of your dreams.

These suggestions, dealing so briefly with a broad and complex subject, are necessarily general. We plan to supplement them with further shopping suggestions dealing specifically with many of the plants, supplies, and other accessories out of which gardens are made.

Some Noteworthy New Plants for Gardens in 1950

The All-America Rose Selections
Capistrano—Hybrid Tea; glowing
rose-pink; 36 petals; fragrant; sturdy.
Fashion—Floribunda; luminous coralpink, overlaid by gold; 3½ in. blooms.
Honor winner in U. S., England, France.
Mission Bells—Hybrid Tea; deep
salmon-pink opening to a shrimp shade.
Sutters Gold—Hybrid Tea; bright
yellow shading to orange; tea fragrance.

The All-America Flower Selection Fire Chief Petunia—Dwarf, erect, free-flowering; glowing spectrum red. Gold medal winner (138 points, a record).

The All-America Vegetable Selections
Topcrop Snapbean—Early (52 days),
prolific, disease-resistant. Gold medalist.
Uconn Squash—Bushform, Acorn type;
all-season. Gold medal (90 pts., a record).

Some Other Flower Novelties
Larkspurs—Super Majestic (3 new colors); Giant Imperial "Mauve Beauty;"
Regal (4 colors); Supreme (2 colors).
Sweet Peas—Cuthbertson "William,"
"Jimmy"; Sutters Gold, Nugget, Bonanza.
Poppy, single—"Pierrot," scarlet.
Column Stocks (white and chamois-rose).
Statice sinuata "Market Rose" (deep).
Zinnias—Tangerine, Floradale Scarlet

And Still Some More
Asters—Princess (3 colors); Little
Giants (dwarf, wilt-resistant, Crego
type); King Branching (pink).
Verbenas—"Pixie" (dwarf, scarlet).
Petunias—Dwarf Giants of California
(for pots); Balcony type "Royal
Rose"; "Blue Bedder Improved."
Nicotiana affinis "Daylight Sensation."
Dianthus heddewigi "Gaiety" (laciniated).



"To me there is a charm in the vegetable-garden
plants that belongs to no other department of horticulture."—The Garden Lover
—Liberty Hyde Bailey



What you get in a packet of seed...

The miracle of seeds and their growth is Nature's

secret. How they reach you - viable, true-to-type -

is an engrossing story of man's labor and skill



By and large, the real "book of the month" for January is the seed catalogue. Read by millions, with avid interest, abounding faith, and unquenchable hope, it transports them into the gardens of their dreams and also, many times, into actual gardens of gratifying similarity. It tells a remarkable story in word, picture, and promise. But rarely does it even hint at the equally fascinating tale that lies behind the lists it offers of lovely flowers and luscious vegetable crops. You pick a pod or a fruit, shake the seed into an envelope, label it, tuck it away to be planted next year, or given to someone—and wonder why seedsmen ever ask more than ten cents for anything so easy to produce! Well . . .

The pictures on this page and the next—selected from thousands—supply a bare outline of an inadequate answer. They involve a single concern, but they are typical of operations conducted by many others in the world's seed trade which enables gardeners to make and enjoy gardens.

In the production of good seed, first come discovery, introduction, breeding of new, better varieties. Here, breeding and selection plots on Floradale Farms. Right, girls hand-pollinating the blossoms of petunias to create the new hybrid—Silver Medal. Testing in the field for quality and type (above) is vital step





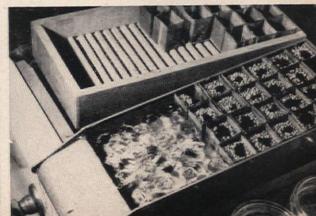
Growing seed by the ton
is big farming—as witness
this field, in California,
of Chinese cabbage. Huge
power machinery is used in
fitting the land, planting,
cultivating, harvesting,
threshing (view at right),
and rough cleaning. Never
must kinds, varieties, even
strains, be allowed to mix





From farms, seed in bulk
is shipped to main and
branch warehouses to be
recleaned and stored under
controlled conditions, as
here. Then begin complex
testing procedures to insure
quality, uniformity. Right,
some seeds are soaked
before germinating in
laboratory to imitate nature





^^otographs, bottom right and page ^4, by Pickow from Three Lions. rs from W. Atlee Burpee Co.



Countless samples are analyzed in many ways. Here 100 seeds are spaced, held by air suction while excess seeds are poured off



Some test lots are spread on moist paper towels, rolled, and put in heated cabinets to germinate. Here, results are counted



Tested and proved, seeds go into colorful packets to be sold over the counter, or from store display racks, like this



In packeting, small-seeded, rare, valuable varieties get extra protection—glassine inner envelopes, cotton wadding



Filling orders from thousands of numbered racks calls for system, accuracy. One wonders, not at mistakes, but: Why not more?



Finally, Uncle Sam lends a hand to get your seeds to you and you, and you, that your gardens may grow and give you joy

Photographs by Peter Gowland

The farmhouse was 72 years old-and admitted it.

... so the Lee Wynnes scoured and scraped-painted and polished-

kept the "old" look-but gave it a brand-new feeling!

Know-How Saves a Has-Been



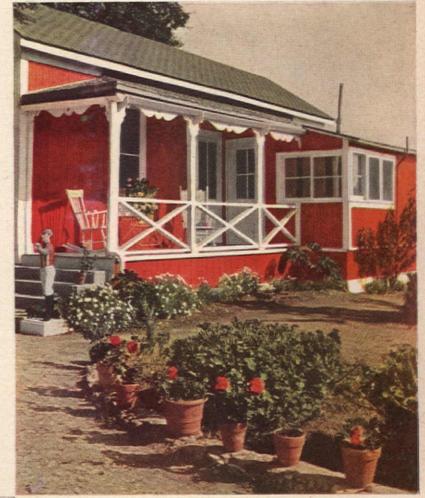
porothy and Lee Wynne rode their hobby right out of their former house. When the overflow from their collection of antiques found refuge in the garage, the Wynnes began their search for a farmhouse old enough to blend in age and spirit with their cherished belongings, large enough to accommodate all of them. They found it in Duarte, California, tucked away in an orange grove, not for sale unless the Wynnes

wanted the surrounding fifteen acres of trees—they didn't! But fast talking did the trick—minus fifteen acres, the Wynnes got their house, a nightmare to the average eye.

Built in 1876 as part of the original Duarte grant, it started as a "half-house," two rooms so planned that other rooms could be added if desired. It was now a nine-room, two-bath building, designed for two-family use. Careless tenants had treated it shabbily, but it still retained the charm of an old farmhouse, boasted good, sound construction, and had an adequate number of rooms.

The Wynnes scrubbed and scraped, but if they were looking for plaster, there just wasn't any—not a speck anyplace. Everything was redwood—even the studs of interior partitions were constructed of horizontal 1 x 10 redwood, with ½ x 6 tongue and groove nailed vertically over that. Some former occupant had figured out a way to paper on top of it, for the Wynnes found that muslin had been glued and hung first, then the paper—in one spot six thicknesses!

The Wynnes made only those structural changes which were absolutely necessary. First of all, since there were





Smart as paint, red as a firecracker is the friendly Wynne farmhouse as seen from the road. Before view, left, shows the house as they bought it—droopy with years and drippy with vines. Paint alone transformed it. Started in 1876, it added rooms through the decades, wound up as a two-family house

Know-How Saves Has-Been

(Begins on page 35)



Hobby into business: passers-by stop dead in their tracks at sight of red house, come curiously closer. Mrs. Wynne's overflow collection of antiques excites more envy. Result: a sale nearly every time!

two kitchens, they made a sitting room out of the one near their bedroom, modernized the other. One door in the dining room served no practical purpose; so they boarded it up, put in shelves and produced a bookcase. They used knotty pine on one dining-room wall, papered the others. Provincial blue and white print paper covers the bedroom walls, and extremely effective white medallions march up and down on a cholocate-brown background in the living room. As you see, the furnishings everywhere are very bright, to carry out the promise of your first look at the exterior, painted turkey-red, trimmed in bright white.

The paint and paper treatment extended to the three extra rooms, too, where the Wynnes put the overflow from their antique collection—those things which didn't fit into the new picture. Friends and neighbors found out about these extra pieces, and as a result their hobby was turned into an interesting sideline.

Keeping alterations to a minimum, the Wynnes have retained the charm of the old farmhouse and with fresh paint and paper have made it brisk as a new morning. Using good sense and good taste, the Wynnes took an old, old farmhouse, dressed it up for modern as well as gracious living, made months of work well worth while.

Top, right: One of two original kitchens was kept largely intact, save for new equipment and pine cupboards. No conventionalist in color, Mrs. Wynne uses it brightly to serve effect: deep-toned ceiling adds punch to the room, lowers apparent ceiling height. Dining-room light fixture, right, was remade from old standing student lamp







Cozy, neighborly are words for the Wynnes' living room. The slip cover, the lamp shade, the curtains with rick-rack are all Wynne-stitched. Most of the furniture was refinished by them. Mrs. Wynne braided the large oval rug herself. Here again, too high ceiling was lowered by stopping paper short at picture moulding. Dining room is off right



You've seen that wallpaper before—it's one of the most popular patterns of the decade. Mrs. Wynne combined it with turkey-red coverlets, installed old louvered shutters at the windows



This was once a kitchen in the two-family house. Opening off bedroom opposite foot of beds, it was made into Mrs. Wynne's dressing room.

Dressing table is old sewing machine base



(1) Here's what you need: sanding machine, edger, sandpaper, hand scraper, pipe wrench, nail set, hammer, putty knife, and shellac. Collect them early

(2, 3) Before you start sanding, clear out all furniture, remove radiators (2). Nail loose floor boards tight, set all visible nails below floor surface (3), and putty holes. Do this the day before machine arrives, start right off the bat the next day sanding; in this way you get the most for your rental time. Our man Jack was able to do two average rooms in the one day

Photographs by Wendell Kilmer





How to Refinish a Floor

Two floors for less than \$14!

Work carefully-steadily-patiently. The

beautiful result will amaze you!

t's hard work-it takes time and energy. But when you're finished, those span-clean, shiny bright floors will make you plenty proud! Many hardware stores or lumber dealers rent sanding machines, and they'll show you how to operate one. There are many makes, with varying control details; hence, our instructions will be general. All models, when in good condition, pick up most of the wood dust, but you'd better plan a good housedusting afterward, too. Rentals vary-it's usually so much for one day, hourly rates thereafter. Sandpaper is bought by the sheet, and since varying floor conditions require different kinds, from coarse to fine, it's better to discuss this with your dealer. There are also many excellent floor finishes you can use, which your dealer can also advise you about-we discuss just one type. Study these pictures-plan carefully-and you're all set!

(8) Bend down, brother, this edger works fast! A good machine, with a full-sized disc, will sand very close to the baseboard, and you won't have to remove the molding or use the hand scraper. The edger is also wonderful for closets and other small areas hard to reach (9) Now for the good old hand scraper and plenty of elbow grease! Use it for corners, behind floor pipes. If you take your time and work carefully, you'll be able to do just as good a job as the sanding machine







(12) Go over edges of floor with fine sandpaper on wood block to make main area and edge match. Edger cuts across grain at board ends, making texture different from adjacent areas where sanding is with grain



JAMES A. OEST

(10, 11) Wrap a piece of fine sandpaper around a wood block (10), rub the surface to make it match the rest. A mixture of shellac and wood dust from bag on machine makes an excellent filler (11) for knot holes and cracks. After filler has dried hard, go over the whole floor again with fine sandpaper on machine







(13, 14) Floor sealer, oil stain, polisher, pan, small brush, wax, lamb's wool applicator applies the finish selected for this particular floor. (14) Carefully sweep up dust, then with brush apply sealer, mixed with stain as desired, along edges

(5) Left: Move machine slowly with grain, except on uneven floors when you cut diagonally first. DON'T let machine stand in one spot while turning, it will gouge floor. At end of each strip, ease the drum onto and off the floor carefully. Loop a belt around your waist, attach to handle. It will relieve strain





(6, 7) Don't do this! It's expensive at 50¢ a sheet. The paper wasn't tight and even on drum (6), or a nail wasn't set. With main part of floor rough sanded, put a disc of coarse paper on edger (7), to clean room borders. If you can't get round paper, cut circles from large sheets and punch a hole in the center

(16) After sealer has dried for at least 24 hours, wax the floor. Apply liquid wax with applicator, paste wax with rag. Several coats may be needed. Polisher is used to buff wax after drying, between coats. See—it wasn't so hard after all, was it? And just look at that beautiful floor--you're wonderful!



How to Buy a "Bargain"



and dash for the lowest price
you've read or heard of, take a
little time to mentally examine
the article you want. Know a
bargain before you see it

GERTRUDE BROOKS DIXSON

White Sale time is here again and leaping at you from every paper, from department-store bill enclosures, from radio announcements, in an amazing variety of prices for what seems to be exactly the same merchandise. Whether you are a new or old hand at the game of bargain-buying, be sure you have your facts straight before you purchase. Be sure that not just a set of low price tags convinces you Store X has the best buys in town and that Store B's higher ones are unreasonably out of line.

Stop, look, and learn to examine thoroughly every ad. As you read carefully, you'll meet up with the full terminology applied to white goods in general, plus the enticing verbal packaging dressing it up. Cut right through the latter and get to basic information. You may depend on it completely, for there are rigidly enforced laws governing the factual information presented in ads.

This excerpt from an ad on towels plays up the word "irreg-

uglars," and the price of 98¢. Is it a bargain? What about this "irregular" business? Manufacturers have set high standards which must be met exactly before they classify their merchandise as perfect. Irregularities in weave, slight differences in size, a dye lot that doesn't quite meet specifications do not affect the wearing qualities. However, towels do live a very exposed life,

so be sure these slight defects are not offensive to the eye. Chances are they won't be. Look at the smaller type giving the size as 24 in. by 46 in. and the "if perfect" price as \$1.69. Fifteen ads appearing within a few days of each other gave five sizes, ranging from 20 in. by 40 in. to 28 in. by 50 in. The most common size was 22 in. by 44 in., so our towel looks better than average on that score. Two other stores advertised

this size at \$1.29, reduced from \$1.69 and \$1.98, giving no reason for the lowered price. So our towel looks just fine price-wise. Here's a bargain! Here, too, is a formula for bargain buying—analyze and compare ads.

Applying it to the sheet ad shown next, we start with our underscored phrase, "low-priced because they're 2nds." Some manufacturers and stores do not make a distinction between their seconds and irregulars. Others claim

200-combed percale sheets ...

low-priced because they're 2nds

feeling in the superb quality of these 200.

see. But there's muching luxurious about the
on security of the interst imperfections that
on security of the interst imperfections that

that irregulars have only slight defects like slugs and dirt spots, or sheeting torn "off thread." None of these will affect the wearing properties, while seconds sometimes have more serious defects that may. Unless there is a qualifying explanation like "on account of tiniest imperfections" as in the ad above, a wise bargain buyer would check before paying.

"200-combed percale" refers to the thread count per square inch, not the number of sheets on sale. Twenty ads examined showed thread counts from 184 to 200, with 186 most often mentioned, and a surprising low of only three sizes—72 in., 81 in., and 90 in. by 108 in. Prices in the same size as our sheet ran from \$3.98 down to \$2.79. Best buy looked to be a first quality, 186 thread count, at \$3.59, originally priced at \$4.49. Eight sizes turned up in muslin sheets, all the way from 63 in. by 99 in. to 90 in. by 108 in. In sixteen ads, thread count was mentioned only six times. It is as important in muslin as percale and a good average to watch for is 144.

Best buys in sheets should include these features—tape selvedge edge for strength, sheeting torn and not cut before hemming, no surface sizing. Only three ads gave all this data. Pencil work can save a lot of leg work if you make a classification list for price, count, size, and features.

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE GI

FORE: In the early 1900's, no home was complete without a chestat designed to hold rubbers and galoshes or overflow from at closet. At this height, lift-up tops invariably proved catch-all r family miscellany (see above) defeating primary purpose



Photographs by Frederick Kent

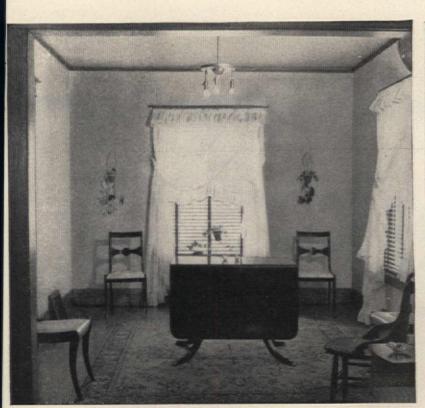
AFTER: Entrance end becomes integral part of living room when Bielenbergs substitute handsome cupboard. Storage and drawer space is readily accessible, shelves usable and decorative. Floor-to-ceiling height takes away chopped-up look of niche



here's no mystery to the wonders stock millwork will perform. To the homeowner bent on altering an old house or doing the work himself on a new one, here's a heaven-sent saving in time and effort. A catalogue offers such detailed construction and assembly data that installation problems can be thought out and met in advance. To the homeowner employing the services of a builder, it means a saving in special cabinetwork and labor costs as well. To anyone completely baffled by elevation drawings on a blueprint, no matter how carefully explained, it offers the merciful boon of seeing before installing. You're sure to know what it looks like. For the many not familiar enough PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 86

Millwork Miracles

ALLISON HOLM



BEFORE: Usable wall space in this typical small dining room has been reduced by placement of windows and heat register, large archway into living room. No sizable area left to take buffet or chest for needed at-hand storage of linen, silver, or china



AFTER: Two stock corner cabinets are Bielenbergs' solution to this so common problem. Their weight helps offset that of massed drapery fabric. Whole room appears widened out by new arrangement. Note lower doors properly hinged right and left

The Guy Haygood house is No. 11 in
our series of comprehensive drawings
with all plans, elevations and outline
specifications for careful home study





Sliding glass doors make it possible to combine or divide living room and porch, allowing great flexibility when entertaining. Focal point of living room is floor-to-ceiling crab-orchard fireplace, extending beyond raised hearth on either side to form sturdy base for twin windows

THE FIRST AMERICAN HOME STUDY PLAN HOUSE FOR JANUARY

of course a lazy river at its back door and its semitropical Florida setting make the Guy Haygood home something to dream about. But for our money, the house would be good anywhere; its cleancut lines, narrow and compact plan make it a natural for the average flat suburban lot.

Everything about the yellow and white exterior points to an unaffected simplicity. Ornament is non-existent—a fact that makes the wide overhanging eaves, long batteries of awning sash both functional and decorative. Even the ground planting has been kept low purposely in order to emphasize the strong horizontal lines and to blend the house naturally into its lot. The effect is definitely contemporary in character, proof that good modern design need not be cold and harsh but as heartwarming even, in its own way, as the picturesque Cape Cod or the informal ranch house.

Architect James W. Voorhies' keen eye for economy is apparent everywhere. We particularly like placing the garage directly on the street, an integral part of the architectural composition, thus allowing maximum space at the rear of the lot for gardening or outdoor living.

A quick study of the plan will find the omission of a separate dining room. In its place there's a more-than-ample glazed porch, near enough to the kitchen for convenient serving of meals and yet available as an extra living room or recreation area. The den is small, to be sure, but that's the way the Haygoods wanted it. No great stretch of the imagination is needed to see that this wing could be expanded into a guest suite without harming the design of the house one bit.

Entrance is directly into the large colorful living room and one is immediately impressed by a sense of spaciousness. This is largely due to the view of living room and porch seen as one through the large sliding glass doors. Often these doors are left open, for the owners are fond of entertaining large groups but cozy quarters are easy to obtain—they just shut the doors!

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 84

Small, Ideal for Narrow Plot

WILLIAM J. HENNESSEY





Corner window in pine-paneled den provides pleasant view of street, adequate light for working at custom-built desk. Curtains are paisley print, leather armchair blue, waffle-weave rug matches one in living room. Yellow tiles, white walls, plant-framed window make kitchen gay work area

Bright with yellow walls, white trim,
Miami home of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Haygood
gains added distinction because of strong
horizontal roof lines, batteries of
awning sash. Low ground planting helps
tie house down onto flat, narrow lot



Photographs by Rodney McCay Morgan



The second American Home Study Plan House for January appears on page 80



Though intended for child, double-decker bunk-bed takes twinsize standard mattress and spring. Provides blanket storage, too

1232

An idea to capture any child's imagination—Old Woman's shoe combines slide, desk, storage for toys and record player

1230 Old Woman's children painted on "front" of shoe
1231 Motif continued to "back", make-believe door



Candy-cane trees, boldly painted stag, animated cottage and storybook children decorate a truly delightful toy chest for toddlers



Clean-cut floral design painted on chest of natural wood, neat storage space for the toys of the growing boy or girl

1233—Design by Margaret Frederic. Toys courtesy American Toy Institute. 1234—Louise D. Wentworth. 1235—Seymour Nydorf. 1236—Pearl Daru Snyder. 1229, 1232— Emil Brodbeck. 1230, 1231—Lietta



Simple care of the sick...

WILLIAM SWALLOW

To help very weak invalid at home, tie a sheet to foot of bed. Patient can pull herself up to sitting position or move about without calling for help



When patient is too ill to sit up in bed, a small teapot can become efficient, non-drip drinking cup





A clock too old to tick can be reminder of time when medicine is prescribed. After each dose, set hands to hour next dose is due



Then home turns hospital, let your house turn nurse's aid. Whether one of your family is convalescing from an operation or is confined with a lengthy illness, don't feel you must purchase the drugstore itself to make comfortable the patient's recovery. An old clock that runs no more, a discarded picture bereft of its decorative value, even a spare cardboard carton, they're all ready and willing to serve as sick-care aids.

Here are 13 simple ways to make home-nursing care efficient. They involve no extra purchases, are simple tricks with simple items. Keep them in mind for future reference as ways to adapt what you have to unpredicted home emergencies.

If the hot water bottle leaks, heat salt in a skillet, pour it through a funnel into the bag. Salt retains warmth a long time. No ice bag? Use a rubber glove. Make a tray out of a cardboard carton, a bell with glass and spoon.

To improve the patient's morale, place mirror, comb and other grooming essentials within easy reach. Those bedridden for days are apt to be unnerved by tiny inconveniences, small noises, even the ticking of a clock. You can't soundproof the house, but you can cover the timepiece with a drinking glass, soften the doorbell's ring, protect doors against banging.

Save yourself extra energy-draining steps by keeping a utility tray in the sickroom. Fill it with cleaning supplies, with soap, washcloth, scouring powder, disinfectant.

Your house is a better-equipped hospital than you think. So don't wander off on a far-away search for equipment when the patient needs you close at hand. Bring ingenuity to the fore!

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 90



Simple bed tray can be made from eardboard earton. Just cut openings on sides to make room for patient's legs



Place small bell or glass containing spoon within reach of patient. Either serves as quick summons for nurse



If ticking of watch annoys the bedridden, cover with drinking glass to eliminate sound. Leaves face visible



To prevent accidental, noisy slamming of sickroom door, place folded towel around door by hanging it over both knobs



Years ago ...

THAT YOU MAY HAVE today!



Camblella CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP



"A noble dish"—that's soup! It's a perfect first course on a cold winter day. It's a perfect base for entrees, sauces, too. It's a winner in all ways!

ALICE B. KLINE

Soup's a Starter

. . . but how it gets around!

Every recipe on these pages uses some kind of

soup as a "starter" - including dessert!

There's soup in the recipe of every dish on these pages—including the dessert! Tomato soup in the steamed pudding, the salad dressing, and the meat loaf; mushroom soup in the biscuits; celery soup in the sauce for the vegetables; and consomme in the glaze for the carrots! Can you imagine tomato soup in a steamed pudding? We've tested it, and tasted it, and we'll vouch for it—it's marvelous!

Vegetable, tomato, mulligatawny, bouillabaisse, cream soups, consomme . . . there are thousands of soups to spark your imagination. We've developed six recipes in the test kitchens of The American Home using a variety of canned condensed soups. There are many other ways soup can be used; if you like to experiment, try creating even newer dishes of your own.

Soup flavors are just the piquant touch that transforms an everyday recipe into a gourmet's favorite. In Salad Biscuits, for instance, plain baking-powder biscuits have been adapted with three soups—cream of mushroom, cream of chicken, and cream of celery. They can be prepared using packaged biscuit mix as a substitute for the flour, baking powder, salt and shortening. Now did you ever expect you could make such delectable biscuits from a package of biscuit mix and a can of condensed soup!

Soups become sauces with scarcely any effort at all. Our Celery and Egg Sauce is one of the more pleasing ones; with an herb or two for novelty, a little lemon juice to spark the flavor, milk to thin the mixture, and chopped eggs to provide color and texture, it's a savory combination. A simple sauce, and one that is widely popular, is tomato soup right from the can or thinned to your own taste.

Soup does a double trick in our meat loaf. A hearty bean soup combines to give a nice texture and tomato soup contributes its zestful flavor. Whether you're using leftover meats or starting with PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 53

MENU

Winter Vegetable Soup
3-Way Meat Loaf Glazed Carrots
Broccoli, Celery Egg Sauce
Green Salad, French Tomato Dressing
Mushroom Biscuits
Fruity Steamed Pudding Coffee





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in the centerpiece
of sun-bleached
cotton balls,
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pods fashioned of
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first, second, third, and so on anniversaries are totally devoid of any chronological prestige, they are wholeheartedly to be recommended for hilarious good fun. Sometimes sentiment is becoming.

rattling down the matrimonial highway. "Now is

the time to celebrate," the same friend told us. "Always celebrate when you've got something to cheer about and the health for lusty cheering.

She was right-so right. Despite the fact that

It's much more fun and to the point."

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anniversary cake

21/4 cups sifted cake flour 1½ cups sugar 3 tsp. baking powder 1/4 tsp. baking soda 1 tsp. salt 1 tsp. grated orange rind

1 tsp. grated lemon rind 1/2 cup vegetable shortening 1/4 cup orange juice 1/2 cup water 2 eggs, unbeaten 1/4 cup lemon juice

Sift flour, sugar, baking powder, soda, and salt into mixing bowl. Add grated rinds and shortening. Add orange juice and water and beat 300 strokes with spoon or 2 minutes by electric beater at low speed. Scrape bowl and beater often. Add eggs and lemon juice and again beat 300 strokes or 2 minutes. Turn into 2 8" layer pans, greased and lined on bottom with waxed paper. Bake at 375°F. 25-35 minutes. Cool 10-15 min. before removing from pan. Fill and frost with your favorite butter frosting.

309 cal. per serving

Source of vitamins A, B complex, C, D

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

crab creole

Preparation time: 30 min.

Preparation time: 50 min.

3 tbs. butter or margarine 1 small onion, minced 1/2 clove garlic 1/4 lb. fresh mushrooms, sliced 1 medium green pepper, chopped fine lb. cooked ham, slivered 1 No. 2 can tomatoes

1 6½-oz. can crabmeat 1/4 cup sherry (optional) 1/4 tsp. nutmeg Pinch of dry mustard Pinch of rosemary Pinch of salt 4 drops of Tabasco sauce

Melt butter in skillet. Add onion and garlic and sauté until tender. Remove garlic. Add green pepper, mushrooms, and ham. Sauté gently until green pepper is tender. Add tomatoes and remaining ingredients and simmer 3 or 4 minutes. Serve flanked with rice.

Serves 4

262 cal. per serving

Source of vitamins A, B complex, C

Tested in The American Home Kitchen

Anniversary Dinner

Crab Creole

Fluffy Rice Frozen Asparagus with Slivered Almonds Hot Biscuits (for flavor add a bit of rosemary and sage to dough) Tossed Green Salad Fresh Pear Slices (dipped in Parmesan cheese) Anniversary Cake * Coffee Chablis (optional)

Preparation time: 45

rice Louisiana

salt

1 cup raw rice 2½ qts. boiling water

buttered grain will to 20 under under running cold water. Add rice slowly to 21/2 (water. Do not stir. Let it boil briskly for 15 to Remove from heat, drain, put into colander un drain, put into colande washed, spread onto to 20 minutes. Every g onto to well 15 is it oven Remove fro vater. After i 1 300°F. oven water. in 300°1

ash rice well of rapidly boiling salted minutes or until tender. minutes or until tender. strong stream of cold w cookie sheet and place in stand out separately.

cal. per serving

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME

KITCHEN complex

B

Source of vitamin

We Won't Wait 50 Years (Begins on page 50)

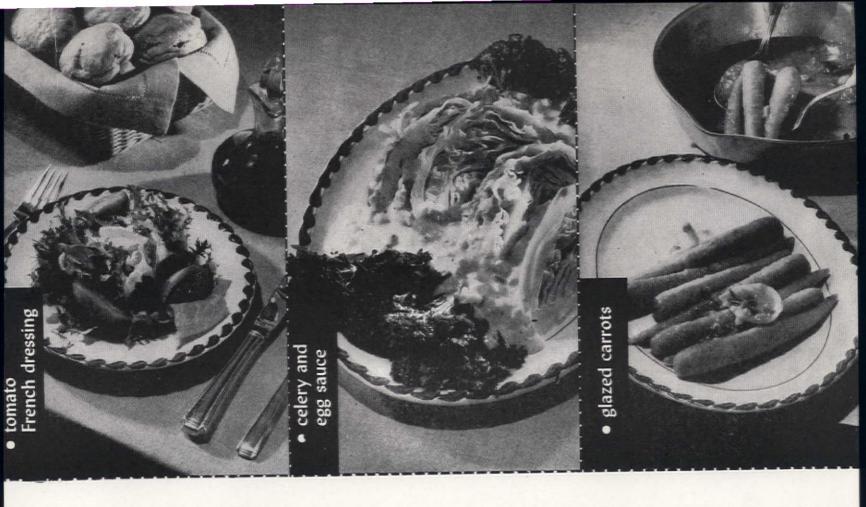
We had just eight at our anniversary dinner, but eight is a snug group for dallying amicably over food and good talk—just enough with every-one sharpening his questioning wits on another, to weave an intriguing pattern out of any one of the "lesser" anniversaries. And also, as a maid-ofall-departments, my theory is that formal dinner parties, no matter how small, require time for planning, polishing, marketing, and cooking in a superhuman race to make everything come out on schedule. I refuse to make a bugaboo of entertaining, and so I confine my parties to a few friends and always have buffets.

I have a dozen and one buffet dinner menus PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 58

☐ Mirthful Mementos #181	
☐ Alice in Wonderland ※174	50c
☐ Sweet Sixteen Swirls #176	10c
☐ Game Packet	10c

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☐ Februa	ful Mementos #181 pry's a 5-Party Month #187 in Wonderland #174	. 50c
☐ Sweet	Sixteen Swirls #176	. 10c
had as	Order booklets by name and	



Soup's a Starter" (Begins on page 48)

leat freshly chopped for you at the meat market, make a good big meat af that will do for two meals and provide for sandwich-making later. feat loaf is a popular economy in this nation of ours where it is a part f our diet pattern from adolescence to old age. For variety, try different auces from soups on all kinds of meat until you find your family's prefrences. It's so easy to please everybody! And there's no waste because ny leftover soups can be served subsequently as soup!

Dressing makes the salad, so they say, so be extra persnickety when you

mix a recipe to French-dress a salad. Ever hear the old Spanish proverb? Four persons are wanted to make a good salad;

a spendthrift for oil, a miser for vinegar,

a counsellor for salt, and a madman to stir all up.

-Abraham Hayward, The Art of Dining-Our tomato French dressing has been compounded carefully with those four men in mind, but we recommend a fifth-"A wise man to add the tomato soup." It's a dressing that will disappear rapidly, so keep the recipe handy

for repeat operations. Our ear-to-the-ground department tells us that there just can't be too many recipes for carrots. So we brought you this new recipe for Glazed



2½ cups sifted all 4 tsp. baking pow 1 tsp. salt 6 tbs. shortening

soup, Sift together dry ingredients. Cut in shortening with pastry blender sticky, dough is formed. Turn out on lightly floured board and knead gently to shape into smooth ball. Roll lightly or pat 1/2 inch thick and cut with or 2 knives until well mixed. Add soup, stirring quickly until a soft, but not baking sheet, 1/2 inch apart. can condensed cream of celery cream of mushroom soup, or of chicken soup floured biscuit cutter. Place on lightly greased Bake in hot oven of 450°F. 12 to 15 minutes. cups sifted all-purpose flour p. baking powder

Note: 21/2 cubs of packaged biscuit mix may be substituted for the flour, baking powder, salt, and shortening in the above recipe.

Makes about 18 2" biscuits

101 cal. per biscuit

Source of vitamin B complex

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

· 3-way meat loaf

Preparation time: 134 hrs.

1 lb. ground veal
1 lb. ground beef
2 lb. ground pork
2 cup chopped onion
34 cup chopped green pepper
2 tbs. minced parsley

tomato soup bean soup soft bread crumbs eggs
// can condensed to cup soft breactsp. salt

Combine ingredients as listed above. Mix well with fork. Pack mixloaf pan, Bake in moderate oven of 350°F, ture into a greased 10" x 5" x 3" 1-114 hours. Note: Combine the leftover soups with 1 can of water; heat and serve as delicious first course.

Source of vitamins A, B complex, C 372 cal. per serving Serves 8-10

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

steamed pudding fruited

44 cup shortening
55 cup sugar
1 egg, beaten
1 cup sifted all-purpose flour
17 tsp, baking soda
175 tsp, baking powder
175 tsp, salt

Cream shortening, add sugar and mix well. Add egg and beat, Sift flour with soda, baking powder, salt, and spices; reserve 1/4 cup of flour to mix with raisins and mixed fruits. Add flour and soup alternately and beat after each addition. Fold in the floured fruit and raisins. Turn into 2 greased qt. mold. Cover with two thicknesses of waxed paper fastened with an elastic band. Cover kettle tightly. Steam for two hours. No. 2 cans or greased 11/2 Serve hot with hard sauce, Source of vitamins A, B complex, C 210 cal. per serving Serves 8 to 10

hrs. Preparation time: 21/2 1 tsp. cinnamon 1/2 tsp. powdered ginger 1/2 tsp. powdered cloves 1 can condensed tomato soup 1 cup raisins 1/2 cup mixed glacé fruits tsp. nutmeg

12

ingredient-tomato soup. Served with the traditional hard sauce-not to much, please, or you'll overcome the flavor-fruited steamed pudding reall-

combines the accomplishments of the food manufacturer with our heritage

We hope "Soup's a Starter" will start you off on a fascinating trail: com bining new ideas, new foods, new recipes with old, tried and true ones. It' as easy as combining two cans of soup. Want some ideas along that line For Old-Fashioned Velvet Soup, combine cream of mushroom and chicke noodle. For Purée Mongol, combine cream of tomato and cream of gree pea; and for Tomato Bisque, cream of tomato and cream of mushroom Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

Soup's a Starter Carrots. They're the nutritionist's delight because they're so full of vitamin

glazed carrots

min.

Preparation time: 40

O medium carrots, scraped tbs. flour sliced, peeled medium onion

bouillon or 3 tbs. butter or margarine 1 can condensed consommé ½ tsp. salt

in skillet until lightly browned—about 15 minutes. Add consommé and salt. Cover and simmer 15 minutes; uncover and simmer 10 minutes or until in butter all sides. Cook with onions Roll carrots in flour to coat carrots are tender.

Serves

A, and when eaten raw, they're even better. But we want you to cook them

our way and see if you don't become another enthusiastic carrot-addict.

Consommé is the magic ingredient that puts the golden glaze and the added

bouquet to this treat. Take this tip: The savory fragrance of onion brown-

Dessert with soup in it! What miracles are now wrought in the kitchen!

Fruited Steamed Pudding tastes a good bit like the kind Grandma makes;

ing in butter acted like a dinner bell when we prepared this recipe.

110 cal, per serving

Source of vitamin

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHEN

eelery and

(Begins on page 48)

egg sance

celery soup jo condensed cream 1 can condensed crea 1 cup milk 1/4 tsp. dried thyme

shelled, hard-cooked eggs, chopped minced parsley lemon juice tsp. 1

Preparation time: 15 min.

in saucepan; add thyme and heat. Add eggs, Reheat and serve Combine soup and milk broccoli, cabbage, spinach, etc. lemon juice. parsley,

Note: Delicious, too, with baked or poached fish, croquettes, etc.

Makes 21/2 cups

cal, per 1/4 cup serving

Source of vitamins A, B complex, C, D

KITCHEN Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME

> French dressing tomato

of cookery to produce a new and exciting recipe.

Preparation time: 10 min.

Add onion, salad oil, and soup. Cover and shake thoroughly. Makes 234 cups of dressing covered, in refrigerator. 1 tbs. dry mustard 1 tsp. salt 3 tbs. sugar Dash of pepper 1/2 tsp. paprika jar. there are all those aromatic spices, there are plenty of raisins and glacéed fruits, but above all there is a subtle, rare taste that comes from our ne

Store.

mix with vinegar. Pour into a

Combine first 6 ingredients;

2 can condensed tomato soup

11/4 cups vinegar 1 tbs. minced onion 1 cup salad oil tsp. marjoram

cup serving

Tested in The American Home Kitchen



Photographs by Reed K. Bidwell

Kitchen with a college education

ELAINE KNOWLES WEAVER

t didn't take four years, but it did take imaginative thinking, know-how, hard work, and some day-to-day testing before our kitchen was ready for its "cum laude."

Jim, who is an industrial engineer, built our house back in '41, installing standard wood cabinets near range, sink, and refrigerator. But, when barrels of utensils and dishes lined up to move in, it was obvious there'd be too little space for too many things. I had gathered some ideas from research and teaching-Jim's deft handling of carpentry tools gave them reality. We started work-reshuffling the adjustable shelves, giving priority to convenience in storage and work. Now we feel it smacks of some good ideas for you and your kitchen.

We started by planning the space from refrigerator to sink to house all supplies needed in food preparation-except glassware for baking. By adding such conveniences as sliding racks for cookie tins, tiny brackets for spices, we were able to put all staple foods, bowls, and mixing tools together-making cake-mixing possible without moving an inch from the counter.

Reaching across a range can be a sure-fire booby trap, but we desperately needed a cupboard over the range to hold flat, baking glassware. The solution-make it as safe as possible with vertical plywood files. Each piece, housed in its own separate stall, can be quickly whisked from storage to stove.

The underpart of the sink seemed one gaping hole. The cabinet floor was littered with soaps, powders, bleaches, but from 8 inches up-vacant waste space. So we added a narrow shelf on either side of the cabinet, connected them with a grooved shelf across the back. This holds soda, ginger ale.

In a town which supports no garbage collection, a sink disposal unit is no luxury. Several eyebrows were raised, however, when we installed the dishwasher away from the sink. Placed in the conventional site, a top-opening type would have banged against cabinets, a front-opening variety would have jammed the main traffic lane. Our decision-a separate dishwashing center with adjacent storage cabinets. And, knowing View from dining room door. Remodeling required much maneuvering, figuring, and classroom research. Problema long narrow kitchen and inadequate storage. Solutionbetter equipment placement and more useful division of shelves in existing cabinets



My mother bakes a delicious cakecorner cabinets house all necessary ingredients, bowls, and mixing tools



Without moving one step I can take dishes from dishwasher, put them away in cupboards built directly above





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Weaver Kitchen

(Begins on page 55)

All standard counters are 36 in. high. One hardwood breadboard pulls out from below a drawer for sit-down tasks; another, 2 in. below counter is for cutting and chopping. Dozens of jobs require less energy if working height, chair, and worker all match up in proper proportion





Wooden racks hold cleaning gloves and paper products. Other cleaning equipment is kept in closet, clothes hooks hold electric cords



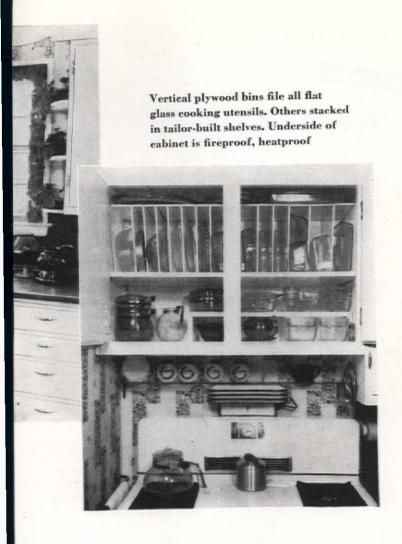
Divided drawer next to range neatly sorts kitchen tools. Plywood rack stores each knife in separate niche

that stacking always creates a hazard when the one plate you want is at the bottom of the pile, we doubled storage space by adding cutout shelves between each existing shelf. Now, without moving a foot, I can take each dish out of the dishwasher and place it in the appropriate niche above.

Research in fatigue studies had taught me that, for working ease, every kitchen should have several work-surface levels. All our counters were the standard 36-in. height, so we slipped two hardwood breadboards into the base cabinets on either side of the sink. One serves as a sit-down working surface; the other pulls out two inches below the counter. It's amazing how much two inches can ease slicing chores! And by placing upper cabinets high on the wall, I can use the standard counter-tops, clear back to the wall without fear of cupboard doors slapping my face.

It takes time to save time, but when a little work now means less work later on, you'll agree it's worth while!







In space that was formerly dining area, automatic dishwasher and dish-storing cabinets have been made into one integrated unit. Shelves at left hold all small, electrical appliances

Two cabinets next to refrigerator hold baking utensils and ingredients. Narrow racks keep spices easy-to-find. Electric mixer always on counter, ready for use



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and of course, they're electric! LILA M. JONES



The knack of good vegetable cookery

f your family turn up their noses at the vegetables you serve, this column is especially for you. For certainly there is nothing less appealing than a plate of watery, anemiclooking, overcooked vegetables. Let's review the rules of good vegetable cookery to see if we can't make vegetables "appeteasers" as well as "tasteteasers" in your household.

COOKING MARKET OR GARDEN VEGETABLES

1. Start with really fresh vegetables. Second-rate raw ones make second-rate cooked ones.

2. Prepare only enough for one meal. Reheating causes increased vitamin loss.

3. Prepare vegetables just before cooking. Flavor and food value are lost when prepared vegetables are exposed to air or left standing in water.

4. Cook in boiling water, 1/2"-1" deep in pan. Add 1/2 tsp. salt per lb. of vegetable or per cup water.

5. Avoid using baking soda. brings out green color, but may d stroy vitamins.

6. Cover pan, bring quickly boiling, then turn heat just lo enough to keep water boiling.

7. Do not overcook. Cook un tender-crisp. The longer the cooking time, the greater the vitamin loss.

8. Serve at once. Keeping veg tables hot over a long period adds vitamin losses.

9. Do not discard cooking water It contains valuable minerals an vitamins. Store, covered, in refrigera tor. Use in soups, stews, and gravie

COOKING FROZEN VEGETABLES

Frozen vegetables usually cook less time than market or garde ones. Follow label directions for cook ing; do not overcook.

HEATING CANNED OR GLASSED VEGETABLES

1. Peas, green beans, lima beans carrots, etc. Drain liquid into saucepan. Boil down one half or two thirds in volume, add vegetable. Heat season, serve.

2. Pumpkin, squash, cream-styl corn, tomatoes. Heat, season, serve

SEASONING VEGETABLES

Taste vegetables before serving Season with salt, pepper, butter o margarine, herbs, bacon drippings French dressing, or serve with cream or cheese sauce. A little variety will go a long way toward increasing their appetite and taste appeal.

We Won't Wait 50 Years

(Begins on page 50)

that immediately come to my mind, but since this anniversary dinner was for a group of good friends whose favorite food tastes I knew well, the main theme of the meal, Crab Creole, was slanted their way. And if you have friends who adore the flavor of crab, this is one menu that could be used more often than many others, since crab enthusiasts are interested mainly in crabmeat and do not need very much of anything else. Just keep one thing in mind-lots of crabmeat.

I prepared my Crab Creole right at the table in a gleaming copper chafing dish (very pretty with the blue of the tablecloth) but don't do this unless you're certain you can be nimble-fingered and won't keep them waiting too long for the result. You can make it on the stove earlier and simply transfer it to the chafing dish for heating if you like. Perhaps this would be your best bet if it's the first time you've ever tried it. But if you're courageous and daring, and if you know your recipe down to the last grain of salt, just gather your ingredients in front of you and go to it. Don't pay any attention to the heckling or jokes that you know you'll be teased with, but work quickly, quietly, efficiently. You'll love the impression you make! But I warn you, be prepared!

With an anniversary celebration (and, incidentally, with Crab Creole), there should be wine. There's no one and only best wine to harmonize with this dish. Any of many will do-dry Sauterne, Rhinewine, Chablis-whichever you and your friends like best. Of course, the first thing that pops into your mind for a celebration is champagne, but luckily for most of us, champagne and seafood don't mix so well. Cool Chablis, for instance, is not only a better choice of wine, but also is much easier on your wallet.

But whatever you serve, if your food is simple or sumptuous, if your wine is ancient or new as 1950, don't-I beg of you-don't put off an anniversary celebration until you reach the "Silver" or "Golden" mark. It's wonderful to enjoy them as you go along!

ORICKS of the TRADE

Flavor's at hand! Dip into spices, herbs, and frozen fruit concentrates

cheese and a dash of salt. Three tablespoons of the orange juice concentrate are added to this mixture and for this new frosting. Three tablespoons of butter or margarine blend with half then two cups of sifted confectioners' sugar are beat in a 3-oz. package of cream rozen orange juice con-centrate is the flavor basis orange frosting Prozen Tarragon Salads Fresh, dried, powdered, or ground herbs bring aromatic flavor and a new taste Marjoram Tarragon Savory Poultry Game Stuffings Marjoram Savory Thyme Basil Marjoram Savory Thyme Basil Marjoram Eggs and Cheese Savory Tarragon Thyme Basil Marjoram Tarragon Fish Marjoram Soups Savory Thyme Basil herb chart Marjoram Tarragon Basil Canapés Tarragon Savory

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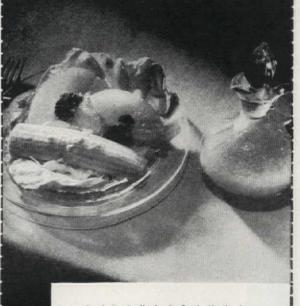
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MORE





juice concentrate, one table-spoon water, 2 tablespoons lemon juice with ¼ cup salad oil, 2 tablespoons chopped Roquefort or bleu cheese. Add ¼ teaspoon each of pepper, celery salt, Good on tossed green sal-ads as well as on fruit salads. This dressing is pre-pared by blending 6 tableof frozen orange poons

Vegetables	Curry Powder	Cinnamon	Poppy	Mustard	Nutmeg	Celery	Chili
Beverages	Stick	Nutmeg	Mace	Cloves	Cardamon	Allspice	Ginger
Eggs and Cheese	Curry	Cayenne	Celery	Mustard	Onion	Turmeric	Chili
Salads	Curry	Caraway	Celery	Mustard	Onion	Mustard	Chili Powder
Desserts	Cinnamon	Anise	Mace	Cloves	Cardamon	Poppy Seeds	Ginger

Curry

Curry

Fish

Pickling Spice

Celery

A pinch of spice may change an old-time

recipe into a new one in a twinkling

Allspice



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unused, unsafe. Then the roof went on, the new stone ledge went up-and see what we had! Wishing-

When the windmill tower came

down, the well remained-ugly,

won't make a wel t takes time, work, and an incentive, too. For over 30 years a

gaunt windmill tower was an eyesore above the stone-lined well which, three generations ago, was the only water supply on our place. Though its usefulness had long since passed with the coming of gasoline and electric pumps, and then a town water system, letting it stand was the easiest course-until its scrap-metal value went high enough to pay its way down. The well itself, 30 odd feet deep and 30 inches in diameter, was in excellent condition, with 12 feet of water; and it had never gone dry. So we decided to turn it from an ugly, unused relic into a purposeful source of pleasure.

To keep surface drainage out, we leveled the ground around it from the house on one side to a dry stone retaining wall on the other. The roof of a long unused smoke-house, with hoary moss on its weather-beaten shingles was easily reinforced and set on stout uprights placed at the well edge. There was needed only a stone curbing which, though the sole protection against frog invasion, for some reason had never been provided. The cobble-stone paving of an old wagon shed supplied the material and, after much experimentation, a low, cemented wall with raked joints rose to give an effect in keeping with the original well-digger's masonry. As a safety measure, it was fitted with a strong plank cover in two hinged sections with a hand-forged latch. The dog on the windlass (salvaged from the windmill) gives an authentic clink as the new oaken bucket is lowered (by hand, as of old) to the original source of delightfully cold, clear water. Also, the well provides a cooler for bottled drinks more capacious than the refrigerator, more convenient for outdoor living, and infinitely more charming. The delighted surprise of guests on pulling up a refreshing modern drink in a quaintly old-fashioned way is a frequent source of amusement. A white rail fence along the top of the wall, plus hollyhocks, lilies, and petunias, serves as a safety feature as well as suitable background, and an old elm which graciously has sent nary a root into the well, adds to the setting.

Gerald F. Curran

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Photographs by F. M. Demarest. Arrangements by Melinda Martin. Artificial flowers, Corham.

Chop plate, "Jubilee" Homer Laughlin

Arranged to cut costs

ooking for something different yet inexpensive for your winter table setting? During garden-bare months, when hothouse prices II are high, try dressing your home with artificial blooms! Artificial sprays are now finely-fashioned, so very lifelike. They last from celebration to celebration, survive to dress up everyday meals-and, requiring no water, can be tried in tricky, unusual arrangements.

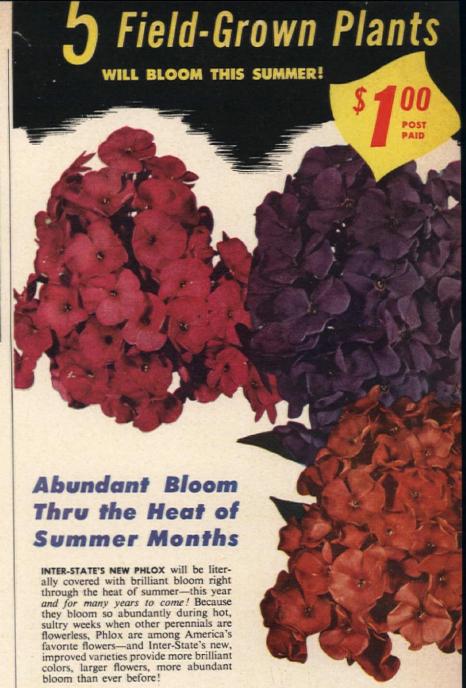
Above, for a New Year's centerpiece, white artificial flowers have been arranged on a sparkling white chop plate. Weigela and chrysanthemums are massed at the base of a curving sweep of stock. Sprays of mimosa and bouvardia create rhythmic balance. All are embedded in modeling clay (or wire holder)-which, in turn, is hidden under a blanket of small blossoms.

For a young lady's first real party, bedeck a satin and lace fan with pastel flowers. Lavender Scotch heather follows the shafts; pink anemones mask the handle. Pressed into clay, the fan stands upright. Pastel streamers add humor-and friendly informality.





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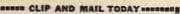
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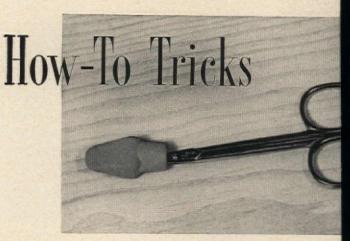


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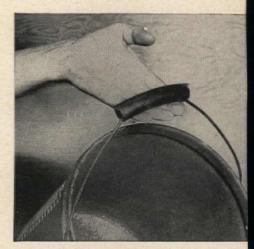
A GARDEN HOME

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Slip-on pencil eraser is good guard to protect you from sharp points on scissors and to protect points from damage

Slit a short piece of old garden hose and make a hard grip to keep the wire handle of the large bucket from cutting into your hand when bucket is full and heavy



Catch excess paint remover in a can cover or a shallow cake pan when taking paint from chairs or other furniture. Remover will not be wasted and the work area will be kept clean



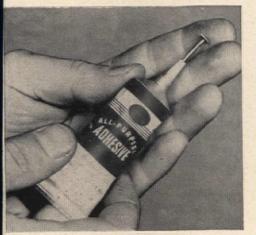
Muffin tins make fine containers for collections of small screws, bolts, washers, nails, and numerous other miscellaneous homerepair items



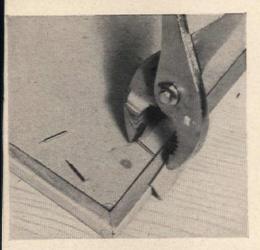
Make it better, safer-with small aids you already have at hand



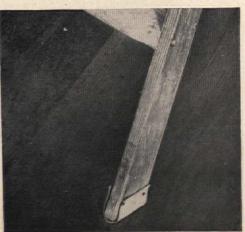
Use wax paper on traffic lanes of newly painted floors or stairs that may be tacky for a few hours or even a day after initial drying. The light wax film left on the paint is harmless



A nail will keep the glue from leaking out and making a mess when cap of a tube of adhesive is lost. Actually the nail is easier to work with than the screw-cap in most cases



Old phonograph needles are perfect for holding backing in a picture frame. Use pliers to force the needles into the frame. A piece of cardboard will protect the edge of the frame from the pliers



Place a piece of old auto tire tube under the feet of a stepladder to keep ladder from sliding and marring the floor. Tack the rubber on sides of the ladder legs just above feet

Photographs by Wendell Kilmer

The first rose ever to win both All-America and Bagatelle awards

AGATELLE GOLD MEDAL WINNER . PARIS

What a high-light for your 1950 rose garden! Just picture an abundance of long-pointed, yellow buds strikingly shaded with orange and red-watch them open into exquisite golden flowers with a rich fragrance unequaled in any other yellow rose. This great new Armstrong International Award Winner is vigorous in all areas - always with long sturdy stems and plenty of prize-winning blooms.

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Owren and Peggy Aftreth busy doing the actual labor on first unit of their Chappaqua, New York home



PRESENT: Craggy as its precipitous site, house of native stone commands magnificent view of deep ravine, distant woodlands. Heat is supplied by radiantheating coils buried in concrete floor slab. Wide roof overhang controls path of sun rays through wall of glass. Future living room will cantilever out over slope at right, bedroom wing will extend beyond stone wall at left

NURSERY C BEDROOM RECEPTION HALL FUTURE: Present house will

become owners' bedroomstudio. Future meals will be served over counter where present kitchen window is located. Walls of new living room to be glass

PEGGY SMITH AFTRETH

ing in Chappaqua, New York, three months after my husband had left our native Texas to build a home of our own. Three months had passed and there was nary a house in sight, just a partially cleared lot, foundations, and a bedraggled young

man who had lost 35 pounds in the meantime. In our enthusiasm, we'd forgotten the preliminaries. For instance, a wall of big stones rose up smack across where the house was planned. This had to be taken down piece by piece. Tree trunks, some with thirty-foot roots, had to be dug up. One large rock just wouldn't budge, so my ingenious architect husband poured the concrete slab level with its top to form a natural hearthstone.

well remember my disappointment upon arriv-

From then on, I pitched in, but the going was tough. Gravel was carried by hand from the driveway; our source of water, unluckily, was 300 yards away. Little wonder that later on, when placing roof beams or installing the 20-foot wall of glass, Bun's favorite remark was-"This is really fun."

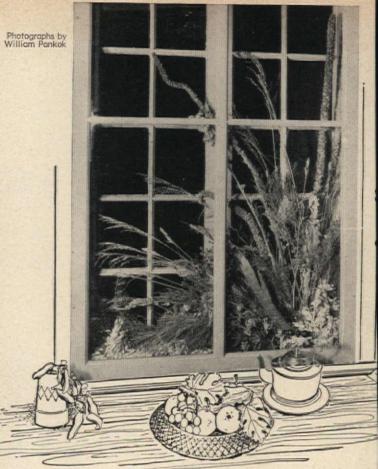
Together we laid stone walls, set cinder block, put up and plastered partitions, laid tile and did the hundreds of other jobs that go into the building of a house. I had never used a paintbrush before, and the nearest I'd ever come to being a carpenter was driving a nail to hang a picture.

We were determined to have a home free from debt; our project was a cash-and-carry affair. There were times when we were tired enough to despise the little house. But nothing worth while is ever easy. Our best answer to the curious is that much more ambitious plans are now being dreamed up. With the first section of the house finished, we're getting ready to begin the living and sleeping areas. These should be easy since lots of know-how has been gained and, anyway, house building is one of life's most satisfying experiences.



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"In-between" Window Garden

HENRIETTE GIESEKE BRIGGS

ne of the enchantments of annually preparing for winter during our year-round country living, has been the gathering, in late summer and autumn, of pods, fronds, grasses, reeds, berries, bits of interesting, aged bark, and, occasionally, an especially lovely flower which, dried, can supply a focal point or other accent. These materials, stored in an erstwhile corncrib, now a garden work shed, are brought forth when the season of fresh outdoor blooms has run its course. I have, of course, plans for a green winter garden one future time when materials and labor are more within reach. But, meanwhile, I seek ideas on how to bridge the gap—something to represent the cycle of seedtime, growth, blossoming, and harvest throughout the short winter days.

Several years ago, we achieved a "dry arrangement" with special appeal. All that went into it had been gathered in company with a beloved comrade on one of those "heady" Indian summer days which create a longing for a memento of the occasion. But the weeks brought waves of daily frustration as dust cloth and brush struggled vainly against clouds of tiny seeds and will-o'-the-wisps from the bouquet, until, one cold morning, I resigned myself to ruthlessly banishing the offenders which I had so hopefully placed in an unfair and uncongenial environment.

Just then my eye chanced on a near-by window pane where, etched in frost, was the impression of just such an arrangement as I held in my hands! (In our house, frost clings to the northern and eastern windows day and night in the most rigorous weather, the result being a depressingly shut-in feeling as cherished vistas are blocked out. And suddenly an idea came to me: Perhaps the small, capricious arrangement, in a little flat tole flask, would achieve a tidier, more effective, and more lasting role if placed between year-round window and storm sash



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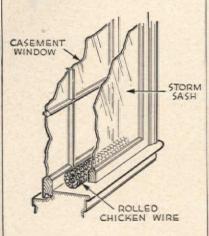
STAHELIN'S NURSERY, Box C5 Bridgman, Mich.

Window Garden

(Begins on page 68)

where, in this instance, Jack Frost's etchings supplied a glittering background and guide to good design.

Followed a happy interim and trips outdoors for sprays of laurel and yew which gave renewed beauty and cheer when the vase was placed in the quiet zone between the two panes where any shedding of leaves or seed would be less noticeable and no longer add to the housekeeping chores.



The effect proved novel, interesting, attractive, and, in the next few weeks, similar projects were undertaken for each of several other rooms. Where narrow, flat containers were lacking or not appropriate, a slender birch log or picturesque bit of bark with holes drilled in it served as a holder; or a rectangular pin-type "frog", or a length of rolled or crumpled chicken wire. Such props can be concealed with evergreen branches, moss, ground-pine, stones, shells or bits of coral. It should be kept in mind that the object is merely to frame the window view, not obliterate it. Keep the arrangement gracefully under control at all times. Usually, in the case of triple windows, as in our living- and diningrooms (which happen to be of the casement type with the storm sash inside) the designs are placed at either end; most often we work for asymmetrical effects.

Limitless in variety and interest are these decorative little projects. In the Early American living room, the accent of its "winter window garden" is an ancient horseshoe or two and a strip of sleigh-bell trimmed harness as accessories for the plant materials. An eighteenth-century bedroom window is inhabited by a little porcelain shepherd and shepherdess; it doesn't take too much imagination to visualize them reliving the carefree playtime days of the Petit Trianon era. A game-room arrangement utilizes an old, retired fishing rod and landing net, discarded Pingpong gear, billiard cues, etc. And the sub-deb's room, done in ruffled calico and organdy, takes on added Victorian flavor when a stiffly starched



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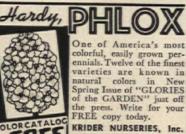
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Window Garden

(Begins on page 68)

calico bow with short stre ners is included in the arrangement. Nor is the kitchen forgotten; a brightly decorated dustpan filled with a variety of dried herbs makes a fitting detail there. A nursery might well display a jungle or a farm scene in which miniature animals would help dispel the ennui of a stormy, shut-in day. For rooms in the modern manner glass, plastic, or chrome objects would strike the proper note, and so on.

So much for the rich possibilities in the way of decorative, illusionary objectives. As an added reward for our window-trimming efforts, blue jays, juncos, woodpeckers, and chickadees seem to applaud us in their own sweet way. Apparently they visit the feeding stations outside the windows with more assurance and keener zest when the interior effect looks authentic. Occasionally an especially venturesome visitor even tries to peck at a bright berry or other tempting object through the glass. (Such attempts usually inspire some member of the family to go outdoors and replenish the food supply.)

But most gratifying of all, in our opinion, was the way the influence of this little effort spread following the visit of a friend from a distant suburb. She had recently acquired, after long search, the only available house in a somewhat congested area. Fully appreciating her good fortune, she nevertheless rued the fact that on one side, the windows of the house next door were too close to permit her much privacy. To make matters worse, the presence of a wheel-chair invalid at one of the windows for all the waking hours of each day threatened to be particularly distressing. Tentative smiles and other neighborly overtures on her part had not



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(Begins on page 68)

As six toured our house, our friend carolled with glee. Here, she exclaimed, between our window panes was just what she needed. So she

as yet brought any results whatever.

spent half a January day out in our snowy garden searching for specimens-and learning, as we have, that it is never too late to gather useful and attractive items for a winter win-

dow garden.

A few weeks after her return home, we received a most enthusiastic account of her winter window gardening experience. Not only had she solved the "problem" window, but its decorative effect had brought to the face of the invalid neighbor the first gleam of happy interest she had ever seen there! The unfortunate woman's family (which had long been concerned over her sombre apathy) had, at her request, telephoned enthusiastic appreciation of the window decoration and asked for suggestions on how to achieve such effects in their home. Our friend visited them, taking along some leftover material from her collection, and helped work out some plans and basic details. The invalid sat by, somewhat stolidly at first, but, as the project took shape, she proceeded to make suggestions which were accepted and acted upon with cheerful -and grateful-alacrity.

From then on, the "reciprocity window" as the invalid came to call it, has been featured as a "garden" all through the year, and the wheel chair has added efficiency to her efforts as her interest has grown. She frequently asks that the inside sash be raised so that what she terms her "airing" can include a little rearrangement of elements of the display. In fact, says our friend, the patient has become like a "queen on a throne" as she directs her little "kingdom." Furthermore, this new interest has broadened her horizons to take in considerable reading about things horticultural and artistic.

So-console yourself if living house plants must be given up because of unfavorable conditions; if purse strings are too tautly drawn to permit of frequently renewed fresh flowers from the florist; if dried arrangements, as ordinarily used, seem to take on unbearably untidy habits. If you have storm windows, gather your berried sprays, pods, stalks, twigs, and what you will and recapture between the panes-and between the seasons-the thrill of plant pictures. Jostle Jack Frost into second place when he begins to display his artistry upon the glass and make his designs backgrounds and overtones for your arrangements, while they frame the views outdoors and add a new charm to your windows as seen by others from without.

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Fruit Is Fine for Little Gardens

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beautify the landscape; their yield
enriches the diet; growing them
gives rewarding satisfaction

ABRAHAM LEVITT

Some years ago a young man who had bought one of our houses approached me as I was superintending the landscaping of the properties. "Could I ask a favor?" he said. I nodded my acquiescence and he continued, "You see, father comes from rural Italy where they love grapes and other fruits. Would you plant on our place some fruiting trees and shrubs instead of the flowering kinds that you ordinarily use? Father feels that they will beautify a garden just as well as spirea or weigela, and at the same time give something more in return."

I did what he asked, and the loving care that his father gave the plants resulted, a few years later, in some fine crops. In addition to apples, pears, and peaches, I planted half a dozen grapevines; then the old man added a dozen more and in time had a veritable vineyard. His garden inspired me to do similar plantings for thousands of small homes.

In Levittown, a Nassau County, Long Island, community of ten thousand homes which are sold or rented exclusively to veterans, the houses, of four rooms and bath with unfinished attic, stand on plots of 6,000 square feet. The land was formerly a collection of potato farms upon which there were no shade trees. So in developing the landscaping plans, deciduous trees, as well as evergreens and well-known species of flowering shrubs, had to be included. But, in addition, at least four fruit trees—apple, pear, peach, and cherry—were included in the landscaping for each house.

Now what is wrong about planting fruit trees in the small garden? Not a thing! I believe it should be done more than it has been heretofore. Home vegetable gardens have come to be regarded as essential aids to good and economical living, but we have too often overlooked the combined beauty and utility of fruits. The blossoms are beautiful in the spring, and, following them, what satisfaction there is in watching the fruits color and mature! I know that in a few years Levittown, with its 40,000 trees in flower, will be a veritable fairyland.

Not only in your yard, but on your front lawn, too, plant a fruit tree or several—as I have done on my own place and on every front lawn in Levittown. You will be proud to have visitors admire the tempting fruits hanging within easy reach right near the front door. To the city dweller, a bearing fruit tree is like something from another world; often it leads to a resolve to emigrate to the suburbs as soon as conditions permit.



To know how good a peach can be, you should grow it—and the same is true of any fruit

In general, two-year-old trees are best for planting, and early spring or late fall, when they can be had in dormant condition from any reliable nursery, is the right time. Either standard or dwarf types can be used, the difference being in the space they need for proper development. Standards should stand at least 30 feet apart; 15 feet is enough for dwarfs, which are also more convenient to care for and harvest from.

Have the holes dug—generously large and deep—before the trees arrive. Make sure there is good drainage, for no plant can prosper if water stands around its roots. If necessary, make the hole extra deep and put stones, gravel, and sand in the bottom. Mix some well-rotted stable manure with the top-soil (if you can get it); otherwise, use dried manure, humus and peat moss. Always saturate peat moss thoroughly before mixing it with soil.

Trees planted in the fall should have a mulch or protective covering 8 inches deep spread around them after the ground freezes, so it will prevent alternate thawing and freezing during the winter. Guards of wire netting or other material are necessary around young fruit trees wherever winter brings much snow, for mice and rabbits kept from their customary sources of food will gnaw the bark and may girdle the plants and kill them.

Grapes are among the easiest of fruits to grow. Even neglected vines will yield generously, while a little care will reward you out of all proportion to its cost. As with trees, plant dormant two-year stock in late fall or early spring, and provide a suitable support for the vines to cling to. I suggest a fence about 4 feet high made of 2 by 4-inch posts spaced about 6 feet apart, with wires or lattice strips between them. Set the plants 8 feet apart, cut them back to 6 inches from the ground leaving only about two of the strongest canes, and mulch well for the



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Fruit Is Fine

(Begins on page 72)

first winter anyway. In the fall of 1947, I planted lots of such vines, each one costing about as much as an ice-cream soda. Last summer, they were loaded with fruit. Where else can you get so much for so little?

The boysenberry is a sort of improved blackberry. On the Pacific Coast, the berries often grow as large as small plums; on Long Island, though they fall short of that, they are a delicious, easy-to-raise fruit. They, too, need a stout fence or trellis to trail on, but to which they will have to be tied, as they do not cling. Boysenberries come in both thornless and armed varieties.

The aristocrat of the berry family, in my opinion, is the blueberry. I grow it on my front lawn, and while the flowers are not conspicuous, the frosty blue berries are a pleasant sight. Somewhat more difficult to raise than grapes or boysenberries, they are not expensive if you compare the cost of a plant with, for instance, a rose bush. The plants should stand about 3 feet apart and an essential requirement is an acid soil. So if you live in a limestone region, the ground must be acidified by incorporating lots of oak leaf mold or peat moss; or aluminum sulphate. about 2 pounds per square yard. If rhododendrons, azaleas, or mountainlaurel grow well in your garden, you have the proper soil for blueberries.

Among quick-growing fruits, currants, I think, take the lead. You can expect a good yield a year after planting and, thereafter, plenty. I recommend from four to six bushes for the average small place.

If the currant is king, certainly the queen of the berry crops is the strawberry. From 50 to 100 plants will supply the average family. They cost little; you get some fruit the very next season, and what fruit!

Fruits from your garden cannot be likened, when it comes to quality, to those bought in the stores. The latter are usually of varieties chosen with an eye to the delays and dangers of transportation and store sale; they have to be picked at a stage that will stand handling. Your own, served from garden to table, can be of top dessert quality and maximum delicacy, and picked at the height of ripeness and flavor.

I feel an inner glow of satisfaction (in more senses than one) when I pick and eat a ripe apple or juicy pear off my own tree. The fact that I grew it fascinates me and gives me pleasure and contentment not purchasable anywhere. Some people go in for sports of various kinds, but I find joy in watching nature's wonders unfold. Why should not the smallest garden have its own fruit? The answer is-it should!



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Here is the composted and stone-mulched vegetable garden on the Pennsylvania farm of Mr. J. I. Rodale. Looks odd? Of course. Many innovations do. But it's the results they give that count



prevents wounding of tree trunks by lawn mowers

ALDEN STAHR

Stones are good for gardens!

To "throw a stone in one's own garden" is an old saying which means to act foolishly. But it had best be reversed, for many gardeners, after years of laboriously toting stones out of their gardens, are finding that, properly used in a garden, stones can make it grow as it never grew before.

Stone or rock mulching, as a deliberate gardening practice, is comparatively new. But for hundreds of years farmers unwittingly employed it when they gathered unwanted stones from their fields and threw them along the boundaries, where hedgerows either already stood or later grew up. And they thought nothing of the luxuriant growth of trees and bushes which resulted-or why. This same sort of thing happened on our own place in the case of a clump of small trees where we had thrown countless stones from our garden. We noticed with some surprise that the trees in this clump grew much more vigorously than others of the same kind elsewhere on our property. But we attached no particular significance to it. Then we heard of experiments with rock mulching in vegetable and flower gardens (which is not to be confused with "rock gardening"), and made some tests ourselves, in both garden and orchard.

For example, we put good-sized stones in part of the space between two rows of peas after working compost into the soil, and preparing it and planting the usual way. A few weeks after planting, the stone-mulched pea plants were twice the size of their unmulched neighbors although planted the same day, under identical conditions and given the same care.

Around our fruit trees we spread two inches of compost out as far as the drip line, covered it with a layer of straw, and stone-mulched on top of the straw, from within a few inches of the trunks out

as far as the branches extended. We used large stones placed close together to prevent growth of weeds and grass that would take plant nutrients that otherwise would be available for the trees. The next year the trees were unusually luxuriant; and, incidentally, for the first time, they showed no effects of the inch worms, even though not sprayed.

Of course, there's nothing magical about stones, notwithstanding the magical results they seem to produce in garden and orchard. Pick up a big stone in wood or field and you'll most likely find earthworms in the soil under it; and even during a dry spell that earth is likely to be moist. The worms no doubt are attracted by the warmth given off by the stone; and anything which attracts worms is of benefit to the garden, for they are recognized as one of nature's greatest soil builders. At the same time, the stone protects the soil from sun and wind, both of which increase evaporation and draw the moisture out of it. The further usefulness of stones in absorbing heat from the sun during the day and giving it off during the night is demonstrated in the way they temper the surrounding climate. This has saved many a planting from the damaging effect of a late or early frost. Anyone who has sat on a boulder in the cool of evening after a sunny warm day can attest to this night radiation of heat by stone. Furthermore, he who stone-mulches his garden, benefits his back as well as his plants, for by so doing he does away with cultivating and most of the weeding that would otherwise be necessary. And the stone-mulched garden can be walked in right after a rain, without puddling the soil or getting mussed up with mud. With us, stone mulching has become a garden "must." Maybe you will want to try it for yourself.



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Are You Stumped?



CHARLES S. WALTERS

any landowners, in suburbs as well as the country, have learned that tree stumps are about as hard to get rid of as old razor blades. Blasting or digging may be too expensive or impractical (and it still leaves them lying around). Few own a bulldozer to push or a tractor to pull them out with; and often there isn't room for such juggernauts to operate. The result is widespread use of various methods frequently recommended in the columns of magazines and newspapers, or of chemical stump removers occasionally advertised in them. Here, for instance, is one recipe as it appeared in a County Farm Bureau News:

"Treatment of stumps with saltpeter this fall will make their removal next spring an easy matter. Drill a vertical hole 1 to 11/2 inches in diameter and about 18 inches deep in the stump; put in I to I1/2 ounces of saltpeter; fill with water; plug, and leave until spring. Then remove the plug, fill up the hole with kerosene and set it afire. The stump should smoulder away completely, even to burning out the underground roots."

But how many of such efforts or sales have had a satisfactory ending for the experimenter or purchaser? Probably the proprietary removers cost several times what the chemicals in them would cost at a drug store. Yet, though they are often sold with a money-back guarantee, few persons take the time and trouble to make use of it when things don't work out as promised.

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 76



Large elm stump after being treated with a proprietary "remover" and burned. Result, practically nil. Slips of paper show the nine holes treated

Black oak stump with two hole: plugged with dowel rod after being filled with chemical. Again, result was 0





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THE AMERICAN HOME, JANUARY, 1950









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LOW AS

Are You Stumped? (Begins on page 75)

I have tried two such commercial removers, and also saltpeter (potassium nitrate), a chemical generally recommended. In fact, for two and a half years I've tried to improve upon the directions and materials sold.

Generally the instructions (like that quoted above) say that all you have to do is bore a hole in the stump, put in about two ounces of the chemical destroyer, fill the hole with water, and plug it; that when the chemical has disappeared, you can burn the stump, roots and all, after soaking it with kerosene. I acquired several blisters boring holes in my 64 hickory, white and black oak, and elm stumps, ranging from 6 inches in diameter to one old fellow 39 inches across. At first, I used a carpenter's brace and bit, but finally I took to a homemade boring machine powered with a 11/2 H.P. gasoline engine. Most of the stumps got only the one hole recommended, but some had as many as four. A friend who bought one of the chemical removers, wanting to be sure it would have a chance to work, bored nine holes in an elm stump. His results were the same as mine.

The chemicals commonly sold are potassium nitrate, potassium chlorate, and potassium perchlorate, or a mixture thereof. Chemist friends whom I consulted suggested others: potassium permanganate and dichromate, sodium nitrate and perchlorate, and ammonium perchlorate. My employer had a drum of "goop" (a military incendiary material) and that was pressed into service. Consisting of magnesium crystals in a mixture of kerosene and asphalt, it makes a fire hotter than the well-known "hinges." Also I tried as a diluent, in place of water, methyl alcohol which will dissolve larger amounts of some of the chemicals. Some of the holes I plugged with short lengths of old broom handle; others I left unplugged. I waited five long months. Then, after a spell of dry spring weather, I soaked six of the stumps -each treated with a different chemical-with kerosene and set them on fire. Things didn't go so well. Perhaps, I thought, the kerosene reacts unfavorably with the chemicals: so I tried six more without it. Again negligible results. Then I tried another quart of kerosene and all the kindling wood I could stack on a stump. But "roots and all" remained.

I made three attempts to burn other stumps 15 months after treating them. When the first two failed. I spread six kerosene-soaked stumps with a thick layer of the "goop." Knowing how well it worked for the Army, I cautiously put a match to the edge of the claylike mass. Instead of flaring up with a roar like a blow torch, it just sputtered and went

out. A second match, used less cautiously, set it on fire and, once burning, it was almost impossible to put out. The stumps looked whitehot, but actually only an inch or so of the top was charred. In all, attempts were made to burn stumps 4, 5, 10, 11, 15, 25, and 251/2 months after treatment, but most of them were merely blackened and charred The greatest depth burned in any stump-a pit about six inches deep and across-was in one treated with potassium chlorate and set on fire five months later. The kindling and kerosene used probably helped, but untreated stumps generally burned as well as the treated ones.

It is claimed of one material that it works "on the sap pores . . . opening the pores on stumps that have stood a long time. On those that have stood a few months [it] eats or rots the pores as it works its way down." Well, "sapwood" occurs in a narrow band just under the bark, so holes bored in the center of large stumps penetrate only heartwood. In my experience, the chemical has little, if any, "eating" effect, and it certainly does not "rot the pores." Rotting is caused by fungi and a concentration of the chemical probably acts as a wood preservative!

A more reasonable theory is that the chemicals are used to supply oxygen to the fire. However, many of the chemicals lose their ability to aid combustion soon after being placed in the stump. Also, liquids move up and down more easily than across a stump and very slowly.

I have concluded that the easiest and cheapest way to destroy stumps is to cut them flush with the ground and let decay fungi rot them. To hurry the process, you could bore holes into the stump, cover it over with soil, and keep the soil moist.

Editor's Note: Interested in Mr. Walter's report, we consulted George E. Hart, Long Island nurseryman and fruit grower, with whom we once discussed this same problem. He says: "You did hear me mention how I

treat stumps in a small way about my grounds. I learned long ago that wood of all kinds set into the soil rots or decays most rapidly near the soil surface. It is beyond me to explain why. Air, moisture, and chemicals in the soil all have their part. I feel sure. So I just help a slow process along by keeping those elements busy at all times. Cut stumps off close to the soil surface; cover them with soil; keep all moist, and keep suckers (sprouts) removed. Insects and fungi will soon become partners in the work. Stumps of conifers and most deciduous trees soon break down. Not so with yellow locust stumps, however. They never relax.-George E. Hart."



HARRIS

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treasure-hunt that's lasted for years!

RUTH W. LEE

When the Locke Lamson Murrays motored to Williamsburg years before Pearl Harbor, Mrs. Murray had a real inspiration. It was during one of her antique-hunting jaunts that she decided there was only one way to keep her husband interested in these trips. If she started a collection for him, she might get him interested in the eternal search!

At that moment of decision when they were in an antique shop in Williamsburg, she saw an old pine barber-shop wall cabinet and promptly bought it. In the same shop she found one of the Victorian shaving mugs which rightfully belonged in old barber shops. On other trips around the country they have found all the other shaving mugs which make up their amusing collection.

Her idea worked like a charm. Not only did Mr. Murray fall completely into the collector's habits of hunting, tracking down and studying pedigrees, but he was so completely bitten by the bug he started another collection of his own. In fact, it was on the Williamsburg trip that he discovered old factory bottles, which had both colorful charm and historic interest, besides a good yarn or two, and he has been collecting them ever since. To Mr. Murray, these bottles are not only fine examples of one of our earliest arts, they are colorful mementos of early Americana.

When Mrs. Murray goes on an antique binge now, she never needs to worry about Mr. Murray's lack of interest. His keen knowledge



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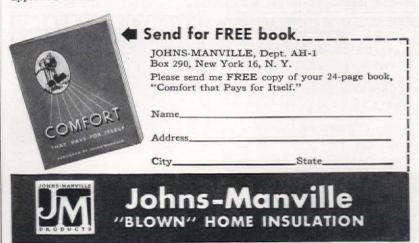
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A 3-Way Collection

(Begins on page 77)

of the historic past of factory bottles whets his appetite for more' -just as her grandmother's love of early American pressed glass started the collector's hobby for Mrs. Murray.

There were only a few pieces of the heavy paneled-grape pressed glass in her grandmother's home. There were tumblers, used originally as buttermilk glasses-there were a few parfait glasses and wines. Mrs. Murray believes that today her collection is one of the rarest to be found.

After years of hunting, she now has collected a dozen of every piece made in the beautiful paneled-grape pattern. Actually there were no plates made, so she found a companion dinner plate in a grape pattern with handles and a border motto: "It is pleasant to labor for those we love," to finish out a complete dinner service.



A few pieces of heavy paneled-grape pressed glass inherited from her grandmother started Mrs. Murray's interest in collecting. Now she has a complete dinner service, probably one of rarest to be found because made between 1830 and 1860



Rare bottles from Mr. Murray's collection. Venetian horse, cluster of Sandwich glass grapes, Jenny Lind bottle, left back. Next, Masonic-emblem flask. Center, horn-of-plenty bottle. At right Bristol glass in design of Dickens' characters It's a dandy for the handyman ...a honey for the homemaker!

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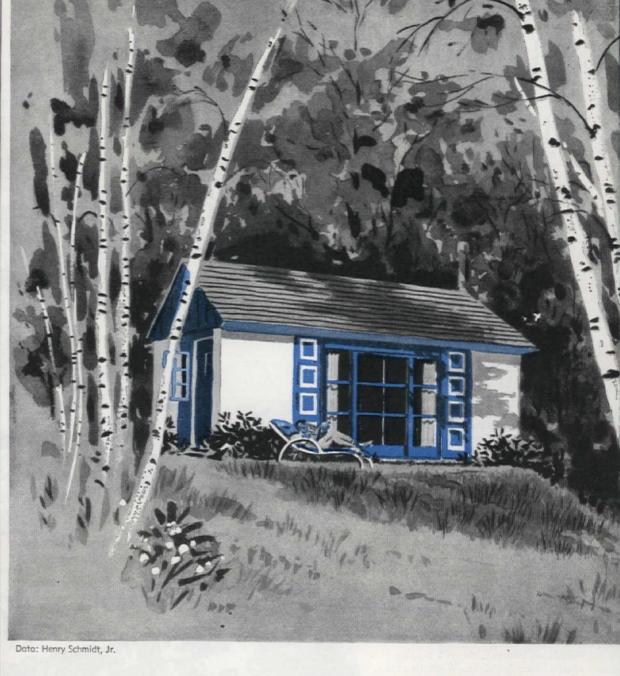
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Walls are of waterproofed cinder block, painted on both sides; the gabled roof, supported by beams salvaged from an old barn, is covered with asbestos shingles. One whole wall forms a utility unit. Behind striated plywood doors are a complete kitchenette, closet, shower, and lavatory a definite plumbing economy. The structure is built on a concrete slab as sturdy as Gibraltar.

Since the house is small, its owner stressed simplicity of detail; fussy ornament was out. One large picture window, 9 by 7 feet overall, dominates the front wall and includes two glass doors leading onto the flagstone terrace. This sash affords a beautiful view of surrounding hills and lakes and will be just as valuable when the room is later turned into a studio-bedroom. The American Home version of the final house is shown on page \$2 and proves once more that it is wise to build and grow along with the family budget. The present house was built for vacations, but the owner has found it so snug, even with a small space heater, he's tempted to live there permanently among his picturesque birches.

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 82



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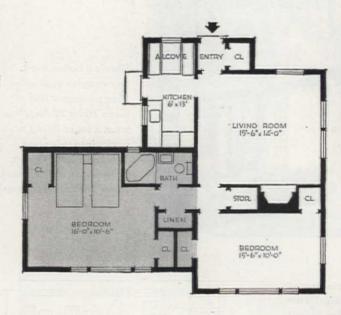
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\$2,300 One-Room House

(Begins on page 80)



Expanded floor plan shows how little of original house need be altered for average family living. Plumbing changes are few, yet bath is now accessible to all principal rooms.

There are two bedrooms, a good kitchen, and large living room in addition to plenty of closets

Banks of plywood doors
conceal utility units,
complement soft green of
other walls. Kitchenette
door has built-on shelves
for extra storage. Space
heater is cleverly recessed
to resemble fireplace.
Space above cornice takes
care of seasonal storage
of gardening equipment

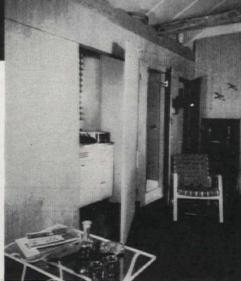






Scalloped cornice conceals indirect lighting which spreads soft glow over room. Bookcases high above bed won't interfere with lounging





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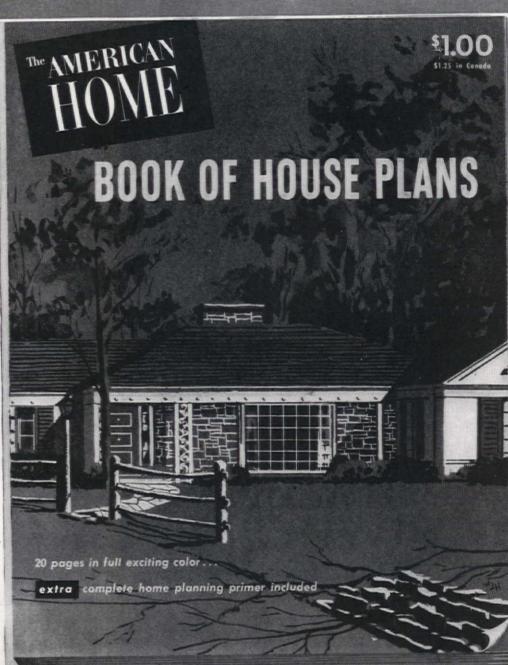
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Home Study Plan (Begins on page 42)

The floor-to-ceiling fireplace of crab-orchard stone, cut into small horizontal blocks, is impressive, extending beyond the raised tile hearth to dominate completely one entire wall. During the evening, a soft glow diffuses the room, thanks to concealed indirect lighting in the twenty-four-inch-wide cornices along two of the walls. Though wide plank oak flooring has been used, there's just a bit of it peeking out around the waffle-weave raspberry rug, ingeniously curved at one side to follow the lines of a circular white fringe rug upon which stands the ebony grand piano.

In fact, raspberry and black, pet colors of Mrs. Haygood, are everywhere apparent. For instance, in lieu of curtains, a tailored frame of plywood surrounds the windows, covered in raspberry and piped with chartreuse. The same color is combined with gray and black to form a zebra pattern on the over-sized curved sofa.

The 11- by 12-foot study gives immediate evidence that here reigns the man of the house, for it's as masculine as a meerschaum pipe. Walls are covered with vertical pine paneling while a custom-built desk fits snugly in the outside corner just under paisley-curtained windows. The blue leather armchair belongs to Mr. Haygood, although we have a hunch that its companion piece, covered in rough raspberry material, is often used by Mrs. Haygood.

The living porch is fortunately located to take full advantage of the river view, and it is here that the Haygoods spend most of their leisure hours. In fact they have furnished this room very wisely in order to avoid any family friction. There are two of everything—two chaise longues, two comfortable upholstered chairs and two floor lamps—proved recipes for family bliss. One unusual feature is a wall of Tennessee mountain stone that required the services of a marble-setter to erect. It offers rustic contrast to the rather delicate colors and iron furniture used here.



Hinged awning sash on porch protects interior from sudden downpour, makes room suitable for lounging or dining in any climate. Floor is of pale yellow terrazzo marked into large squares

Plywood frame, covered with rose chintz and edged with white ruffles, substitutes for curtains behind bedroom dressing table. Stool matches rose-sprigged chintz used on bed headboard

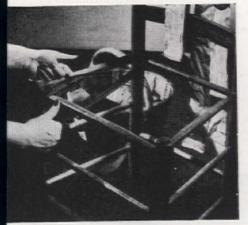


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F. M. Demarest

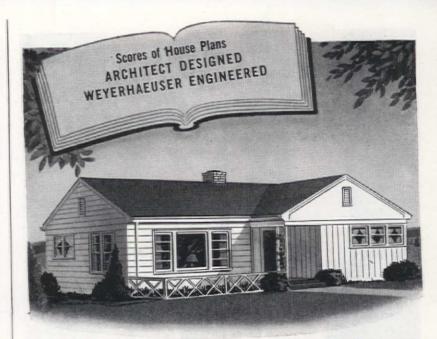
Cut 4-inch wide strips of cotton, turn edges in, fold again, until you get strip 1 inch wide, 4 layers thick. Stitch together ends of several strips. Loop first strip over front rung, sew securely about midway in seat



Strips are wound, front to back, over rungs. Keep taut. You'll have two layers. Attach first cross-wise piece to end of front-to-back strip, weave in and out through bottom layer. Turn it over rung, weave in and out of top layer



Join ends of strips as you work; overlap 1 inch and sew together. When chair is finished, sew end of last strip to bottom layer where it won't show. You should be able to do one chair seat in an evening



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To help future home owners enjoy all the extra values that come from professional planning, Weyerhaeuser developed the 4-Square Home Building Service . . . to place at your disposal, without cost, professional pointers to help you in planning a home of your own.

There are scores of smart designs in the Service . . . the newest and best of modern small homes . . . every one designed by a leading architect . . . and engineered by Weyerhaeuser.

Each profession contributes its special knowledge and experience. The architect is concerned with beauty of appearance . . . convenient room arrangements and features of comfort and privacy. The engineer is concerned with the correct selection of materials and sound, economical construction.

The exterior design is important . . . and in this Service are scores of fine architectural treatments. The number and grouping of rooms is important . . . these scores of designs help you select the one that meets your needs and preferences. In fact, architects indicate how to obtain all important values in a good small home—wall space for a variety of furniture arrangements, window placement, closet space and cross ventilation.

Engineers incorporate all that is essential to sound, durable construction, long life, high resale value and low upkeep.

These many designs, complete with blueprints, are available for your study and use at the office of your 4-Square Lumber Dealer. See them all there . . . or if you'd like a folder describing the house shown above and a booklet showing over fifty 4-Square home designs, use the coupon below.

WEYERHAEUSER 4-SQUARE LUMBER AND SERVICES

5130	First National Bank Building, St. Paul 1, Minnesota
	I am enclosing 10c. Please send me the folder describing Home No. 51 and the book "Helping Today's Home Builders Get Their Money Worth", which illustrates over 50 other designs and floor plans.
Nan	
	Townson I have been been been been been been been be



The day the Johnsons moved away . . .

They suddenly got cold feet and hated to leave town. In the new city they were going to, so much would be strange—the schools, the church, their neighbors...

But not everything will be strange. The grocer and the druggist will have unfamiliar faces, but the products they carry will be old friends. The shelves of every store will be stacked with brand names the Johnsons recognize. Of course, it is a comfort to be able to shop by familiar brand name—the name the manufacturer gave his product so that people could tell it from any other.

The Johnsons—like everybody else—know that buying by brand name is the only way to get exactly what they want.

Brand names mean protection, too. By knowing brand names, you make the manufacturer responsible for the quality of products that bear his brand name. Any manufacturer knows that if you find his products good, you will buy them. If not, you won't—and the manufacturer will be forced out of business.

Brand names mean progress. That's because manufacturers vie with each other to improve their products, so you get better products . . . and you get more value for less money.

Remember—you get value, protection and you get exactly what you want when you buy by brand name. Read the ads in this magazine—they feature some of America's most famous brand names.

Brand Names Foundation

A NON-PROFIT EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION . 119 WEST 57th ST., NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

Millwork Miracles



BEFORE: That double doors and archways can be more hindrance than help is proved by the above. Designed to throw two small rooms together, it becomes instead an effective barrier to good furniture groupings, makes each implied room appear crowded and small



BEFORE: Fireplace wall of room shown top of page is a series of eye-disturbing broken areas. Fireplace jutting into room is disproportionate to free wall surface above it. Many a homeowner has "problem-child" windows to cope with like these ungainly slots

with design variations to be able to describe them or work them out in detail, there's the opportunity of seeking and finding just what he wants. To avoid that most costly error, dissatisfaction with design, scale, or usefulness, make a visit to a millwork shop or spend a few evenings browsing through a catalogue. Get to know miraculous millwork.

The families to whom these rooms belong didn't buy blindly. They, like so many families right across the country, had lived long enough with rooms that didn't function to their living requirements. They wanted no repetition of these deficiencies. Since they planned to redecorate around some of the furnishings they already owned and knew they enjoyed, they wanted architectural design that would be compatible. Many of their demands were met by stock millwork.

Good manufacturers of woodwork make anything from a piece of molding to an entrance door; from sectional kitchen cabinets, shaped to fit almost any conceivable problem space, to cabinets



AFTER: R. S. Grants checked first to see if overhead support was sufficient to permit removal of partition. With it out, room arrangement has flow and meaning and light from windows serves adequately for both sections. Gone is feeling of room divided against itself



AFTER: Continuing horizontal lines formed by shelving in bookcases, curved front corner sections and overmantel treatment make this same wall seem twice as long. New face on fireplace helps it to recede pleasantly into the unit. Windows are painlessly blotted out

and bookcases made to meet almost any design problem. Their surveys keep them abreast of the architectural trends and the consumer demands. Their products carry a guarantee on material and workmanship, instructions on use, and precautionary measures for installation and maintenance. They do a thorough job. Best part of it is, it's there for you to see before you buy.

That paint, paper, floor coverings, and fabrics play their important parts in giving rooms a desired feeling of space is well evidenced in the before and after photographs shown above and on page 86. How relatively little they would have accomplished by themselves in these rooms is also apparent. The major change was brought about by the well-planned use of stock millwork. Through it, ugly physical aspects of the rooms are eliminated. Through its use an entirely new mood may be created. Wisely, the over-all planning for alterations included more than changing the color scheme or buying new furnishings. Stock millwork pieces added space, charm, and usefulness.

This

FIREPLACE WARMS ALL THE ROOM, EVEN ADJOINING ROOMS



CIRCULATES HEA

BUILD your fireplace around the Heatilator*
Fireplace Unit and enjoy the crackling cheer of an open fire . . . plus cozy warmth and comfort in every corner of the room! The Heatilator Fireplace actually circulates heat to warm all the room, and even adjoining rooms, too.

Heatilator Fireplace makes furnace fires unnecessary on cool Spring and Fall days, cuts weeks from the furnace season, dollars from fuel bills. Use it to supplement furnace heat during bitter weather, or as an auxiliary heater in case of fuel shortage or furnace repairs. In mild climates the Heatilator Fireplace furnishes all the heat needed by many homes. And remember, a Heatilator Fireplace lets you have any style of mantel you desire.

WILL NOT SMOKE! A Heatilator Fireplace will not smoke. The unit is a scientifically designed steel form around which the masonry for any style fireplace is easily laid. It assures correct construction, eliminates common faults that cause many fireplaces to smoke. Yet the Heatilator Unit adds little, if any, to the cost of the complete fireplace, due to savings in labor and materials.

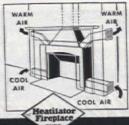
Your fireplace must serve you a long time. Make sure it will, by asking for the Heatilator Unit by name. Look for the name Heatilator on the dome of the unit you buy. Accept no substitute - the reliability of the Heatilator Unit has been proved for more than 21 years in thousands of homes and camps all over America. Sold by leading building material dealers everywhere. Mail the coupon now for complete information.

*Heatilator is the registered trade mark of Heatilator, Inc.





FOR BASEMENT ROOMS



EATILATOR FIL



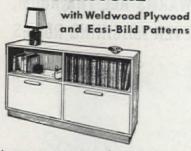
HEATILATOR, INC. 421 E. Brighton Ave., Syracuse 5, N. Y.

Please send free booklet showing pictures and advantages of the Heatilator Fireplace.

Name																					
Address								 	•												

City Zone State

MAKE YOUR OWN FURNITURE



It's easy to save money on furniture when you build it yourself out of Weldwood plywood.

Easi-Bild* Patterns take care of all your designing and planning. At your local lumber dealer you buy the Weldwood and other materials the patterns specify. Then you cut each piece exactly as the pattern indicates, and assemble according to directions. No special tools or skill are needed. Pattern for the Record and Book Cabinet,

shown above, sells for 256. The Easi-Bild Pattern Book, illustrating 105 Build-It-Your-self projects, is only 206. Send for your copy now, and spend your winter months build-ing home furnishings, toys, lawn furniture, gifts, etc.

*T.M. Easi-Bild Pattern Co.

UNITED STATES PLYWOOD CORPORATION

Dept. AM P. O. Box 215, Pleasantville, N. Y.



fast seller - Sales people wanted everywhere Order set now and get our sales pro-

FROHOCK-STEWART CO.



STATE_





NANCY C. LANGLEY

A kitchen makes a wonderful nursery!

from tiny kitchen to equally tiny nursery is the transition this room took in the home of Mrs. Catherine Garvin of Encino, California. Measuring 7 feet 6 inches by 13 feet, it has downright practicality combined with sentimentality. At first Mrs. Garvin was all for tearing out cabinets, sink, and any telltale trace of the kitchen atmosphere, but careful survey of the situation changed her mind. What better place actually than

a kitchen to raise a baby? Here was everything a scientific mother could need.

Facilities for cooking, laundry, ironing, even refrigeration were at hand. There was an abundance of drawer space; cabinet space and shelves for blankets, crib linen, bath and toilet necessities.

Set at just the right height was a permanent sink for bathing. Safe from tipping and far easier to clean than a bathinette, it was also available for a dozen other uses. An outside entrance via the back door to the patio provided sunshine and quick drying of laundry. Inside, there was proper ventilation and temperature control for baths and naps. In case of sickness, contagion from the family was reduced to a minimum danger.

Here are some of the advantages Mrs. Garvin has found: ironing board and shelf space handy; full complement of electric outlets for bottle warming, formula making, sterilizing; practical linoleum floor; electric plate for food preparation; a small apartment-size washing machine tucked under the sink, handy for diaper washing.



It's only a few steps from clothes bin to washing machine, to drying yard and back to ironing board

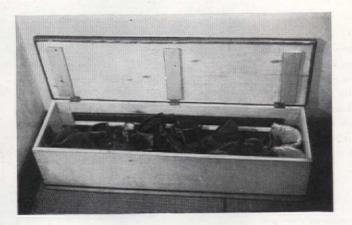




Wintertime rubbers, boots, ski-boots, and overshoes weren't usually kept so neatly as this in our entry hall that has no closet. For less than \$3.50 we made a box and seat to keep them handy and out of sight

low to Store Overshoes

HAZEL STOECKELER



We used 1-inch boards, and lined the bottom and 2 inches up the sides with black oil cloth. The box is 50 inches long, 15 inches wide, $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches high. It is set on 21/2-inch high base, recessed 3/4 inch to reduce scuffing, total height 14 inches. 8-inch high opening across back with slim slat to hold in boots provides ventilation to allow wet boots and rubbers to dry



Finish is shellac followed by 2 coats of varnish. The lid which projects 1/2 inch on front and sides is padded with 3 thicknesses of old quilt and covered with plastic to form an attractive and comfortable seat

For Your Convenience

Home Study Plans include architect's scale plans, elevations and details, outline specifications and reprint of our editorial on each house



• Home Study Plan No. 1

Red and white Colonial design. One bedroom on first floor, two on second. Large garage



• Home Study Plan No. 2

Split-level frame house; compact plan has three bedrooms, ideal for narrow plot. Heater in cellar



• Home Study Plan No. 5

All wood ranch house with flexible two-bedroom plan, view windows and large open living porch



• Home Study Plan No. 7

Cape Cod expansible house. Three bedrooms plus garage easily converted into extra room



• Home Study House No. 8

One-story three-bedroom house, separate dining room, attached garage. Playroom in basement.



• Home Study House No. 9 Three-bedroom ranch house for a narrow lot, living room, kitchen, two baths, two-car garage in front



• Home Study House No. 10

One story, two-bedroom house with large living-dining room, kitchen, dinette, porch, plenty of closets

HOME STUDY PLAN ORDER FORM

(Please allow 2 weeks for handling and mailing) Print name and address in this coupon, which will be used as label for mailing plan. Cut out, check plans desired, and send with M.O. or personal check (please do not send stamps). Allow 50¢ for each plan wanted.

Street Address .

10.
11.

6. See Aug. 1949, 7. 50c page 34)

3.
☐ 50c (See May 1949, page 38)

4.

50c (See June 1949, page 50)

8. 🗌 50c

9. 🗆 50c 10. 🔲 50c

'1. ☐ 50c

2. □ 50c

5. □ 50c

☐ 50c (See page 42)

12. 25c (See page 80) _ State_ Zone No ._ American Home, Dept. HSP, American Home Bldg., Forest Hills, N. Y.

HE AMERICAN HOME, JANUARY, 1950

LITTLE LULU



Just one at a time - like Kleenex!

Little Lulu says: WHY FIGHT WITH A PACKAGE? WITH KLEENEX TISSUES YOU CAN PULL JUST ONE AT A TIME, NOT A HANDFUL! ONLY KLEENEX HAS THE "POP-UP" BOX THAT ENDS WASTE, SAVES MONEY!

@ INTERNATIONAL CELLUCOTTON PRODUCTS CO.

#T. N. REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

MAKE MONEY FAST!

DO YOU SUFFER FROM

ARTHRITIS, NEURITIS, SCIATICA OR LUMBAGO?

SEND FOR FREE BOOK

describing the proven, spe-cialized treatment that has been amazingly successful in

been amazingly successful in combatting rheumatism, archirits and similar painful disorders. This illustrated book "RHEUMATISM" fully explains causes and effects... tells you WHY drugs and medicines afford but temporary relief. Delay may be dangerous. Learn about specialized treatment. Send for FREE Book today—a postcard will do. No obligation. Write today.



45E Maico Building, Minneapolis 1

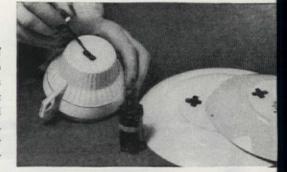




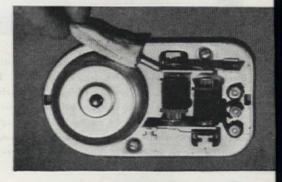
An old, discarded picture . . . even one hanging on the wall can be pressed into service as handy tray to carry invalid's food



To prevent spread of disease, keep patient's dishes separate from family's. Identifying mark made with nail polish is waterproof, can be erased later with polish remover



If patient's nerves are jittery and doorbell rings often, soften its sound by slipping finger of old glove over the bell hammer



No regular ice bag in the house? Then substitute ordinary rubber glove. After ice has been inserted, tie wrist part securely



Always pour bottled medicine with label uppermost. Then, if liquid runs down side, label instructions will not be marred or obliterated



Buy a "Bargain"

(Begins on page 40)

A flaw becomes a bargain asset when it is in a blanket made by a well-known manufacturer. It's just mother term for an irregularity and s generally so inconsequential that t needs to be hunted down. This ad was so right—\$7.98 proved to be an amazing price on a 100% wool planket.

Haws cut the price of a 100% wool blanket. If perfect would b

700 cus This is a bargain to go after. If you miss out on it, watch for ads on discontinued and special purchase blankets. Current ads show savings of from \$3.00 to \$6.00 on these. While manufacturers most often discontinue a line because they found a way to improve it, existing merchandise has already been proved acceptable. Special purchases are worked out on a mutually agreeable basis between store and manufacturer. Both are good buys, but scan ads carefully for specific features. A blanket should be light in weight, about 41/2 pounds; 98% wool content may be termed allwool. Don't veer off if you find a small percentage of nylon, rayon, or cotton content. Look to labels for information omitted from ads.

Trying to dig specific information out of ads can be pretty frustrating. Nine ads showed that pillow fillings ranged from 100% white goose down for a soft pillow to 100% goose feathers for a hard one.

SOFT PELLOW

195, .. filled corner to corner with all pure white goose down, and dover at shimmering cotton voteon in solid colors of blue, copy or all white

In between,

were mixtures of down and feathers. Prices dropped in direct ratio to down content. The two ads shown ran within a few days of each other. Both seem to describe the same merchandise, though



one has a little fancier wording and a little fancier original price. In these, as in the other seven ads, no sizes were given. Decision to buy seems to rest on whether "shimmering" is worth \$1.00 more than "fine quality" sateen. Better check to see whether your pillow cases will fit!

As in this instance, checking ad against ad won't always determine your final choice. But you will approach it with informed decisiveness.

PATTERN ORDER FORM

Please allow 2 to 3 weeks for

		handling and mailing
teri	als, c	ns contain tracings, list of ma- olor guide, specifications, as re-
quir		Mother Goose characters for painting front of "shoe"
	1231	slide
	1233	Floral painting design for toy
	1234	box or hope chest 250 Story-book children, stag, and candy-cane trees to paint
	1235	toy chest
	1236	niture, walls, and fabric 650 Four "pixie" designs to paint on nursery furniture and
	29	Penna. Dutch toy chest—to build and paint 300
	213	Penna. Dutch painting motifs for child's table and chair. 15
	217	Record-of-birth sampler—cross- stitch, 16" x 20"—hot-iron transfer
	710	End table or magazine rack to build and paint
	757	3 Greek borders for painting walls, floors, or furniture 20
	776	Nursery carousel painting designs of boys, girls, horses, lions for walls, furniture 35
	777	Child's "Sleep Ahoy" bed— youth bed from renovated studio couch
	779	"Jolly Jumbo" to textile paint on crib cover, draperies 20
	814	Mallard duck-in-flight motif to paint glass and decan- ters—3 sizes
	878	"Animal Crackers" of figured cottons, appliquéd on crib quilt
	924	"Jolly Jumbo" for painting nursery window shade 20
	926	Wooden tray with removable sections for 6 glasses 20
	962	Child's crib—standard size— circus cage motif—building pattern 20
	967	for
	1029	Paint cluster of poppies, daisies on bedroom furniture 3:
	1084	"Merry-go-round" plaster lamp base—to make and decorate 30
	1109	Lazy Susan table, 2 sizes— 6' in diameter x 2'6" high; 41/2' in diameter x 2'6" high —plus stools—building 20
	1137	e i
	1192	Building pattern for modern sectional sofa, chair, and child's built-in desk 2
-	1193	and the state of t
1	Comp	plete list of patterns 1
-	-	Name
1-		Street Address
1		
1-	ity	Zone No. Sta

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

American Home Pattern Department

American Home Building

Forest Hills, New York



RUTH GRANDIN

on't you hate to throw away the extra-special Christmas cards you've gloated over and shown off to your friends? Now you can save those you like best and put them to good use, too! You need a pair of scissors, a tube of glue, small plain white cards and tags. Cut out your favorite figures-Santas, wreaths, snowmen, bells, anything you prefer -mount them singly or in groups on the white cards and tags. Next Christmas your gifts will have "personplus. Or just cut out the motifs, leave them unmounted and use them for seals. It's easy, it's fun, spread Christmas cheer a bit farther!





Novel, amusing place cards, made by folding 4-in. squares of bristol board in half. Mount cut-outs

SAVE UP TO \$1000 ON BUILDING COSTS

\$1885 and up, FREIGHT PAID

Build your own home. Save labor cost and builder's profits. Modern Ready-Cut Sterling Homes in 57 attractive designs.



CUT-TO-FIT HOMES DELIVERED TO YOU COMPLETE READY TO ERECT

You get everything you need in one shipment including all lumber, (cut and marked for easy assembly) doors, windows, mill work, trim, glass, paint, roofing, nails, hardware, etc., — easy-to-follow plans and instructions. No waste lumber, every piece from quality, seasoned stock. Send 25c IN COIN for new illustrated color catalog, 57 low-priced designs and floor plans. Complete building plans ready for filing at low cost. Sold separately if desired—order today!



INTERNATIONAL MILL AND TIMBER CO.
Dept. A.H. 150 BAY CITY, MICHIGAN

BLUEPRINT ORDER FORM

Please allow 2 to 3 weeks for handling and mailing

(Blueprints contain list of materials, construction drawings, instructions)

□ 1229 Blueprint construction pattern for building bunk beds holds standard mattress 39" × 74"\$1.00

☐ 1232 Blueprint construction pattern for building Mother Goose "Shoe" Slide about 45" x

back about 26", seat 17".\$1.00

1238 Blueprint construction pattern
for building radio-phonograph cabinet 33½" high
x 52½" wide\$1.00

□ 1239 Blueprint construction pattern
for building modern storage
cabinet 31½" high × 41½"
wide\$1.00

Name

Street Address

City Zone No.

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

American Home Pattern Department

American Home Building

Forest Hills, New York

Winner

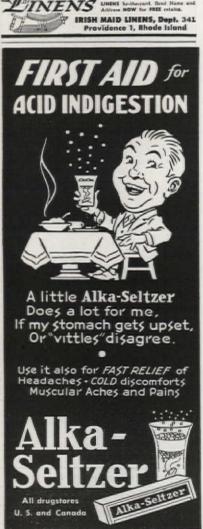


Marilyn Hampton, beauty queen crowned "Miss College All-Star of 1949" says, "For soft lovely hands, use Italian Balm daily."

In winter especially, your hands need the *extra*-protection of Italian Balm. Where less effective lotions fail, this famous Canadian lotion provides sure protection against winter weather. Italian Balm prevents chapping—softens roughest, driest skin overnight. Rich, widespreading, one drop serves both hands! 25c, 50c, \$1 per bottle.

Italian Balm





Wes, your child of 1950 is lucky! Parents have always loved their children, but even so, many have died—at birth, or in infancy, or later of epidemic diseases—and many who have lived have grown up pale and sickly.

Today a child's chances for a long and healthy life are greater than ever before, thanks to great scientific advances made since 1900. In the last half century, more has been done to improve the health and welfare of children than in all the preceding millennia in recorded history. Let's take a quick mid-century look at some of the great advances which are benefiting your child today, either directly or indirectly.

One of the greatest assets of the baby born in 1950 is the fact that the milk he drinks is pasteurized. Scarcely a generation has passed since a large part of the milk being sold and fed to babies was "raw" and dispensed in open containers at the neighborhood grocery store. Infant diarrhea claimed a large toll of life, particularly in the summertime when milk served as an excellent breeding ground for disease and death-dealing bacteria. One of the principal functions of child health clinics and physicians in the early 1900's was the education of parents as to the importance of feeding the child "safe" milk. Now pasteurization is taken for granted, and every child benefits from the simple routine pasteurization of clean milk.

In the last few years, the whole new field of chemotherapy-the use of specific chemicals to combat disease—has accomplished miracles. The sulfonamides, for example, have proved infinitely valuable in shortening certain diseases and in preventing deaths from previously hopelessly fatal diseases. Because of them, thousands of children have been spared agonizing deaths from certain kinds of meningitis. Even greater numbers have been spared arduous and debilitating surgery on their mastoids. Whereas formerly mastoids were a frequent complication of a middle ear infection, today such a complication is a rarity, thanks to the use of sulfa drugs, penicillin, and other substances.

The discovery of penicillin within the past decade led to a search for other antibiotics which might be effective in diseases that still resisted treatment. Among those commonly used today are aureomycin, streptomycin, and more recently, chloromycetin. Others, still in the experimental stage, will eventually find their proper place in treatment of diseases which still do not respond to medical efforts.

Rocky Mountain spotted fever, a disease which is much more common now than it was a few years ago, is a highly fatal disease about which relatively little could be done until it was found that aureomycin was effective in curing it. The antibiotic, streptomycin, has been used with dramatic results in some kinds of tuberculosis although its final place in the treatment of this disease is not yet definitely settled. Chloromycetin shows much promise as a curative agent in typhoid fever.

The brilliant discovery of insulin and its relation to diabetes in the early '20's paved the way for juvenile diabetics to live a normal life in contrast with the chronic invalidism and fairly certain death which was their lot in the pre-insulin era.

Many immunizing agents have been found which are now widely used and which have saved countless lives. Almost universal vaccination against smallpox has virtually elimi-

You Lucky



1900 child posed proudly in cumbersome clothing of the day. Then infant mortality was high, and epidemic diseases flourished

nated this dreadful scourge. This does not mean, however, that its ravages will not again be felt if we fail to insist on vaccination for every child during its first year.

Diphtheria immunization has resulted in the virtual elimination of diphtheria in those parts of the country where all of the children are immunized against it. However, there are still sections where this preventable disease could be eliminated if protective measures were taken during the first year of life and repeated supplementary injections given when necessary.

Whooping cough—one of the most serious diseases of childhood—is not a disease which every child must have in order to grow up. The simple and very effective immunization against whooping cough has decreased its incidence to a point where it takes fewer lives among infants and young children than it did a generation ago.

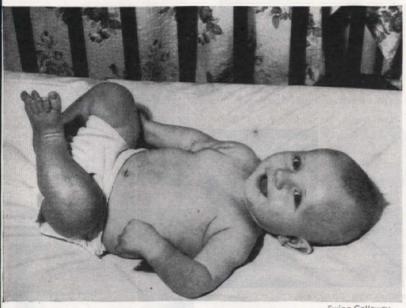
Gamma globulin—first made available by the blood banks developed during the last war—is most effective in the prevention of measles when given a short time after the child has been exposed. In passing, it should be noted that measles is not the very mild disease which many parents think it to be. Measles can be serious!

The use of tetanus toxoid in the prevention of tetanus, a highly fatal disease, has already saved unnumbered lives.

The invention of the bronchoscope was a brilliant step forward since it allows the physician to see directly into the lung and to remove any foreign bodies, like safety pins or peanuts, that have accidentally got in.

Forms of surgery never before tried or dreamed of now enable children to lead normal, or at least useful, lives.

Child...



Ewing Galloway

child dresses for health and pleasure, thrives on a balanced diet. It's predicted he'll live longer, more happily than 1900 forebear

Brilliant advances in the surgery of the heart have brought life to children otherwise doomed to lingering discomfort or even early death. Muscle and bone reconstruction surgery has saved many victims of physically handicapping conditions for fruitful existences. Pyloric stenosis, a stomach condition which occurs in certain newborn infants, formerly required lengthy treatment in order to save the child's life. The more serious types of this disorder have responded dramatically to a type of surgery which was not practiced prior to this century.

The discovery of the fluorides and of their great value in preventing dental decay means that a large part of our population will be spared much pain, ugliness, and expense in the future at such a time as the application of fluorides becomes universal.

The development of a better understanding of the various blood types now enables physicians to give transfusions freely—and save many lives!

Among the more recently publicized substances found in blood is the Rh factor, about which our knowledge is still not complete. However, its discovery has already resulted in a reduction in infant deaths.

It must be remembered that none of these advances can help the individual child unless parents provide regular medical supervision during health and seek early, competent medical advice in illness. The child of 1950 will be the parent and grandparent of a future day and should grow up with a broad knowledge of the facilities available to him and his future descendants. The heritage of good health should be passed on to the 21st century.





LEARN LANDSCAPING

Profitable career—absorbing hobby for men and women! Thorough home-study course in landscaping, garden design. 45 lessons, beautifully printed and illustrated. Learn in spare time, 8-12 months. Hundreds of successful graduates all over the world, 34th year, Write for Free catalog teder.

AMERICAN LANDSCAPE SCHOOL

PATENTS Write for information on what steps an inventor should take to secure a Patent.





Rug Yarns, Rug Patterns & Frames, Directions sent with orders. Splendid values, Economy prices.

Buy Direct—Save Money

BARTLETT YARN MILLS Box 13, Harmony, Maine



Try for \$1,200 in Prizes

5 PRIZES IN THIS NEW CONTEST! 5 Complete \$240 Art Courses, including Drawing Outlits!

Here's your big chance, if you want to become a commercial artist, designer, or illustrator! An easy-to-try way to win FREE art training!

Whether you win or not our instructors send you their comments on your work, if your drawing shows promise! Trained illustrators and artists now making big money. Find out now

if YOU have profitable art talent. You've nothing to lose—everything to gain. Start your drawing now. Mail it today, with the coupon!

Member National Home Study Council



RULES: You must be amateur. Our students not eligible. Make copy of girl 5 ins. high. Pencil or pen only. Omit lettering. All drawings must be received by Feb. 28, '50. None returned. Winners notified. For complete winner list, send self-addressed, stamped envelope.

ART INSTRUCTION, INC., Dept. 1200

500 S. 4th St., Minneapolis 15, Minn.

Please enter my attached drawing in your February drawing contest. (Please Print)

Name	Age
Address	Phone
City	Zone_County



I can install it and forget it...

(you can too)

Once your C-E HEATMASTER Automatic Water Heater is installed, it's a safe bet your Master Plumber—C-E Dealer can forget it. For HEATMASTER'S safe, dependable and economical operation assures a long period of trouble-free service.



H. H. STANTON,

prominent Plumbing & Heating Contractor of 103 State St., Pontiac, Mich., says, "A HEATMASTER, once installed, requires a minimum of service calls.

In fact, I have had no service calls to speak of in the years I've handled C-E."

C-E HEATMASTERS are available in sizes to suit your family's needs— Round Cabinet Electric Models from 20 to 100 gallons; Table Top Electric, 40 gallons; Round Cabinet Gas Models (Natural, Manufactured, or Liquified Petroleum) 20 to 75 gallons.

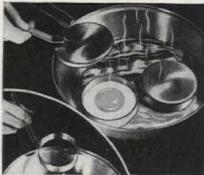
Ask your Master Plumber for the helpful folder, "Your Guide to Hot Water Enjoyment"—or write us direct.



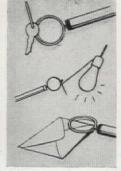
Water Heater, Range Boiler & Soil Pipe Dept.

Combustion EngineeringSuperheater, Inc.

P. O. Box 1749, Chattanooga 1, Tennessee



SAVE FRYING TIME



PICKUP



HOME SAFETY



PLASTIC FINISH



BEDTIME READING

HANGS PICTURES



STREAMLINED FOR WORK



PREVENTS FREEZING



NEW DOORS



LOBSTER AND CHICKEN

LOOK... it's new!



COFFEE SERVING

SAVE FRYING TIME with aluminum rings placed in any flat, greased pan. Eggs can fry while bacon sizzles near by. Use also for neat poaching, for warming leftovers. Two rings, two covers and lifter, about \$1. Benmatt, Merchandise Mart, Chicago 54, Illinois PICKUP stick is stoop-preventing aid for the aged or handicapped. Detachable hooks grab keys, pull out-ofreach light cords, pick up paper, etc. About \$4.95. Paulo Products, 2905 Washington Ave., St. Louis, Mo. HOME SAFETY insured with a "Scots Guard" fire alarm that's easy to install. Requires no wiring, no batteries because it's spring-operated and has expanding bellows to release alarm clapper at 130°F. About \$3.95. Marcar Co., 509 Fifth Ave., New York 17, N. Y. PLASTIC FINISH protects against tarnishing or staining. Just press top of 12-ounce container to spray metals, wood, or paper with Bakelite polyethylene. About \$2.95. Bridgeport Brass Co., Bridgeport 2, Conn. BEDTIME READING made comfortable with "Servall" table. Tilts to any angle and stays put without fingerpinching locks. Folds flat for storage. About \$4.95. Wadene Products, 4100 N. Tripp Ave., Chicago 41, Ill. STREAMLINED FOR WORK, handy-man's bench has sturdy 12-gauge steel top, electrical knockouts, drawers on rollers. Sloped legs prevent stumbling; back rails

keep equipment from rolling off. Equipto, Aurora, Ill. **NEW DOORS** for old cupboards. Malarkey flush doors, in six woods, have solid stile inserts to give edges look of solid wood. For natural or paint finish. ¾ in. thick, I to 2 ft. wide, up to 8 ft. long. M & M Wood Working Co., 230I N. Columbia, Portland, Ore.

HANGS PICTURES, eliminates sagging wires. Tack Pic-Hang to back of frame. Adjust notched edge over nail until picture is straight. About 10¢ for 3. Franklin Picture Frame Co., 2019 W. Montrose, Chicago, Ill. MELTS ICE on wintry roofs. Electrically heated cable loops around roof edge, creates channels through ice to let water drain. De-Icing Kit includes 60 ft. of leadsheathed cable, electric plug, shingle clamps. About \$9.85. Rockbestos Products Corp., New Haven 6, Conn. PREVENTS FREEZING of pipes, underground or exposed. Electrically heated cable wraps around pipe, is plastic-insulated. Thermostat maintains temperature at 35°F. Gro-Quick, 340 W. Huron St., Chicago, Ill. LOBSTER AND CHICKEN! Leafy green dish with lobster cast from real McCoy. Brad Keeler Artwares, 2940 Delay Dr., Los Angeles, Calif. Linen place setting with hurrying hens. Sody, 1815 B'way, San Francisco, Calif. COFFEE SERVING set of copper and brass has silver lining. Roth & Papel, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, Ill.



We went up the attic stairs to find the room we needed

Our home was bursting at the seams. There just wasn't enough room. Every evening generated a family crisis-Jim struggling to do some office work on the dining room table, Bob and Anne frantically hunting for a quiet place to study, the twins underfoot everywhere. It got so I almost dreaded having callers. An overnight guest was out of the question.

Then we remodeled our old attic into what the youngsters insist on calling the "penthouse." It's changed our whole life. Now we have room to live.

Take last week. It rained on Monday so the attic was a playroom for the twins. Jim used it Tuesday when he had some of the men home from the office. The next day it was my sewing room. Thursday evening Bob had a quiet place to study for an important exam. Three

of Anne's friends came to town on Friday for the horse show, so up came the bunks and they had a perfect guest room -and a wonderful time! Sunday, Jim hung out the "Don't disturb" sign and took his after-church nap.

Around to Monday again-that's my upstairs cleaning day-and a dust mop was all I needed to make my Armstrong Floor as beautiful as the day it was installed. Mr. Stephan had promised me that Armstrong's Linoleum would be wonderfully easy to clean and it's surely lived up to his promise.

As for being beautiful . . . well, judge for yourself. I do know that it was right after they saw the Armstrong Floor for the first time that Bob and Anne stopped talking about "our old attic" and started calling it "the new penthouse."

With sturdy furniture and a floor of Armstrong's Linoleum this room takes knocks from youngsters and oldsters alike. The game design inset in the linoleum adds life to parties, and the Armstrong Floor eliminates all clean-up worries. The floor is Hunter Green Jaspé Linoleum No. 19 inset with Plain Evergreen No. 21 and Plain Orange No. 41.

It's a guest room, too. The sofas on each side of the room can be quickly converted into double-deck bunks. Linen and blankets are stored in cabinets behind the sofas. For privacy, a bamboo screen is lowered from overhead beam. Tucked into a dormer, there's a complete bathroom with walls of Armstrong's Pine Linowall No. 730. Write for free room plan and list of furnishings.

Send for new "Decorator's Answer Book." It's completely new-32 es filled with full-color illustrations of beautiful rooms designed by the noted decorator, Hazel Dell Brown. There are decorating ideas here for every room in new houses and old. Slip 10s in an envelope right now (outside U.S.A., 40¢) and mail to Armstrong Cork Company, Floor Div., 5001 Pine St., Lancaster, Pa.

ARMSTRONG'S LINOLEUM FLOORS

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