The AMERICAN HONER



for December

038

YOU CAN BUY

a Pattern for these Professional Cake Decorations!

This <u>double-duty</u> gift saves endless running to and from the kitchen!

This Christmas, give her a GENERAL ELECTRIC "Dining Room Chef"! (only \$1695



You can put your confidence in-



It's a handy sandwich grill. Or, with a quit change of grids, it's an efficient waffle iron And it saves time and work by serving you ri_{i} at the table.

Smart modern lines and chrome finish ma it easy to keep clean and sparkling.

See this "Dining Room Chef" at your (dealer's now. Only \$16.95.* Also available automatic model at \$22.95.* General Elect Company, Small Appliance Division, Brid port 2, Connecticut.

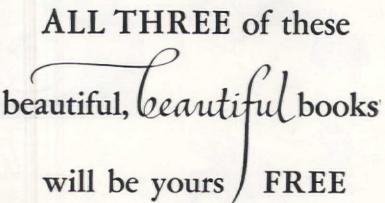


Turns out golden-brown waffles! With its alumi waffle grids inserted, it keeps crisp, made-to-o waffles coming fast . . . four sections at a time.



Makes delicious grilled sandwiches! With its grill plates in position, it serves up sizzling-hot gr sandwiches . . . or even bacon and eggs.



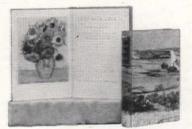


if you obtain a Trial Membership in The Heritage Club at this time!

THERE ARE three beautiful, *beautiful* books in the portrait above. They have been out-of-print for seven years. That fact has made some thousands of people unhappy. Many of these people have been advertising widely in the attempt to locate copies of these books for their collections. So now it will make them happy, to learn that we are planning new printings of all three—and there is a special reason why it will make you happy, too.

For these are not only beautiful books, they are famous books. They are "fictionized biographies" of three of the greatest painters that ever lived. One is Irving Stone's classic story about Vincent van Gogh, the title of which is *Last for Life*. The second is Hendrik van Loon's classic story about Rembrandt, *R.v.R.: The Life and Times of Rembrandt van Rijn*. The third is Dmitri Merejcovski's classic story of Leonardo, *The Romance of Leonardo da Vinci*.

These justly-famous Heritage editions are profusely illustrated *from the works of the painters themselves!* The illustrations are arranged so that they appear at the proper points in the stories of the painters' lives; and they are wonderfully reproduced, too: by letterpress and gravure and collotype, and often in full color.



Now WE are preparing new printings of these three books. They will be placed on sale in the retail book shops for \$11.85 per set, in the growing series called The Heritage Illustrated Bookshelf. But, because they were first distributed to the members of The Heritage Club, the directors feel that the members of the Club hold a kind of partnership with them in the plates from which these reprints are being made. So a copy of each book is going to be given to each member of The Heritage Club to inaugurate a new system of Bonus Books – in the distribution of which, even a limited number of Trial Members are going to share!

Yes, we will give you a complete set of these three beautiful, beautiful books – if you obtain a Trial Membership in The Heritage Club at this time. Why?

THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1953

WELL, IN THE FIRST PLACE, we have persuaded the mills which produce our fine papers to increase their allotment to us—with the result that, of six of our recent publications, we have obtained from the printers about a thousand extra copies. So, in the second place, we have decided to take in one thousand new members: to *try* the Club out for just six books.

But we want to enroll this limited number of people with an even more limited expenditure upon expensive advertisements such as this one! We want to cut down our advertising expenditure by offering this irresistible inducement to you, to become one of these new members. If you do, you will during the coming six months obtain six beautiful, *beautiful* books—at the same price as ordinary fiction.

T^F YOU OBTAIN a trial membership in The Heritage Club at this time, you will not only share with all of the members in the distribution of the three "fictionized biographies," you will also obtain **F**OR THE MEMBERS of The Heritage Club reguage from the past, in editions which will be the heritage of the future." Yet each of these booksbecause of the cooperative nature of the Club's system-costs each member only \$3.65! or only \$3.28 if payment is made in advance!

A Prospectus is now ready. You are invited to send for a copy. One of the remaining Trial Memberships will then be reserved for you until you have had time to study it—and your reservation will also be entered, for the complete set of three Bonus Books.

Never in the history of book publishing has a greater bargain been offered to wise buyers of books. The coupon below gives you the opportunity to put this statement to the test:



a copy of *The Complete Andersen:* all of Hans Christian Andersen's 165 stories put into a single enormous volume for the first time, translated by Jean Hersholt and illustrated in colors by Fritz Kredel; and *The Book of Job* with the wonderful miniaturepaintings by Arthur Szyk; and *The Essays of Ralph Waldo Emerson*, the First Series and the Second Series in one volume; and *Nicholas Nickleby* by Charles Dickens, profusely illustrated by the English painter Steven Spurrier; and *The Georgics of Virgil* with wood-engravings by the Italian, Bruno Bramanti; and the great Dutch book, Erasmus' *Praise of Folly*, actually printed in Holland!

Or, if any of these books should not be of interest to you, you may choose substitutions out of a long list of other Heritage books-in-print. In short, you may obtain only the books you want, and yet you may obtain them at a price which is a bargain. Then, after the trial period, you can decide whether you want to continue your membership. Obviously, we think you will!





MONOPOLY

Parker Brothers' Trade-Mark Name for its Real Estate Trading Game

Want to build hotels, own railroads? Players can make fortunes or go bankrupt - in this most popular and exciting of all real estate trading games. Three fine editions: \$3, \$4, \$10



SORRY The tail-ender never gets discouraged, because he always has a chance to win. \$2.50



KEYWORD The best crossword board game, with 3 exclusive features. Fast, easy scoring! Three editions, \$2, \$3, \$5

Clue Dixie-Pollvanna Camelot Rook **Rich Uncle** Flinch Pegity Touring Ask by name for your FAMOUS PARKER GAMES at all leading stores

--- SEND FOR BOOKLET ----

"How To Have Family Fun and Popular Parties" Send 25c, with name and address, to, Parker Brothers, Inc., Dept. 19, Salem, Massachusetts.



In this Issue

DECEMBER, 1953

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VOL. LI. NO. 1-

Our greetings to you-festive cakes whose masterly decorations are easy to make, our way. Silver platter for chocolate cake, International's "Rochelle"; cloth, Kemp & Beatley; cutlery, A. E. Lewis; sleigh, Mary Pentland. Photograph, F. M. Demarest

We wish you all Merry Merry Christmas Merry Merry Unir Editors

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THE AMERICAN HOME, December, 1953. Vol. L1, No. 1. Published monthly by The American Home Magazine Corporation, 444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N. Y. W. H. Eaton, Chairman of the Board-Treasurer: Jean Austin, President-Secretary: Warren C. Agry, Herman Bartel, Theodore F. Gloisten, Marion M. Mayer, Arthur Sherrill, James M. Wiley, Foster Willett, Vice-Presidents, Executive, Editorial and Advertising headquarters, 444 Madison Avenue, New York 22, Subscription Department, American Home Building, Forest Hills, New York, Copyright, 1953, by The American Home Magazine Corporation, All rights reserved. Title registered in U. S. Patent Office. Sub-scription price in United States and Pan American countries \$2.50 a year; 2 years, \$4.00; 3 years, \$5.00. Canada, add 50¢ per year for extra postage. All other countries, add \$1.00 per year for extra postage. Entered as second class matter December 31, 1935, at the post office at New York, N.Y., under Act of Congress March 3, 1879. POSTMASTER: Send notices by Form 3579 to American Home Bidg., Forest Hills 75, New York.

Look Lovely The Lanolin Plus Way

Here Is Today's Beauty Message

Lanolin Plus Beauty Aids-At All **Cosmetic Counters**

LANOLIN PLUS DOES WONDERS FOR SKIN, HAIR!



YOUR HAIR WILL BE LOVELIER, **MORE MANAGEABLE IF IT'S IN GOOD CONDITION**

If your hair is dull, dry and unmanageable, it will surely welcome the refreshing, softening influence of Lanolin Plus For The Hair. For lanolin, with its rich base of valuable esters and cholesterols, is the closest duplication of Nature's own skin lubricants. When the gleaming highlights and lovely softness that Nature meant for your hair to have are taken away by various kinds of harsh hair treatment, water, and the drying effects that come from exposure to sun or wind, look to Lanolin Plus For The Hair to supplement precious, natural oils and bring out sparkling highlights.

Before a shampoo: Rub gently into scalp and massage hair strands. If you prefer, use it the night before you shampoo. After each shampoo: If dryness is severe, brush a few drops through the hair, and in the ends. Every day: A few drops brushed on help to keep unruly locks and stray ends beautifully in place.

YOU'LL FIND, too, that the men of your house will like this new, lanolin-rich lotion for their hair. Imparts a well-groomed sheen to hair ... and it's so lightly scented.

GIVE your hair a chance to look its best. Get LANOLIN PLUS FOR THE HAIR soon. At all cosmetic IT CAN be used in several ways. | counters, only a dollar, plus tax.

Your Hands Will Look Lovelier ... Feel Better With Lanolin Plus Hand Lotion

You'll never know how soft and smooth your hands can be until you use Lanolin Plus Hand Lotion. For Lanolin Plus, containing the right amount of lanolin with its valuable esters and cholesterols, helps to replenish the oils that your hands need to make them feel and look smooth as silk. Chemists have found a way to blend

a superabundance of Lanolin Plus into Lanolin Plus Hand Lotion. The formula holds an exclusive United States patent.

TREAT your hands to this entirely new feeling of petal-freshness and softness. LANOLIN PLUS HAND LOTION works quickly, then disappears like magic. Only one dollar, plus tax, at all cosmetic counters.

Handy Dispenser Comes With Each Bottle of Lanolin Plus Hand Lotion

A few drops of Lanolin Plus Hand Lotion applied several times during the day will do much to keep your hands lovely to watch-lovely to touch.

The handy pump dispenser, which comes with each bottle of Lanolin

cation a simple task. LANOLIN PLUS HAND LOTION with PUMP ... \$1.00 plus tax. At all cosmetic counters.

Plus Hand Lotion,

makes regular appli-

Have The Self-Confidence That Comes With Knowing You Look Your Very Best

LANOLIN PLUS AGREES WITH YOUR SKIN ... MAKES IT FEEL BETTER ... LOOK SOFTER, MORE YOUTHFUL

Just as a new gown or a certain glance from someone very special makes you suddenly feel like a new person, so the wonders of Lanolin Plus work to give you a whole bright new outlook. For when you use Lanolin Plus Liquid, you'll know by the soft, wonderful way your skin *feels* that you never looked lovelier. And you'll find, too, that the tiny lines you worry about will become less noticeable. You see, as time goes by, the natural oils of our skin become less plentiful and, in addition, are removed by sun, wind, dry indoor air and ordinary harsh cleansing. So it's just common sense that when you help to replenish oils with Lanolin Plus Liquid, your skin becomes softer, more supple and, consequently, more youthful-looking.

Reveal Your Hair's Natural Loveliness With Lanolin Plus Hard Water Shampoo

Perhaps you are one of the many women who are at a loss to know how to keep their hair and scalp scrupu-lously clean, yet preserve the natural hair. Possibly you've found that ordi-nary harsh cleansing has either had a severe drying action, leaving the scalp flaky and the hair brittle and unman-ageable, or has left a sticky, dulling film on your hair.

NOW, Lanolin Plus Hard Water Shampoo answers this problem for you. For this is the shampoo that contains a superabundance of Lanolin Plus, the nearest duplication of nature's own skin oils. It not only helps lubricate scalp and soften hair, but at the same time it lathers beautifully in the hardest water. Its rich, lanolized suds thoroughly whisk away dirt and grime so that the hair is left soft and silken and gleaming, as it should be. Just as the shampoo cleanses, its oil pampers the hair.

Get-Acquainted Bottles

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| YEARS AGO it was found that the |
|---|
| wool of sheep contains a substance |
| known as lanolin, which, because of its |
| rich base of beneficial esters and choles- |
| terols, is most similar to the natural oils |
| of our human skin. The chemists who |
| created Lanolin Plus planned their for- |
| mula to include highly refined lanolin |
| and other skin-beautifying ingredients. |
| |
| WITH your very first touch of |

Lanolin Plus Liquid, you'll discover how exquisitely soft and fresh your skin can feel. Words can't *describe* that feeling, but once you know it, you'll never want to lose it.

A MILLION DOLLARS couldn't buy a more effective beauty aid for your skin. Yet LANOLIN PLUS LIQUID costs only a dollar, plus tax, at all cosmetic counters.

IT'S ECONOMICAL, too, because it's fast-acting, and ordinarily only one application is needed each time you wash your hair.

All cosmetic counters can supply you with LANOLIN PLUS HARD WATER SHAMPOO for only a dollar (tax-free).

New Softness for Dry Skin with LANOLIN PLUS **CLEANSING CREAM**

Time was when there wasn't much that women knew about retarding a dry skin condition that promoted premature wrinkles. But now that Lanolin Plus has come into the beauty picture, you can keep your skin softer and lovelier than you ever imagined! For it is compounded to soften your skin as it cleanses it.

IF YOUR SKIN is particularly dry, don't wait another day to give it the wondrous help of LANOLIN PLUS CLEANSING CREAM FOR DRY SKIN. Only a dollar, plus tax, at all cosmetic counters.

| Gentlemen: I enclose. | , Dept. 1039, 30 W. Hubbard St., in cash for the followin | |
|---|--|--|
| Guest-Size Jar Lanolin I Two-Weeks' Supply Lan 7-Shampoo Battle Lano 15-Application Bottle La | r Plus Liquid | Discrete Strength Provide August Augu |
| GET ALL 5 F | OR ONLY ONE DOLLAR-See | Note Above |
| ADDRESS | | |

ONLY 25¢ EACH

THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1953



Looking for a gift? Here are two wonderful choices! Two sets of gleaming stainless steel Flint Kitchen Tools ... the only kitchen tools so good they're guaranteed for 15 years. Either set makes a beautiful lasting gift she'll use every single day. See Flint Kitchen Tools wherever fine housewares are sold—and see how much better they are!

4-PIECE FLINT KITCHENETTE TOOL SET . . . three basic kitchen tools, with a stainless steel rack to hang them in sight...and in easy reach. In colorful gift box \$5.95.

Gift packaged Flint Kitchen tools, strainers, and wall racks—all in stainless steel—are available individually from \$1.75 up.

7-PIECE FLINT DELUXE TOOL SET . . . to brighten the kitchen and lighten her work. Hang on wall in sight . . . and in easy reach In colorful gift box \$13.95.

the greatest name in housewares

EKCO PRODUCTS COMPANY • CHICAGO 39, ILLINOIS Also sold in Canada by Ekco Products Company (Canada) Ltd., Toronto



This month THE AMERICAN HOME family celebrates an important milestone—its 21st birthday! And what would a 21st birthday be without a family album with its nostalgic tugs and chuckles?

The "family portrait" above, of the Old-Timers who've been with us from the start, was taken in Publisher W. H. EATON'S office. Seated directly in the center is the distinguished gentleman himself-the one who steered THE AMERICAN HOME on a straight course over the 21 years to attain a circulation of well over 3 million. MRS. JEAN AUSTIN, editor and president, seated at Mr. Eaton's right, has been friend and counselor to her family of AMERICAN HOME readers through her personal visits, correspondence, and more recently, her "Good Victuals" pages. MARION MAYER, right center, has been managing editor for many years and is also one of the vice-presidents. Standing (l. to r.)-EMMA BARNES, circulation statistician; BOB MAHN, production manager; CAROLINE KELLEHER, secretary to vicepresident Warren Agry; ERMA SPRAGUE, cashier circulation department; TED GLOISTEN, vice-president and comptroller; LORETTA WILS, supervisor circulation mail room; GRACE MEINEN, secretary to editor. And that genial gentleman on the floor is DEMMY (F. M. Demarest to you), the talented and patient photographer whose beautiful photographs you have seen on our pages over the 21 years.





JEANNIE WILLIS, field editor, shown with her two engaging children, Gil and Clyte, was our first child model, and now her offspring are following in her footsteps, Clyte having first posed for us in her nursery at age two months. In this issue, Jeannie and her husband, Weldon, are responsible for the exquisite wrappings shown on page 33.

JIM BIDWELL, one of the "old guard," is manager of our Cleveland advertising office. His wife Betty says his claim to fame is not exactly as a handy man about the house . . . but at farming—why he grew so many beans the family had to eat them for breakfast! He and Betty are in the throes of redecorating their new hundred-year-old farmhouse in Hudson, Ohio. PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 9



The Precious Gift of Speech

One of the precious gifts of life is speech. From babyhood on, it is the bridge to understanding, friendship and love.

There was a day when the power of speech was limited by the range of the human voice. Now there are no barriers of time or distance.

You have but to speak into the telephone to be in touch with almost anyone, anywhere-quickly, easily and at low cost. Just a few days ago the number of telephones in the United States reached fifty million, or one for about every three people.

These telephones are operated by the Bell System and fifty-three hundred other telephone companies.

All play an essential part in the nation's service and they join together in commemorating this new milestone in telephone progress.



TELEPHONE

The big story is not in mere numbers but in what all these telephones mean to the country.

By the quick interchange of news and views, the telephone has united millions of people. By its services for industry and the armed forces, it has become a front-line soldier in the army of defense. The lines of communication that help the nation to grow also bind it together to keep it strong.

BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM AND FIFTY-THREE HUNDRED OTHER TELEPHONE COMPANIES

YOU'LL FIND A GIFT ORDER FORM IN THIS COPY FOR YOUR AMERICAN HOME SUBSCRIPTIONS THIS CHRISTMAS

Your year-long gifts of The American Home will warm the hearts of all your home-loving friends who enjoy fresh inspiration and practical ideas for good living. Decorating • Remodeling • Recipes Gardening • Maintenance • House Plans Entertaining • Handcrafts • Hobbies Patterns • Flower Arrangements Table Settings

CHRISTMAS GIFT RATES \$2.50 4.00

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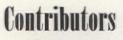
One 1-year Gift Subscription 5.00 Two 1-year Gift Subscriptions Three 1-year Gift Subscriptions 1.50 These rates apply to U.S., Central & South America. Four or more 1-year Gifts, each Add 50¢ a yr. for gifts to Canada; add \$1 a yr. for

GIFT RATES EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 1953 A colorful Gift Card is supplied at no extra charge for other countries.

Save more by including your own new or renewal each name on your list. You may send payment with your order, or receive a subscription in your Gift Order.

MAIL YOUR GIFT SUBSCRIPTION ORDER TODAY bill in January.

The AMERICAN HOME American Home Building, Forest Hills 75, N.Y.

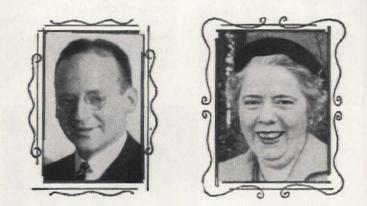


(Begins on page 6)



BILL LANYON was still in knee pants when the AMERICAN HOME was launched but, though not one of the old-timers, he justly deserves special mention this month. Not only is he an assistant editor in our art department, he is also a handy man of no mean reputation, as evidenced by the illustrations on pages 43 through 45. Bill and Prudy, his wife, have innate good taste, and with lots of imagination and hard work they have created for themselves charming surroundings. Baby Bill, age eight months, approves, too.

LIONEL STEVENSON (Steve to his friends and associates) by rights belongs in the "family portrait" on page 6, but his advertising duties called him away on the day appointed for the photograph. One of the original old-timers, Steve is a member of our advertising department in New York, and when not off on business trips spends his time in his attractive home in Chappaqua. His love of outdoor sports has been demonstrated over the years by his prowess with rod and gun, and of late years, a new role has been added to his repertoire—that of grandpa to his daughter's three young children.



GRACE FOY, an old-timer in our Chicago Branch Office was born in Chicago and has lived all her life in its suburbs. Being one of a family of recognized artists, she quite naturally indulges in the pleasures of art as an avocation. She has watched the Chicago office grow from a small beginning to a large and lusty family, and during that time has always been ready with a warm and hospitable welcome for the visiting editors and ad men from the East.

JOHN MCGINLEY was the first "road man" in our circulation department. His duties over the last 21 years have kept him constantly on the go-traveling over miles of the East Coast to see that each



news dealer received his supply of AMERICAN HOME magazines on time for publication date. He and his wife Julia, who was formerly a member of our circulation staff, have for many years been residents of Elmhurst, N.Y.

Our 21st birthday would not be complete without special mention of our horticultural editor, E. L. D. (NED) SEYMOUR. You will find a picture of him and the story of his newly acquired home on Long Island on page 75.

WHEN YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS

Please report both new and old addresses directly to The AMERICAN HOME, five weeks before the change is to take effect. Copies that we address to your old address will not be delivered by the Post Office, unless you pay them extra postage. Avoid this unnecessary expense by notifying us five weeks in advance.

THE AMERICAN HOME Subscription Dept., American Home Bldg., Forest Hills, N. Y.



Hand ironing is another unnecessary drudgery which Santa can do something about. Ask your Speed Queen dealer about the special Christmas prices on ironers — or write direct to the Speed Queen Corp., Ripon, Wis.

e Royal Family of Home Laundry Equipment





Welcome to the Market Placel 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.

> **ROCK-A-BYE** rocker for a tiny Miss is painted with her name, plays a tune. 14" tall; chintz seat 10" wide. \$12.95 ppd. Gotham Gifts, 67-85 Exeter, Forest Hills, N.Y.

A FISHERMAN'S WIFE would love a 17-inch striped perch of bright ovenware to bake the big catch on (or her canned tuna special when the big ones get away). \$4.95 ppd. Wonder Bar, P.O. Box 425A, Trenton, N.J.



FOR A SPICE CHRISTMAS put seasonings into 8 ceramic shakers which fit clockwise into a 9" x 10¹/4" pine-stained "spice clock" to stand or hang. \$8.30 ppd. Helen Gallagher, 413 Fulton Street, Peoria, Ill.



DELIGHTFUL DELFT pattern decorates 4-piece blue and white ceramic set. Rack holds wood-handled ladle, funnel, draining spoon. 14" x 9¹/4" overall. \$3.95 ppd. Damar, 971 Damar Bldg., Newark 5, N.J.

STIR UP MEMORIES with an old-

fashioned plant bracket. Dull-black cast

Old Guilford Forge, Guilford, Conn.

aluminum. Each movable arm extends 81/4".

Double (shown), \$3.75; single, \$2.75 ppd.

TEA-RIFFIC idea for a gift! Replica of old Dutch teapot and warmer looks like ironstone, holds and keeps 4 cups piping over candle-lit oven. 8" high. \$3.50 ppd. Ward Phillips, Carpentersville 5, Illinois.



ORIGINALITY marks the dishes of cooks who file recipes in a pine mailbox decked with Pennsylvania Dutch tiles. Paper rack can hold rolling pin and towels. 12" x 10½". \$10.50 ppd. Sylvia Moss, Box 334A, Glenbrook, Conn.

YOUR SHORT-ORDER COOK must rustle her bustle. Catch her attention with a gay trivet for sizzling platters, or to hang on the wall. $8\frac{1}{2}$ " x 6", satin-black cast aluminum. \$2.50 ppd. Garret Thew Studios, Westport A-7, Conn.

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THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1953

10





Photographs by F. M. Demarest

CUPID AND VENUS decorate a fancy old-fashioned black cast-iron match box, and what's a kitchen without big matches to light the candles or set a pudding aflame? $6\frac{1}{2''}$ x $3\frac{7}{8''}$. \$2.50 ppd. Wits' End, 221 Bellevue Ave., Upper Montclair, N.J.

A DAINTY DISH for serving cheese or to use as a butter chip, has its own stainless steel spreader with ceramic vegetable handle. 43/4" by 35%". Each \$1.50 ppd. Set of 4, \$5.95 ppd. Black & Co., 137 Black Bldg., Rockville Centre, New York.

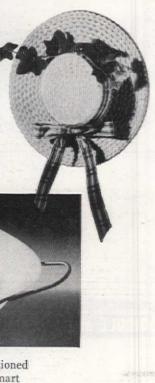


IT MIGHT AS WELL BE SPRING when a wall wears a gay yellow ceramic straw hat planter tied with a plaid taffeta ribbon. 9½" long, \$2.20 ppd. Market Combers, Box 3282-F, Atlanta, Georgia.



A STORY IN BLACK AND WHITE. Partitioned milk-white glass, ovenproof dish has a smart wrought-iron holder to bring it to the table. 12" by 8½", each side holds one pint. \$3.14 ppd. Ormand's, 1758-A, Hyde Park Street, Sarasota, Florida.

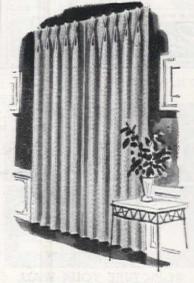
PICK A COLOR. Red, gold, green, or brown linen is stamped with cheery sampler pattern to embroider with white floss, frame in its $11\frac{1}{2}$ " x 14" white frame. Kit, \$2.95 ppd. Susan Smith, Carpentersville 13, Ill.





New Low Prices from

5 YEAR GUARANTEE Certificate with each purchase. NO IRONING! No stretching, hang dry in 7 minutes. Can't burn or shrink. Sheds dirt; unharmed by mildew, rain, radiator heat.



NEW FIBERGLAS DRAPES In 7 COLORS

Lovely textured fabric. Ideal for modern or traditional rooms. Each beautiful pair washable and sun-resistant. Generous 4" pleats. Size: 86" wide pinch pleated to cover windows up to 46". For wider windows use 2 or more pair and connect with our Empire Hooks to Draw As One. (Hooks Furnished on Request.)

| Leng | th | Usually | Now |
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| 36" | | \$ 8.98 | \$ 4.98 |
| 45" | | 9.98 | 5.89 |
| 54" | | 10.98 | 6.69 |
| 63" | | 11.98 | 7.59 |
| 72" | | 12.98 | 8.39 |
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Colors: Champagne, Rose-Pink, Celadon Green, Grey, Gold, Cocoa, White.

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MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE WITHIN 30 DAYS IF NOT 100% SATISFIED WHY SUCH AMAZING VALUES? Because Godell's are the largest manufacturers and direct-to-you distributors of Fiberglas curtains in America... which means tremendous savings in purchasing, production and distribution. We pass these SAVINGS on to you! IN N.Y. VISIT US OR PHONE MU 5-5353 On N.Y.C. orders add 3% tax

NEW IMPROVED FIBERGLAS IN LOVELY IVORY-WHITE COLOR

IVORY-WHITE COLUK There is long-lasting loveliness in Godell's curtains made of newer, finer, sheerer miracle Fiberglas. 3 Styles... 30 Sizes to fit any window ... And you save up to \$13 per pair. Order now for immediate delivery.

SELECT THE SIZE YOU NEED RUFFLED 6" baby headed, dointy edged, permanently stitched ruffles. All sizes wide enough to criss-cross (as shown) or hang Priscilla style.

| | h to pair | | | | Usually | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|------------|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 86" | | | | 6" | \$ 6.98 | \$ 4.59 |
| 86" | | | | 5" | 7.98 | 4.98 |
| 86" | | | | 4" | 8.98 | 5.59 |
| 86" | | | 6 | | 9.98 | 5.98 |
| 86" | | | 7 | | 10.98 | 6.59 |
| 86" | | | 8 | | 11.98 | 7.39 |
| 86" | | | | 0" | 12.98 | 7.98 |
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| 174" | (Double | Width | 1)7 | 2" | 19.98 | 12.98 |
| 174" | | | | | 21.98 | 13.98 |
| 174" | | | | | 23.98 | 14.98 |
| 174" | (Double | Width | 1) | 9" | 25.98 | 15.98 |
| 250" | | | | | 29.98 | 20.98 |
| 250" | | | | | 31.98 | 21.98 |
| 250" | | | | | 33.98 | 22.98 |
| 250" | | | | | 35.98 | 23.98 |
| 324" | Quadru | ple W | (dth)90 | 0. | 45.98 | 32.98 |
| TAIL | ORED D | isting | uish o | nv | room | Double |
| stitch | hed 11/2" | side | hems. | mo | le botto | m hems |
| beau | tifully sti | tched | | | | |
| 79/ | wide to pr | -i- | | ath | Herett | NOW |
| 10.1 | wide to pr | air | Ler | gth | usually | NOW |
| | | | 3 | 0" | \$ 4.59 | \$ 2.98 |
| | | | | 5" | 4.98 | 3.29 |
| | | | | 4" | 5.59 | 3.69 |
| | | | | 3" | 6.39 | 4.29 |
| | | | | 2" | 6.69 | 4.69 |
| | | | | 1" | 7.39 | 5.29 |
| | | | | 0" | 7.98 | 5.69 |
| | | | | 9" | 8.39 | 6.29 |
| a roo | m. Use si two pair | ingly | | | | |
| 72" . | vide to pa | ir | Len | ath | Usually | NOW |
| | 11 | | | | | \$ 2.69 |
| | | | 34 | 5" | 4.69 | 2.89 |
| | | | | 5" | 4.89 | 3.09 |
| | | | | | 5.29 | 3.39 |
| 31 We New Y | LL'S (De st 27th ork 1, N | St., Y. | To | p pr firs Iditi | epay ac t pair; 10 onal pai | ld 30¢ D¢ each |
| Please S DRAPES | | | TAINS | | | ers 🗆 |
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Picture Craft's exclusive process enables anyone to re-create a true work of art. The leader for 15 years, Picture Craft is the only paintby-number kit that gives you true artist's colors, the finest specially treated artist canvas and an exclusive Picture Craft designed 4-in-1 brush.

It's fun, relaxing, lasting, decorative and ... guaranteed. That's why we say ... "Be different this year! Give Picture Craft."



DOORWAY JINGLE BELLS make a darling Christmas pin-up. We know you'll deck the front door, but don't forget the back door gets lots of traffic, too. 51/2" strip of barkcovered wood is trimmed with pine cones. Christmas greens, red berries, ribbon, and 3 brass bells. Suction cup on back attaches to smooth surfaces. \$1 ppd. Whitman House, Dept. A, 521 Fifth Ave., N.Y.C. 17.

HOLY WATER FONT for the little ones. Sweet Hummel figures are appealingly shown in pastoral scenes above a small receptacle for holy water which a child would enjoy in his room. It could hold pennies for Sunday School or a wee plant instead. Bisque in natural colors. Approx. 41/2-5" high. Assorted designs. \$2 ea. ppd. Religious Art Guild, 125 Herold St., Peoria 2, Ill.

BIG BUILD-UP. We'll go out on a limb and say that any man, woman, or child will get a kick out of building a House of Cards with this deck designed for stacking. Card faces are uniform black-and-white design, backs are different fabulous patterns and colors to amuse you, make your architectural triumphs doubly intriguing. \$1 ppd. Spencer Gifts, Dept. A-12, Atlantic City, N.J.

DOLL-SIZED reproduction of a New England four-poster bed is handmade of solid cherry. We can't imagine a little mother who wouldn't love to tuck her dolly right into it. Raggedy's bedtime will come twice as often. 25" long, 13" wide, and 22" high, complete with pink plastic mattress and pillow, and ruffle for top. \$10.95 ppd. Templeton Craftsmen, Dept. AH, Templeton, Mass.

TABLE 19 INCHES HIGH













-and it's guaranteed open stock. "Dresden Violet" the people of the Bavarian Alps call the violet of the Alps—that delicate floral pattern of violet nosegays against the translucent, porcelain white-ness of this exquisite Bavarian china. So fine, yet so enduring, Royal Castle China in the violet pattern graces your table at moderate cost (only \$9.90 a unit of two place settings—2 each of dinner plate, salad plate, utter plate, teacup and saucer). Here's good news—Royal Castle China is made right in pieces will always be available. No headaches in trying to match china . . . no disappointments . . . whether you purchase a complete set or build your lovely china service a little at a time, your pleces will be ready when you want and need them. Mail your order today—complete satisfaction guaranteed, or your money back if requested within 10 days. Send check or money order for 9.90 per mit (first orders in units of how place settings minimum) plas \$1.00 to cover shipping charges per unit, No CO.B.

ROYAL CASTLE CHINA CORPORATION Dept. 12A Box 183, Madison Sq. Station, New York 10, N. Y.









CHRISTMAS SEASONINGS come from cute 3" salt and pepper shakers in the shapes of a gay red-suited Santa and a small green Christmas Tree. They will look cute on the holiday table, and be fun to add to your collection, or just bring out again next year. A sweet "little" gift for those you like to remember with more than a card. \$1.50 ppd. Elizabeth McCaffrey, Dept. AH, Orange, N.J.

WE'RE BLOWING A HORN for realistic musical-instrument toys that look like the real thing, are nickelfinished metal. Any young maestro on your list will get a big kick out of any one of them. Trombone that really slides, \$1.98. Saxophone, \$1.35. Trumpet (not shown), \$1.50. If you want to lead a band, set of 3, \$4.50 postpaid. Foster House, 15 Cole Court, Princeville, Illinois.

HOLY LAND DATES are a Christmas special, and take our word they are really special. Luscious squares of date mixture are topped with almonds and walnuts to become the hit of your Christmas feasting, or to make a wonderful gift to have sent direct to anyone on your list. 2 lbs. \$2.95; 4 lbs. \$5.95 postpaid. Hugh Clay Paulk, Dept. AH, 304 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas,

YOUR SLEEPY PIE will look cute enough to eat in this Love and Kisses nightie of soft cotton flannelette printed all over with mischievous devils and demure angels. Saucy ruffled hem, shirred yoke and cuffs, heart-shaped pocket, and Peter Pan collar to make her the best-dressed lass in the Land of Nod. Size 3 and even sizes 4-14. \$3.95 ppd. The Talbots, 164 North St., Hingham, Mass.





LAWN SANTA AND 8 REINDEER!

AND 8 REINDEER! Yours will be the "Christmas-iest" house in the neighborhood if you park Santa and his reindeer in front of it! Or put him on the of! Each reindeer has its name on its chest. All of weatherproof, 13" high. Complete set \$2.00 Postpaid.



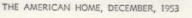
'How Many'' Days 'til Christmas? "How Many" Days 'til Christmas? Little eyes sparkle with anticipation as the foreat Day approaches! A colorful, stand-up picture of a snowy village complete with church and Christmas scene. The buildings all have real doors and windows that open to reveal glimpses of the pleasures ahead! There's a door or window for each date be-ginning Dec. 1st and ending Christmas Eve. Made in Sweden. 12" high, 19" long. \$1.00 Postpaid. \$1.00 Postpaid.



IMPORTED 12-PIECE ANGEL BAND Heavenly music played by a celestial band. Delightful little Angels each with a different musical instrument — 12 in all — including a baton-waving maestrol Each piece is hand-carved in Italy from hardwood and colored in assoried pastel shades. They heve wings and halos of gold! 1³/₄" high. Set of 12, \$2.95 ppd.



13





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NEW JERSEY

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HOME

Cakes

101

101 Pies

101 Salads

Meats

101 Quickies 101 Casseroles

per pair complete set

with 2 ash trays and 4 glasses.

TO WATCH OVER YOU, a sweet ceramic angel wall plaque is handpainted in pastel colors, decorated with 22-kt. gold. What could convey your Christmas wish more perfectly? Especially charming for the wall of a child's room. They are imported from Italy, are about 41/2" high, 4" wide, 21/2" deep. \$3.50 ea. ppd. Alpine Imports, Dept. AH, 505 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N.Y.

FIRE WATCHERS will enjoy these chemically-treated pine cones. They burn with a blue-green flame in your fireplace. In five assorted colors, each tipped with silver or gold, they make a wonderful addition to your mantel decoration where they are handy to toss into the fire now and then. At least a dozen in each box, depending on size of cones. \$1.50 ppd. Duxbury Arts, Duxbury, Mass.

MUSIC BOX MELODIES from a world-famous collection are beautifully recorded on a 331/3 RPM longplaying record to delight a sentimental heart. Book-record album tells the history of the music box. Anyone who collects old china, furniture, valentines-or music boxes, will love such a gift. Unbreakable. \$3.95 ppd. Artisan Galleries, 2100 North Haskell, Dallas 4, Texas.

SKI-BOOT BLOCK lengthens the life of those expensive ski boots, provides a convenient method of carrying and storing them. Simple to operate, the flip of one thumb screw fastens the boot in place. When block is stood or hung up, boots dry out correctly, keep their shape. Adjusts from child's size 2 to adult size 13. \$2.85 ppd. Leager Mfg. Co., P.O. Box 470, Claremont, N.H.













THE AMERICAN HOME, Dept. M.P. American Home Bldg., Forest Hills, N. Y.

THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1953

14

Send check or money order with mailing address now. Shipment made same day we receive order.

RODLER PRODUCTS

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STAR DUST. Anything you write with this tube of adhesive will sparkle plenty when dusted with glittering gold, silver, green, red, chartreuse, and blue metallic crystals. You can decorate Christmas balls, ribbons, packages; use to glamorize buttons or bows, place cards or your note paper. \$1 ppd. for complete kit. Damar, 769 Damar Building, Newark 5, New Jersey.

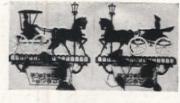
THE BIG SHOW-off is a whole yard high. No clowning, if you know a youngster who stands 36", this jolly fellow is the same height, but he weighs in at only 11/2 lbs. The star of the merriest circus under any Christmas tree, better watch out he isn't kidnaped by the baby sitter to take back to college. \$3.98 ppd. Carol Beatty Co., Dept. AH, 7410 Santa Monica Blvd., L.A. 46, Calif.

SUIT YOU TO A TEA? There are so many wonderful varieties of tea, and it's such fun to try as many as you can. This "Taste Test" package includes 16 interesting kinds in trial-sized tins. Such a gift would surely be a compliment to a lady's or gentleman's taste. Shipping weight I lb. \$2.85 ppd. Caravel Coffee Company, Dept. AH, 126 Maiden Lane, New York 38, N.Y.

TIME OF HIS LIFE for a youngster is when he gets his first wrist watch, and even more exciting if it's a Howdy Doody which pictures Howdy and his friends on its face. Precision American-made movement; chrome-plated, nontarnishable stainless-steel case; rugged Neolite band. \$7.65 ppd. (Tax incl.) Niresk Industries, Dept. HW-3, 4757 Ravenswood Ave., Chicago 40, Ill.

Save \$100.00 a Year with New









Delft. (Deep blue scroll work pattern on light blue back-ground). Baked on enamel on sturdy metal. Largest Canister is 61/4" high—others in proportion. \$5.00 Ppd. Black and Company



JET JOBS for a high-powered bathroom scheme. Solid Lucite 51/2" rings in ebony black or clear crystal (please spec*ify*) will hold the tiniest guest towel or the biggest turkish towel with equal aplomb. As decorative as they are practical. Need far less wall space than conventional racks. Mounting bracket is richly gold plated. \$1.50 each, set of three, \$3.95, ppd. Michaels Space-Savers, Dept. A-12, 40 West 59th Street, N.Y.C. 19.



gift neckties and defrosts the most dignified gathering. Made from heavy awning cloth in bright, gaudy, hor-rible red. Snaps on under collar. Really useful for spaghetti, lobster, etc. Let 'em dribble!

\$1.50 postpaid

GREENLAND STUDIOS, Dept. AH-3 5858 Forbes St., Pittsburgh 17, Pa.

Horse and Buggy Silhouette Planters Norse and buggy inneverse reasons Nostalgic reminders to those who knew the pleas-ures and contentment of "Horse and Buggy Days". Sets on table or hangs on walt. Of polished plastic—black horse and huggy, contrasting col-ored wheels and planter. Overall size 9" x 9". Pair facing right and left as shown \$2.00 Ppd.

Ruler Pencil >

\$5 00 Pad.

Shirt or Blouse Book

← Delft Blue Canisters







Write for Christmas Catalog



THE MAGIC GREASE SHIELD One size satin aluminum Magic Shield fits on all medium and large skillets. Keeps spatter in the skillet. \$1.25 Postpaid. Two for \$2.25. No C.0.D.'s Money back if not delighted. Wilco Products, Dept. A, Box 905, Louisville, Ky.



whether renor tra-nal. 11" high, 8" wide. Permanent finish—re-s no polishing. Beautiful four-color imported ntime gift card included. Send sev-as original gifts to be long remem-s original gifts to be long remem-s original gifts to be long remem-be long remem-s or polishing. Second second second second and get one for yourself too. postpaid d, and get one for yourself too. postpaid Add \$1.00 for fast express delivery.

24 Gift Package or Tree Decorations

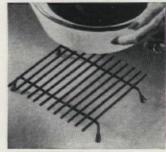


24 for \$1.69 postpaid 48 for \$2.98 postpaid for Free Catalog. Dept. AH-99 Son Third Avenue, New York 16.



ANY OLD BOTTLES can intrigue us. so we were thrilled to spot fishshaped ones in wonderful "bottle green" to use for candles on our pine table or to make a big catch of the sunlight on our window sill. Each one stands 14" high, and one or a pair will net lots of interest. Also in clear glass. \$2.10 each. Ppd. Chanticleer, Dept. AH, 536 North Main St., East Longmeadow, Mass. "HAPPY" SEASONING-it's terrific! "Happy eating—Happy Seasoning" HANDY ANN IRON HOLDER HANDY ANN is the perfect an-swer to every housewife's constant problem. It ends tiresome waiting for the iron to cool before stor-ing. HAADY ANN eliminates the worry and risk of leaving a hot iron out in the reach of children -ends a fire hazard. Provides handy, safe storage place for your iron. e storage place for your in BAKELITE MODEL \$1.98 ALUMINUM MODEL \$2.98 Postpaid with remittance - satisfaction guaranteed CANTRELL SUPPLY CO., INC. 904 AH E. 2nd St., Wichita 2, Kansas TREASURES s of inlaid spur rafted by Floren-Bracelet \$7.20, , Set \$9.50. Add ALPINE IMPORTS Dept. AH-1, 505 Fifth Ave. New York, N.Y. \$1.00 101 CASSEROLES 101 Meats















CHRISTMAS EVERY MONTH for the lucky recipient of this gift. For those who enjoy the fascinating flavors imparted by herbs, this firm has a collection of 12 herb products to ship once a month for the next year. Mixed herbs, herb mustards, salts. vinegars, sauces, and dressings, all interesting taste adventures. \$9.75 ppd. (Add \$1 W. of Miss.) Anderson Farm, Box AH, Tinicum, Pa.

A NEW FEATURE for an Antique Spice Cabinet is a handy roller for paper towels or waxed paper. A shelf (5" high) for your spices; the three drawers can be used as bins for coffee, sugar, and flour. Mahogany or knotty pine with clear wax finish. 141/4" x 13" x 4". With wall brackets and screws. \$6.95 ppd. Bay Mfg. & Sales, 2826 Newport Elvd., Newport Beach, Calif.

WINE WITH YOUR MEALS shouldn't start off with a struggle to get it uncorked. The use of an efficient corkscrew will do a great deal to start off on a happier footing. This excellent double-winged one works on the leverage principle, does the job with no call for brute strength. Sturdy polished brass, 6 inches long, Imported from Italy. \$2 ppd. Gift Clues, Box 13-A, Beacon 2, N.Y.



E.F. LAWRENCE IRON WORKS Dept 12-L. 2911-19 Whittier Blvd. Los Angeles 23. Calif

FREE BOOKLET!





THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1953

p band Plastic







HEARTS AFIRE. Within these fire agates burns the color of a flaming sunset, and three of them are set beautifully into a sterling silver ring of American Indian design, And if you give these as a gift, we'll bet it will kindle a spark in a lady's eyes, too. \$2.95 each. If she likes two on a finger, \$5 a pair. Post-paid. Old Pueblo Traders, Box 4035, Dept. A-4, Tucson, Arizona.

BUCKET O' BRIDGE. It's in the cards that this will appeal to you bridge players. Maple-finished bucket holds 2 plastic-coated, gilt-edged decks, 2 score pads, 2 pencils. Inside is lacquered red, forest green, or Wedgwood blue. Nice gift for a neighbor who has you over for a few rubbers now and then. 5" high. \$4.98 ppd. Pine-Craft Shop, Dept. AH, 20 Brookline Ave., Albany 3, N.Y.

THE BEAUTY OF THE BEAST is that he's a handy holder for lists or messages. Perch either "Memo Roo" or "Mail Dog" on your desk, telephone or kitchen table. 81/2" kangaroo brings pencil, 400 memo sheets; 10" dog comes equipped with clothespin-grip bite. Of satinblack wrought iron, either one for \$1.95 postpaid. Louise West Gift Sources, Dept. AH, Springdale, Conn.



but racks safely lock your guns in position. The large drawer in the 4 and uniocks drawer and guns. Guns can not Children, friends can not tamper with I its kind. Holds all antique or modern t scopes. Finely hand crafted in satin ty pine or a lovely mahogany finish. \$19.95

4-Gun Lock Rack-24"x28" (illustrated) (illustrated) 6-Gun Lock Rack-24"x40" (like above) 3-Gun Lock Rack-24"x21" (no drawer) FISHERMAN'S JOY

NEW RACK PROTECTS ALL HIS FISHING GEAR IN ONE HAND-SOME DISPLAY

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tow, enjoy fishing equipment year ound in this wonderful, new show each. It does everything. Safeguards p to 5 rods, any type or size, in rub-er holders. They can't warp, fall out, hows 5 roels, all types. Neutral gray sit back holds files, lures, plugs, look them in-out in a jiffy. Large cessory drawer. Finely cratted in olished honey-tone knotty pine or leal Fisherman's Gift-the only or hef s kind. Only \$22,50 \$22,50



Rack-13" x 18"

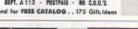
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MAKE GRANDFATHER'S WATCH USEFUL fiful, graceful "bell-case" displays treasured grandfather's nom workt, TREASURE DOME (T.M. Reg.) makes modern, useful isee fit for the dask of a king. Easy-to-wind. Use any place home. Dome is of crystal clear DuPont Lucite with base of home. Dome is of crystal clear DuPont Lucite with base of home. With personalised home and the dask of a king. Supervised and the second plate as illustrated (3 words) add \$1.00. (Please PRINT.)

TREASURE DOME LAMP Madern polished brass (20") lamp especially your TREASURE DOME. The attractive Shan-tung shade comes in red, green or beige. Lamp with hande at 39-29. Complete Lamp with TREASURE DOME (as shown) \$13.50.

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OUTDOORS! Burn refuse and garbage stard. Scientific draft de-scient fills constructed for the most constructed to steel for the most control of the stard of stard and close. The stard of the stard of stard of stard and stard of stard stard of stard intense combustion re-duces damp, green of any weather. Simply fill use logit and close. Someneded by Bureaus of Fire Prevention, rolly constructed of weather resistant minum bonded to steel for the most cent, longest-lived outdoor burners ever. DEL A -21½" sq. at base x 29" high-2

Sturdily MODEL A-21½" sq. at base x 29" high-2 bu. cap.-only \$12.95 (\$13.95 W, of Denver).

of Denver). MODEL B-24" sq. at base x 34" high--3 bu. cap.-only \$16.95 (\$18.95 W. of Denver). Money back guarantee. Sent postpaid. Send check, cask or money order for model desired to:

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DOES EVERY-THING A GOOD PIPE RACK SHOULD DO

Hangs conven-iently on wall-saves precious desk or table space, Holds 14 pipes, 3 air-tight

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PORCELAIN DUDIE ENGLISH Exquisitely decorated door knobs in im-ported Limoge type porcelain will add a luxurious note to your home! Copied ex-actly from the French hand made knobs of Marie Antoinette's time, with multicolor floral bouquets and 24K gold trim on white, with white, green or pink undershading. Standard brass fittings, easily installed on say door. \$3.95 the pair 3 pairs \$10.95, postpaid

seth and jed Dept. A NEW MARLBOROUGH. MASS



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BONNIE SEALER makes tempting sealed sandwiches, filled cookies, miniature pies. Cuts and seals 2"x21/2" shapes in seconds. Bake, toast, or fry them, filled with favorite filling. Clever way to make leftovers seem very special. Sealer with recipes, \$1.00 postpaid or 4 for \$3.00 ppd. Make appreciated gift. Give several for Christmas. H. C. Paulk, Dept. AH, 304 Kansas Avenue, Topeka, Kansas

New! Fun! Easy! THE "PRETTIEST ANGELS"

Painted-Assembled by you! You'll be pleased as Punch when you tell your sim-prised triends you made them yourself! 10 of the most adorable angels imaginable . . . heavenly be-decked in glorious color. Figures come printed on heavy paper-you simply cut out, paint, apply metallic and velour papers and assemble . . . it's as easy as that and it's fun, tool Grand for glfts, prizes, favors, table and holiday decorations. Com-plete kit includes 2 of "THE PRETTIEST ANGELS" light with colors, bruth, paske, red and gold metallic and green velour papers. ORDER NOW . . . Postpaid \$3.95. With 8 matching tallies \$4.45 ppd. (Pa. customers add 1% sakes tax), HUCKLEBERRY STUDIO, Dept. AH 123, Latrobe, Pa.



A new idea in cocktail glasses. Clear plastic tops and colored plastic bases in red, blue, green and gold, Lightweight and extra durable. Just right for cocktails, juices, punch and children's drinks. Ideal as gifts and party prizes. Money back guarantee. Postage Paid. No C.O.D.'s. Send check or money order to:

CLOVERLEAF-FREELAND CORP. Specialties Division, Hazleton, Penna.



BURN REFUSE SAFELY

19





YOUR OWN GAY BLADE will start the day with a smile with these jolly fellows to provide an amusing spot for those used razor blades that are so difficult to get rid of, dangerous to have around. Of ceramic, finished in authentic colors. 5¹/₄" x 2¹/₄" x 4¹/₄", it has a huge capacity. Tuck one into his Christmas stocking. \$1.25 ppd. Merrill Ann Creations, 102 Warren St., N.Y.C. 7.

NO PRESENT LIKE THE TIME. A handsome Swiss watch will have a masculine heart ticking for you. This beauty has a handsome tarnishproof gold-finish case with stainlesssteel back, 17-jewel movement. sweep second hand; is shock-resistant, antimagnetic. Calfskin strap. It has a one-year written guarantee. At a surprising \$14.95 ppd. Tax incl. Nassau Co., 200 W. 34 St., N.Y.C.

A MAN BEHIND A DESK, whether he's a bank president or your son working on his B.A., will enjoy a solid brass desk thermometer to check the room temperature when he's feeling hot under the collar. From England, it registers reading in both Fahrenheit and centigrade. 31/4" high on swivel mounting. \$1.95 ppd. Foreign Traders, 110 Don Gaspar Ave., Santa Fe, New Mexico.

WE'VE GOT A SLIM BILLFOLD that keeps its tidy shape even if wellstocked with folding greenery; is not bulky in a pocket or purse. Morocco leather in black, green, red, or brown; brass fitting clips money inside. Full name or initials imprinted in gold. You'll be proud to have your name on this piece. 33/4" x 27/8". \$1.98 ppd. Tax incl. Sonya. 329 West Monroe, Chicago 6. Ill.

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TENTING TONIGHT? A 3" X 11" X 13" 9-lb. box holds 4 breakfasts, lunches, and dinners in nonperishable, waterproof re-seal foil envelopes. Pancakes, syrup, soup, meat, potatoes, biscuits, desserts. Nothing to add but water, cook and serve. A gift for your hunter. For 12 meals, \$9. Smaller pack, 2 portions of each meal, \$6. Ppd. Bernard Food Ind., 559 W. Fulton, Chicago, Ill.

TAKE A BROAD VIEW of what's behind you when driving, and double your safety. The Skylark rearvision mirror is 14 inches long, clips over present car mirror to give a full view of the roadway through your large rear window. Special feature eliminates glare. State year and make of car. \$5.95 ppd. Skylark Automotive Corp., Dept. AH, 3834 Willat Ave., Culver City, Calif.

IT'S A SURE SIGN of your personality. A Horoscope Tile is made especially yours by including in its design your full name, the month and day of your birth, and six of your fine characteristics indicated by the stars. In the center is your own Zodiac sign, Hand-painted, 6" dia. Felt-backed, wall hanger incl. \$2.45 ppd. Personalized Gifts, Dept. 311, 100 W. 61 St., N.Y.C. 23.

FOLLOW OUR SUIT and remember your bridge-playing cronies with jolly little barrels of matches. Decorated with spades, hearts, diamonds, and clubs, each one is chock full of multicolored striking matches. All four are in a plastic container shaped like a hatbox with carrying handle. \$1.25 postpaid. House of Schiller, Dept. 57B, 180 North Wacker Drive, Chicago 6, Illinois.





able

pink, blue, white, green, and yellow. Please specify. Makes a delightful gift.

(Usually \$14.95)

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Only \$8.95 ppd.

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Enclosed S____ck. or m.o. for___pkgs.

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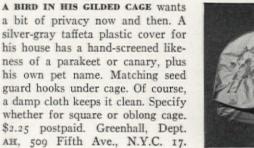




Also available in brass finish - prices on request. SENT PRE-PAID - NO C.O.D.'S BELSON MFG. CO., NO. AURORA 1, ILL.

SEWING BUCKET-SEAT holds all your sewing falderal, and its padded top turns it into an extra seat when you put your work away. 20" high, 121/2" wide, built like a barrel of white pine with birch hoops, oak handle, maple finish. Light enough to carry about. Provincial print covering. \$11.95 postpaid (plus 50¢ W. of Miss.). Harwood House, Dept. A-10, P.O. Box 65, Englewood, N.J.







DISAPPEARING AMERICANISMS include picking up the telephone and hearing the words "Number, please." The dial system is here to "Number, stay. To save your temper and your fingernails, attach a magnetic plate to your telephone. It holds a goldcolored metal pencil topped by a plastic knob for fast and sure dialing. \$1.50 ppd. Bodine's, 444 East Belvedere Ave., Baltimore 12, Md.



CHILD LABOR is lots of fun because what they work at is play. Boys' and girls' work aprons are personalized with their own first names. Donna's (shown) keeps a little girl's set of kitchen utensils at hand. For her brother, one holds a set of jolly carpenter's tools to play with. Blue denim trimmed with yellow. About 18" long. \$3.95 ea. postpaid. Krimstock, 112 N. 9th, Philadelphia 7, Pa.



MINI-BUTLER slips into a lady's purse to come forth at that crucial moment when she lights a cigarette and there's not an ash tray in sight. It will hold ashes and stubs of three cigarettes. If the lady doesn't smoke, it makes a handy pill box. Polished and lacquered gold-tone metal, \$1. Personalized with three initials, \$1.50. Ppd. Wendover Specialty Co., Box 85, Upper Montclair, N.J.

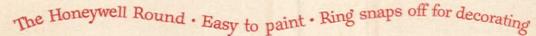


CHRISTMAS FEAST. A box of 10 5¹/₂-oz. jars of goodness lasts far into the New Year. Gooseberry, prune with hazelnuts, damson, wild blackberry, quince, tomato, greengage, nectarine preserves, raspberry jam, Seville orange marmalade. Boxed with walnuts and filberts and decorated with evergreen and tiny cones. \$6.95 ppd. Jane Amherst, 1912 N. Argyle, Portland 17, Ore.



THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1953

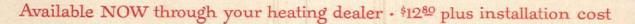
Look at your old thermostat... then look at this new and different one !





This year give your *home* a Christmas gift—the new Honeywell Round. Its pleasing lines lend themselves to any decorating plan. Its new, more visible dial is easier to read. Its snap-off cover can be painted to match your color scheme. Base plate (not shown) to cover hole left by old-fashioned installation is available at slight additional charge. The Honeywell Round is a new thermostat *inside*, too. Engineering improvements have made it more responsive to temperature changes. This means it will cut down on uncomfortable "see-saw" temperatures in your home. Why not add the Honeywell Round to *your* Christmas shopping list?





Be with Them ...

This Christmas Say it with Flowers-By-Wire

> Say "Merry Christmas" this tender, graceful way... with Flowers-By-Wire through F.T.D.

It's easy! No crowds of shoppers to battle . . . no worry about "right size" or "becoming style". Just phone or visit your F.T.D. Florist. He guarantees delivery . . . when and where you want it!

Look for SPEEDY and the MERCURY EMBLEM. They identify the right shops allover the world.

PLORISTS' TELEGRAPH DELIVERY ASSOCIATION Headquarters: Detroit, Michigan **DUCK PLANTERS** look so lifelike, we think they'd fool even a real live mallard. You may ask for either the male or female coloring (unlike humans, the male's is brightest). A wonderful addition to your sportsman's den. Of durable plastic, it is perfect for holding a plant, cut leaves, or flowers. Duck-sized, 14" long, 7" high. \$4.95 ea. Ppd. Baker Enterprises, Box 457, Canfield, O.

OUR FAVORITE TOAST is cinnamon, and if you haven't served it lately, just put this charming shaker filled with a mixture of cinnamon and sugar on the breakfast table, and see how your family goes for it. Gray-white pottery decorated in shades of blue, it is 5" tall. Perfect "bread-and-butter" gift. \$1.25 postpaid. Nelson's House, 1033-A St. Louis Street, Springfield, Mo.





SHE'LL BE AN ANGEL and stow her soiled pinafores and petticoats away herself if she has this cunning Angel Doll Laundry Bag hanging around to remind her. Features of colored felt, golden woolen hair, the rest is white crinkled cotton. Monday night she's skinny, but by the end of the week she's a real fatty. About 24" x 18". \$2.95 ppd. House of Tullius, Box 3493, Chicago 54, Illinois.



ONE PERFECT ROSE is held perfectly in this lovely handmade sterling-silver bud-vase pin. Its completely simple lines and design will appeal to the lovely lady who likes to spark her costume with a flower. Perfect for bridesmaids! Or a gentleman might order one and keep it filled. $2\frac{1}{2}$ " long. \$5.95 (tax incl.) ppd. Sally Shepard Prod., Dept. AH-12, Box 387-VP, Ossining, N.Y.

FOR A HEEL en route into a shoe, the way is eased by a fine pigskin shoehorn (and your man's footwear will stand up longer). Hand-stitched, its masculine good looks will appeal to him. Here is the gift our favorite godson has selected for his dad, and we're impressed with his good taste. 5¼ inches long. \$1 postpaid. Johnny Appleseed's, Dept. AH, Box 729, Beverly, Massachusetts.

NO WASTE INVOLVED. In addition to standing by to catch scraps tossed their way, these wastepaper baskets give the pitch to your decorating note. *Barnum Circus* (12") is a reproduction of real. Barnum posters of 1864. Trimmed with red or blue cloth, \$5.50. *Americana* (13") shows posters of Washington's time. \$7.95 ppd. Beaumond Dist., 133 Lexington Ave., N.Y.C. 16.







The Eljer Bathroom Guide- | hints to follow for lasting pride and satisfaction when you modernize or build.



Eljer's new Chateau Gray harmonizes with almost any cour scheme-is ideal for remodeling.

How to plan for bathroom beauty and efficiency Start bathroom planning by choosing the basic plumbing fixtures. Bathtub, lavatory and toilet are the room's permanent furnishings. They should be complemented by decorative theme and accessories.

Regardless of room size—or budget—Eljer offers a wide range of models and styles. You have choice of all materials: enameled cast iron, porcelain-enameled formed steel and vitreous china. Six colors and white are available ... laboratory-controlled for color matching of all material!

Every Eljer fixture must pass a complete

inspection for working efficiency and flawless finish. That means beauty to be proud of now, and years of annoyance-free service.

All fittings—faucets, showerheads, flushing mechanisms, as examples—are made in Eljer's own plants to highest precision standards. Exclusive Eljer design insures long life and smooth operation.

In every way, Eljer plumbing fixtures give you beauty and efficiency. Ask your plumbing contractor, builder or architect to help you select styles and suggest arrangements, or write Eljer Co., Box 192, Ford City, Pa.

SUBSIDIARY DF THE

CORPORATION OF AMERICA

the star



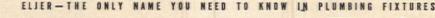
Look for marks of quality—they're easy to find! Eljer vitreous china has the luster of fine dinnerware, but is specially toughened for wear.



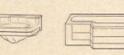
Here's a bathtub designed for comfort and beauty. Note the wide end-seat and convenient, lowered side-seat of this Eljer Legation bath.



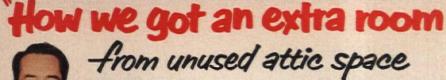
You'll find Eljer faucets · prevent common bathroom problems. "Swivel-Disc" minimizes dripping. Working parts are easily renewable.







CAST IRON . FORMED STEEL . VITREOUS CHINA . BRASS ... for every home, commercial, industrial and institutional use.





with Johns-Manville Ceiling Panels and Wall Plank"



We wanted to build a room in our unfinished attic. To save money we decided to do it ourselves! Our building material dealer recommended J-M Panels and Plank. He also advised us regarding the dormer window



The J-M Ceiling Panels went up easily and quickly using a handy stapling tool. (We could have used nails.) The Lightning Joint worked like magic hiding all staples and lining up the panels, snugly and evenly



The Wall Plank came in four colors—Dust Rose, Buckskin Tan, Antique Green and Ivory. We chose Ivory for our color scheme. The wonderful part about J-M Panels and Plank is that they need no further decoration

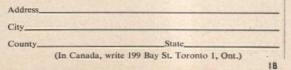


To create greater interest, we used J-M Perforated Panels in white for the corner by the desk. J-M Panels and Plank are made of tough pine fibers. They're flame resistant, hard to mar, easy to maintain. We installed a lifetime floor of J-M Terraflex® Vinyl Tile ourselves. Now, without muss or fuss, we have a beautiful new room

You can do it, too!

Johns-Manvi

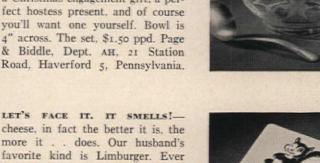
Send coupon for free booklet about J-M Panels and Plank with how-to-do-it instructions. Write: Johns-Manville, Dept. AH-12, Box 60, New York 16, N. Y.



WHAT'S CHRISTMAS without a little girl to buy a doll for? This sweetie will appeal equally to you and the wide-eyed darling who will be searching 'neath the Christmas tree for her. $7\frac{1}{2}$ " tall, flaxen blonde Saran hair to comb, blue eyes that open and close, two changes of cunning clothes. Just what she ordered from Santa! \$3.95 ppd. Janet Forister, 110 S. Monroe St., Peoria, Ill.



SAUCE FOR THE GOOSE, butterscotch for sundaes, or mayonnaise for the salad go into a pretty handcut glass bowl with its own silverplated sauce spoon. A sweet gift for a Christmas engagement gift, a perfect hostess present, and of course you'll want one yourself. Bowl is 4" across. The set, \$1.50 ppd. Page & Biddle, Dept. AH, 21 Station Road, Haverford 5, Pennsylvania.



cheese, in fact the better it is, the more it . . does. Our husband's favorite kind is Limburger. Ever kept any in your refrigerator? We couldn't wait to give him this cute Stinky Cheese Jar. 4" x 4" and $1\frac{1}{2}$ " deep, it holds a quarter pound. Yellow with white cover. \$2 plus 25¢ post. Greenland Studios, Dept. AH, 5858 Forbes St., Pittsburgh 17, Pa.



PICK A WISHBONE to send to someone who's every dream you would like to see come true. And who wouldn't love such a sentimental gift as a sterling-silver wishbone pin to wish on? 2¹/₄ inches long, it has a nontarnish finish and a safety clasp. We're wishing someone will send one to us. \$4.98 ppd. Tax incl. Cherry Lane Jewelers, Dept. AH, 442 Main St., Fort Lee, New Jersey.

BE YOUR OWN KRIS KRINGLE and add a Dremel "53" rotary motordriven sander to your workshop. Its straight-line reciprocating action sands with the grain, will not gouge, leave lap marks, cut orbital swirls. Produces smooth scratch-free finishes. 2 paper-holder units make changing grits easy. 110–120 volt. 60 cycle AC. \$34.85. Ppd. Dremel Mfg. Co., 2420 18th St., Racine, Wis.

GET HIGH AND DRY, these thirsty hand towels beseech the timid guest. And even a Milquetoast won't hunt furtively around for your own bath towel when he spies a plastic wall container of these light but strong throwaways hanging invitingly within reach. 15 decorated paper towels, each $12^{"} \times 17^{"}$ in container 10" x 4" wide. \$1 postpaid. Amy Abbott, 344 W. 52nd St., N.Y.C 19.





THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 19

26

Three Gifts of Glass they'll be glad to get

A WALL MIRROR of Pittsburgh Plate Glass is one of the most appreciated gifts. Whether for the bedroom, as shown here, or for the living room or dining room, its practical decorative appeal will give pleasure to the recipient. For Pittsburgh Structural Wall Mirrors add beauty, color and cheer to any room . . . create an illusion of greater space. And the cost is much less than you think. Interior Designer: Miss Elizabeth Whitney, A.I.D., Chicago, Illinois. Furniture by Consider H. Willett, Inc.



FULL-LENGTH DOOR MIRRORS will please every member of the family. They serve as a convenient way to get those necessary head-to-toe checkups that assure good grooming for every occasion. They are much-wanted . . . for bedrooms, bathrooms and entrance halls. These door mirrors, made with Pittsburgh Plate Glass, are really full-length . . . 68 inches high, and they come in five widths, 16, 18, 20, 22, and 24 inches. Here are ideal gifts that cost very little. They're easy to buy and can be put up in a few minutes.



A SMALL WALL MIRROR like this one . . . and there are many other decorative styles available . . . is great for your gift list. And it can be hung in a jiffy. For a memorable gift at very little cost, this is it!

FREE NEW BOOKLET! Send today for the new full-color, 28-page booklet, "Practical Ways to Wake Up your Home with Glass." It's filled with suggestions on the effective use of glass and mirrors in the home, with many "do-it-yourself" directions that save you money.



THIS LABEL identifies products made of genuine Pittsburgh Plate Glass.

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

- PLEASE PRINT

| Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company Room 3349, 632 Fort Duquesne Blvd. Pittsburgh 22, Pa. |
|---|
| Please send me, without obligation, your free, illustrated booklet, "Practical Ways to Wake Up your Home with Glass." |
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Feed your dog like these Dash-fed champions!

Twin Beagle champions like Ch. Del-Rad Faith and Ch. Del-Rad Hope are rare. Frolicsome, happy dogs like these are the most convincing proof we can offer to show you how well Dash feeds and conditions dogs. Their coats have the true gloss that comes only from robust health. Their steady, hard-to-ruffle dispositions — so important in pets for children—tell you that nerves are sound and wellnourished. Dash will do as much for your dog—and quickly. Feed Dash every day—just Dash—nothing more is needed. Dash is fortified with liver, the richest of all meats. When you can help your dog so easily—why not get Dash and get started? The sooner the better!

Dash is fortified with <u>LIVER</u>!

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A product of Armour and Company

ne of the loveliest and most original of all Christmas gifts, to my mind, was that made by Richard Wagner to his wife Cosima early in the morning of December 25, 1870, in their villa in Switzerland. The lady was awakened on that storied occasion by the sounds of music which, after a few moments, she recognized as some of the themes from Siegfried, upon which Wagner was lavishing his creative all at the time. Cleverly interwoven was the melody of the folk song, Schlaf' mein Kind, schlaf' ein (Sleep, My Child, Sleep). Wagner, you see, had prepared the piece, called in some musicians, rehearsed it-and then presented his gift, conducting it from the landing, with the orchestra ranged along the staircase. It is well known that Wagner was a very original person -although evidence is not lacking that he worked at it a bit. In any case, Christmas and Cosima's birthday, which it was, couldn't help drawing from Wagner his most inspired efforts. It would be fine if one could develop Wagnerian talents at gift making at Christmas. But that, involving a number of special accomplishments, seems rarely attainable, and the answer is compromise: a gift of music you buy.

MUSIC IN YOUR HOME

ROBERT BAGAR

Books about music are a good choice. I particularly prize Olin Downes' learned work, Ten Operatic Masterpieces (B.M.I.-Ricordi-Scribner's) and Victor I. Seroff's witty, sympathetic life of Ravel (Holt). However, there are two other perfectly enchanting volumes, each in its own way. Jacques Barzun's Pleasures of Music (Viking) is an anthology of writings from Benvenuto Cellini to George Bernard Shaw, including stories, articles, correspondence, and such. Barzun is fascinated, and no less so may the reader be, by the art of the writing that expresses, favorably or unfavorably, a reaction to another art—music. On the other hand, Nicolas Slonimsky in his Lexicon of Musical Invective (Coleman-Ross) brings forward a compilation of derogatory criticism directed at the music itself, or at the composers —and sometimes, believe me, it gets terribly violent.

If your man is a record enthusiast, you have no worries. He cannot possibly own all the excellent recordings extant. Play detective, carry on subtle inquiries to find out his preferences. He may have an abiding devotion to one composer, or to one performer, or to one conductor and orchestra. Among the latter, you'll find Toscanini and the NBC Symphony, Koussevitsky and the Boston, Walter and the Philharmonic-Symphony, Monteaux and the San Francisco, Ormandy and the Philadelphia, not to mention the host of importations from Europe where things musical are flourishing brilliantly: Von Karajan and Von Beinum and other conductors whose names are new to the general public, as well as names scarcely new, including Ansermet, Beecham, Steinberg (now conducting the Pittsburgh Symphony).

Here, in any event, is a random list of suggestions—a very general one. Naturally, I have my own preferences, but you will keep in mind, I trust, that the recipient is the VIP.

SYMPHONIC WORKS

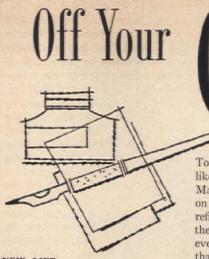
BEETHOVEN—All nine symphonies—Arturo Toscanini and the NBC Symphony (RCA Victor). Just about the last word. Also the *Eroica*, recorded by Bruno Walter and the Philharmonic-Symphony (Columbia) is especially pleasing to me.

BERLIOZ-Romeo and Juliet, a Dramatic Symphony-Charles Munch and the Boston Symphony (RCA Victor). The new orthophonic sound-excellent.

BLOCH—A magnificent account of the Concerto Grosso for String Orchestra with Piano Obbligato—William Steinberg and the Pittsburgh Symphony (Capital). A very noble work, modern enough for its birth date, 1925. A fine dividend: WILLIAM SCHUMAN'S Sym-

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 82

THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1953



A NEW LIFE

Dear Mrs. Caudill:

I just sat down and cried when I read your article, "We Are Eager to Retire." All at once it cleared up so many things for my husband and me. The same idea had been swishing around in our heads for some time, but we had reached a state of confusion . . .

Thank you for your inspiring article.—MRS. E. C.

THOSE MAGAZINE PICTURES Dear Mrs. Austin,

The homemaking magazines almost wrecked my marriage! If that shocks you, let me explain. For years I have been an eager reader of every home improvement magazine I could lay hands on. I gaze at the bright pictures of lovely rooms, gay with chintz and refinished antiques that "anyone with imagination and gumption can duplicate." The trouble is, the chintz that so generously drapes an entire wall usually retails at no less than \$1.50 a yard; the antiques cost plenty, even before the expenditure of cash for paint remover, sandpaper, linseed oil, etc., and all of that beautiful sewing and refinishing takes hours and hours of work.

Well, I got married on a shoestring back in 1940, and we've been tying knots in it ever since. I well remember our first little home and how I wanted to paint and brighten it up. I would pore over the magazines and catalogues and plan and dream—it would only cost \$15 for new linoleum rugs! At that time we were expecting our first baby, and Vic would patiently explain that we had to learn to live on his salary. . . .

Since then our family has increased to four children, and we have lived in a succession of places called home to us—in 13 years we've moved 13 times. Many places we have papered and painted and brightened up as best we could with what we had, but none ever looked like the lovely ones in the magazines. . . .

Now the reason I am writing you about my experiences is this: There must be thousands of young wives who are feeling depressed and downhearted because there is never enough money or time or even energy to have a house like those in the pictures. To those young housewives I would like to say: "Do not be discouraged." Maybe you'll never have bright chintz on all your furniture or be able to refinish that priceless old chest, but the doing of things together, whatever you can afford, is an experience that makes a marriage real and vital.

Meanwhile make the most of an imperfect situation and have fun as you go along. After all, the most important things to make a home are a husband and children . . . Don't give up your magazines, for they represent your dreams for the future. —MRS. LELA OWENS

FOR MISCHIEVOUS MOLES

Gentlemen:

I've just read in your August issue T. J. Thompson's article, "Mole Control." I'm sure his method is good, but my way of getting rid of them is sure, simple, and inexpensive. I keep castor beans on hand, and when a mole begins to work in my garden, I put several beans in the runway 3 ft. or so apart and press the ridge of earth down. I grow several of the bushes that bear about a quart of seeds apiece. One warm day last February, the pests began plowing in my front yard. I planted about a dozen beans, and there hasn't been one mole there since. The plants and seed pods are beautiful, too .- MRS. P. R. BOWERS [This strong endorsement of an oldtime remedy should be accompanied by a reminder that castor beans are highly poisonous and should never be eaten-HORTICULTURAL EDITOR.]

WORLDWIDE BIBLE READING

Dear Editor:

Americans of all faiths will be encouraged to read their Bibles from Thanksgiving to Christmas in the annual observance of Worldwide Bible Reading. They will join hands with millions throughout the world in a unique movement, the sole purpose of which is the simultaneous reading of the same passages of the Bible. Through the Scriptures it is hoped that not only nations will be drawn closer but also members of families which have been separated.

-ARTHUR WHITE

SHARE THROUGH CARE

Share your Christmas joy with those less fortunate in other lands by sending a CARE package. For full information, address CARE 660 First Ave., N.Y.C. 16



Ripplewood

TEXTURED WALL PANELING

G-P Ripplewood works decorating magic ... creates luxurious beauty ... breathes matchless charm into your home. Its magnificently tight swirling texture ... painted or stained ... opens a wide new world of styling possibilities .. fits with timeless ease into modern or traditional settings. Low cost G-P Ripplewood transforms ordinary walls into breathtaking backgrounds, adding to the beauty and value of your home. G-P Ripplewood plywood in both panels and squares nails up quickly and easily. See it at your local lumber dealer ... it's *naturally* beautiful.



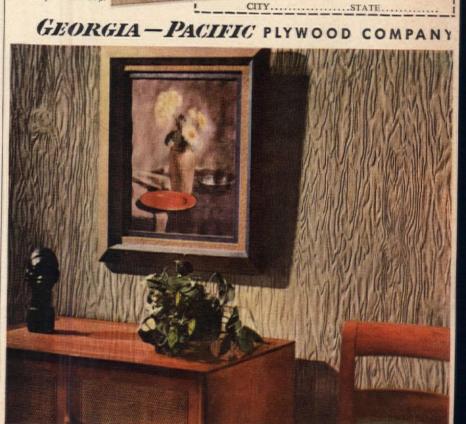
THIS IDEA-PACKED FULL COLOR BOOK will help you create new beautiful rooms all through the house. Mail this coupon with 10¢.



Georgia-Pacific Plywood Company Dept. AD, 270 Park Ave., New York 17, N.Y. Please send me the G-P Ripplewood color book. Enclosed is 10¢ to cover mailing costs.

NAME.....

ADDRESS



Want to know about snow melting? ...for your driveway and walks

SNOW MELT

This free 32 page book answers all your questions

Now you can get the facts about snow melting systems that keep your driveway, garage apron, sidewalks and concrete steps free from snow and ice all winter long.

This attractive and easily understood booklet answers the most commonly asked questions about snow and ice melting ... questions about design, cost, slab construction, concrete or "black top," speed of melting, use of anti-freeze, piping layouts and step-by-step installation.

You can get this valuable color booklet without cost or obligation by returning the coupon below.



Zone____State

Address_

City

3 TIMES A WINNER

nce upon a time, as all good stories start, there were two sisters-but just for a change, and because this is a Christmas story, neither of them was wicked. Both indeed were handsome, virtuous, and clever, and both, as you shall see, were visited with suitable rewards. Their names were Terry Gradowski and Vera Scaroffini, and they lived in the nonmythical kingdom of Torrington, Connecticut. Each year Terry and Vera plotted and planned for Christmas, turning their homes into gay, almost audible greetings to passers-by. When Terry moved into her new home, both sisters were delighted by the possibilities of the huge picture window. That first Christmas they considered, and discarded, all of the ideas they'd used before-nothing seemed quite new and splendid enough. Finally they found, in the pages of AMERICAN HOME (a well-known volume of nonmystical lore) the very thing. They ordered a pattern, and Terry planned the display, while Vera, who is locally famous for her skill in such matters, carried it out. You can see the lovely results at the very top of the page. A windstorm whirled away three of the little singers, but the sisters hustled in replacements and carried off Third Prize in Torrington's annual lighting contest.

Appetites whetted, they awaited the Carnival on Wheels, a fes-

tival in honor of the donors of play areas in the city. For this event, Vera built a miniature church, deployed the choir boys around it, and stationed her daughter, eight-year-old Sandra, and Terry's ten-yearold Donald on either side of it, suitably garbed. The float won



First Prize, of course! But Terry and Vera weren't ready to let those choir lads rest on their laurels. Last Christmas they trotted them out again, arranged them with Vera's church, constructed a big angel from the original pattern, and mounted the whole on and around the picture window (which was heavenly blued with tinted scouring powder). The result: another First Prize!



How lovely winter can be when you see its dramatic beauty without feeling its bite.

That's what makes *Thermopane** insulating glass such a joy. *Thermopane's* blanket of air insulates windows—lets you sit closer to them without feeling winter's chill.

When Mr. and Mrs. Russell D. Cole built their new home in Brookings, South Dakota, they put *Thermopane* in every window. It adds to the comfort of every room. And the Coles never face the job of putting up or taking down storm sash. *Thermopane's* insulation even keeps their rooms quieter.

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These Dandies Are Candies!

We all know about necessity and invention—but the air of spendthrift, highstyle gaiety found in these candy-decked packages is something you don't expect when invention is inspired by a need for economy. Yet cost-cutting was the heart of the matter at Christmas last year when Associate Editor Jeannie Willis eyed Husband Weldon over a stack of gifts and demanded: "What *now?*" Their wad had been shot on presents, fancy papers came high, and the Willises had a reputation for witty wrappings to uphold. Jeannie desperately suggested plain brown paper, or tissue at umpteen for a dime. Weldon balked. So Jeannie steered him to a Five and Ten to show how handsome colored tissue paper can be. On the way, they passed the candy counter . . . and the idea for these jaunty jobs, sans high-priced paper and ribbon, was born. Candies cost only pennies, are anchored by any clear household cement. Each design could set off a tissue-wrapped box, although, for reason of photographic contrast, some of the packages we show were redone in metallic paper. PIQUANT PACKAGES on preceding page require wit, not wealth. Striped box, tissue-wrapped, is garnished with rows of candy "pillows" and long candy sticks. Bell design, made of nonpareils, can be topped with a bow. Gleeful train will delight a small boy as much as the present within: tracks are licorice sticks; rear car and engine are nickle candy bars—licorice bits make light and smoke stack, a wired licorice stick is the "smoke"; box car, licorice-loaded, is made from four packages of Dentyne gum (half-packages make car ends). Wheels are little striped peppermints, and whole caboodle is assembled with household cement

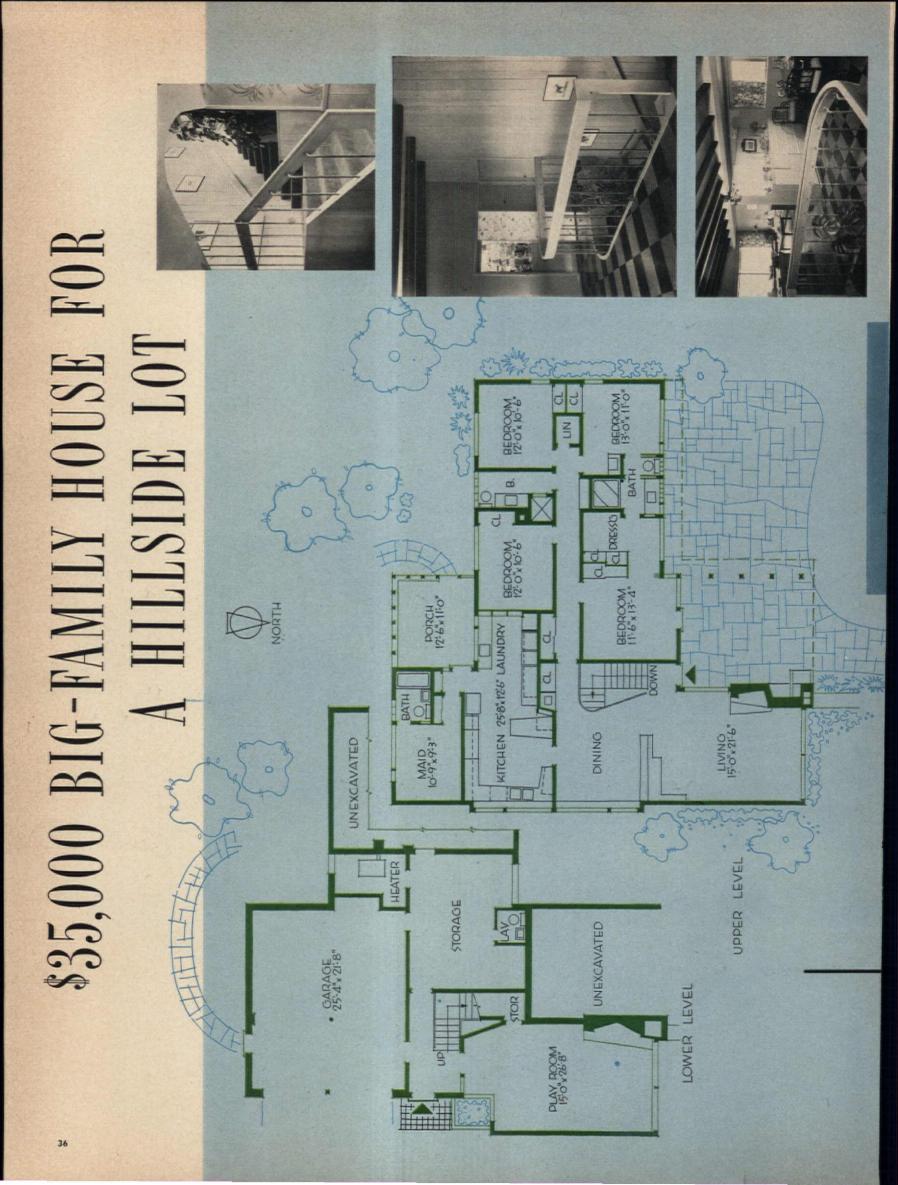
Dandies Are Candies

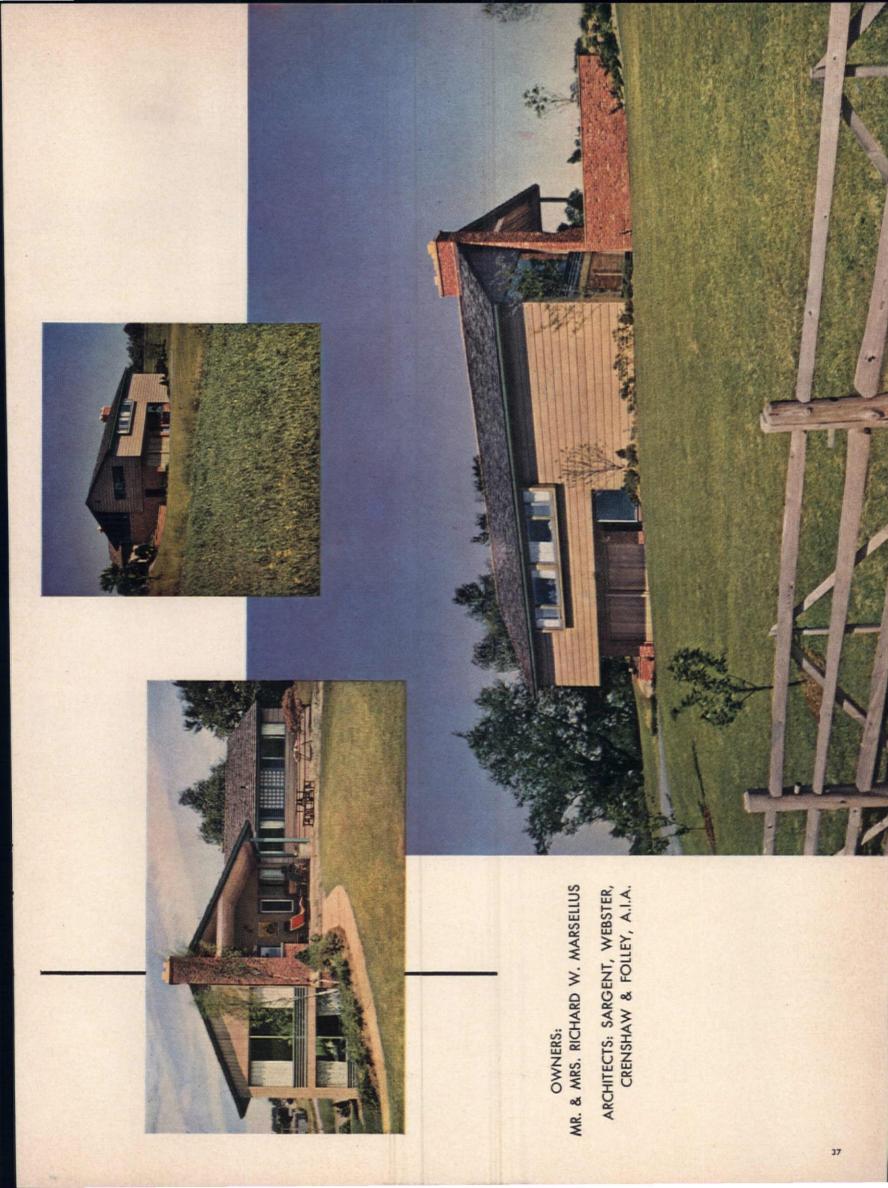
(Begins on page 33)

Tissue cuts wrapping costs, candy cuts ribbon costsand packages cut quite a figure. 1. Della Robbia wreath: nuts and marzipan "fruit" glued to cardboard circle, ribbon-laced. Glue wreath over bow's ends. 2. Stylized tree: licorice-stick scrolls, sparked with cake decorations and applied to plain brown paper. Glue licorice, or pin with straight pins. 3. Shoe box takes a half-tree outlined in licorice, dressed with candies. 4. Dad's tie box, tailored yet titillating: wrap in gold, trim with candy cigarettes; or use red tissue paper, red-tipped "smokes." 5. Candy canes taped under small box make a sleigh-with or without passengers. 6. Any small box is gayer for having candycane candles pushed down into box. Circle of silver candies masks holes. 7. Draw bell shape lightly with pencil; fill outline and desired designs with "red-hots," those tiny cinnamon candies, plus silver "shot." Cover sides with ribbon. Add bow. 8. Draw Christmas balls in India ink; glue on a few rows of hard candies; complete design in ink. 9. For a little girl, sugar and spice: hair, three strands of licorice, braided; any candies make features. 10. Mint star, radiating silver cake "whosies"-quick and effective. 11. Handsome boxes need no paper. Just deck the top with wrapped Charms, checkerboard style, outlined in gold cord. 12. "Ring out the Bells"—licorice sticks, a hunk of rock candy, contrasting clappers. 13. Balloons for a child, completely personalized, and very easy: Necco wafers, string, stickum letters. 14. Big fish and other undersea denizens are only expensive novelty candies in this entire series. Similar effect can be achieved with fabric or wallpaper fish in a rock-candy underseas garden.

7









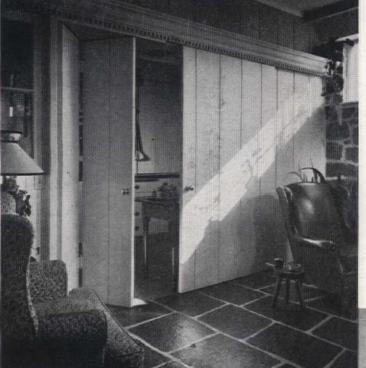
MARTHA B. DARBYSHIRE

They Have their Cake and Eat It

No important architectural innovation (O.K.—revival, if you will) has been more controversial than the living-kitchen. After all, in new homes especially, its heartwarming qualities must be paid for—in increased building costs, or in space robbed from other rooms. If it replaces a den and assembles the clan in the kitchen to give Mom the pleasure of their company, chances are Mom will never be able to work alone and like it—besides, a separate den has virtues of its own. If it replaces a dining room, the business part of the kitchen is always in sight, even when you want to dine in style.

But in the inviting and flexible arrangement you see here, Architect Hilyard Brown of Los Angeles gave his own family one of the best living, dining, eating plans to come from a designer's pen. The space an ordinary dining room would have occupied houses a comfortable three-in-one graced by an imposing corner fireplace and designed to function as dining room, den, and the living end of a kitchen. A series of doors which fold and doors which slide separates it from a long, narrow, and very attractive cooking quarters. When the doors are open, it's a living-kitchen par excellence—big, yet cozy, and pretty always. But with the wooden partition closed, the den can be just that—or it can be set up for very formal dining at the big drop-leaf table. Even the bookcase is flexible, for it was planned to double as a server.

An architect's eye and a homemaker's exacting requirements combined to produce this well-planned suite. Notice how the fireplace wall of native stone extends clear into the kitchen to unify the spaces, and how it is topped by a continuous shelf which makes a perfect place for displays. Mark the blue slate floor which is both decorative and easy to maintain. Don't miss such fine details as the molding over the kitchen partition or the Early American butterfly hardware on the kitchen drawers. Mrs. Brown, who hates to grope, wanted drawers instead of shelves in the base cabinets, and she wanted a good outlook of her own over the kitchen sink. Her husband provided both—reason enough for marrying an architect!

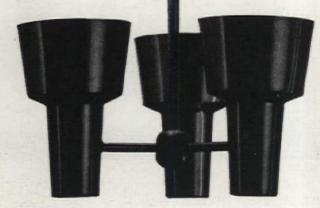




OWNER-ARCHITECT: HILYARD BROWN

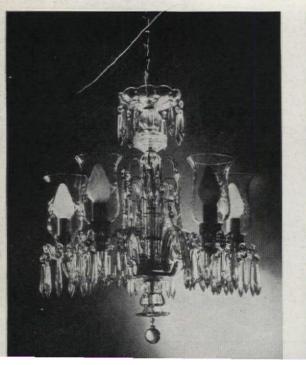


GERTRUDE BROOKS DIXSON



for the contemporary room, overhead lighting combines old and new materials with new and old techniques. At left, uncommonly handsome modern chandelier has three brass shells under 24-in. fiber glass dome (\$53). Above it, a cluster of five suavely shaped pierced aluminum bowls on 30-in. stem (\$110). Both come in natural or brushed finish. At right, three versions of vertically movable lighting. In largest, wrought iron frames linen-like plastic side panel, holds plastic shield with brass ring for operating. Cord reels into brass ball-not shown (\$34). Pierced metal shade (painted red, gray, or white) hangs from cord which winds into metal ball (\$35). Gleaming brass forms bell-shaped bowl. Solid brass teardrop counterweight assures absolute balance (\$109).

12 handsome versions of the chandelier an old favorite makes a comeback in diversified designs to fit the mood and manner of rooms of all periods







or the room of distinctive decorative character, designs and materials follow the dictates of the period. Above first, jet and antique bronze form a handsome branched Empire chandelier with 21 in. spread, 28 in. high-available in other dimensions (\$160). Second, a Colonial charmer-base, arms, and scalloped shade of polished or weathered brass, natural or antique copper. 18 in. wide, 40 in. long (\$20). Third, pierced gallery on 17-in.-long shade adds a final note of authenticity to tole Provincial design. Its gilt decoration is hand-applied on any of seven colors (\$60). At right, jewel-toned elegance for any elegant room. Exquisite, too, is the workmanship-design is cut through opal overlay on green or rose crystal, then polished with wood; jewel drops, prisms hand-cut and polished. This has 23 in. spread, is 28 in. high (\$325) but design is alterable.

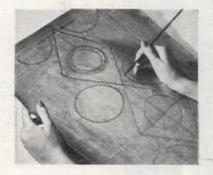
H,

Nor the traditional room, designs and materials hew to the line or make a venturesome departure. Opposite page, far left: molded crystal sections and polished prisms combine with dull, chrome-plated steel in approved traditional manner. 20 in. spread, 22 in. high (\$65). Center: metal, skillfully worked in filigree, painted white, achieves great flair. Like so many of today's designs, it's adaptable for many periods. 20 in. wide, 36 in. high (\$42). Intricately swirled and spiraled brass arms in ormolu finish give suspended-in-air look to ornate chandelier. Jewels and prisms of hand-cut, wood-polished lead crystal hang unusually close together to define the lines. 231/2 in. spread, body 211/2 in. high (\$315).



ALL PRICES ARE APPROXIMATE

an you guess what the pretty girl is cutting? Give up? Well, it's copper-clad U building paper, and the man at the lumber yard is still trying to figure out what she wanted a roll of it for! For years, he's been selling it to builders and contractors for use as flashing around roofs and chimneys, or over doors and windows-but this gal doesn't look like a contractor. Actually, she's using the stuff for strictly decorative projects around her home, and the very handsome end products (see page 84) which result from this brand-new use for a familiar material would make it a good find of the month-any month. But it's especially welcome in a season when metal accessories, metal wall trim, and even glimmering metal panels on tables and chests are all top news.



You'll find, as we did, that this material is easy to work without special tools, and easy to fold by hand. You see, it's a thin sheet of copper—real copper—bonded to a very tough paper. You can cut it with ordinary scissors, or with a knife, and you can fasten it to a solid base with a good mastic (linoleum cement, for example) or with copper tacks or rivets. Since the paper backing is resilient as well as tough, the copper may be tooled to some degree, or a design punched into it. It comes in several

weights, but the lightest is adequate for most decorative jobs. Widths range from 6 to 60 in., each roll is 120 lin. ft., and costs under \$12 per 100 sq. ft. of the lightest. To keep bright, polish with metal cleaner, wipe with nonflammable cleaning fluid, and give it a coat of lacquer.

SUGGESTIONS FOR USING IT-PAGE 84

Find of the Month

ee "Where Credit Is Due" on page 90



Our Own Bill Lanyon Did It!

DORIS BRIAN

Bill Lanyon of our Art Department is a guy who not only works on AMER-ICAN HOME, but reads it as well. And not only does he read it, but he also follows the suggestions found on its pages. What's more, in so doing, he came up with some fresh do-it-yourself ideas, brand-new to our editors and proudly presented herewith.

"Good antiques needn't cost a fortune"—we've said it repeatedly. So Bill and his pretty bride, Prudy, taking our hint, hied themselves to Connecticut, and came back with what *might* be called "lucky finds." But finding them wasn't pure luck at all, for the Lanyons used their eyes and their wits to discover possibilities hidden under coats of peeled paint and battered finish. As a result, they have a beautiful drop-leaf table, an exquisite candle table (museum quality), a useful dry sink, and a coffee table made by Bill from an old wagon seat. This furniture was the nucleus of their first small apartment, and also sets the tone of their second home—the one we show here. But now that Billy III, eight months of age, demands room for expansion, the Lanyons will move again—and when they do, their beloved, but not bank-busting, antiques will once more be the decorative center of interest.

"Make it yourself," we advise—and tell how. And so the antiques, a bed, and some rugs were the only things that the young Lanyons bought. The rest of the furniture, the accessories, even the valances, were made by Bill in the basement of their apartment house, without the aid of power tools, or even a miter box. The first thing he tried was a hutch cabinet, and, like a beginner, he started with the doors and played it by ear from there on. The result (page 44) is surprisingly successful—but after that, Bill worked from more complete plans! He concocted a fine dining table from a plywood circle and the sturdy, three-legged cast-iron stand of a drawing board. Because he saw no reason why good modern couldn't blend well with Early American, given the PLEASE TURN THE PAGE





Bill built this Furniture



"Use your imagination," say we—so Bill hung some brick-patterned paper to turn a tiny windowless foyer into an attractive dining area. Cast-iron drawing-board base, painted to match Hitchcock chairs, supports a plywood table top—and can support a top twice as large. "Pictures" comprise two magazine covers, one composition of iron trivets, one original Lanyon painting—all in frames made by Bill

Hutch at left is first piece of furniture Bill constructed to go with their Early American antiques. It was made in an apartment-house basement, without the aid of power tools or other fancy equipment. Refinements are wallpaper lining, bamboo sliding curtain which partially screens lower shelf, and checkerboard chest top, made by quartering rubber floor tiles

He designed and make modern for the den bedroom

When the Lanyons were first married, they moved into one-and-a-half rooms in town, furnished them in Early American. Their second apartment, which they now occupy, boasted one bedroom, part of which was fixed up as a sleek modern den with furniture Bill constructed. Very handsome and trim and good to look upon it was-that is, until the gear garnered for infant Billy III changed the room's character entirely. To get more space for themselves and for Billy, the Lanyons will be on the move again, and they have some very special uses in mind for these benches and bookcases we took out of their bedroom to photograph

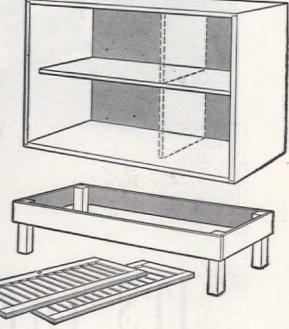
Bill designed his own very sophisticated benches and bookcases, and constructed them without too much trouble, for they consist of simple, four-square boxes, and slabs of wood mounted on iron legs. The trick was to make compartments for magazines and books of various sizes, and to assemble the units in pleasing arrangements. In their next home, one bookcase may make a dining-room buffet, a bench may support a TV. Such ingenious pieces always have a promising future if they are simple, and if, like these, they have a light finish which can be darkened later on

and Bill made himself a bar



IT STARTED WITH A BOOKCASE

The bar started with an unpainted, ready-made bookcase Bill saw on a page of AMERICAN HOME. He cut back the shelf to accommodate sliding doors made from shutters, (they slide on tracks made from molding). He added a vertical interior partition, then mounted the case on a homemade base. Checkerboard top, like that of the hutch, is rubber floor tile, cut to smaller size, and framed by molding. When Bill designed the hanging cabinet, filled with things good to eat and to look at, he combined modern shelf arrangements with shaped brackets to harmonize with his Early American pieces



proper conditions for such a mixture, Bill built practical, versatile, and very attractive modern bookcases and benches for the den end of their bedroom, and saw to it that each one could assume an entirely different role, if need be, in a future home.

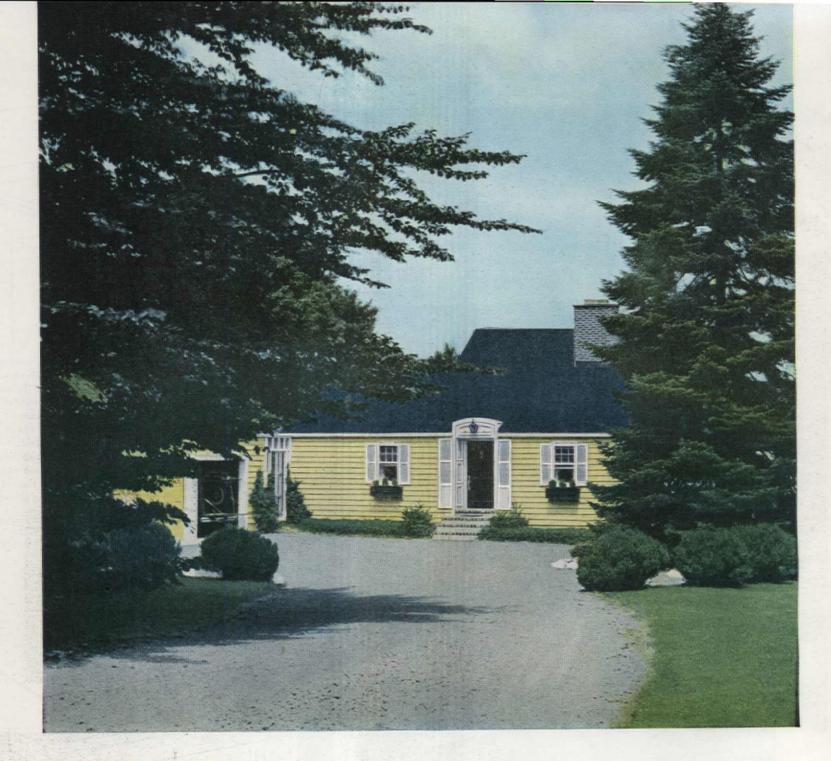
"Make something of it!" we cry. So Bill took a ready-made bookcase, then went off to a lumber yard to buy ready-made shutters, some board, and a few dozen feet of molding with which to turn said bookcase into the useful bar shown above—modern in flavor, but finished to harmonize with Early American woods.

"Give yourself a good outlook," we council. And so Bill managed the window treatments very cleverly. Because he wanted shaped valances of a type he couldn't find ready-made (and lacked the tools with which to make them himself from hard wood), he used cedar house siding, which cuts just like butter—and he found himself almost in business, making similar valances for neighbors. The tidy curtains were Prudy's handiwork, and very gay they look, made from a fabric she discovered in the pages of guess-what magazine.

"Do it yourself" is our slogan. So Bill did his own painting, and

when some wallpapers illustrated in A.H. seemed to reach out and grab him, he bought a few rolls, and put them up to turn a small foyer into a "dining terrace" with "brick" walls, and to lend individuality to a small kitchen. It goes without saying, of course, that such do-it-yourselfers took their battered antiques and, following our directions, reupholstered, repaired, and refinished them.

"Use your head to deck your house." We may not have said it in so many words, but the Lanyons got the idea, so their accessories are very un-standard, and the eye always finds something good to light upon in their home. When old magazines failed to yield up excellent prints for one wall, Bill tried trivets framed in a shadow box of his own making, and an elegant French breadbasket, in the round, is used as a fine bedroom "picture." Their lamps, planters, and trays, you may be sure, are not the store-bought variety, either. "Build it yourself." we suggest, with reservations. But it would not surprise us in the least to publish, a few years hence, an AMER-CAN HOME Blueprint House, constructed, decorated, and expertly turned out entirely by the hands of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Lanyon.



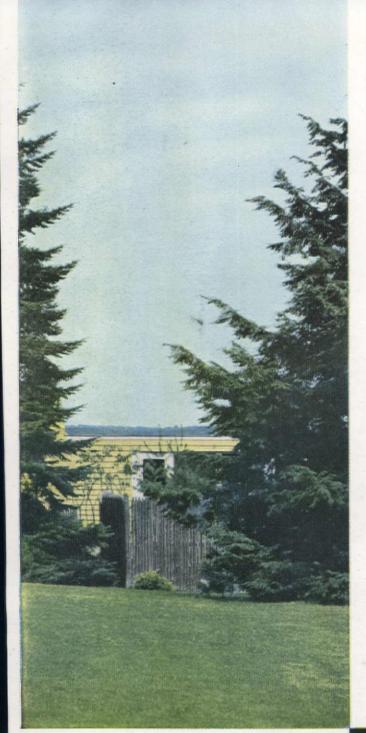
IT'S THE PRETTIEST HOUSE

To me, as a constant passer-by, this had always seemed the prettiest house in our town—and that was only taking it at face value, before I learned what sound sense this blond beauty possesses. Actually, the most impressive thing about it is the way in which it combines Colonial charm with practical modern ideas about privacy and outdoor living, for, though a formal façade is presented to the street, the house rambles on the garden side from terrace to patio to porch, enjoying it all through wide windows. Professor F. A. Comstock of Princeton's Department of Architecture designed it for a family who love old things, but were, at the same time, captivated by the Comstock practice of blending traditional elegance with slick kitchens, modern storage walls, and good built-ins.

At first glance, it doesn't seem possible, but eight rooms are tucked away behind that miniature façade—and not small ones, either, for they include a 29-ft. living room overlooking patio and garden. Two bedrooms and a bath for the children are one flight up, while below there's a family sitting room (page 50), ideal when the program includes the youthful pounding of an old piano or the broiling of steaks at a Franklin stove. That room, by the way, began as a barren basement, and thanks to the owner, a helper, and a pile of bricks, became a second living room.

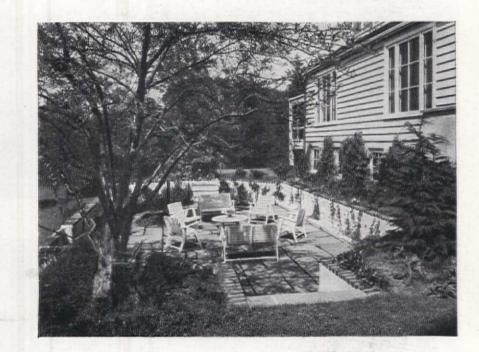
The low wing you see at the rear houses the master suite, its bath designed to double as the downstairs powder room. The bedroom, garden-side, isn't large, but it's quiet, and the generous dressing room, lined with built-ins for everything, permits an early riser to catch the morning train without ever disturbing anyone else.

For their new house, the owners chose an old setting—four acres of lawn and woods from a once-large estate. The house was designed to fit snugly between a magnificent old pine and a rare Japanese cherry tree. The valuable box, yew, and the small trees that now nestle around it, were neither there to begin with nor bought for the spot—they were moved, by degrees, from other parts



It looks Colonial—but its plan and concept are contemporary. It looks small from the front—but it has eight large rooms. It looks like a pretty house—and it's also smart and sophisticated. Designed by a distinguished architect, it proves that a house which appears to be traditional can behave in a very modern manner

Behind the trim façade, the real living takes place at the rear of the house, overlooking the garden. Only kitchen and dressing-room windows face the street. Large windows of all other rooms take in the private view. Landscaping was done by the owner with materials transplanted from other parts of his property. He also built the flagstone terrace and landscaped it with colorful, easy-to-care-for potted plants



IN TOWN

BARBARA HART

of the property. All of the landscaping was planned and most of it executed by the enterprising owners themselves with outstanding success. And what a joy to have good-sized trees and shrubs from the start!

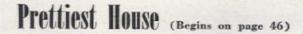
Trading his garden trowel for a mason's, the husband next constructed the patio—a "weekend" project that took weeks with brick and mortar, and required assistance from a hired helper. But isn't it lovely now? Potted plants set on the flagstone floor can be rearranged for variety, and they provide luxuriant effect for a minimum of effort. A few cutting beds and roses and vines climbing the whitewashed brick walls are all that need much tending.

Now, before we go inside to see the gracious kind of living for which this house was built, note the excellent design of the doorway, and such details as the PLEASE TURN THE PAGE



ARCHITECT: F. A. COMSTOCK





window boxes of wrought iron knobbed with brass, all copied from some engaging old ones in Philadelphia. They are a hint of what's to come.

Interiors such as these take planning from the start. Architect Comstock provided a dramatic living room with wide windows, good built-ins, and a mantel from an old Virginia home. Once covered with dark paint, but now scraped and waxed, its fine wood and lovely carving made it a distinguished addition to the room. Then the owners took over. They had some luck at auctions, and their most recent reward is the oval-backed desk chair of fruitwood and leather. Very "Versailles" is the dining-room mirror-wall made from an old screen picked up at another auction, and the fine French fruitwood dining table and chairs are the happy result of a careful search among importers, cabinet makers, and refinishers to achieve just the right effect.

The lady of the house, acting as her own decorator, is a connoisseur of color and arrangement. In the living room, brilliant PLEASE TURN THE PAGE

Decorating story is heartening -the ingredients: good space, excellent taste, a handful of family heirlooms, antiques knowingly acquired at auction, modern things where modern was best. All are beautifully blended in a formal, yet warmly inviting living room (left). Coffee tables are a clever answer to traditionalists who bemoan the fact that there's no such thing as an antique coffee table-the one in front of the sofa was made from an old French flower stand-and its legs were copied for the oversized table serving both sides of the fireplace

Elegant dining room would be at home in a French Château-but it started as a dining porch. Auction-bought mirror-screen doubles its apparent size. Silver sconce was designed to blend with heirloom English silver. Linoleum-tile floor, very practical, has a French accent. Lemon-yellow wall is parted around bay window before which flutter curtains of sheerest embroidered organdy. Chairs and tables are French antiques, the latter made of fruitwood and finished in a tone the French call "marron." Smallchests are Canadian French Provincial, embellished with a flourish of good French hardware







A generation ago, aristocratic antiques like these might well have been preserved just to look at. But above we see an heirloom backgammon table ready for play in an inviting arrangement. Hitchcock chairs and pine cupboard complete the grouping

Parents and children can enjoy each other's company without concern for damage to delicate fabrics and fine woods when they gather in the "cozy room," downstairs. But there's no lowering of standards, as this room, too, is furnished in antiques —sturdy ones. Bricking was the work of the owner who also delights in searching for such objects as the tiny brass figure hooks from which ornamental utensils are suspended



Begins on page 46)

Chinese prints hang beside the giltframed mirror above an old cherry table, while a Victorian bureau, minus its mirror, just fits in the corner beyond. Background colors are jewel-toned pale jade walls and woodwork, coral curtains of antique satin, and a pearl gray rug. Upholstery fabrics of delicate floral patterns and muted herringbone are balanced by the burst of sunbeam yellow on the big wing chair.

The game corner of the living room is furnished around an old French backgammon table of exquisite inlay that you see set up for action. It is flanked by a pair of Hitchcock chairs, and in the corner stands an old pine chest acquired from a country cabinet maker and now housing a small collection of Staffordshire and other fragile bibelots. This arrangement makes a pretty picture reflected in the large mirror on the opposite wall. Such aristocratic antiques add to the elegant distinction of the room, yet they are informally arranged for a casual effect.

As you glance from the French, English, and Early American antiques to the modern sofas and chairs that so harmoniously share the living room, you realize that these furnishings show a discrimination of selection that is in no way fortuitous. Though they were accumulated over the years, no pieces are overly large, no one piece dominates the room. Nothing is out of scale. Skillful arrangement plays its role in highlighting the most unusual, and in minimizing the few things which are primarily utilitarian. Here is a room to enjoy, to converse in, to read in, to delight in alone or with friends gathered round-a room that is also a genuine work of art.

For a different kind of living, inviting hearty relaxation, there's that "cozy room" downstairs, furnished with plenty of enviable antiques of its own, as a glimpse at the painted woodbox and the marble-topped stove quickly tells you. But the antiques here are of a more durable variety, and the room is blessed with its own outside entrance to the patio so both may be used in combination for all sorts of entertaining. The central attraction is always the Franklin stove which can be put to many uses as the utensils beside it testify. Here is another ingenious blending of the decorative and the practical, the principle on which this house was planned, and for which its architect, Professor Comstock, is noted.

Incidentally, the Professor practices what he preaches, spending his winters in a very modern house furnished with antiques, while his summer home is an eighteenth-century beauty to which he has added a new wing of Comstock conveniences. So, for himself and for others, he has perfected the art of mingling past and present, using only the best of both.

Searching for "plant ghosts" to use in winter flower arrangements is a pleasant and profitable outdoor sport wherever you may be. But the Southland is especially rich in such material, whether the region be subtropical Florida or the desert country of the Southwest. There the term "plant ghost" is applied to the dried stalk and other parts left when a plant dies, and which, in arid sections, stand unchanged for months. Specifically, it refers to the sort of thing pictured on page 93, but it is no less appropriate for the thistles, palm inflorescences, corn tassels, and dried cecropia or snakewood-tree leaves shown above. Both arrangements, made for us by Betty Merriam, exemplify ideas and directions presented in an article sent from southern California by Lillian E. Miles together with an intriguing collection of desert plant material gathered by her. To quote from her article:

"If your household is overtaken by a time when summer flowers have faded and suitable bouquets for table and mantel are available only at exorbitant prices, why not make a plant-ghost arrangement, using materials that are all about you? Interesting and even beautiful in themselves, many of the "ghosts" combine with any growing plants or blooms you may have; but an alldried bouquet, besides being decorative and unusual, means less time spent in caring for cut flowers. You can start in early fall, summer, or even spring to lay in a store of material for late fall assembly, waiting merely until the plant or flower matures and loses its green succulence, but not until it is rain- and wind-beaten and bedraggled. Store each kind in its own box (correctly labeled PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 93



If all home ironing were done by the gents, every home laundry would boast an automatic ironer! As it is, ironers run a poor third to washers and dryers—and it doesn't make sense. Thanks to washers and dryers, the heavy things which used to go *out* in many households can now be washed and dried quickly at home, at a great saving in cash and in wear and tear on your washables. But unless an ironer finishes them up smartly



and quickly, the wear and tear of hand ironing the flat pieces, and Pop's shirts, and little Sue's dresses will be on milady! Look at the figures. According to the American Home

Laundry Mfrs.' Association, the automatic ironing of all washables for the average family of four takes 36 eight-hour days a year less than hand ironing—seven office weeks! In our test laundry, it took five and a half minutes to hand-iron a sheet against two and a half with an ironer. But *time* isn't the half of it. It's lifting that heavy hand iron that takes it out of your hide, causes swollen feet, backaches, varicose veins, deadly fatigue.

But with an automatic, you just *sit* on a stool and deftly steer your laundry through the machine. When the ironing is so pleasant and so easy, you'll find yourself really using your washer and dryer for all they are worth. You can't really appreciate the job an ironer can do for your possessions, and for yourself, until you've tried one. So by all means, get a demonstration. And don't just watch the demonstrator—try the thing yourself.

So now, which type for you? A portable or a wheel-about

folding model (not illustrated) if you're an apartment dweller a heavy-duty cabinet type if you can possibly have one. If your space is at a premium, some models come in wooden cabinets which look well in living or dining rooms. In addition to the types shown above, there are pull-up-and-out models in cabinets which look like the other cabinets in your kitchen.

There are flat-plate types and rotary types, and we, who have used them repeatedly, find both types excellent. It's just a matter of personal preference—try both. All ironers have thermostats you regulate to suit the fabric you're working on, and some have two thermostats so that you need heat only half of the ironer when you're doing small things.

Rotary Ironers are of two types: in one, articles being ironed pass under the roller; in the other, they pass over the roller. Again, it's a matter of personal preference. Just touch a control, and the padded revolving roller is brought into contact with a heated metal shoe, and—whiz!—goes the ironing. There is a pressing action which lets you apply heat to one spot for as long as is necessary. And there is always a safety release.

Flat-Plate Ironers have a padded surface (called a buck) similar to an ironing board. Here the material to be ironed is spread. Above the buck is a heated shoe, and ironing starts when the shoe is lowered onto the padded surface.

Extras: By and large, the price of the big babies depends upon their deluxe features. Some such, all worth having, include: telescoping clothes bars to hang clothes upon; table extension leaves for added space; cord compartments; ruffler plates for ironing small ruffles and gathers; pilot lights; locking casters.

nce you own that wonderful ironer-don't leap before you look! Remember how awful it was when you first leaned over an ironing board trying to capture that first elusive pleat or to remove a stubborn wrinkle? By hand, such jobs need skill, and you need some skill, too, before you do dainty little dresses and fine men's shirts on an ironer. A store demonstration and the excellent instruction book which comes with your ironer can teach all you need to know. But you're away ahead of the game if you also have a home demonstration. Your dealer, or your local utility company, will gladly send over a home economist, for free, and she will instruct you thoroughly in the correct use of your ironer, how it controls work, and the best techniques for ironing laundry and pressing your suits and the like. She'll start you off on flat pieces, but in no time at all, you'll find your ironer doing the entire laundry, smooth as silk.

THEY DO MORE THAN YOUR LAUNDRY

Don't waste an ironer's talents on the weekly wash only. Here are other things it does well:

• Presses suits, trousers, or shorts. (Make Pop do 'em!)

• Pleats your skirts. Hold pleats in place with straight pins stuck into the padding.

• Revives tired neckties. Put a wet bath towel between shoe and roller or buck until steam starts appearing. Put tie on towel and brush lightly-don't put shoe down.

Refreshes velvets and corduroy. Same procedure as for ties.
Removes shine from serge or other hard fabrics. Use steam method above, but dip towel in vinegar.

• Use it to apply stick-on mending tape, name tape, and patches.

· Rescue costly gift wrappings and ribbons for future use.

TIPS ON TECHNIQUES

• Plan your ironing: Sorting makes all ironing easier. Do flimsy, quickly dried things while the ironer warms up. Then do the

heavies. Often, two or three lightweight things can be put through the ironer at one time, one on top of the other.

• Sit down comfortably off your feet on a chair of the right height, and iron by the simple process of guiding your things through the ironer, piece by piece.

• Use less starch and dampen clothes less when you iron with an ironer. This is a slight modification from hand ironing.

· Adjust thermostat settings for the type of fabric you're ironing.

Ironers do well by all fabrics.
Keep a damp sponge near at hand to dampen material that becomes too dry to iron nicely.

• Smooth and straighten the material on the ironing surface



before starting to iron, stroking with both hands from the center outward. Never pull or tug at the edges or corners.

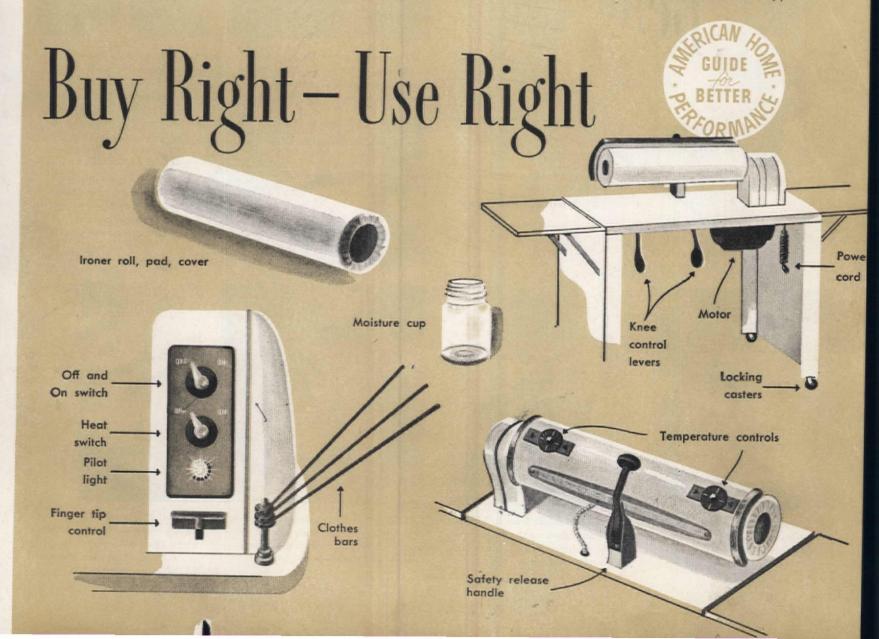
· Start at the selvage edge when ironing large, flat pieces.

Iron with the weave whenever possible . . . hem first. There'll be no sagging curtains or bulging tablecloths if you iron this way.
Iron each section dry as you go. This saves extra handling and mussing. Use the press control which stops the roller, when it is necessary to dry the material.

• If material begins to wrinkle, release shoe, straighten material —and then continue.

• For intricate pieces, experiment as you would with hand ironing. For example, if it's a shirt or dress, find the shoulder seam which leads to the flat part of the garment, place it on the ironing surface, and iron as far as you can iron flat. Then stop and rearrange. It is really just as simple as that!

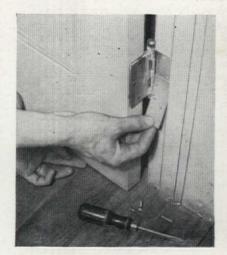
• Follow through with careful folding and storing. Giving your ironing a professional look is not only an art but a satisfaction. But the final test of skill is to fold your things without putting the wrinkles back into them! The best way to fold is to observe, on something new, just how the manufacturer folded it for delivery to the store, or how the store folded it for delivery to you PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 74



How to Make Doors Behave



1. If door sticks, check hinges for loose screws. If screws won't hold, glue wood plugs in holes, or fill with plastic wood, let dry thoroughly



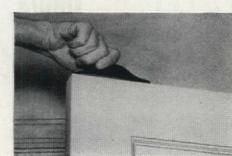
3. If door binds at bottom, shim out bottom hinge with bit of cardboard. Loosen hinge screw on wall side, insert shim behind hinge, replace screw



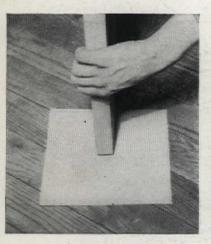
2. When dry, put wedge under door, reset longer screws. If door rubs frame lightly, rub paraffin block along surfaces where friction occurs



4. If hinges are tight but door sticks on latch side, sand spot where binding occurs, using medium-coarse sandpaper, then fine



5. Sticking at top may be due to failure of paint there to prevent moisture absorption. Remove excess wood with plane, working in direction of wood grain. Paint exposed wood



6. If door binds on bottom, slip medium-coarse sandpaper under it, swing door across it several times



ROBERT SCHARFF

7. To remove a door from its hinges, open it and block up the outer corner to relieve hinges. Tap out hinge pins from bottom but replace top pin first



8. If the door sticks against the stop, carefully pry up stop with a chisel and reset it slightly away from the door to provide additional clearance



9. Binding of a heavy door can often be relieved by adding third hinge. Open hinge, mark and cut mortise. Align door and attach MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 91

How to find time at CHRISTMAS

Just plan quick, easy meals with brimming bowls of good hot soup



ANNE MARSHALL Director Home Economics Campbell Soup Company

Here comes that happy, breathless season again! Probably you're saying, "Oh, for more shopping-wrapping time!" And besides, you still have meals to get—good, hearty meals for

BY Anne Marshall

good, healthy appetites. But cheer up! You'll find help... and time... and grand good eating—all three! Just choose a favorite soup from your Soup Shelf. Add a platter of eggs, or quick-broil some sausages, or heat a casserole of beans—and there's your meal. And how welcome on winter days—meals that include heartwarming bowls of good hot soup.

On this page are some lunch and supper suggestions—with help from your Soup Shelf. So, as we enter another Holiday Season, here's more Merry Christmas-*time* to you!

Plan these good meals around tomato soup

Ham and Potato Cakes Pork and Beans, Salad Frizzled Beef, Toast Codfish Cakes, Slaw With green pea soup you might serve Franks and Relishes Chili, Green Salad Chicken Hash, Muffins Creamed Tuna, Fruit Beef noodle soup goes well with Macaroni and Cheese Hot Potato Salad Waffle and Syrup Stuffed Peppers, Salad



A good cook keeps a

full Soup Shelf

the Come of Age− IT'S OUR 21^{SI} BIRTHDAY



THE AMERICAN HOME, under present management, is 21 years old this month, and it's a lot of growing we've done-with the times and, we trust, within ourselves-since December, 1932. But looking over that first issue in a sentimental mood, we were pleased to find that, however much our horizons have broadened, our sights were well set from the start. We never have, and we pray that we never shall, suggest to you things which would waste your time. nor bid you to make what you can go out to buy just as cheaply. For Christmas, 1932, for example, we told you about "Good-to-eat Christmas Decorations," including peanut clowns, taffy bells, and Aunt Marilla Schunkwiler's Christmas Tree Cake which doubles as a Christmas dinner centerpiece, and does other tricks to boot. While we didn't present them as handsomely as we offer the cakes you see here, the principles behind those first festive foods were very much the same as those which inspired the three very uncommon cakes pictured on this page-decorative cakes well worth the time that they take because the decorations themselves may be used over and over again-and because bakers stock nothing like them.

Of course, we give you an AMERICAN HOME Birthday Cake, good for anyone's birthday, for the garden on its cardboard base may be reused, and so may the roof which you make of cardboard, frost, and shingle with chocolate mints. The cake itself is your favorite loaf, iced in white, and inscribed with a "Happy Birthday" visible when the roof is removed. Doors and windows are made of strips of angelica, licorice, or frosting; yellow curtains are frosting, toothpick applied. Shrubbery is candy, scissored into branches; grass is colored sugar; path is chocolate mint. Corner lampposts are candles in ordinary cake candleholders, inverted; and flowering hedge is made of similar holders, filled with frosting. Naturally, that picket fence is nothing more nor less than our very own 21 birthday candles!

Those two exquisite creations on our cover? They are not one bit beyond you, for we have made a pattern with which you can duplicate them exactly—you needn't be an artist, nor even a magician! Just make your best party cake, fruit or other, and frost the top and sides. Decorations go on a cardboard circle, cake size—and they *stay* on that cardboard, to be used over and over, all through the holidays.

Take it easy! You needn't worry about over-moistening, over-handling or over-rolling the Crisco way!

Crisco ends pie crust failure

You get flaky, tender pastry every time!

When you make a pie, do you have trouble shaping the dough into a ball-or rolling it out just right the first time? Don't worry! You can shape and re-shape a Crisco dough

re-roll it two or three times. Wonderful Crisco acts to keep your pie crust light and tender. And you needn't worry about using too much water, either. Crisco's pastry recipe tells you just how much to use!

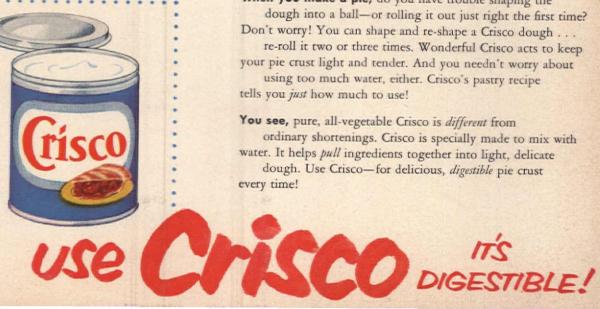
You see, pure, all-vegetable Crisco is different from ordinary shortenings. Crisco is specially made to mix with water. It helps pull ingredients together into light, delicate dough. Use Crisco-for delicious, digestible pie crust every time!

Give this old favorite a sunny new taste CRISCO'S APPLE PIE (Makes one 9" pie)

CRISCO PASTRY: A pie is only as good as its crust, so be sure to use Crisco! And if you want the easiest way to delicious pie crust, follow the 2-crust pastry recipe on Crisco's new "Recipe Round-up" label or double the 1-crust recipe.

APPLE FILLING: Combine and place in 9" pastrylined pan 5 cups sliced apples, ³/₄ cup sugar, 2 tbsps. flour. Top with pastry. Bake at 400°F. about 40 minutes.

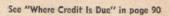
SPECIAL TWIST: Add 1 tbsp. grated lemon rind, 1 tbsp. grated orange rind; 2 tbsps. lemon juice, 2 tbsps. orange juice and an extra 2 tbsps. flour.



Whether it's for food or for fun, Christmas really begins in the kitchen, for your holiday cookies and candies, always both gay and gourmet, make delicious decorations as well as fine eating—and you want *all* the food that you serve to have flair. So along with some traditional Chinese tidbits and a Christmas Eve meat loaf complete with mashed-potato socks, we present table decorations and other

hristmas Really

festive fillips that begin life in the kitchen. We even used actual food in our title, for that "C" and that "K" are cookie canes, made from any cookie dough, iced in red. And here is the low-down on the others: 1. Any staircase gets additional lift with its rail wrapped in garlands, its balusters beribboned, and a row of gingerbread men on the march. 2. A food-bearing centerpiece is this tree for your table. Base is wooden disc, painted white; trunk is a dowel, paper-covered and wrapped with ribbon. Branches are red-and-white chenille bought by the yard, tacked or stapled to base, and tied or wired together at top. Use red ribbons to hang your pet cookies from the top. Add Christmas ornaments or other cookies to branches, fill base with goodies. 3. Hurricane lamps get the Christmas spirit in no time flat! We used ivy, arborvitae, winterberry, and shellacked crab apples plus a big, fat PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 75



Begins in the sitchen

RECIPES ON PAGE 72

JEAN AUSTIN

Walsall man, when asked if he and his wife were going to have goose for Christmas dinner, replied: "A goose is a silly bird, too much for one, not enough for two." So runs the proverb-but for the life of me. I cannot make sense of it, for I was reared on Dickens' A Christmas Carol: "Such a bustle ensued that you might have thought a goose the rarest of all birds. . . . Mrs. Cratchit made the gravy. . . . Master Peter mashed the potatoes with incredible vigour; Miss Belinda sweetened up the apple-sauce; Martha dusted the hot plates . . . the two young Cratchits set chairs for everybody, not forgetting themselves, and mounting guard upon their posts, crammed spoons into their mouths, lest they should shriek for goose before their turn came to be helped . . . and even Tiny Tim . . . beat on the table with the handle of his knife, and feebly cried Hurrah! There never was such a goose. Bob said he didn't believe there ever was such a goose cooked. Its tenderness and flavour, size and cheapness, were the themes of universal admiration. Eked out by apple-sauce and mashed potatoes, it was a sufficient dinner for the whole family; indeed, as Mrs. Cratchit said with great delight (surveying one small atom of a bone upon the dish), they hadn't ate it all at last! Yet every one had had enough.'

Remember? Of course you do remember the greatest Christmas story ever written. But do you remember how very, very good a goose is too? It is the traditional Christmas feast of most of Europe, including Scandinavia, and well might we make it ours too, as we have made Sir Turkey our Thanksgiving feast. How you cook it, how you stuff it, must always be a matter of family taste or tradition. But this is how I do it, and of all the ways that I have eaten it, this is my preference. Like the Cratchits, potatoes eke out my goose—but unlike Master Peter's potatoes, mine are mixed with sausage meat and onions and plopped inside the bird. Apples, of course—but not in sauce. Shiny little ones, stewed whole in wine and sugar syrup to make a lustrous ruby necklace round my bird.

ictuals

"Hans Breitmann gife a barty-Vhere ish dat barty now?"

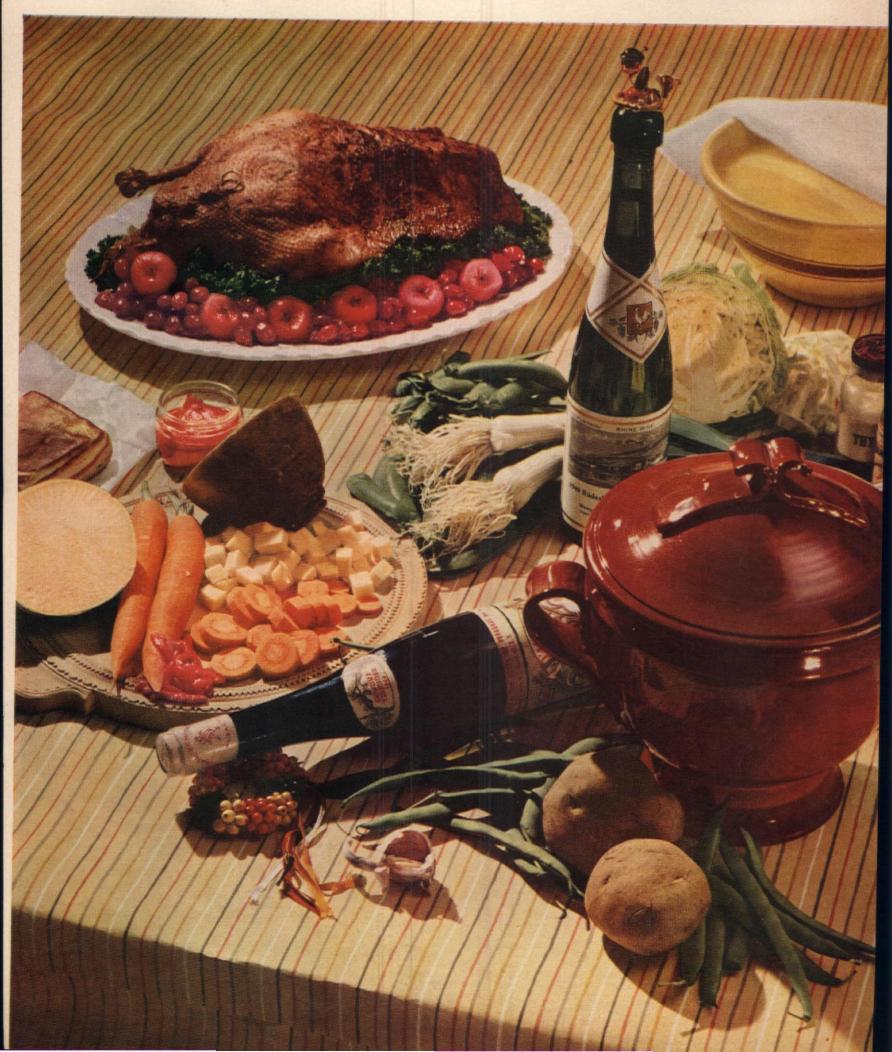
Dat barty's in the soup—the silly goose—simmering away with cabbages and beans, with spice and many things nice—to make a lusty, noble *Garbure*—utterly delicious for buoyant souls floating in the New Year. And in the great round yellow bowl, a *Confit* a greatly prized winter stand-by in the French countryside, and greatly prized by Austin. Eat cold, eat hot.

Now some there are to whom Christmas is no Christmas without a Roast Suckling Pig. Look at the little fellow, isn't he a darling? Such affection we lavished on him, coaxing his curly little tail to stay curled while he was taking on that beautiful tan, wrapping his little ears in foil so that they would not burn. A wreath of parsley and cranberries around his fat neck—and the little fellow resting comfortably on a soft green bed of water cress with little red apples all around, all around. But pray, do not for one minute get like my sister Velma who named all her chickens and had to leave the house when one of them appeared on the table—the appearance for which they had been groomed and fed for months! This little fellow is for eating—and roast suckling pig eats good.

A Merry Christmas to you all—and don't forget to eat and make good cheer, for Christmas comes but once a year. Blest be those feasts with simple plenty crown'd, Where all the ruddy family around Laugh at the jests or pranks that never fail,

Or sigh with pity at some mournful tale, Or press the bashful stranger to his food, And learn the luxury of doing good.

GOLDSMITH, THE TRAVELLER





Here's Barbecue Salad

Barbecue Salad

"TOMATO ASPIC WITH PERSONALITY"

1 package Lemon or Orange Jell-O 1½ cups hot water 1 can (8 ounces) tomato sauce 1½ tablespoons vinegar ½ teaspoon salt dash of pepper Dissolve Jell-O in *hot* water. Add tomato sauce and other ingredients. Blend. Pour into individual molds. Chill until firm. You can

serve four to six people for about a nickel each.
 Note: For extra spiciness, add any of the following before chilling: onion juice, seasoning or celery salt, cayenne, Worcestershire sauce, pepper sauce, or horse-radish.

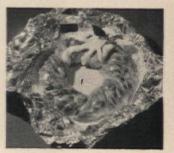
"Tomato aspic with personality"

Christmas gifts from your very own kitchen are always welcome —and easier now than ever if you're aided by excellent mechanical assistants. And, of course, at Christmas each piece of equipment plays Santa to its owner! Your freezer lets you cook in advance, and frees you for frolic. Your mixer and blender work overtime, willingly, on eggnog and other wassail. And even your laundry appliances get into the act. For a gay Christmas table, color an old tablecloth bright green or red—with fabric dye, in your washing machine; rinse, then dry it in your automatic dryer —it won't streak. Later, a color remover lets you change the color if you like. And don't forget to give Santa's suit a face-lifting before the big night—remove the white trim, tint the suit, and brighten the white parts with bleach before putting them back.









LET YOUR EVERYDAY EQUIPMENT PLAY SANTA



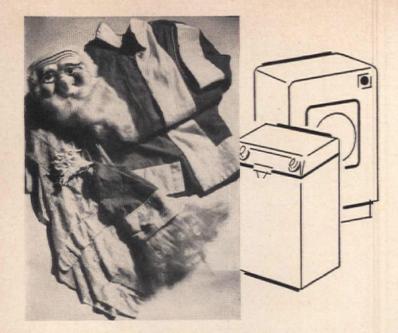
JUNE TOWNE

See "Where Credit Is Due" on page 90

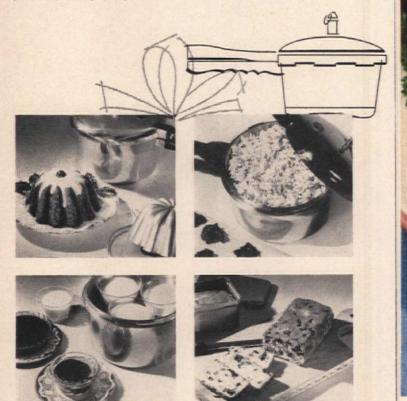


The best new recipe in the magazine! 62

JELL-O IS A REGISTERED TRADE-MARK OF GENERAL FOODS CORPORATION



There's a lot that's frivolous about Christmas—but there's more that's not, and thanks to your freezer, your home-cooked gifts —good, gay, and warmhearted—can be prepared, and ready for giving weeks ahead of time. Trouble no more about pleasing friends who "have everything"—discount the temptation to make do with a "clever," if not especially personal, gift. A friend's favorite cookies, a special fruitcake, a coffee ring contrived in the image of a Christmas wreath, can all be baked, and stored in the freezer long before the holiday rush. So can the "little" gifts of cookies and cakes or the bright jars filled with good cranberryorange relish which go to fellow workers, to neighbors, and to neighbors' youngsters for whom you want nothing so formal as your store-boughten gifts.



Poor Mrs. Cratchit! What a blessing it would have been to her (or any other woman of Charles Dickens' day) to have a pressure cooker to help her, especially at Christmas time! With it, fine moist fruitcake can be steamed in half the time that baking requires. Plum pudding, sign and symbol of winter holidays, issues from the pressure cooker hot and ready for the hard sauce or flaming brandy. Really well-made-up custards, the kind that never separate, are made with the aid of this trusty. And did you ever try it for the popping of corn? It makes corn extra fluffy, more attractive than ever, whether for stringing or for eating, or, as is bound to happen always, for eating while you string. Impressive as a crown roast—yet easy to carve and it tastes marvelous made with

pineapple with balanced flavor

true-to-the-fruit goodness because DEL MONTE Pineapple is picked only when tartness and sweetness balance perfectly

We raise our own selected strains of pineapple for DEL MONTE on our own plantations—harvest it just when natural flavor is best. That's why we ask you to taste its fine tart-sweetness then compare it with any other brand. Here's a tempting way to start:

TROPIC PORK CHOP ROAST

| 6 pork chops (1/2" thick), each with a bone | 1/2 to 1 teaspoon dry sage |
|---|--|
| Salt and pepper | 1/2 teaspoon salt |
| 3 cups dry bread (1/2" cubes) 2 tablespoons finely cut onion | 1/4 cup water 6 DEL MONTE Pineapple Slices |

Cut fat off 1" at end of each chop bone. Salt and pepper meat. Toss bread, onion, sage and salt with water to make dressing. Lay one chop flat, spread with about $\frac{1}{2}$ cup dressing: repeat, ending with a chop. Wrap and tie string around chops and dressing. Stand up in low roasting pan; cover pan tightly with aluminum foil. Roast in moderately hot oven (350° F.) 1 hour; uncover and roast 45 min. more, till crispy brown. To serve, ring each chop bone with a pineapple slice; reheat in oven. Garnish if desired Serves 4 to 6

if desired. Serves 4 to 6. SLICED • CRUSHED • CHUNKS

TIDBITS • JUICE





DelMonte

Take a Can of CRANBERRIES

CATHERINE NISSLY

AMERICAN HOME QUICKIES

CHRISTMAS CRAB MOUSSE

CRAN-MINCE PIE

Preparation time: 45 min. Baking time: 40 min.

• cran-mince pie

2 cans whole-cranberry sauce 1 package mincemeat 1 cup water 2 tbs. lemon juice 3¼ cup grated Cheddar cheese 1 package pie-crust mix

• Break up mincemeat with fork in saucepan. Add water and lemon juice. Cook over low heat until well blended. Remove from heat; stir in cranberries. Cool. Add cheese to pie-crust mix. Follow package directions for mixing. Line 9-in. pie plate with pastry; pour in filling Cut remaining pastry into strips; arrange over pie. Flute edge of pastry. Bake in hot oven 425° F., 30 to 40 min. For Crisscross Topping: Place $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. strips of pastry on waxed paper. Lay strips across the opposite way and weave them in and out, one at a time beginning at the center. Place rolling pin on lattice, gently roll to hold lattice, then place over filling. Seal and make a fluted edge. Crisscross may be arranged directly on top of filled pie if desired.

Serves 8 565 cal. per serving Originated in The American Home Kitchens

Source of vitamins B, C

IT'S-THE-BERRIES MUFFINS

MORE RECIPES ON PAGE 70

See "Where Credit Is Due" on page 90 CRANBERRY STUFFING

A TOP -

Take a Package of COCONUT

MORE RECIPES ON PAGE 70

Christmas-tree cake

1 package cake mix 6 tbs. butter or margarine 3 cups confectioners' sugar

1/2 cup milk

Preparation time: 25 min. Baking time: 25 min.

1/4 cup chopped maraschino cherries 2 cans coconut Maraschino cherries Green cherries Silver dragées

• Prepare cake mix according to package directions. Turn into $13'' \ge 9'' \ge 2''$ pan. When baked, cut into tree design, or bake in tree-shaped pan; bake as directed on package. When cool, split cake into two layers.

FROSTING: Cream butter or margarine, stir in confectioners' sugar and milk until smooth. Measure 1 cup frosting, add chopped maraschino cherries. Spread cherry frosting between layers. Spread remaining frosting over top and sides of cake. Cover with coconut. Decorate as desired. To make star: cut cardboard star, cover with frosting and dragées. Fasten with toothpicks to cake.

Serves 16 176 cal. per serving Originated in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS

Source of vitamins A, B

CHRISTMAS-TREE CAKE

COCO-PINE SQUARES JIGTIME COOKIES

AMERICAN HOME QUICKIES

COCONUT SNOWDRIFT

Anne's Notebook



See "Where Credit Is Due" on page 90

ANNE BARNARD

WHETHER IT'S TEETOTAL--or by no means totally tea--you can spark the looks and spike the taste of your holiday punch or eggnog. A bowl that cheers takes a little advance preparation, but it certainly saves wear and tear on the host while the big Christmas-week do's are in progressand if you lavish affection upon it, it may even tempt the "on-the-rocks" crowd.

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COFFEE IS A FLAVOR that can give extra dash to an eggnog. In the mixing of your best party recipe for 25 servings, add three cups of strong, freshly made cold coffee.

A BEDECKED SOFT-DRINK BAR will give blessed juniors and non-imbibers their due. Set it up with every type of fruit juice and soft drink (including low calorie types). Add a liberal supply of vanilla ice cream and orange ice from your freezer for them as wants "sodas." The orange ice is particularly good with ginger ale.

CRANBERRY PUNCH is nonalcoholic, tasty, and colorful as Christmas. To serve eight, use two pints of chilled cranberry-juice cocktail, plus scoops of lime sherbet floated on top at the last minute. REALLY SUCCULENT ROAST CHICKEN (OR SMALL TURKEY) is roasted breast <u>down</u>, and <u>without</u> stuffing to steal the juices. Half an hour before it's done, turn breast up for browning, and surround with small balls of your pet stuffing, basted with drippings.

ADD GLOSSY GLAMOR TO BROILED CHICKEN by sprinkling a bit of granulated sugar over it 10 minutes before it's finished.

HERE I GO CURRY-ING AGAIN. For bestever curried shrimp, add cooked dry apricots stuffed with cream cheese and pitted cooked prunes stuffed with nuts. Blend with cooked rice, top with curried shrimp, and serve with chutney-flavored biscuits I mentioned last month.

SAUCY KUMQUATS, you're so apt to get in those gift packages, are excellent in dressy salads. Slice firm ones paper-thin and add to French dressing or whipped cream or mayonnaise for fruit or Waldorf salad. Good, too, with mixed greens.

BAKED BEANS are a buffet hostess' best friend these days. Next time, top them with skewers bearing cubes of franks, dill pickles, and tomato chunks, brushed PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 68

NEW AMERICAN HOME OOK BOOKLETS

EXPERT OR NOVICE, you'll want these handy new AMERICAN HOME cook booklets. Each of the six contains 101 foolproof recipes, all for one kind of food-meats, casseroles, salads, "quickies," cakes, or pies.

Each recipe is easy to follow. Just one to a pagewith a full-page photograph opposite. The recipe lists the ingredients and tells how to combine them. And it also gives the exact preparation time, the number of servings, and the vitamins and calories you can expect. (In the cake cook booklet, the calories are graciously overlooked.)

\$1.00

Every recipe illustrated!

Tested HON

101 MEATS

Recipe

\$1.00

\$1.00

est Hills, L. I., N.Y.

for each booklet.

FILE CARD SIZE-just 3" x 5"-these booklets take up little counter space when you're cooking-and little precious storage space, too. The washable covers just wipe clean. And the sturdy spiral binding always lies flat.

YOU WILL WANT THESE ATTRACTIVE-and very useful-new AMERICAN HOME picture cook booklets. You can order one at a time or all six at once. But when you are ordering for yourself, don't forget that friend who likes to cook, the bride-tobe, or the newlywed. Put them on your Christmas list, and when you order all six booklets, they will be shipped in a carton ready for gift wrapping.

> WHETHER YOU ORDER ONE OR MORE - WE PREPAY POSTAGE. PLEASE USE THE ATTACHED ORDER FORM OR WRITE, BUT DO IT NOW TO BE SURE TO GET THE FIRST EDITION. THE PRICE IS \$1 EACH POSTPAID, ANY-WHERE IN U. S.

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oliday Treats with Fruit Cocktail

California Shortcake. We think this is one of the merriest, tastiest treats we've seen in many a happy holiday season. And the best part is, it takes so little time. Just a rich, dark ginger bread, mixed in minutes with Betty Crocker* Ginger Bread Mix. Whipped Cream. And gay fruit cocktail, drained and arranged. Think of it. Cling peaches, pears, grapes, pineapple, cherries-all neatly cut, instantly ready.



FESTIVE

What are your favorite **Fruit Cocktail Treats?** Fruit cocktail is so handy it's no wonder most good cooks have several prized recipes. If you have one you believe deserves a place in our collection of the nation's best, won't you mail us a copy? For each original recipe our kitchen staff selects, we'll pay \$5.00. Cling Peach Advisory Board, Dept. 102, 350 Sansome Street, San Francisco 4. California.



Christmas Tree Salads.

cream cheese with fork.

Blend in 1/2 teaspoon

grated orange rind, juice

of 1 orange, 11/2 cups

drained fruit cocktail. Freeze until barely firm

in trav of refrigerator set

Cut trees as diagram il-

lustrates. Cut tree trunks

from odd-shaped end

pieces. Serve on greens.

Garnish with fruit cock-

tail Serves 6.

Canned Fruit Cocktail from California

Anne's Notebook

(Begins on page 66)

with melted butter or margarine, and baked over the beans for about 30 minutes

HAS THE RUSH LEFT YOU SHORT-TEMPERED? Then such irritations as fat spattering from a pan are more annoying than ever. Next time, put waxed paper across the top of the skillet while frying.

QUICK, HEARTY SOUPS are thrice blessed for the time preparation they save when houses are very "open." Here is a good pair: SPEEDY ONION soup-Slice four large onions; sauté in butter or margarine. Dissolve six beef bouillon cubes in six cups of boiling water. When onions are golden brown, pour bouillon over onions. Simmer 20 minutes. Season to taste. Float toasted French bread sprinkled with grated Parmesan cheese. CORN AND TOMATO SOUP with a dash of curry is a meritorious winter soup. Combine a can of prepared condensed tomato soup with a can of cream-style corn. Dilute with milk or beef bouillon. Add dash of curry before serving.

A WINK-OUICK DESSERT: Sprinkle instant coffee atop vanilla, coffee, or chocolate ice cream. It attracts the eve-and the taste buds. I keep instant coffee in a shaker to sprinkle over puddings, frostings, whipped cream, or chocolate meringue pie.

BOMBE FROSTÉ climaxes a meal in style, without too many demands on the cook. For this glamor puss, shape any ice cream into balls, roll in lightly crushed, sugar-coated corn flakes mixed with chopped nut meats and shredded coconut. Place in freezer to harden. Crown with fudge or butterscotch sauce.

TWO PACKAGED DESSERTS can combine for as good a quickie as two different canned soups. Prepare a package of flavored gelatin and a package of vanilla pudding. When gelatin starts to thicken, beat and fold in chilled vanilla pudding. Tasty for sure!

SALADS NEEDN'T BE DULL just because it's winter. For a handsome one that nips the tongue, then caresses it, try this: Arrange not-toothin slices of avocado on lettuce, overlapping a bit; make an inner circle of grapefruit sections; fill the center with crisp pickled onions. Serve with Roquefort or tart French dressing. It's the onions as does it!

RAW BROCCOLI: Chop the young, tender flowerets, season with salt and pepper, adding enough salad oil to moisten. Add two teaspoons of lemon or lime juice. Add diced tomatoes. Pour over them, cream mixed with a dash of prepared mustard. Mix well, and serve in lettuce cups. To make it heartier, tuck in a deviled egg and serve with Russian dressing instead of cream. There's no waste, for the broccoli stems may be cooked.



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

| cranberry salad mold | Preparation time: 20 min. Chilling time: 3 to 4 hrs. | | cooled gelatin. Add remaining ingredients. Turn into 1½-qt. mold or ring mold. Chill until firm. Serves 8 281 cal. per serving Source of vitamins A, B Originated in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS | cranberry stuffing Presention time: 15 min. | 1 1-lb. can whole cranberry sauce ½ tsp. poultry seasoning (optional) 4 4 tbs. butter or margarine 1 tsp. salt | 1 cup chopped celery 4 cups bread cubes 2 tbs. chopped parsley | Cook celery in butter until lightly browned. Add parsley, seasonings, and bread cubes. Stir in cranberry sauce. Note: 1 package prepared bread stuffing may be used instead of bread cubes; omit poultry seasoning. | Enough stuffing for 4 to 6 lb. turkey or chicken. 266 cal. per serving Source of vitamins A, Originated in THE AMERICAN HOME KITC | • Christmas crab mousse | 2 1-lb. cans jellied cranberry sauce 2 1-lb. cans jellied cranberry sauce 1 envelope unflavored gelatin 2 4 cup cold water 2 4 cup condensed recam of mushroom soup 1 6 ½-0x. can crab meat 1 5 -0x. package cream of mushroom soup 1 correlation 2 1.5 -0x. package cream of mushroom soup 1 correlation 2 1.5 -0x. can crab meat 1 correlation 2 1 corr | Tested in T |
|----------------------|---|---|---|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|---|
| • chicken Pacific | Preparation time: 40 min. | 1 cup coconut 1 can chicken broth 3 tbs. butter or margarine ½ cup pineapple juice 1 cup chopped celery ½ cup pineapple juice ½ green pepper, sliced 1½ cups diced turkey or chicken (or use ½ stren pepper, sliced ½ tsp. salt 1½ tsp. soy sauce ½ tsp. salt 2 tbs. flour Dash of pepper | Cook celery, pepper, and pineapple in butter until lightly browned. Stir in soy sauce and flour. Add chicken broth and pineapple juice. Stir until thickened. Add chicken and seasonings. Serve with generous amounts of coconut. Serves 5 to 6 330-276 cal. per serving Source of vitamins A, B, C Originated in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS | | Preparation time: 5 min. 6 Chilling time: ½ to 1 hr. 0 | 1 qt. ice cream Few drops green coloring 1½ cups coconut 1 cup fudge, butterscotch, or fruit sauce | Shape any flavor ice cream into balls, or use scoop to serve ice cream. Roll in colored coconut. Place in freezer to harden. Top with sauce. For an Extra Special Dessert: Colored Coconut Candy crust (see recipe page 70) with red coloring, then serve Snowball Sundae in crust. | THE AMERICAN HOME KITC | • coconut snowdrift Baking time: 40 min. 50 Plus chilling time: 15 min. (59 | | turning with a fork to brown evenly. Delicious on ice cream, puddings, fruit, and cream pies. |

Santa salad

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70

Preparation time: 15 min.

package (3 oz.) cream cheese

canned pear halves, drained and tbs. cream

chilled

3 green maraschino cherries 1/2 cup coconut (about) maraschino cherries 6 red

cherries for eyes and half a ring of red cherry for mouth. Arrange eyes and mouth on end for whiskers. Cut green cherries in half at tip of each cap for tassel. Sprinkle cap softened. Add cream gradually; then beat until cheese is light and fluffy. Place each pear-half, cut-side down, on crisp lettuce Use large end of pear for face and tapered end for cap. Cut round pieces from red cream cheese on tapered end of pear-half for cap and at base of large and whiskers with coconut. Serve with mayonnaise, if desired. · Mash cream cheese with a fork until face. Spread

Source of vitamins A, B, C 143 cal. per serving

Serves 6

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS

coco-pine squares

Baking time: 50 min.

Preparation time: 20 min.

1 cup flour 1 tsp. boking powder 1 tsp. cups crushed pineopple, drained 2 cups coconut COCO-PINE SQUARES 1 egg, separated 1 tbs. butter or margarine 1 cup flour 1 tbs. sugar 1 tsp. baking powder 2 eggs

Beat together. Add flour and baking • Combine this butter and sugar. Add 1 egg and 1 egg volk. Beat together. Add flour and baking powere sitted together. Spread mixture on bottom of 9" x 2" pan. Spread with crusted pineapple. Beat remaining egg and egg white until light. Stir in sugar, melted butter, and coconut. Spread over crushed pineapple. Bake in moderate oven 350" F., for 50 min.

Source of vitamins A, B, C, D Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS 74 cal. per serving Makes 36 squares

Submitted by Flora Antle

(Take a Package of Coconut, pictured in color on page 65)

Baking time: 15 min. Preparation time: 10 min. 1/2 cup chopped mixed candied fruits JIGTIME COOKIES

Dash of salt I tsp. vanilla 1 cup coconut V3 cup sweetened condensed milk

 Combine all ingredients and mix well. Drop from teaspoon 1 in. apart on greased baking sheet, pressing down ends of coconut with back of spoon. Bake in moderate oven 350° F, for about 15 min. Source of vitamin B 68 cal. per cookie Makes 11/2 dozen cookies

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS

1

colored coconut •

candy crust

Preparation time: 15 min. Chilling time: 2 to 4 hrs.

or 4 drops food coloring 3 or 4 drops food col 11/2 cups coconut, cut

butter or margarine hot water

2 tbs. 1 tbs. 10

marshmallows

• Melt marshmallows and butter in top of double boiler, stirring until blended. Add hot water and food coloring, stirring well. Add coconut and mix thoroughly. Spread on bottom and sides of greased 9-in. pie pan. Chill until firm. To serve, fill crust with ice cream or chiffon pie filling.

Source of vitamin 164 cal. per serving 9 Serves

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS

-

dreamy dessert

Preparation time: 10 min. Chilling time: 2 to 3 hrs.

heavy cream, whipped

pt.

24

can whole-cranberry sauce 14 lb. marshmallows

1-lb.

into quarters with scissors dipped in hot water. Break up cran-to marshmallows. Allow to chill 1 hr. Fold in whipped cream. berry sauce and add Serve very cold. marshmallows • Cut

Source of vitamins A, B 321 cal. per serving

Serves 6

American Home Recipes

Originated in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS

Preparation time: 25 min. Chilling time: 2 to 4 hrs.

saucy cranberry pie .

envelope unflavored gelatin 14 cup cold water

½ cup heavy cream, whipped Nutmeg 1 9-in. baked pastry shell 2 tbs. sugar 1/8 tsp. salt 1-lb. can jellied cranberry sauce
 1 \$\$2 can applesauce (2 cups)
 2 tbs. lemon juice • Place gelatin in custard cup. Add cold water. Place custard cup in pan of boiling water until gelatin dissolves. Empty cranberry sauce and applesauce into a mixing bowl; add the lemon juice, sugar, and salt; beat with a rotary beater until smooth. Add gelatin and mix well. Pour into pastry shell; chill until firm. Spread top with whipped cream and sprinkle with nutmeg.

375 cal. per serving Serves 6

Source of vitamins A, B

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS

it's-the-berries

muffins

Preparation time: 15 min. Baking time: 25 min. 34 cup milk

> cup canned whole cranberry sauce, drained

34

1/3 cup sugar

2 cups prepared biscuit mix

melted butter or margarine 1 egg, unbeaten 2 tbs. melted bu or salad oil

• Combine biscuit mix, sugar, milk, egg, and butter or oil in bowl. Mix until dry in-gredients are dampened. Break up sauce with fork and carefully fold into batter. Fill well-greased muffin pans 35 full. Bake in moderate oven 400° F, for 20 to 25 min. Combine biscuit

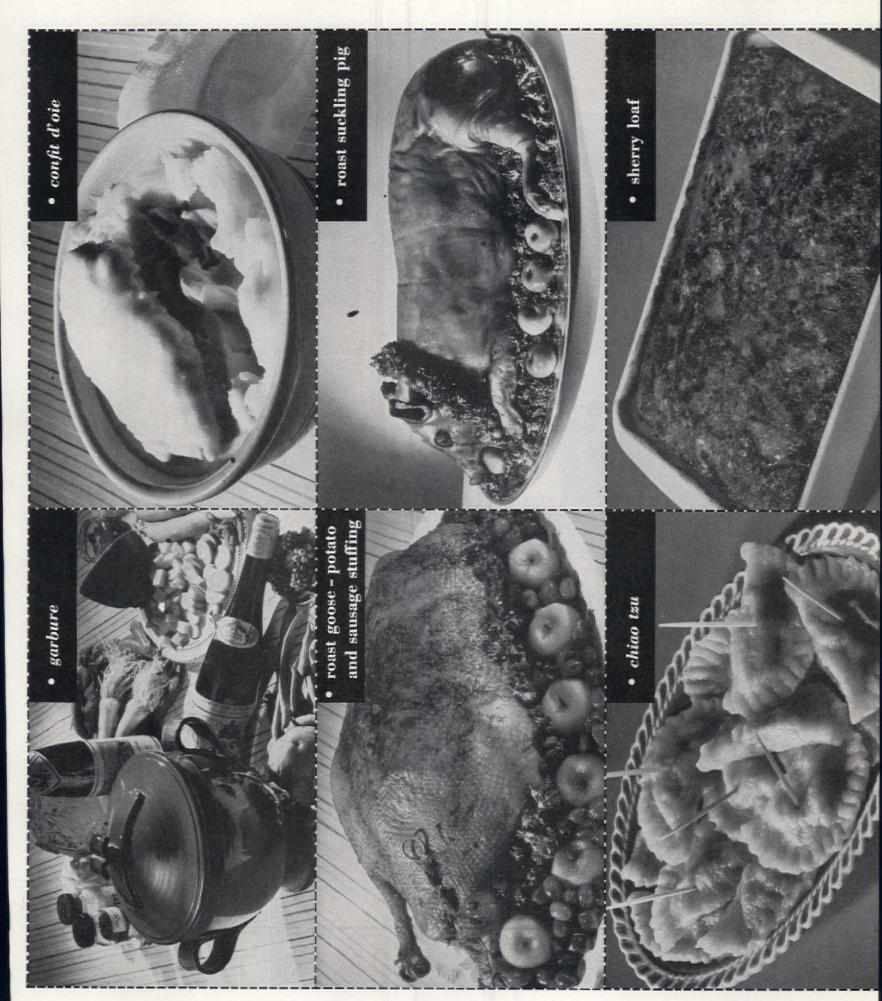
Source of vitamins A, B, C 153 cal. per serving Makes 12 muffins

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS

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

American Home Recipes

(Good Victuals, pictured in color on page 60) (Christmas Really Begins in the Kitchen, pictured in color on page 58)



Preparation time: 1½ hrs. Cooking time: 10 min. per batch

Ib. ground lean pork
 cup chopped cabbage
 water chestnuts, chopped
 (or small crisp apple)

74/20

3 ths. soy sauce 1½ cups flour 34 cup water 4 green onions, chopped 4 tbs. vegetable oil 1/3 tsp. salt 1/5 tsp. black pepper • Blend first 8 ingredients together and allow to stand while the dough is being pre-pared. Mix flour and water to make a medium dough. Roll out very thin and cut into 1% or 2 in. circles. Put about 1% tsp. of meat mixture on the circle, fold into half moon, and pinch edges together securely, making little scallops. Drop the Chiao Tzu into a large kettle of briskly bolling water, cover, and allow to come to a rapid boil. As soon as they boil, add about 1% cup of cold water. Cover and let boil again Repeat this boiling-cooling process four times—adding 2 cups of cold water in all. Scoop up with a slotted spoon. They are delicious plain, but may be dipped in soy sauce or vinegar. These may be made and refrigerated a day in advance. Then bring out and sauté lightly to serve as wonderful hot canapés.

Source of vitamin B 20-18 cal. per serving Makes 90-100

Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS Submitted by Mary B. Deaton

roast goose - potato

and sausage stuffing

Chop off neck, tips of wings, and feet of cleaned and drawn goose. Hold under faucet and wash inside and out. Drain and dry well. Rub inside with salt and a little marjoram. Rub outside with salt. Cover with dampened cloth, then waxed paper. Let stand overnight.

For stuffing, sauté 3 ths. chopped onions in 3 ths. butter. Add 4 cups potatoes which have been diced and parboiled 5 min. only. Then add $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. sausage meat. Season with pepper, very little salt. Mix well and stuff goose lightly. For stuffing, sauté 3 ths. chopped onions in 3 ths. butter. Add

Preheat oven to 375° F. Prick goose all over. Cook, breast down, on rack in covered roasting pan filled with hot water to rack height (use 2-3 tbs. of fat if goose is very young). Cook I hr., then turn goose over, prick again, and finish cooking with cover off. Throughout cooking, baste frequently with pan gravy and a little water, skimming off excess fat each time before adding water to basting fluid. Ten minutes before goose is done, baste with browned butter and turn up heat a little. (Allow 30 min. per lb.)

Serve with small whole apples stewed in sugar syrup made with half water and half white wine, a little lemon peel. RECIPE BY JEAN AUSTIN

garbure .

In a large earthenware, flameproof casserole, put 1/2 lb. bacon (in one piece). Fill casserole with water. When boiling, add z potatoes and z leeks cut in small pieces, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. shelled peas, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. broad beans (soaked overnight) or baby lima beans, r turnip and 3 carrots cut in small pieces, r red pimento cut in strips, several cloves of garlic, pepper, marjoram, and thyme. Simmer, do not boil. Add I head shredded cabbage when vegetables are half-cooked.

For a superb Garbure, add Confit d'oie-but it's a fine soup even if you If making a small quantity, omit some of the vegetables-but cabbage, beans or potatoes, and pork in some form or other (I prefer bacon) are essential. String beans may be substituted for the peas. But whatever your combination, it must be cooked until the beans or potatoes are in a mushy state.

On each plate, pour soup over r slice of dark bread or French bread if you prefer. Put bacon and goose on separate dish and cut up in serving pieces. Thus each person can have as much or little meat as he prefers. As you near the end, add a glass of when to the remaining *Garbure* in your plate—and know what haven't been foresighted enough to put down that goose in its own fat. to the last drop" really means add a glass of "good to the la

| sherry loaf | | Preparation time: 30 min. Cooking time: 45–50 min. |
|--|---|--|
| 12 slices dry bread12 slices dry bread1 cup raw carrots, grated1 cup chopped celery2 medium onions, chopped2 green peppers, chopped | d 1½-2 tsp. salt 1½-2 tsp. salt Pinch of garlic salt 2 eggs 1½ cups milk | 2 tsp. prepared mustard ½ cup sauterne or sherry 2 lbs. ground beef Peppers and pimientos for garnish |
| Break bread very small; add vege milk, mustard, and wine. Let stant well and pack firmly into a 2-qt. rd 45-50 min. To stretch the recipe. 2 be spread in the baking dish before p. 59, use mashed potatoes and pat out shapes of peppers and pimientos. | ; add vegetables, salt and per Let stand until bread mix a 2-qt. rectangular baking recipe, 2 cups of cooked no sh before the meat mixture is s and pat into stocking shap pimientos. | • Break bread very small; add vegetables, salt and pepper, garlic salt. Beat eggs. Add milk, mustard, and wine. Let stand until bread mix absorbs liquid. Blend in meat well and pack firmly into a 2-qt. rectangular baking dish. Bake in 375° F. oven for 45–50 min. To stretch the recipe, 2 cups of cooked noodles or mashed potatoes may be spread in the baking dish before the meat mixture is packed in. To decorate, as on p. 59, use mashed potatoes and pat into stocking shape. Decorate with strips or cut-out shapes of peppers and pimientos. |
| Serves 8 43 | 434 cal. per serving | Source of vitamins A, B |
| Submitted by Mrs. J. H. Doudican | | Tested in THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS |

roast suckling pig •

Wash the little fellow in 3 changes of water, then rub inside and out with salt and pepper. Work 2 ths. chopped parsley into $\frac{1}{24}$ lb. butter, and rub piglet inside and out with this. Stick 1 small onion with 3 whole cloves and back legs forward against his body and tie together. Wedge mouth open with a block of wood and roast in open pan in preheated 450° F. oven. In a few place inside piglet. Peel and core 6 small cooking apples and place whole in cavity. Skewer and tie securely. Pull front legs forward and tie together. Pull minutes, reduce heat to 300° F. Baste every 30 min. with pan drippings. (Allow 20 min. per lb.)

Give him eyes of maraschino cherries and place a rosy red apple in his mouth. a wreath of parsley and cranberries around his neck, and serve with aplomb.

Cook small red apples in a syrup of half white wine, half regular sugar syrup. o not overcook—they should be firm. Use as garnish, alternating with cranberries on a bed of parsley. Do not overcookRECIPE BY JEAN AUSTIN

confit d'oie •

deeuve, cook until meat is very well done—I hour or more. Drain off fat, and separate meat from bones.) Pour I inch of cooled, strained fat (no gravy) in bottom of jar, place pieces of meat on this, then pour in remaining fat only, no gravy, to cover meat. Be sure no meat touches sides—it must be entirely surrounded by fat. Let stand two doys. If any cavities form, pour in more fat. Cover with aluminum foil, the with string. Confit will keep several months if kept in refrigerator at cool temperature—but it will not strond moisture. It can be used cold, is delicious cooked with cobage, beans, and other vegetables (Cassoulet Toulouse), is very useful for impramptu or emergency meals, heated and served on red cobbage or with thin rounds of polatio fried with the goose. Use a long fork and fish out of the jar or crock what you need, disturbing remainder as little as possible.

(Good Victuals, pictured in color on page 60) (Christmas Really Begins in the Kitchen, pictured in color on page 58)

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—and do likewise. And of course, you can undo all your good work if you cram your freshly ironed things into closets and cupboards and drawers so poorly arranged that everything is bound to muss in them!

TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR IRONER

With the proper maintenance there is literally no "wear out" to this wonderful appliance.

Keep the shoe clean. If anything like starch sticks to it, clean it off immediately. But use only a fine, fine abrasive and a wet cloth. The shoe should be waxed occasionally with beeswax, paraffin, or wax paper.

Keep the muslin cover spotless. It should be washed whenever it is discolored. If it seems to get scorched, check yourself to be sure you are releasing the shoe each time you finish ironing an article. In other words, don't expose the ironing surface unnecessarily to the heated shoe. Watch those temperature settings, too.

Keep the padding fluffed up. It mats down after a time, reducing the cushioning effect between shoe and ironing surface. There is a simple way to do this fluffing-up job—use your dryer. Read your instruction book to find out how to replace the padding.

The electric cord should never be left dangling after the ironer is unplugged. Either coil it up or replace it in the space provided for its storage. Always plug directly into a wall outlet, too—not into a lamp socket or into an extension cord.

Casters should be kept free of lint to keep their mobility.

Take care of the cabinet. While keeping the ironer free of dust, don't forget to brush off that cabinet, too. A good appliance wax will help.

Manufacturers' instructions should be followed if oiling of any parts is recommended. Service problems will be eliminated in most cases if proper care is given the ironer.



CHRISTMAS PLACE CARD: This "cutie pie" is a marshmallow pasted on cardboard and encircled with a strip of red crepe paper, gathered. Porcupine spears have been coated with Holiday Blue (1 cup bead bluing mixed with ¹/₄ cup water), coated with clear nail polish, and sprinkled with silver glitter. Colored Christmas beads adorn tips

See "Where Credit Is Due" on page 90



Write for circular

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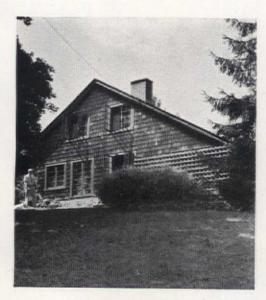
Christmas (Begins on page 58)

bow to make a decoration which doubles as a source of light-but you could use almost any greens and small fruits-or clusters of nuts, brightly painted. 4. Our Chiao Tzus, a centuries-old Chinese holiday treat, make filling, and very satisfying, hors d'oeuvres which will keep 'em guessing. They are pastry, filled with a provocative mixture of pork and water chestnut (or apple) and cooked like a dumpling. For additional crispness, sauté after boiling. (See recipe, page 72) 5. What's better than a gingerbread man? A whole family of same! The family stands in a basket, supported by chopped florists' foam (bought at your florist's), and backed up by any evergreens. 6. It would be hard to find a better dish to serve the night before Christmas than this very fancy-pants (or fancysocks) meat loaf. And the best of it is that we gave every bit as much consideration to its taste as to its looks, mixing in a liberal amount of sherry and other palate-teasers to make it really Epicurean. The ruffle which tops it is mashed potatoes, and the socks are the same trusty spuds, garnished with green pepper and pimiento. (Recipe, page 72.) 7. For generations, the Germans have made capital of the good looks of their Christmas cookies on this kind of loop tree. Here, the base is an ordinary small-tree holder, the trunk a dowel wrapped in tinsel or garland rope, and each of the two loops is made of two interlocking wire circles (could be coat hangers), wrapped in tinsel. Strings, wrapped around loops, are held in place with cellophane tape, and at the end of each string, the same kind of tape secures cookies, candies, and little wax candles (which should never be lit). To make it authentic, don't omit the striped flag and the star at the top. 8. Fruit Cuties are made from oranges (or apples). With a very sharp paring knife or razor blade, cut away the rind of the fruit to leave a heartshaped "face" of white membrane. When the fruit has dried a bit, make features with India ink and lipstick. A bobby or small hairpin secures the giddy headpieces. When finished, mount on three colored picks. 9. For sheer beauty and a subtle variation of the traditional Christmas colors, this centerpiece was done on an antique pewter plate. The materials are juniper, California pepper with its pink berries, lady apples, fiorelli (Christmas-pears), and Taxus (yew). We shellacked the fruits for greater brilliance, but this should not be done if fruit is to be eaten. Stack greens in center, use fruits around them, and place pepper berry in curving lines to tie the high point and the focal point of the arrangement together.

Twenty-four years ago, the December AMERICAN HOME described (left) the little house which was then, and until she died last winter, the home of Ruth Sturdevant, long managing editor of *Country Life in America*. Again it interests us for, since July, it has been the home of our Horticultural Editor Ned Seymour, who tells more of its history



A Story Twice Told

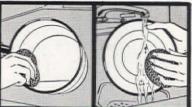




E. L. D. SEYMOUR

By rights, this story should be told by the "little house" itself, for I am but the grateful second beneficiary of all it so generously affords, and I know its early history only at secondhand. Here lived my friend and my colleague when, two score years ago, I was on the staff of *Country Life* and *The Garden Magazine* which later became THE AMERICAN HOME. Here she lived alone, yet not alone, for always there were one or more great Danes. (Incidentally, my own first Dane, and later a St. Bernard, came to me from her.) Here she planted and tended flowers and shrubs —natives and old-fashioned sorts in keeping with the rustic informality of the setting. Here she kept house, read, worked, received her friends, and filled her days with quiet, unspectacular, but useful activities.

And now, after a quarter of a century, I am privileged to occupy this little haven and to try, in some ways, to emulate its former owner's way of life and her enjoyment of its advantages and charms. The great Danes are gone, but "Peter," of vague ancestry but gentle disposition, is a constant, faithful companion. I hope the plants and trees will continue to brighten the seasons, along with some I brought from my previous home (for 41 years) in another, now urbanized part of Long Island. My housekeeping efforts will be cruder, no doubt, but no less sincere in their endeavor to do justice to the little house. And, surrounded by beloved books and prized pictures that compete with views of woods, hills, and trees, with my father's and my grandfather's desk to work at, and a fireplace to sit before (and, I hope, share with kindred souls), I humbly hope, for a space, to contribute my bit to the progress of horticulture and humanity. . . . And so the little house starts again a story of service in terms of shelter, comfort, hospitality, and peace.



When food sticks

Eggs, macaroni, mush, potatoes, rice, gravies, sauces, pudding, batter, casseroles . . . any of the foods that stick, TUFFY cleans right off.

Cleans pots and pans, china and silver, pyrex, baking dishes ... anything food sticks to, TUFFY cleans but never scratches.

TUFF. cleans it off -then rinses clean itself





LIFELONG HAPPINESS glows in the charming warmth of the Tracy kitchen with its lustrous stainless steel sink and counter tops, its gleaming white base and wall cabinets. Stainless steel softly reflects the gay colors of draperies, walls, flooring and accessories. Its polished surfaces cannot stain, mar, blemish, or show wear. No chipping, cracking, crazing, warping or scorching. Simple cleaning preserves its jewel-like brilliance. Yet Tracy stainless steel is priced like ordinary porcelain.

EXTRA CONVENIENCE is yours — in Tracy base and wall cabinets. Double-wall door and drawer fronts fit perfectly, permanently. Never a warp or sag — never a snag or splinter. Sound-deadened, doors



and drawers open and close smoothly, quietly. Adjustable shelves provide spacing to individual needs.

FEMININE CHOICE speeds the trend in modern kitchens to Tracy stainless steel – lifetime beauty, gentle manners, and work-saving advantages. Featured by prominent stores, Tracy products are famous for "sky high quality at down to earth prices." Ask for dealer names and your copy of – "I'm Sentimental About Kitchens."

EDGEWATER STEEL COMPANY Pittsburgh 30, Pa.





Storage Walls NEEDN'T LOOK







INTERIORS CAN BE DECORATIVE: In this storage wall in a dressing room, the interiors of the doors have been treated to the wallpaper which appears elsewhere in the bedroom. The woodwork is painted a pale aqua —the paper is deep plum with bold aqua motif. Top drawer of man's built-in chest is divided to hold ties and handkerchiefs



A STORAGE WALL CAN LOOK LIKE A HANDSOME OLD CHEST: This one, at the dining end of a Texas living room, resembles a Spanish antique, but was carpenter-built. Its imposing appearance results from clever, not costly, tricks. What looks like hand-carving is merely double rows of flat molding. Within each square, an oblong pull adds to the decorative effect. One section conceals a pass-through to the kitchen, and below it are trays for table linens

"Will a dishwasher do <u>this</u>?"

Will I have to hand-rinse my dishes first? Will it wash lipstick..sticky foods ..tough grease?

Will it hold my dinner dishes.. and pots and pans? Will it dry my dishes thoroughly?

You'll be pleased with *all* the answers to these questions ...if it's a *KitchenAid* Automatic Dishwasher. You can load a complete dinner service for 8 or more—*plus pots and pans*—in a *KitchenAid*! It's *the first dishwasher* with two independently sliding dish racks and with an adjustable upper rack for greater capacity. And *no* pre-rinsing is needed with a *KitchenAid*...a dual strainer handles fine food waste and filters wash and rinse water. Just load 'em and forget 'em...the large, *exclusive* Hobart wash arm revolves to power wash *all* your tableware. It takes off lipstick, sticky foods, tough grease...all tough-to-wash elements. *And KitchenAid* drying is the most thorough because an exclusively designed separate motor and blower fan forces heated air over all tableware—your dishes are sparkling clean for your next meal!



FUNCTIONAL





THEY CAN LOOK AS WELL AS THEY BEHAVE: Storage walls of the type shown above and at the far left are not inexpensive, even when carpenter-built—but the man who owns one will tell you that they are worth every cent that they cost. However, too often, the good planning stops with the interiors, when a little more thought, and very little more cash, can make them as attractive as this one. The trick? A simple motif of half-round molding plus square door pulls to give great distinction to ordinary flush doors. Interiors were planned for milord and milady, with places to hang shirts, suits, and dresses, each measured so that no space is wasted below them. Carefully calculated compartments were made especially for hats and for handbags. The shoe rack has sloping shelves for better visibility and accessibility.

Data: Dorothy Monroe



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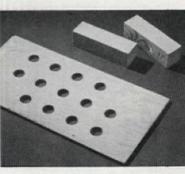
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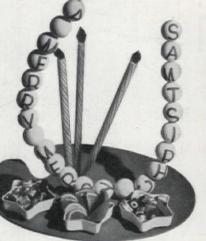
This easy-does-it centerpiece looks mighty attractive on your dining table or buffet and adds to the conviviality if you fireproof it-and if you use tall candles and don't let them burn down too far. Base is a piece of scrap plywood with holes bored for candles and greens. Two blocks of wood, about 1" x 3", make the legs. Spray base with fireproofing compound and insert any number of candles and in any design you wish. Arrange fireproofed greens to cover board

Queen Anne's lace, dainty roadside flower, retains its lacelike delicacy when dried. To dry, hang heads down, in a warm, dry place

HOW TO MAKE **QUEEN ANNE'S** SILVER STARS



GayIn



Our artists' souls always respond to the appeal of a palette, so with thoughts of Christmas uppermost, we decided to use its decorative form for a centerpiece. Paint a vivid Yuletide color, and use a "horseshoe" made of a wire coat hanger strung with Ping-pong balls (cemented together) and a gay Christmas greeting in red. Screw on three little star-shaped cookie tins to serve candies, and add three striped candy-cane "candles"

See "Where Credit Is Due" on page 90

HOW TO MAKE YOUR GWN CENTERPIECE



Spray with aluminum paint from a spray-type container. While wet, dip heads into silver, gold, or colored glitter, which will stick to paint



We arranged our "silver stars" in a low bowl with a pin-type flower holder. For variety we added silvered cones and seed pods



Hear

Rose-trellis tree is a good gift for a Green Thumb. Tree is rose trellis, base is coiled garden hose. Attach rose catalogue, markers, pruning shears, labels, pencil, spray box, book on growing roses, local garden club data

Make a mobile of lightweight Bristol board, bright paint. String with thin black string: a cutout candy cane, striped red; two stars, one white, one colored, interlocked by slots; two trees, mounted like star; add a gay sock. Mount all and hang



S.S. Washcloth: Roll four green cloths into tubes with paper sheet inside. Stitch. Make sides two deep—join at ends. Add curtain-ring portholes. For funnels, roll two white cloths; stitch and sew inside "ship." Add flags at each end. Bind funnel tops and body of boat with ½-in. ribbon



MORE ON PAGE 80



Doll laundry bag: For bag, sew three towels along selvages. Leave 12 in. open in center of back for zipper, and 2 in. on side seams for inserting hands. Gather top to form neck. Make head and hands from washcloths; stuff with cotton. Embroider features; use yarn hair



comes washday, and it's you against the whole family! How to stay on top? It's easy with a Companion Piece laundry, Hamilton's exciting new Automatic Washer and new 1954 Dryer. Careful, though! If you're shopping for easier washdays, don't settle for less than a Hamilton!

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THE WATERTOWN MFG. CO. 600 PORTER ST., WATERTOWN, CONN.

Christmas Trappings

Especially for Christmas, this textured plastic table cover in brightest red, green, and gold on white, makes a festive background for holiday dining. Six plain green matkins, to use the year round, and 54" x 72" cover, \$4.49. (Below) Wide-eyed cats and sequin stars on enchanting wrapping paper, with navy-blue or pink backgrounds. You can buy ribbon to match or to contrast. Three sheets of the paper, \$1, the ribbon is 25¢ for 15 feet





Under \$1.00-Complete





Everything to wrap gifts in one handy dispenser box—100 ft. each of silver-striped paper, tinsel, twine, tissue, plus 60 ft. of ribbon. \$3.50

Ceramic gift boxes with bright ribbons and small detachable ornaments. They hold Christmas flowers or greens on your table or mantel. The smallest, about \$5

ALL PRICES ARE APPROXIMATE



Dime-store glass—well-shaped mugs, ash trays, tumblers, cruets—can be filled with usable inexpensive items to make friendly greetings to people with whom you don't exchange real presents. Not one of those shown here costs more than \$1 to assemble, complete

Some suggestions: Homemade jelly in a glass tumbler on individual jelly dish. Or take a set of small punch cups, filled with crisply wrapped mints and perched on a paper tray. A cruet filled with your pet salad dressing—use cotton and paper scraps to turn the stopper into a Santa face. Place cigarettes and matches on an ash tray; trim with ribbon, candy cane, and other glittery things. Choose a well-shaped tall glass and fill it with hard candies—voila, a gift!

See "Where Credit Is Due" on page 90

An ordinary copper scourer un-makes into this gay wrapping. Unravel your scrubber to fit, then decorate with bright beads attached with tiny bows. Top-notch with bow or clump of beads



Copper foil, a sharp-edged cutting implement, glue, and a few sequins and snippets and you'll do these clever decorations for tree or a table in no time at all. (1) Rudolph sports a diamond eye, a red nose, glittery tips to his antlers. Attach earrings with thread. (2) Curl tailfeathers around pencil, add two bright beady eyes. Serrate wing edges, draw on other markings

Copper Curlicues



(3) Cut out curved strips of foil for tail and wing, paste on, then scatter colored sequins onto the body. Cute as place card any time of year, as well as on Christmas tree or packages. (4) Parisian "pompons" are finger-tip-sized clumps of a kitchen scourer. The ribbon bow sits gaily on topknot, can be used to hang this one

Data: Martha Weathersbee

(0 0

5

(5) Frolicsome little fawn still sports his baby spots! Use light sequins for them, and glue on. Wisps of silver tinsel make a lifelike tail for this dear !!





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ing to make meats extra juicy and tender. Whether you cook with Electricity or Gas, YOU can enjoy the exclusive conveniences of this Monarch 2-oven Roaster Range. See your Monarch dealer or write the Monarch Range Company, 513 Lake Street, Beaver Dam, Wis.

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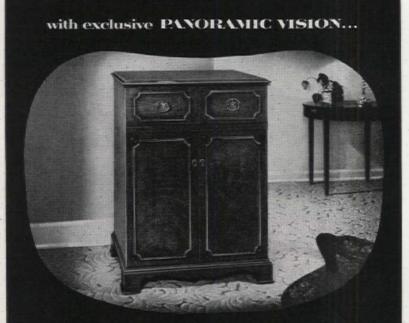
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ce setting consists of dinner plate, dessert or salad plate, butter plate, cup and saucer.

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Wonderful Haviland A Gift Twice Blessed

LARRY SULLIVAN

holiday gift that not only is highly seasonable and appropriate but also serves the twofold purpose of carrying a message of beauty and warmth to the recipient, and of helping a most deserving cause, is the Della Robbia Christmas wreath pictured above. These wreaths are made by the juvenile citizens of the Boys Republic, at Chino, California, where they were originated 30 years ago when Mrs. Margaret Fowler, with the help of two artistically minded boys of the community, fashioned one. Following the style of the fifteenthcentury ceramic Della Robbias introduced by Andrea and Luca Della Robbia in Florence, Italy, these modern living wreaths are fabricated of redwood foliage, seed pods, cones, and various colorful small fruits-all products of the Pacific coast region, collected, cleaned, and sometimes



painted or otherwise processed by young craftsmen of the Republic.

Thus, in a dramatic way, the inspiration and ingenuity of two artisans of ancient Italy have leapt the centuries to contribute very practically and materially toward the support of a nonsectarian, nonprofit, boygovernment community with no state or church affiliations. Made up of youths of high school age who are homeless or from broken or disorganized homes, the Republic occupies a 240-acre farm near Pomona.

The wreaths are sent out on order to every state in the Union and to many foreign countries; the customer and recipient lists include names of social, political, business, and cultural leaders. Uniquely American in its self-reliant aspects, one of these wreaths is literally "a gift within a gift" to give or to receive.

MUSIC (Begins on page 28)

phony for Strings. The joys of LP, what? BRAHMS-Variations on a Theme of Haydn-Toscanini and the NBC (RCA Victor). No other rendering approaches this, nor does any other rendering approach the accompanying item, EL-GAR'S Enigma Variations.

MOZART-Symphony No. 40, in G MUZARI-Symphony No. 40, in G Minor, K.550, and Symphony No. 35 in D Major, K.385 (Haffner)-Bruno Walter and the Philharmonic-Symphony (Columbia). A special occasion, Mr. Walter's 77th birthday, affords us this release. And a beauty it is, not only musically, but also in respect to the purity of the sound. Several schools of thought about Mozart-is he an "Austrian Rossini" as Mr. Walter asks, or a man much more profound, a chronicler in music of the human tragi-comedy? Oddly enough, when Rossini was near death, someone asked him who was the greatest of all composers. Rossini's not-"Beethoven, but so-cryptic reply was: there is only Mozart."

STRAVINSKY-Piano Concerto with Soulima Stravinsky as soloist, while Papa Igor conducts the RCA Victor Symphony (RCA Victor). Here you get the Stravinsky of the '20s, and you will notice that the Stravinsky personality hasn't changed much-the same nervous rhythms, unexpected touches. Well performed, and, to boot, two other Stra-vinsky works with it—Scherzo à la Russe and Russian Church Choruses.

TCHAIKOVSKY-Symphony No. 6 (Pathétique)-Willem Fürtwängler and the Berlin Philharmonic (RCA Victor). An old "78," not yet given the LP treat-ment. No longer available in most shops -but I hope you can find it for, to me, it represents perfection.

OPERAS MOUSSORGSKY-Boris Godunoff-in the Rimsky-Korsakoff version, presenting in the title role a very great in-terpreter, Boris Christoff. The others, all effective. Issay Dobrowen conducts glowingly (HMV).

MOZART-Cosi Fan Tutte with an all-Metropolitan cast, including Steber, The-bom, Peters, Tucker, Guarrera, and Alvary, plus the Met orchestra and chorus under Fritz Stiedry (Carm. words for this-utter charm. *Rohème*. Toscanini's under Fritz Stiedry (Columbia). Two

PUCCINI-La Bohème. Toscanini's NBC Symphony takes the honors, although Albanese and Peerce do right well (RCA Victor). verdi—*Falstaff*, considered by many this composer's greatest work. A well-

balanced cast-a brilliant impersonation of Sir John by Giuseppe Taddei, and skillful singing by Lina Pagliughi and Anna Maria Canali (Cetra).

OTHER MUSIC

BUDAPEST STRING QUARTET-in RAVEL'S Major Quartet and the G Minor Quartet of DEBUSSY (Columbia). Brilliant music, brilliant performances. CASALS FESTIVAL (Vol. III)-The cele-

brated cellist recorded at his Perpignar festival in 1951. Co-artists are Serkin Schneider, and Istomin in a treasury o BEETHOVEN pieces (Columbia). Surely an album to excite fervent praise.

MACK HARRELL-Singing lyrics of DU-PARC, WOLFF, PURCELL, MASSENET, and others (Remington). A discerning artist Mr. Harrell, who appreciates difference in styles far better than most baritones

Brooks Smith gives ideal piano support CLAUDIO MUZIO—Finally on LP. On album of opera selections. Another o songs by various composers, accom panied by orchestra (Columbia).

And of course, there is always Rubin stein in CHOPIN, Horowitz in CHOPIN O BRAHMS, Francescatti in any vio classic, Solomon in SCHUMANN. violi



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MARY E. MONZE

Favorite at Washington's National Gallery is Florentine marble Bust of a Boy by Desiderio da Settignano (about 1460). Reproduction, 11 in. high, \$27.50. At bottom of page, two treasures from the Metropolitan: Bowl is an Etruscan kantharos (about 500 B.C.). Cast stone reproduction has quality of original's fine black pottery and is equipped with watertight metal liner. 6 in. high, \$7.50. Reproduction of horse from a great Greek period (about 470 B.C.) captures bronze original's grace and majesty. 16 in. high, \$50







Mother and Child by contemporary American Betty Burroughs Woodhouse. Privately owned original is made from driftwood—stone reproduction is finished to duplicate its texture and color. 14½ in. high, \$15

The Louvre owns originals of these Chinese Ming Dynasty figures of a mathematician and a public stenographer. Reproductions are excellent alone, or together as book ends. 8 in. high, \$7.50 each



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G ood sculpture used to be only for millionaires—or for the public in parks or museums, for sculpture is the costliest of all the arts. So most of us had to be content with giftie shoppe banalities, or dead-looking plaster casts of masterpieces—or no sculpture at all. No more, thank goodness, for faithful facsimile reproductions of sculpture in the Louvre, the Metropolitan, and other great museums are now yours for from \$2 to \$50—those we illustrate, and many more. From a mold made from the original, the reproduction is cast in an especially formulated powdered stone, then colored to resemble the original bronze, stone, wood, or whatever. The museums that own the originals must approve the quality of the reproductions. You may buy them at your local museum or directly from the enterprising manufacturer.

> See "Where Credit Is Due" on page 90 ALL PRICES ARE APPROXIMATE



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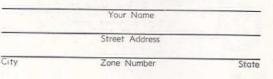
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M/Sct. Hubert L. Lee

T/Sct. R. S. KENNEMORE USMC

In all, 104 men have won the Medal of Honor in Korea. The men here stand as representatives of them—and of all the service men and women to whose devotion we owe our security this Christmas of 1953.



Peace... their Christmas Wish for us!

THESE are some of the bravest men on earth.

Yet these young holders of the Medal of Honor were never fighters for the love of fighting. They are men of war with a dream of peace.

They want a world in which small wide eyes can gaze in rapture at a tinselled tree. Where a happy Christmas is a child's inalienable right—because fear and force have at last given way to peace and law and goodwill.

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The U.S. Government does not pay for this advertisement. It is donated by this publication in cooperation with the Advertising Council and the Magazine Publishers of America. How to DAMPPROOF YOUR BASEMENT





 Earthen floors in basements and crawl spaces often encourage excessive water vapor which pervades the house to stain ceilings, mildew wallpaper, and commit other evils. First, level ground, fill holes, tamp. Coat walls with white cement paint

5. Hot water pipes for heating and water system should be insulated too, to prevent excessive heat loss and condensation. Wrap cooled pipes with asbestos air-cell insulation and metal bands



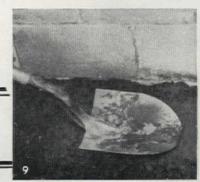
9. Grade level should slope away from the foundation wall. If yours doesn't, add soil to bring up the level, then sod or plant grass seed to hold the embankment in place and prevent excessive absorption



2. Make a permanent, vapor-sealed floor by applying a layer of asphalt crawl-space covering or 55-lb. roll roofing over entire ground area. Run material about 2-in. up walls, lap it 2-in. at the seams, and seal the latter well with roofing cement

6. Spray or coat sills, joists, and sub-flooring with a wood preservative to prevent decay, rot, and insect damage—any woodwork already affected by decay should be replaced







3. Install batts or blankets of insulating material (vapor barrier up) between joists to keep damp from rest of house. Support with strips of wire mesh cut 4 in. wider than space between joists, secured to them with wood cleats



7. If you have bad water seepage through foundation walls, dig a trench around the foundation to footing, and coat walls with asphalt. Let dry thoroughly, then refill trench





HE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1953

4. Cold-water pipes should be insulated to prevent condensation and the possibility of freezing in very cold weather. Use felt insulating material, or, if there is no danger of pipes freezing, wrap-on insulating tape



8. A line of drain tile laid around the foundation and connected to a dry well will help solve a really serious drainage problem. Cover joints in tile with tar paper

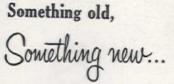


10. Good circulation of air is essential. You need about 2 sq. ft. of opening for each 100 linear ft. of foundation. If you're lacking screened vents above the grade level, it's a simple matter to install some in each of the sidewalls



the Western Pines

68 PHOTOGRAPHS SHOW YOU decorating, building, and remodeling ideas in the FREE booklet, "ENCHANTING HOMES OF WESTERN PINES." Write for it to WESTERN PINE ASSOCIATION, Dept. 211-F, Yeon Building, Portland 4, Oregon.



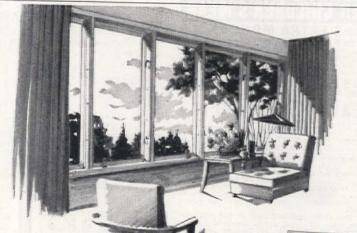
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We he hown bondholders, mortgagees, and other

N.Y.: Jean Austin, 444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N.Y. 3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are None. 4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or cor-poration for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner. W. H. Eaton, Publisher. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24th day of September, 1953. (Signed) Theodore F. Gloisten Notary Public. State of New York

of September, 1953. (Signed) Theodore F. Gloisten Notary Public, State of New York No. 30-6655700 Qualified in Nassau County Certs. filed with N. Y. Co. Clerk & Register [SEAL] (Term expires March 30, 1954)



CHANDELIERS

CHANDELIERS Page 40: Top: left, Litecraft Mfg. Corp.; above it, Ledlin Lighting, Inc.; upper right, Light-olier; center right, Raymar; far right, Lite-craft Mfg. Carp. Bottom: left, Nelson Bead Co.; center, Halcolite Co., Inc.; right, Lightolier, Page 41: Top: left, Nelson Bead Co.; center, Lightcraft of California; right, Herman Kash-ins; lower right, Nelson Bead Co.

FIND OF THE MONTH

Pages 42, 84: Copper-clad building paper, Chase Brass and Copper Co., and Sisalkraft Co. Pages CHRISTMAS REALLY BEGINS IN THE KITCHEN Page 58: 1. Photographed in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Mahony. 2. Tree by Erna Thurner; data from Martha B. Darbyshire. 3. Thurner; Arrangement by Betty B. Merriam; hurricane lamps by Tiffin Glassmasters. Page 59: 4. "Red Bell" ash troys, Cleminson's;

Page 59: 4. "Red Bell" ash troys, Cleminson's; recipe from Mary B. Deaton, 5. Arrangement by Mrs. James F. Murray. 6. Meat loaf pan, Pyrex. 7. Idea, Scatch Tape, Minnesota Mining G Mfg. Co. 8. Made by Marion M. Mayer. 9. Ar-rangement by Betty B. Merriam.

GOOD VICTUALS

Page 60: Silver waiter, Wallace & Sons Mfg. Co. Page 61: "Flame Glaze" soup tureen, Dickman Walker. "Bramble" platter, Wedgwood.

LET YOUR EVERYDAY EQUIPMENT

PLAY SANTA Pages 62, 63: Punch bowl, Westmoreland Glass Co. Cranberries, National Cranberry Assoc.

TAKE A CAN OF CRANBERRIES

Page 64: Glass muffin dish with pedestal, Saks Fifth Ave. Guest and Gift Shop. Glass pie plate, Pyrex.

Page 65: Round iridescent Italian plate, black French casserole, copper casserole and warmer, all from Saks Fifth Ave. Guest and Gift Shop. Coral pottery, Bloomingdale's Gift Shop.

ANNE'S NOTEBOOK

Page 66: Punch bowl, candlesticks, Saks Fifth Ave. Guest and Gift Shop.

CHRISTMAS PLACE CARD Page 74: Crepe paper, Dennison. Bead bluing, La France.

GAY IN HEART

GAY IN HEART Pages 78, 79: Silver lace flowers, centerpiece, Betty B. Merriam. Rose-trellis tree, Mrs. James A. Logie. S.S. Washcloth, doll laundry bag, Cannon Homemaking Institute.

CHRISTMAS TRAPPINGS

Page 80: Plastic table cloth, 6 matkins, Para-gon, Wrapping paper and Satintone Ribbonette, Tie-Tie Products. Dispenser box, Packard Paper Co. Ceramic gift boxes, Ruth Sloan Co. YOU CAN OWN MUSEUM SCULPTURE Page 85: All reproductions by Museum Pieces.

PHOTOGRAPHS F. M. Demorst: pages 6 (top and lower right), 33, 34, 35, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 56, 58 (1 and 3), 59, 60, 61, 62 (lower and center left and right), 63 (upper; lower left and right; center left), 64, 65, 66 (punch bowl), 71, 74, 75 (except top left), 78, 79, 80 ("Christmas Troppings"), 81, 85, 93. Lou Jacobs, Jr.: page 82. Charles Kanatian: page 80 ("Under \$1.00-Complete"). Ulric Meisel: pages 76, 77. The Bettman Archive: page 66 ("Christmas U.S.A." woodcut, 1870). Frank Berne: page 6 (lower left). Miller-Martin Studio: page 30 (center). Gilbert Ask: pages 36, 37. George de Gennaro: page 38, 39. Maya-nard L. Parker: page 58 (2). Reynolds Metols Ca: page 62 (upper left and right). Pressure Cooking Institute: page 63 (center right). Boyan 6 Weatherly Inc.: page 79. Ed Lehman: page 84.





Buv **Christmas Seals**



State

City

THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 19

25c

25c

250

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30c

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45c

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State

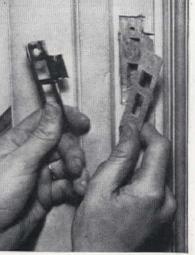
Sta

Make Doors Behave

(Begins on page 54)

If your doors don't catch, check the alignment of the plate and latch. Slight differences are corrected by filing plate opening at the top or bottom. If the difference is too great, enlarge door mortise with a chisel and relocate the plate in proper position

A rattling door is usually the result of too much play between the strike plate and the latch. To quiet the door, remove the plate and extend the mortise toward the door stop. Fill old screw holes, and reset strike plate at the back of the mortise. Fill the space at the front of the mortise with wood filler, then paint to match jamb



from engaging the striker plate, resulting in a door that will not stay closed. Try removing the plate and cutting a shim of cardboard to fit the mortise opening. Screw the plate back with the cardboard under it. If the door still doesn't catch, place similar shims under the door hinges. In extreme cases you may have to add a fitted strip to the hinge edge of the door

Shrinkage often prevents the latch

To keep your doors operating silently as well as properly, occasionally blow some powdered graphite in the hinges, locks, and other moving parts. Graphite can be obtained in a blow gun (shown here) and is superior to oil for this purpose since it will not stain the woodwork and will not catch dust

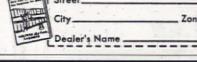


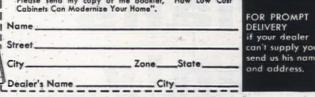
DO IT YOURSELF AND SAVE Why pay high prices for cabinets when Walters offers you top OF quality at prices your budget can afford? Pictured is a wall ensemble for use over a standard 54" sink. The end units are 15" wide x 26" high x 12" deep. The center unit is 24" wide x 18" high x 13" deep. The gleaming white enamel is baked on-the hardware is glistening chrome-the silent doors have concealed hinges that open all the way. We have many other models of base, wall and utility cabinets. ALTERS Steel Fashioned CABINETS SEND N'T ACCEPT SUBSTITUTES. INSIST ON THIS TODAY

Walters Manufacturing Co., Dept. A Box 292, Pittsburgh 30, Penna. J am enclosing 10¢ in coin for postage and handling. Please send my copy of the booklet, "How Low Cost Cabinets Can Modernize Your Home". for storage booklet that shows you

planning

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*NO. 23 (see Aug. '53) Home for a large family. Attic takes two bedrooms, bath. Ground floor has separate living and dining rooms, kitchen, three bedrooms, and two baths, plus a porch, breezeway, and garage

NO. 24 (see Sept. '53) Painted-brick house with two bedrooms, ample closet space. bathroom, two lavatories, living room, dining room, kitchen, recreation room, utility room, and porch





-

NO. 25 (see Oct. '53) Twostoried Georgian with living room, dining room, kitchen, utility room, two bedrooms, and bath downstairs; two bedrooms and bath above: large closets throughout plus two-car garage and porch

NO. 26 (see Nov. '53) This two-family, semi-detached house is a money saver to build and an income producer to own. Two bedrooms, living room, kitchen, bath, and five closets for each unit

*No plans sold in Nassau, Queens, or Suffolk counties, L.I., N.Y.

PLEASE ALLOW TWO

No. 23 🗌 (See page 38, Aug. 1953) No. 24 🗌 (See page 30, Sept. 1953) No. 26 🗌 (See page 142, Nov. 1953)

WEEKS FOR HANDLING AND MAILING, PRICE: \$5 A SET No. 25 🗌 (See page 46, Oct. 1953)

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THE AMERICAN HOME, Dept. BP, American Home Bldg., Forest Hills, N. Y.

Mistletoe Symbolism

POLLY CRAMER

ecorating homes and churches with evergreens is an almost universal Yuletide ceremony, and none of the greens used is richer in symbolism than the mistletoe. Mistletoe or mistletan, a pretty name given this "heal-all" of the Celts by the Saxons, means the shoot or tine of a tree. According to an old Celtic tradition, mistletoe was a tree until it furnished wood for the cross to which Christ was nailed. Thereafter it was condemned to exist as a parasite.

One interesting Scandinavian myth has it that mistletoe wood was fashioned into the bow that killed Balder, the Sun God. When Balder was born, his mother, Frigga, evoked a promise from all the plants and animals to do no harm to Balder, but she forgot the insignificant mistletoe. When Balder entered any combat of the gods, he remained untouched until, by devious means, Loki, his enemy, learned the secret from Frigga. Loki made an arrow from mistletoe, took it to the assembly of the gods, and placed it in the hands of blind Hoder, who with it shot Balder dead. All things in heaven and earth joined in mourning the death of Balder, and he was brought back to life by the strength of his mother's love. The pearly berries of the plant symbolized her tears, and mistletoe became an emblem of the love which is stronger than death. From that time mistletoe was held sacred and grew neither on, nor under, the earth but always suspended between earth and heaven.

Oak trees were sacred to the ancient druids, so mistletoe growing on an oak received special veneration. It supposedly worked miracles of healing, protected from witchcraft, and promoted fertility in field and barnyard. Historians have hinted that wilv priests went so far as to transfer this miracle-working plant from apple trees, where it grew in profusion, to the less abundantly endowed but sacred oak trees.

The magical powers of mistletoe inspired gaiety then as now. Unfortunately, its curative powers seem to have departed, for present-day sci-

entists find in it no medicinal qualities. At any rate, in druidical times. the cutting of the mistletoe was a grand ceremony. A great procession was formed and proceeded to the chosen oak, a pair of white bulls was tied to the base of the tree, while white-robed priests cut the mistletoe from the bough with a golden sickle used for no other purpose. When i fell onto a white mantle held b lesser priests, the bulls were sacri ficed. The mistletoe was then divided into bits and distributed on the firs day of the New Year. The recipients hung sprays over their doors as sign of amity. Anyone passing unde it could be assured of welcome and shelter from the cold.

The custom of kissing beneath the mistletoe is the only remaining sug gestion of the happy benefits it con ferred on those into whose hands i fell. Tales of its magic spread widely that Christian authoritie probably recognized it as the source of unwholesome superstition, for mis tletoe is usually absent from present day church decorations though othe evergeens abound. There may hav been a time when mistletoe and kiss ing were both a part of the Christma church service, but because of th romantic revelry they suggested, bot were abandoned.

hough mistletoe disappeared from religious ceremonies, the kissin custom was preserved in the servant halls, and soon spread to the uppe regions of the house. With each ki the young man plucked a berry of th mistletoe hanging over his head. Th young ladies passed by in this jol ceremony were doomed to spinste hood for the year to come.

In our day, kissing under the mi tletoe, symbolizing love as strong than death, is all that's left of t many magical powers once attribute to it. It is not certain how old th custom is, and we don't know if it w ever practiced among peoples oth than those of the Anglo-Saxon rad but it shows no signs of dying ou

When You Go South

(Begins on page 51)

if you can be that systematic) so you can quickly select what you need when the time comes. A light spray of clear lacquer or artist's fixative will preserve texture and prevent deterioration or disintegration, as in the case of cattails or milkweed pods. You may prefer to retain Nature's soft shades of cream, grays, browns, etc., or you may decide to spray some of the material with silver, gold, bronze, or metallic colors to match the decorative scheme of your home.

"Then you can use the material in various ways—simply arranging the branches, etc., in bowls or jars, or making more permanent decorations. For the latter, first decide what you are going to make and lay out the necessary plant materials in an orderly 'assembly line,' with the first-needed things in front. Next, choose a piece of old plank, driftwood, etc., for a base and drive nails of various sizes up through it from the bottom on which you then glue felt to protect any furniture it may rest on. Press lumps of modeling clay in irregular forms down over the protruding nails which will hold them in place, and into the clay thrust the stems of your bouquet material; later, you can paint it brown to simulate earth. (Foam rubber or florist's white wreathbase material can be used instead of clay.)

"It is helpful to know something of the habits and habitat of the plants you use, so as to make the result look more natural. In the arrangement above, for example, a piece of weathered desert sage root lies in the foreground; stems with buttonlike knobs are those of date from which the fruits have been removed;



there are several open milkweed pods from which the silky seeds have flown, and the odd, inflated stems are of a species of Eriogonum (E. inflatum) common along desert country roads. The finely branched spray at the left is from another species of Eriogonum found in the uplands; it looks like a mass of fine green or reddish brown lace and is much used here in the Southwest for mantel and table decoration. Indeed, all through the West Coast region, these dried plant relics are being used more and more to add beauty and interest in homes. At Christmas time, seed pods and cones sprayed with silver or gold paint are lovely tied into the bows on gift packages. There also shows in the picture one thorny stick of ocotillo or 'desert-candle' which, in spring, is a striking desert feature, its waxy red blooms giving an impression of flaming tips. At the base of the arrangement are bolls of cotton, a cultivated crop typical of the Southwest. One attractive subject not included in this arrangement is desert-holly, almost white and with tiny red berries at Christmas time. As with several none-too-common things, there is a law against picking it."







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TRANSLUCENT BUILDING PANEL in woven pattern for use as room dividers, bath enclosures, etc. In seven colors, two kinds of corrugations. Largest sheets are 33½" wide, 12 ft. long. Can be sawed, nailed, drilled like wood. Approx. \$1 per sq. ft. Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Co., Nicholas Building, Toledo 3, Ohio





SPONGE MOP has push-pull squeezer and wringer operating on handle to prevent wet hands and bending. The 11" sponge head folds in half to fit into small containers. \$4.95. O-Cedar Corp., 2246 W. 49, Chicago, III.



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320 Fifth Avenue, New York City

THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1953 PRINTED IN THE U. S. A. BY THE CUNEO PRESS, INC.



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PREFABRICATED GREENHOUSE, newe: model by famous Lord & Burnham, is easily erected by anyone handy with tools. Called "Scotty," it comes in 10, 15, 22 ft. widths, 8½ ft. long. \$500 up. Lord & Burnham Co., Irvington, N.Y.

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ALL PRICES ARE APPROXIMATE



We made a lovely home for Mother-in the garage!

WHEN Mother finally had to sell the old house on Elm Street, David and I were anxious to have her come to live with us. But with three children already crowding our small house, there simply wasn't room.

I was miserable at the thought of Mother living in a lonely room somewhere, yet it seemed to be the only solution. Then one evening David called me out to the garage.

"Honey," he said with a grin, "take a look at your mother's new home." For a second I thought he was joking.

"You know," he explained, "we could make a cozy apartment in this space if we put a bay window in place of the garage door, and added a few built-ins."

I agreed that the space had possibilities, until I looked at the dirty, greasy floor. David followed my gaze.

"Don't worry about the floor," he said.

"We can clean that up and then put down Armstrong's Asphalt Tile, right over the concrete, just like we did when we made the basement into a playroom."

That made the whole plan sound more attractive. If a floor of Armstrong's Asphalt Tile would do as much for the garage as it did for our basement, I'd be satisfied. And it certainly would be inexpensive.

With the floor problem settled, the rest was easy. The garage is right next to our kitchen, so it didn't cost much to bring in plumbing for a bathroom. We worked out a sleeping-dressing alcove that left plenty of room for a living section.

That beautiful floor of Armstrong's Asphalt Tile paid me an unexpected dividend. It's so easy to clean, Mother can take care of her own room. So now, even with added space, I don't have extra work.



Bedroom alcove is set off from the living area by louvered doors, which can be folded across, and by the smart triangle design in the floor of Armstrong's Asphalt Tile. Special effects like this are possible at no extra cost because tiles are faid singly.



Write for free booklet, "Rooms

Better Living

for Better Living," containing ideas for base-ments and basementless houses. For free floor plan of room above, write Armstrong Cork Company, 5312 Plum Street, Lancaster, Penna.



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This Christmas, start her off with two place-settings. Six-piece place-settings start at \$29.75, Federal tax included.



Damask Rose

Mansion House

Lasting Spring

Stanton Hall

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Reigning Beauty

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