# THE AMERICAN HOME

DECEMBER · 25¢

**G-E AUTOMATIC TOASTER** has the most dependable automatic toasting mechanism ever developed. Extra-high toast lift, 6-position control for any shade of toast. Extra-large snap-out, snap-in crumb tray. **$21.95***

**G-E PORTABLE MIXER.** It actually weighs less than 3 pounds! Yet it mixes the heaviest batters with ease. Three-speed switch. Handy beater ejector. Can be hung up like a saucepan when not being used. **$19.50***

# Wrap up your gift problems right on this page!

LET'S FACE IT. When it comes to Christmas presents, perfumes and negligees—thank goodness—are here to stay.

Of course women love "frilly" gifts! But every one we've ever met has a very practical side as well. Just you *find* us a girl who wouldn't be delighted to receive any of the handsome, as well as useful, gifts shown and described right here on this page!

Why not browse around your local G-E dealer's? Bet you come up with "just what she wanted."

*Progress Is Our Most Important Product*

**GENERAL ELECTRIC**

**Mfr.'s recommended retail or Fair Trade price. General Electric Co., Small Appliance Div., Bridgeport 2, Conn.*

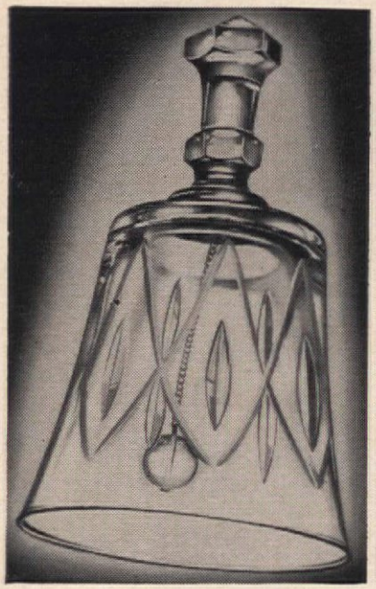
**G-E SANDWICH GRILL AND WAFFLE IRON!** With grill plates in position—sizzling sandwiches *right at the table!* With just a change of grids—golden-brown waffles! Automatic temperature control, too. **$22.50***

**G-E AUTOMATIC COFFEE MAKER!** Makes as few as 2 cups—as many as 9—perfectly. Just set the control for the exact strength you prefer. Light signals when ready. Coffee stays hot until you want it. **$29.50***

# FREE

**TO NEW MEMBERS OF THE AROUND-THE-WORLD SHOPPERS CLUB**

## ANY ONE OF THESE BEAUTIFUL GIFTS FROM FOREIGN LANDS!



TYPICAL EXAMPLES OF AROUND-THE-WORLD SHOPPERS CLUB SELECTIONS

### CRYSTAL BELL FROM BELGIUM

This beautiful Crystal Bell stands over 4½" high and has an exquisite ringing tone. It was hand-blown in the picturesque village of Val Saint-Lambert, Belgium, and is genuine Belgian crystal, hand-engraved by skilled artisans with techniques going back hundreds of years. A most unusual *objet d'art* for the home.

### BLACK FOREST CLOCK FROM WEST GERMANY

This handsome clock stands 7" high, is nearly 5" wide . . . hand-carved from traditional woods. Mechanism is brass, with brass chain and weight. Entire clock was handcrafted by the famous clock-makers of the Black Forest with techniques going back to 1640! Perfect for kitchen, children's room, or any room in the house.

### 2-PIECE SERVING SET FROM FLORENCE, ITALY

These pieces are over 9" long and were made in Florence with techniques developed by Benvenuto Cellini. They are Renaissance Traditional, with handles tooled in bas-relief. Use them as a Serving Set for salads, or as individual pieces for meat and vegetable dishes. Handsome antique-finish goes well with your own dinner service.

### TWILIGHT LAMP FROM HOLLAND

A lovely "Delft's Blue" lamp from the land of dikes and wooden shoes! Lamp, with shade, is over 8" high; shade measures 6" across at widest point. Both base and shade were hand-painted by the ceramic artists of Delft, Holland, famous as the home of Delftware for over 400 years. Standard U. S. cord provides for 110-v. AC.

## TO INTRODUCE YOU TO THE PLEASURES OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE

# Around-the-World Shoppers Club

TO demonstrate the *quality* and *value* of Around-the-World Shoppers Club gifts, we will send you any one of the fascinating gifts shown above *with our compliments* as an inducement to join now! These lovely gift articles were hand-made by the skilled artisans of foreign lands, and you will delight in having the one you choose in your home!

### Beautiful Gifts From the World Over — For As Little As $1.83 Each!

Wouldn't you like to go shopping around the globe with a traveller who knows where the *finest merchandise* and *biggest bargains* are? Wouldn't you like to visit distant lands, shop for exquisite gifts in exotic bazaars, go through fantastic Old World workshops, watch native craftmen create beautiful things with their ancient skills? Best of all—wouldn't you like to make your home a "show place" with the exciting gifts you've purchased—values as much as *double* what you are asked to pay for them?

### A Thrilling Surprise Each Month

To introduce you to the thrills and enjoyment of shopping abroad, let us send you one of these gifts without charge. Then, as a member of the Around-the-World Shoppers Club, each month you will receive a surprise package sent to you *direct from a different foreign country — postpaid and duty-free* —and with it will come a colorful brochure telling the story of your gift and adding even more glamour to your shipment!

### SEND NO MONEY — JUST THE COUPON

So—come aboard our magic carpet and let's set out on our shopping trip around the world! Send no money now; just mail the coupon and specify the membership plan you choose. We will enroll you and bill you as follows until you decide to cancel: $5 every 2 months, $9 every 4 months, $12 every 6 months or $22 every 12 months. You can cancel your Around-the-World Shoppers Club membership at any time.

Furthermore, if you are not delighted with the first selection sent to your home, keep it, as well as the gift you have chosen from those shown above, and receive a full refund. Mail coupon *now* while you may have your lovely gift FREE for joining!

**GIFT MEMBERSHIPS**

If you wish to give Memberships as gifts, use a separate sheet, specify term of membership, and attach to the coupon so we may know your friends are entitled to the gift article you have chosen as an *extra* gift.

**NOTE:** The gifts are shipped directly to you from points of origin all over the world, prepaid. Thus, you become an importer without any of the headaches which usually attend importations. We guarantee that the gifts will be delivered to you without damage and that they will be worth much more than the price you pay.

**AROUND-THE-WORLD SHOPPERS CLUB, Dept. W, 71 Concord St., Newark 5, N. J.**

**Around-the-World Shoppers Club, Dept. W**
**71 Concord St., Newark 5, N. J.**

☐ 545-B Belgian Crystal Bell
☐ 546-C Black Forest Clock
☐ 547-L Delft's Blue Lamp
☐ 548-S 2-Piece Florentine Set

Please send me the Gift I have checked above FREE and enroll me as a member of the Around-the-World Shoppers Club. Start regular monthly shipments of the Club's selection of foreign merchandise direct to me from countries of origin; bill me as follows, with the understanding that I may cancel at any time:

☐ $ 5.00 every 2 months ( 2 gifts at $2.50 each)
☐ 9.00 every 4 months ( 4 gifts at $2.25 each)
☐ 12.00 every 6 months ( 6 gifts at $2.00 each)
☐ 22.00 every 12 months (12 gifts at $1.83 each)

☐ Check here if you are enclosing your remittance now. Satisfaction guaranteed.

○ Check here if this is a request for a renewal or reinstatement of your membership so we can avoid duplicating countries.

Name.....
(Please Print)
Address.....
City.....Zone....State.....

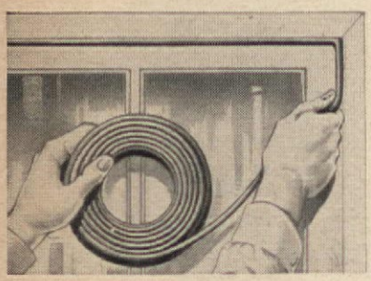
(NOTE: All shipments come to you postpaid and duty free. However, the U. S. Post Office Dept. charges a service fee of 15c for delivering foreign packages; collected by your postman and cannot be prepaid.)

**CANADA:** 2 mos., $5.50; 4 mos., $10.50; 6 mos., $14.00; 12 mos., $26.00. Delivered to your home without payment of additional duty or postage. **Address: 971 St. Timothy St., Montreal 24, Que.**

# Weatherstrip with your fingertip

THE EASY **Mortite** WAY!

**ELIMINATE UNHEALTHY,** fuel-wasting drafts—Mortite your windows *now!* Weatherproofs a window *in seconds* at so little cost! Self-adheres—no tacks or tools—just press in place!



**SOFT, ROPE-LIKE STRANDS.** (¼" diameter) unroll like ribbon, mould into place like modeling clay. Use inside or out—no need to go out in cold to apply. Won't crack, chip or peel. Use over and over—in Spring, hold one end, pull right off.

**1,001 OTHER USES!** Ideal as gasket, caulker, base for flower stems. Perfect plugger-upper for variety of uses in, around home all year long!

KEEP **Mortite** HANDY

*Available At All Leading Stores. Send For Your FREE Circular Showing Mortite Uses In, around Home!*

29¢ • 98¢ • $1.25

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What symbolizes Christmas for you? To Art Editor Edward Fortuna (see page 20), winner of our inter-office cover design contest, the timeless warmth of family holiday reunions means the glow of candles, sparkling tinsel, fragrant pine, and a well-laden table. Photograph by F. M. Demarest. (See "Where Credit is Due")

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JULIE JOHNSON—Noted Merchandising Consultant selects these as the

# Prize-Winning Gift Values of 1954

Prize Gift Value No. 1

## Hollywood SALADMAKER

NATIONALLY ADVERTISED AT ~~$19.95~~
REDUCED TO
**$9.95**
3 steel cutters
DELUXE MODEL
5 steel cutters
$11.95

### PREPARES FOOD OVER 200 DELIGHTFUL WAYS

Now you can prepare the most beautiful, healthful foods with ease, speed, safety, and economy. Makes wonderful waffle-potatoes, tossed salad, golden brown potato chips; chops onions, peels apples, crumbs bread, prepares baby foods, health foods, and vegetable juices. Slices faster than electric machines costing $200 or more. Easy to clean and easy to operate. Safe enough for a child to use. Recipe book included.

**GUARANTEE**
*We absolutely guarantee this machine to be free from defects in material and workmanship. You must be 100% satisfied or your money refunded at once.*

- ✓ SHREDS
- ✓ CHOPS
- ✓ GRATES
- ✓ PEELS
- ✓ SLICES
- ✓ WAFFLES
- ✓ CRUMBS

**WE PAY POSTAGE**
On Prepaid Orders

Prize Gift Value No. 2

Exquisite All Steel

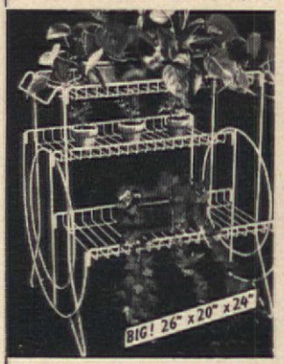
## PLANT STANDS

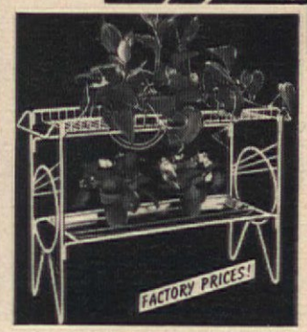
- Heavy gauge steel
- Use indoors or outdoors
- Sets up in a jiffy without tools
- Rustproof and chip proof

Harmonize with living room or porch furniture, modern or period decor. Beautifully smooth edges. Set them up in seconds, no tools needed. Fold flat for storing. Make ideal gifts.

Right: Revolving arms extend 5 to 10 inches. Holds 10 pots. Grilled center may be filled with moss for ivy.

**$9.95** plus $1.00 for postage & handling




3 Shelves. Each shelf is set forward to allow head room for tall plants. **$6.95** plus 75c for postage and handling

2-shelf table has aluminum bottom tray. 30" x 10" x 24" high. **$4.95** plus 50c for postage & handling

Your choice of Wrought Iron Black or Tropical White

Prize Gift Value No. 3

## Hollywood Bride with 7-Outfit Trousseau

- Sits—Stands—Sleeps
- Head Turns
- Unbreakable
- Washable from Head to Toe
- Guaranteed Mechanism

*She's really 7 dolls in 1!* She's dressed in an exquisite wedding gown of shimmering rayon satin — and has a complete trousseau suitable for any "dress-up" occasion. You can change her costume, wash and wave her hair in any style. She turns her head as she walks. Unbreakable, washable plastic body. Sparkling "go-to-sleep" eyes. She sits up and stands. Fully jointed, finely detailed, 18 in. high. *You get all 7 outfits and this lovely doll at one unbelievable low price.*

$14.95 value

**$6.95**

**WE PAY POSTAGE**
On Prepaid Orders

## ORDER BY MAIL TODAY • MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

**Niresk Industries, Dept. AH**
**4757 N. Ravenswood Ave., Chicago 40, Illinois.**

Please rush Julie Johnson selected items checked. Full purchase price refunded if not 100% satisfied.

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ ZONE____ STATE____

☐ I enclose $_____ ship prepaid.

☐ I enclose $1.00 deposit. Will pay balance C.O.D. plus postage.

☐ Saladmaker.....$9.95

☐ $9.95 Plant Stand. Add $1.00 for postage and handling. Color_____

☐ $6.95 Plant Table. Add 75c for postage and handling. Color_____

☐ $4.95 Plant Table. Add 50c for postage and handling. Color_____

☐ Hollywood Bride Doll and Trousseau.....$6.95

NIRESK INDUSTRIES, INC. • CHICAGO 40, ILL.

*"Bill thinks of the nicest things.
He gave me an extension telephone
for the kitchen and one
for the bedroom too."*

*"Thanks ever so much, son,
for the extension telephone.
It's a big comfort to have
it close by in my bedroom."*

*HERE'S SOMETHING NEW*
*AND DIFFERENT FOR CHRISTMAS*

# Give an extension telephone to someone you love

Have you been searching for something new and different in a Christmas gift? Something that is distinctive, yet practical, and will last the whole year through?

You couldn't do better than an extension telephone for Mother or Dad, son or daughter, or Grandma and Grandpa. For 365 days and nights it will save steps, time and effort. And it's mighty handy, too, in an emergency.

If you'll order in time we'll do our best to install the extension telephone before Christmas.

If that isn't possible, we'll deliver the telephone, attractively wrapped, so you can put it under the tree with the other gifts. Then we'll come around after Christmas and install it in bedroom, living room, or kitchen, or wherever you wish.

The cost is small—just pennies a day for each extension telephone. Just call the business office of your local Bell telephone company.

*"My wife sure knows how to pick
out the right Christmas gifts.
Gave me an extension telephone
for my hobby room downstairs."*

*"You'll never guess what
Dad gave me! A telephone
of my very own—
right in my room!"*

BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM

# Full of Inspiration

***Party Decorations for Christmas and Other Occasions*** **by Patricia Easterbrook Roberts. Studio. $5.95**

"The real objective" states the author of this uncommonly absorbing and handsome how-to book that reads like a novel, "is for you and your family to enjoy yourselves thoroughly as you join in the wonderful old custom of decking your halls . . . I hope that you will allow your contagious joy and enthusiasm to

spill over far beyond Christmas into other festive days." If anyone can kindle that enthusiasm, it's Mrs. Roberts, a foremost creator of displays and ornaments, and no stranger to our readers (see pages 33 and 82 of this issue for little charmers she concocted). The 143 pages and 160 illustrations in her book give you the benefit of her exceptional know-how with very comprehensive directions. But in addition, you'll find her inspiring you to use your own creative imagination to turn almost any event into an occasion for celebrating with a beautiful, heartwarming party.

Though brim-full of the "breathless wonder of Christmas, which nowadays is translated anew for me by my children," her book is also very realistic, for the things she describes were made in her own home to delight her friends and her youngsters.

Do you know where the Twelve Days of Christmas came from? (Pagan Rome.) Who made the first crèche? (St. Francis.) When Christmas celebrations went "underground"? (In Cromwell's England and early New England.) A fascinating chapter on Christmas customs answers dozens like these, and is alone worth the price of the book.

Would you like to make violet jelly for Christmas? Or candied rose petals? You'll find recipes for these and hints about other exquisite small gifts from your own kitchen or workshop, as well as directions for making garlands and swags, traditional and otherwise, bewitching tree ornaments, cards and wrappings. There are authoritative chapters on flower arrangement and the care of house plants, plus a wealth of lore, and a full measure of enchantment.


**Help Fight TB**

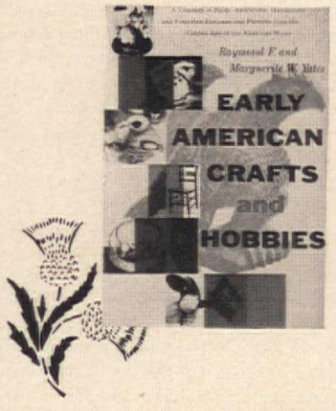
**Buy Christmas Seals**


# Whistle as You Whittle

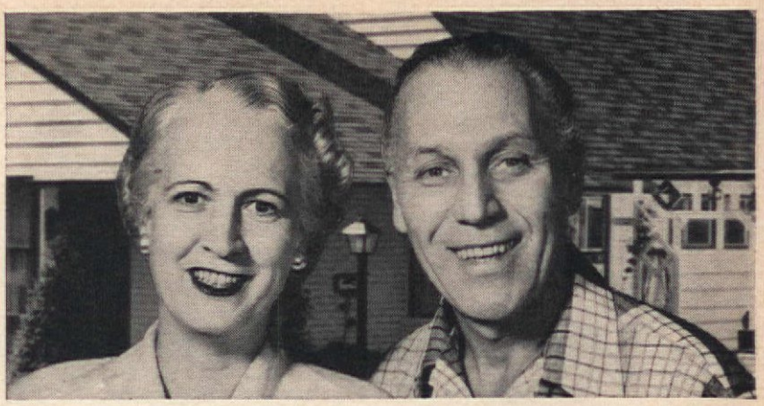
***Early American Crafts and Hobbies*** **by Raymond F. and Marguerite W. Yates. Wilfred Funk. $3.95**

A delightful book. Don't think of it as just another crafts book; it is that—but it will have great appeal for anyone interested in Early American furnishings and decoration . . . add it to your Christmas list. The authors write charmingly of all kinds of bygone fancy work in the days when there were few idle hands for which the Devil had to find work.

Particularly fascinating, we thought, were the chapters dealing with Victorian glass transparencies, Berlin wool work, tinware, fret saw fancies, wax flowers, smithing (a man's hobby!) and whittling—the latter chapter called "Whistle as you Whittle." There are many more.




In many ways it is a "how-to" book with lots of drawings and photographs, but certainly without the ponderous approach associated with so many kindred publications. The subjects themselves seem to dictate a gayer approach.

# How We Retired in 15 Years with $250 a Month

"Odd as it seems, it wasn't till seventeen years ago that Ruth and I found the one sure way to retire. And that's what we're doing today—living the kind of life we always wanted here in New England, with a check for $250 coming regularly every month, guaranteed for life!

"Like so many other people, we'd saved a little money when times were good in the twenties. But the little business we put it into collapsed in the depression. I began to realize that it takes long and careful training to make you an expert on investments—training I didn't have!

"And more than that, I was getting along. At 40, I didn't have the earning years ahead that a younger man can count on. I couldn't take chances. I wanted to retire young enough to enjoy life. I hardly had time to save again.

"Probably I'd seen those Phoenix Mutual Retirement Income Plan ads any number of times before I finally did something about it. I always meant to write in, but I kept putting it off. I said I'd do it when my savings were up again.

"But then one day another Phoenix Mutual Retirement Income ad caught my eye . . . because it showed how a man my age—40—could retire in as little as fifteen years—with his income guaranteed for life.

"*Well, I don't have to pay to find out about it,* I said. So I clipped the coupon at the bottom of the ad and mailed it that very day. Soon I had a booklet that described all the Retirement Income Plans in detail. I saw I could actually get $250 every month starting right at 55. And, best of all, it was guaranteed—I couldn't lose it or outlive it. And all during the fifteen years, Ruth and the children would be protected with life insurance.

"The booklet made me decide that this was the sure way to end my investment problems. Soon, I applied and qualified for my own Phoenix Mutual Plan.

"Those fifteen years flew by. We didn't have a worry in the world about our future, thanks to Phoenix Mutual. Then just two years ago it all came true. We got our first check and retired. It's just as we planned it. We're taking life easy, with time for trips, for friends, for really living. And we're financially independent for life!"

**Send for Free Booklet**

This story is typical. Assuming you start at a young enough age, you can plan to have an income of $10 to $250 a month or more—beginning at age 55, 60, 65 or older. Send the coupon and receive by mail and without charge, a booklet which tells about Phoenix Mutual Plans. Similar plans are available for women. Don't put it off. Send for your copy now.

**PHOENIX MUTUAL**
*Retirement Income Plan*
**GUARANTEES YOUR FUTURE**

**PLAN FOR WOMEN**

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

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

Name_____
Date of Birth_____
Business Address_____
Home Address_____

**PLAN FOR MEN**

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

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

Name_____
Date of Birth_____
Business Address_____
Home Address_____

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# PAYING 89c EACH FOR HIT PARADE RECORDS!

STOP

FREE A Free Surprise Gift Will Be Included With Each Order!

## NEW "Closer Grooved" 78 R.P.M. RECORDS
## THIS WEEK'S 18 SONG PARADE HITS
### WITH DEAN MARTIN AND OTHERS

*Now! 6 Complete Hits on 1 Standard Speed 78 Record or 45's*

Recorded by Stars of Stage, Screen, Radio, & TV.

## FOR 17c EACH!
## COMPLETE SET OF 18 FOR $2.98

**AMAZING NEW RECORDING PROCESS** puts grooves closer together. You get 10,000 inches of grooves on 1 ten inch record! You get 3 Song Parade Hits on each side—Recorded by the famous Dean Martin, and Jeff Clark of the Lucky Strike Hit Parade and Stan Wood of World Wide Fame! and others—3 complete Lucky Song Parade Hits on each side! You save $13.04. You pay only 17¢ a song. Only $2.98 for all 18! You hear 3 songs without having to change the record!

New Improved Record (Closer Grooved) — Old Style Record (Grooved Too Far Apart)

☐ **18 HIT PARADE SONGS BY DEAN MARTIN AND OTHERS ONLY $2.98**

1. If I Give My Heart to You
2. I Need You Now
3. Sikokiaan
4. Papa Loves Mambo
5. Hold My Hand
6. Oop-Shoop
7. Cara Mia
8. Mama Don't Cry at My Wedding
9. Smile
10. Count Your Blessings
11. Muskrat Ramble
12. Sh-Boom
13. The Little Shoemaker
14. The High and the Mighty
15. Hey There
16. They Were Doin' the Mambo
17. Oh, Marie
18. Madonna, Madonna

☐ **20 HILLBILLY HITS ONLY $2.98**

1. Goodnight Sweetheart, Goodnight
2. More And More
3. This is the Thanks I Get
4. You Can't Have My Love
5. Hep Cat Baby
6. Slowly
7. Courtin' in the Rain
8. Looking Back to See
9. Penny Candy
10. Rose Marie
11. Honky Tonk Girl
12. River of No Return
13. If You Don't Somebody Else Will
14. I Don't Hurt Any More
15. This Ole House
16. One By One
17. Go, Boy Go
18. Whatcha Gonna Do Now?
19. Even Tho'
20. Sparkling Brown Eyes

**MAIL NO RISK COUPON TODAY**

BETTER VALUE CO., Dept. 512 — 318 Market St., Newark, New Jersey

☐ Send 78 RPM ☐ Send 45 RPM

☐ I enclose $2.98. Send the 18 Hit Parade Songs.
☐ I enclose $2.98. Send the 20 Hillbilly Songs.
☐ I enclose $2.98. Send the 20 Country Hymns.

NAME.....

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SOLD ON MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE!

☐ **20 COUNTRY HYMNS ONLY $2.98**

1. Rock of Ages
2. Beautiful Isle
3. When They Ring Those Golden Bells
4. My Friend
5. As Life of a Flower
6. The Touch of God's Hands
7. Invisible Hands
8. Let the Spirit Descend
9. Home of the Soul
10. A Pretty Wreath for Mother's Grave
11. Stormy Waters
12. Glory Land March
13. Just a Closer Walk With Thee
14. I Can't Help What Others Do
15. I Know Who Holds Tomorrow
16. Mansion Over the Hilltop
17. The Family Who Prays
18. Too Much Sinning
19. Suppertime
20. The Lord Will Make a Way Somehow

# *A Perfect GIFT!*

*A MEMBERSHIP IN THE*

## PLANT of MONTH CLUB

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

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

LOVELY LILY-OF-VALLEY (illustrated) will be their first selection. GUARANTEED to bloom in 21 days. GIFT CARDS will be sent bearing your name.

SURPRISE BONUS—For first 1,000 new members. FULL YEAR—**Special Bonus—32 page book, "How To Grow and Bloom House Plants."**

**SIX Months Membership** $6.00 — Full Year $12.00

6 monthly selections plus bonus.

**PLANT OF MONTH CLUB**

Dept. M-20 — Des Moines, Iowa

*Early American Pine*

## SPOON RACK

Make a clever wall decoration of your souvenir and heirloom spoons—in this charming Early American Spoon Rack. Your bright, shining silver will gleam beautifully against its mellow old pine finish—and bring words of admiration from your guests. 17½" high, 10½" wide, it displays 18 tea or demitasse spoons. At a very nice price.

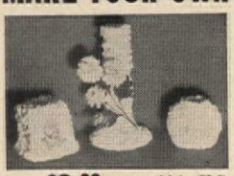
**ONLY $3.95**

*Plus 35¢ shipping*

**FREE** Exciting Christmas catalog in color. Write for it now!

**HELEN GALLAGHER** 413-K12 Fulton Peoria, Illinois

## MAKE YOUR OWN CANDLES



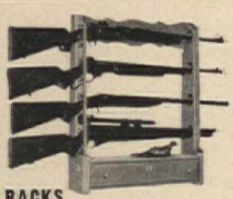
**Glow Drip Floating**

Kit contains 2 lbs. wax; 3 colors; 4 scents; wicks; complete instructions. Refills available.

**$3.00** postpaid in U.S. No COD's.

**SIMS HOBBIES** 23 N. Fir — Medford, Oregon

**FINISHES**
All racks are hand made of genuine knotty pine in choice of satin smooth honeytone knotty pine or lovely mahogany finish.



**SAFE-LOCK GUN RACKS**
Handsome rack locks all size guns in desirable "show" position. Safeguards family, protects guns. Large accessory drawer. 1 key locks everything. 4 Gun Rack Shown (24"x28")—**$19.95**, 6 Gun Rack (24"x40")—**$29.95**, 3 Gun Rack (24"x21"—no drawer)—**$12.95**.

**PIPE MEN'S PIPE RACKS**
Do everything a good pipe rack should do. Air-tight humidor drawers keep tobacco fresh. Large drawer in 14 and 29 pipe racks for all accessories. 14 Pipe Rack Shown (13"x18")—**$12.50**. 29 Pipe Rack (17¾"x22")—**$26.50**. 7 Pipe Rack (13"x9½"—no access drawer)—**$8.50**.

**MAGAZINE RACKS**
Large handsome wall racks hold magazines neatly with each visible for convenient selection. Ideal for home or office. 30 Magazine Rack Shown (23"x27")—**$17.50**. 45 Magazine Rack (23"x40" high)—**$27.50**. 60 Magazine Rack (45"x27" high)—**$32.50**.

Express Charges Collect on finished racks

**NOW IN KIT FORM...**

3 of our most famous racks—in easy-build, press-fit assembly kit. Of precut, sanded knotty pine. Everything supplied: finishing kit, instructions, etc. 4 GUN RACK **$12.90** PPD. 14 PIPE RACK—**$7.95** PPD. 30 MAGAZINE RACK—**$10.95** PPD. Add $1.00 W. of Miss.

*Money Back Guarantee. No C.O.D.'s*

**YIELD HOUSE**
Dept. A12-4
North Conway, New Hampshire

# the AMERICAN HOME

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

**SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN** on a miniature 3" sleigh barely big enough to hold a handful of gumdrops or a sprig of Christmas green. In front are eight of the deer-est reindeer, white with little golden antlers, looking coyly over their shoulders. White ceramic trimmed with gold. Santa of course is in red. $2.95 plus 35¢ post. Foster Hse., 430-K South Jefferson, Peoria, Ill.

**GIANT SWEDISH MATCHES** to set your hearths on fire. These are so big (11" long) you could almost say they are kindling, too. In an impressive box showing a panorama of 17th century Stockholm, keep them conveniently near the fireplace. Each box holds about 110 matches. A very nice gift for anyone whose fireside you've enjoyed. $1.98 ppd. Miles Kimball, 126 Bond St., Oshkosh, Wisc.

**UP TO YOUR NECK IN MINK.** A chic "horseshoe" collar of this fabulous fur will make you look like a millionairess and feel like a million. It slips on without ties or fasteners, adds neckline interest to any costume from a casual sweater to a cocktail dress. Or wear it as a flattering halo hat. Genuine mink, $4.95 ppd. (tax incl.) I. R. Fox, Dept. 118, 115 W. 27 St., N. Y. C. 1.

**TIE ONE ON** the Christmas cook and she'll look pretty as a picture carrying in the plum pudding. A washable cotton crash apron hand-printed with an old time Christmas tree, has a matching 17 x 32" towel to match, which *could* be used as a table runner, or even framed. The man who goes to dinner might take it along. Set, $2.95 ppd. New England General Store, Plain St., Millis, Mass.

**LET'S GET HITCHED.** Anyone who's been bitten by the antiquing bug and therefore goes through life forever turning off the highways into the buyways looking for "finds" will love a replica of an old-fashioned hitching post. Just 4½" high of black cast iron, it makes a charming paper weight. Perfect stocking-size gift. $1.50 ppd. Seth and Jed, Dept. AH, New Marlborough, Mass.

# market place

HELEN DE MOTTE

Photographs by F. M. Demarest

**GINGERBREAD HOUSE** is a Hansel and Gretel dream good enough to eat. Made of delicious, tangy gingerbread, the gingerbread roof is covered with fine, snowy frosting, flowers and hedges are the tastiest candies and icings imaginable. 12" long, it weighs about 3 lbs. Send one to that child who "has everything." $5 plus 75¢ post. Damar, 722 Damar Bldg., Newark 5, N. J.

**HUMMEL MADONNA.** The simple flowing lines of this lovely piece by the beloved Sister of Siessen seem to express to us the beauty and peace of the season. At Christmas we'd like to see it on a mantel in a simple setting of greens. All white ceramic, it is 11½" high and will give year-round pleasure. $3.95 plus 35¢ postage. Religious Art Guild, 131-K First Street, Peoria, Illinois.

**GOING TO THE DOGS** on your list, cute felt dog blankets personalized so people will call a dog by his name—instead of Here Doggie. Any combination of two colors. Choose red and green for Christmas, or appropriate college colors if he or his master went to college. 12, 14, or 16" sizes (neck to tail) $2.95 ppd. Decor by Delanor, 1227-A Tenth Avenue North, Fort Dodge, Iowa.

**GOLF BAG TAG** is a sterling silver replica of a golf bag engraved with the full name of your favorite golfer and the name of his golf club; or his full name, his city and state. Complete with a leather strap to buckle onto his bag—we bet it will thrill any man with 18 holes in his head. $3.75 postpaid. (tax included.) Robin Hood's Barn, Dept. 125, 83 Newbury Street, Boston 16, Mass.

**NAME BANDS.** A lassie will get a head start on compliments if her crowning glory is neatly held in place with a cute white or tortoise shell plastic headband trimmed by hand with her first name in red, green, blue, or yellow accented in contrasting color. $1.95 each. 3 for $5 (may be different names). Ppd. Gotham Gifts, Dept. AH 12, 67-85 Exeter St., Forest Hills 75, N. Y.

# BANCROFT'S. *Last Minute Xmas Suggestions*

● ALL ORDERS SHIPPED SAME DAY RECEIVED ●

**3 Dimension Stereoscope**

Makes children's stories "come to life". So real you'll be amazed. See the big bad wolf chase the 3 pigs RIGHT TOWARDS YOU. Watch Jack climb the beanstalk up-Up-UP into the sky! 30 complete stories, including "Cinderella", "The Night Before Xmas", etc. 100 pairs of life-like pictures. Viewer designed for use by adults or children.
AD 1951 . . . . . $1.25

**Walk on Ice Without Falling**

When Ice is on the sidewalks, don't worry! Just put on these "No-Slip" Foot Grippers and walk on ice or snow without fear. Helps avoid dangerous, painful slips and falls. Hardened rustproof steel teeth give your feet firm footing on the slickest ice or snow. Slip on over shoes, boots, rubbers or galoshes. Elastic band fits men's women's children's shoes—any size.
AD 4713, Two pair $1.00

**Bubble Gum Cigarettes**

Give the kids a treat; they'll love to chew these cigarettes that blow such big, round, fat, brilliant colored bubbles! Each cigarette bears a brand name—just like Dad's—and each brand blows a different color bubble.
AD 6234 (Carton of 10 Packs) . . . . . $1.25
AD 5143 Candy Cigarettes (Carton of 10 Packs) . . . . . 89c.

**And Away We Go . . .!**

These Rocket Shoes are the newest in fun for small fry. Safe and durable—perfectly balanced to give a hopping good time. Adjustable to fit all children from 6 to 12 perfectly. Sturdy caps protect shoes. High quality steel springs with rubber shock absorbers, ankle-straps. Makes a kangaroo look like he's walking.
AD 4456 . . . . . $5.95

**Personalized Waterproof Mittens**

Healthful answer to children's wet, soggy mittens! Plastic coated watertight mittens stay flexible in winter temperatures. Fleece jersey lining prevents cold, chapped hands. Handlettered with any first names so they can't get lost. Give child's age for size. Red or green.
AD 3816P, Per Pair . . $1.00
Same as above, with heavy fur lining. Green only.
AD 6048P, Pair . . . $1.98

**The Book That Talks**

A voice is built into every page. As the child turns the pages, each different animal on every page talks in its own particular way: the cows moo, the dog barks, the sheep go ba-a-a-a. Press the entire book, and the whole farmyard sings out in chorus. A load of farmy fun, with farmyard scenes in gay colors.
AD 1905 . . . . . $1.50

**Personalized Santa, Sleigh and 8 Reindeer**

Because Santa is such a jolly good fellow, he's agreed to let us artistically hand letter his sleigh and reindeer with any family name and house number so they GLOW in the dark. Gaily decorated in brilliant holiday color, it adds a festive touch and Yuletide cheer to your home and surroundings. Looks like Santa and his reindeer are dashing across your lawn. Each reindeer bears name of his counterpart in the immortal poem, "A Visit from St. Nicholas". Use anywhere: outdoors—on lawn, porch, gate, post, attached to house; indoors—around Christmas tree, on mantel, etc. With pointed stakes that anchor firmly in soil. Easily mounted. Heavy durable weatherproof metylmethacrylate plastic. Use it year after year. Will never rust. Big—over 4 feet long and a foot high.
AD 4570P, Complete . . . . . $2.95

**Personal Canceled Check File**

Banker's efficiency for your canceled checks! Monthly separators in attractive steel Check File make for quick reference . . . enables keeping important checks in place at all times. Keeps 'em safe, keeps 'em clean, too. Sliding steel follower block makes filing easy; allows removing and filing of checks without upsetting contents. Holds over a 5-year record compactly and in order. Sturdily built, scratch-resistant baked enamel finish.
AD 4638 . . . . . $3.95

**Add-A-Count Scale**

A fascinating toy . . . a painless way to teach youngsters to add and count! The sturdy, colorful, unbreakable plastic scale is equipped with a set of 14 numbers. Precision Balance Arm Arrow on the scale points to "correct" only when a combination of numbers on one arm equal those on the other. Sanitary, non-toxic. For children 4-7.
AD 6031 . . . . . $1.00

**Gay Bells for your Packages**

75 gleaming gold, silver, blue, green and red bells that add a gay, festive Yuletide touch when tied to every Christmas package. Fine, too, hung over fireplace, doors, windows. Use 'em for other gifts, too. Of lustrous, shimmering metal.
AD 3064, Set of 75 . . . . $1.00

**Tie "Professional" Bows**

It's easy — and fun! Every package you make will be a picture of beauty. Handy plastic bow maker simplifies gift packaging. Make fluffy pompons, glamorous pin-wheels, rosettes, etc. With two 15 ft. rolls of shimmering red and green ribbon.
AD 3864 . . . 79c.

**Professional Pin-Curler**

So easy to use! So lovely the result! Sensational, new-type Pin-Curler gives a professional set in minutes. No standing for hours trying to set your hair. No waiting till hair dries! Just take a small section of hair, insert it into Pin-Curler, roll the hair to scalp, remove and insert bobby pin. It's the quickest, softest (yet tightest) ringlet ever. Works on wet or dry hair.
AD 4419 . . . . . $1.00

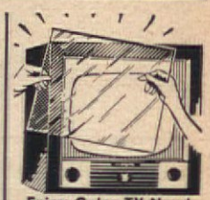
## HOW TO ORDER

- Order by number, stating the quantity desired.
- Add only 15¢ to total of order for postage and handling.
- Send payment (check, money order or cash) with your order. No C.O.D.'s please.

Satisfaction Guaranteed or Money Back.

SEND ALL ORDERS TO:

*Bancroft's*
1112 So. Wabash Ave.
Dept. AH-22 Chicago 5, Ill.



**Enjoy Color-TV Now!**

Startling new color filter gives drab black-and-white screens lovely soft color, easy on the eyes. Reduces glare, cuts snow. No attachments necessary. Simply place over front of TV.
AD 3910 (Order By Size)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 12" | 69c; | 20" | $1.25 |
| 14" | 79c | 21" | $1.50 |
| 17" | 89c | 24" | $1.75 |

**Santa Talks to Your Child . . .**

. . . and calls him by name! Imagine the thrill your child will receive when he hears Santa speaking directly to him personally. Santa talks about being good, discusses his reindeers, etc. Watch Junior's eyes pop as Santa calls him by name. See how excited he'll be when he can join in "Jingle Bells." Each name individually recorded. Unbreakable plastic—play it yearly. State name.
AD 4698D . . . . . $1.00

**Real Snow Skates**

Just like miniature skis! Ingenious Snow Skates provide great fun and healthful exercise as youngsters skim over the least amount of snow—no ice needed. Adjustable to any child's foot; made of steam-bent hardwood with grooved bottoms. Aluminum heel plates, sturdy ankle straps. Over 16" long, 2½" wide. Gaily trimmed in red. A wonderful gift for any boy or girl.
AD 3509, Pair . . . $1.79

**Magic Stump Remover**

Don't dig . . . don't chop . . . don't blast! If a tree stump's holding up progress, remove it like magic. Simply pour into stump. Eats open sap pores, rots stump away quickly. Once thoroughly decomposed, removal is fast and easy. Harmless.
AD 4489, 8 oz. can. $1.50

**Talking Parakeet**

Budgy-Boy perches merrily on your finger and chirps just like his real brothers and sisters do when his tail is pushed up and down. Brilliantly colored wings flap and beak opens and closes every time he chirps. As much fun as a live one . . . and much easier to take care of.
AD 6161 . . . . . 69c

**Skunky, the Stinker Deodorizer**

Even the boss smiled when he saw the attached poem that reads: "My name is Skunky, the Stinker, and 'tis my job, you see, to keep the bathroom pleasant for those that come after thee . . . !" Just hang him on wall, he quickly chases odors. Complete with special incense matches that dispel odors. Glistening, ceramic.
AD 3213 . . . . . $1.98

## SUSIE WALKER WALK HER WASH HER DOLL

### With Long, Silky, Washable SARAN Hair

**SUSIE DOES EVERYTHING**

- She Walks—Sits—Stands
- Turns Head As She Walks
- She Cries—She Sleeps
- "Magic Action" Legs
- Completely Washable
- Unbreakable Construction
- Guaranteed Walking Mechanism
- BIG 20" TALL

So Lifelike you'll think she's a real girl walking with her little mother. Susie Walker is beautifully formed, even to the small details of finger nails, dimples and creases in her chubby arms and legs. She assumes and will hold (no flopping) all lifelike positions. Susie can be washed, dressed and undressed in standard 20" doll costumes. Her hair can be washed and combed; her pigtails braided and set in any fashion desired. Nothing can go wrong with her working parts and she is molded of the new shockproof plastic that assures years and years of loving play. Susie Walker is the answer to every girl's prayers. Commended by Parents Magazine. Union-Made in U.S.A. by skilled American workers. Satisfaction Unconditionally Guaranteed!

SUSIE WALKER IS ALSO AVAILABLE IN THE LARGEST SIZE MADE—23" TALL. *Nationally advertised at $15.95.* OUR PRICE—$5.95 plus 50c shipping or C.O.D. plus postage.

SMALLER SIZE SUSIE WALKER: All above features but No Voice—14" TALL. *Reg. $5.95.* OUR PRICE $2.98 plus 50c shipping or C.O.D. plus postage.

She Sleeps

She's Unbreakable

Sits By Herself

Wash Her Dress Her

**Nationally Advertised At $9.95**

SENSATIONAL VALUE — ONLY **3.98** dressed

plus 50c shipping or C.O.D. plus postage

NOW YOU CAN DRESS SUSIE, TOO—SAVE MORE THAN 50% ON HER CLOTHING

| Style | 14" Size | 20" Size | 23" Size |
|---|---|---|---|
| Hat & Coat Ensemble | 79¢ | 98¢ | $1.10 |
| Bridal Ensemble | 98¢ | $1.49 | $1.79 |
| Plaid Vinyl Raincape | 29¢ | 39¢ | 49¢ |
| Ballerina Outfit | 49¢ | 98¢ | $1.10 |
| Hostess Coat | 29¢ | 69¢ | 79¢ |
| Sheer Nightgown | 39¢ | 59¢ | 69¢ |
| SPECIAL PRICE IF YOU ORDER ALL SIX OUTFITS | $2.98 | $3.98 | $4.98 |

**P. J. HILL CO. Dept. P-723 933 Broad Street, Newark, N. J.**

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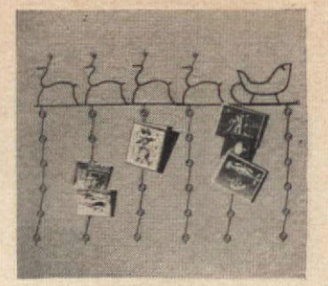
**GOING TO RECEIVE CARDS.** Four jolly black wrought iron reindeer and a sleigh get caught in the act of making your horde of Christmas cards into a wonderful decoration hung in the mantel or stretched across the mantel. 42" across, the six 22" hangers included hold 36 cards $2.50 ppd. (Six additional hangers, another $1.) Greenhall, Dept. A, 1133 Broadway, New York 10, N. Y.



**THEY SHALL HAVE MUSIC.** Forty-six children's songs are on this set of records, and a song sheet is provided to put the words in their mouths for a real old song fest. So gather the kiddies round, pop some corn, pass the milk and cookies, and sing. Add to your own collection for visiting small fry. 78 or 45 rpm. $2.98 ppd. Better Values Co., Dept. 466, 318 Market St., Newark, N. J.

**CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS** in the life of a teenager are recorded in her diary—and of course kept under lock and key. So whether she's just discovered Clark Gable, or the captain of the basketball team, she can pour out her secret heart. Designed by teen-wise Betty Betz, this Five-Year Diary is 5¾ x 4½" and covered in blue leatherette. $3.25 ppd. Ward Phillips, Carpentersville 5, Ill.

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## Personalized

*My Own* **Crayons**

*My Own* **Bank**

Hand made bucket of native pine. Natural lacquer finish. Colorfully hand painted with child's name. Crayon Bucket will hold full set of crayons. Bank Bucket holds a fortune in coin and paper money. Cover easily removed. Both are fine for tidbits, buttons, etc. Hand lettered to your specifications. Both are 5"x5".

**$2.95** each plus 30c handling charge.

No CODs Send for FREE Catalog

**GOTHAM GIFTS**

67-85 Exeter St., Dept. A12, Forest Hills 75, New York

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**Black Forest Clock**

**U. S. Retail $5.50**

**Now Only $2**

postpaid . . . duty free
Direct to you
from GERMANY

Unheard of savings through our unique direct import plan. This genuine Black Forest Clock adds a quaint Old World touch to any room. Handcarved—black walnut antique finish, bird at top—chain, weight and pendulum. A conversation piece—decorative and a good timekeeper. Shipped in export packing, with foreign stamps, direct to you from free Germany. Order as gifts, too. Send only $2 for each clock. Only one shipped to a person. No C.O.D.'s. Money-back guarantee. (Postman collects 15c foreign package fee which can't be prepaid.) Order today.

**SEVEN SEAS IMPORTS, Dept. A38C**

1717 Westwood Blvd., Los Angeles 24, California

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**TICKING WATCHES** for little tots. Here's a toy that holds a child's interest indefinitely because it's a watch just like yours. Never stops ticking because it's self-winding. Shockproof mechanism to withstand the bumps. Non-breakable plastic crystal in metal case. Stem working hands and real wrist band. You cannot miss with this toy. He owns his own watch and wears it proudly.

• only 50¢ postpaid

**MONEY BACK IF NOT SATISFIED**

Walter Drake & Sons 412 Drake Bldg., Colorado Springs 3, Colorado

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## SCREW TOP JAR OPENER

No more beating jar on floor or soaking in hot water. Keeps peace in any family. Jaws slide easily to fit any size jar. Nickel Plated steel, keep with silverware. Price 1.00 ppd.

**CLARK-MOORE DIST.**
P.O. Box 586C
Del Rio, Texas

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HAND WROUGHT **STERLING SILVER JEWELRY**

*by Stuart Nye*

*A Southern Craftsman & Creator of the Unusual*

| | |
|---|---|
| Dogwood Pin (as illustrated) | 2.20 |
| Dogwood Earrings, screw type illustrated | 2.75 |
| Dogwood Bracelet, 5 blooms | 6.60 |
| Dogwood Ring, adjustable | 2.75 |

*Prices include tax & postage, No C.O.D.'s*
*Send 10¢ for new illustrated folder of other hand-wrought Sterling Silver Jewelry*

**AVALON GIFT HOUSE, Dept. C, Front Royal, Va.**

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## Shalimar DATES

**FROM THE FAMOUS SALT RIVER VALLEY OF ARIZONA**

- NATURE'S FOOD-CONFECTION
- DELICIOUS—NUTRITIOUS
- NON-FATTENING

Tree ripened—always under protective covering against dust—insects and birds. Unsulphured—unadulterated and free of artificial preservatives and poison sprays. Shalimar Dates are among Arizona's finest. Cleaned, polished and expertly graded as to size, shape, color and texture. All grades are of equal flavor value.

**PRICES**

| | 2 lbs. | 3 lbs. | 5 lbs. |
|---|---|---|---|
| CHOICE | $3.50 | $5.00 | $8.00 |
| SELECT | 3.00 | 4.25 | 6.65 |
| MIXED | 2.75 | 3.25 | 5.00 |

10 lb. lugs (wooden boxes) assorted dates $12.50

POSTPAID ANYWHERE IN THE UNITED STATES

*Send check, draft or money order to (no COD's)*

**SHALIMAR DATE GARDENS, PHOENIX, ARIZONA**

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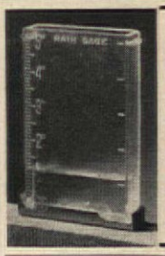

**RAIN GAGE**

This instrument will measure amount of rain fall. It is graduated in inches and tenth inches. Made of sturdy plastic and easy to read. Ideal for farmers and gardeners. An interesting as well as educational hobby. 3 year record chart included. $1.25 postpaid. No C.O.D.'s please.

**LESLEE'S** 1743 Ward Rd. Columbus 11, Ohio

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## DOWN COMFORTERS *Beautifully* RE-COVERED

Once-lovely, now-shabby down comforters re-covered like new for $11.95 in down-proof taffeta. Women admire Alden's exquisite craftsmanship. Absolute satisfaction guaranteed! Also re-covered in down-proof satins and sateens. Wool comforters re-covered too. And heirloom featherbeds transformed into cloud-soft, destemmed-feather-fluff comforters. Send today for **FREE** fabric samples, testimonials and illustrated folder. © 1954

**ALDEN COMFORT MILLS — AH**
**Box 6070 — Dallas, Texas**

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## *"All I Want for Christmas"* is a FLEA-SCAT PAD

**Kills Fleas and "B.O."**

**WHILE PETS SNOOZE**

Give your dog luxurious comfort, relief from scratching, death to fleas, restful sleep in cedar fragrance. Do away with messy powders and sprays. Pets prefer **Flea-Scat Pad** to softest chair. Flea-killing inner pad is effective for many months.

***Money-Back Guarantee***

**Regular Size**—15x28 in. **$2.98;** Extra inner pad $1.50.

**Super Size**—28x36 in. **$4.98;** Extra inner pad $2.95.

*Gift Wrapped if requested.*

ONLY $2.98

**Liquid Chaperone** Keeps pets out of gardens. **$1.**
**Powder Chaperone** Keeps pets off furniture. **$1.**

**SEND NO MONEY**—Order C.O.D., or send check and we'll pay postage. Order Now, avoid the rush!

**SUDBURY LABORATORY, Box 610, Sudbury, Mass.**

*Stores: Write for Special Offer*

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For an Old-fashioned Christmas Give a

## Skillet Clock

ONLY $6.95 prepaid

***Unusual • Attractive***

A real old-fashioned, cast iron skillet made into a unique clock makes a fascinating gift. The 6" face is beautifully finished in semi-gloss black with raised silvery white numbers. Minute and hour hand white, sweep second red. Guaranteed Lanshire electric mechanism. Send check, cash or money order to

**KING STOVE & RANGE COMPANY**
SHEFFIELD ALABAMA

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*Exclusive New Idea!* **TOY-TENDA***

*Teaches Kiddies To Put Away Toys!*

New educational toy with all the play value of a wagon plus the utility of a *toy chest on wheels.* Children 2 to 6 love it, put their toys away in it themselves. Large—31⅞ x 17¾ x 18⅛". Use it as bassinet and junior playpen, too. Noiseless casters. Sturdy; safe. TOY-TENDA comes ready to assemble. Do-it-yourself in minutes and save money. Kit is *complete*—sanded hardwood parts, decoration patterns, simple directions, screws and nails. Only **$10.95**, postpaid. (Add 50c if west of Denver.) Money back guarantee. No C.O.D.'s, please. A grand gift. Order today.

**BABEE-TENDA** 750 Prospect Avenue Dept. I-P, Cleveland 15, Ohio
(*T.M. prop. of The Babee-Tenda Corp.)

**MINIATURE GLITTER BELLS** made of soft felt in gay assorted colors and decorated with stars, sequins and gold braid can hang on a Christmas tree to hold anything from jelly beans to crisp $ bills. Tag them with friends' names and let them search among the branches. Each 2¼" long with loop for hanging. 6 for $1.95 ppd. Black & Co., 160 Merrick Rd., Rockville Centre, N. Y.

**A LITTLE RED CHAIR** to make sitting ducks of your wriggling rabbits—because it's just the right size for 1-6 year olds and comes with a tot's first name handpainted on the back, over a gay little animal decal. Strong as can be, it comes apart for over the hills and far-away trips. Red enameled birch, it is 13½" high overall, seat is 6½" from floor. $3.95 postpaid. Meredith's, Evanston 3, Ill.

**REVOLVING MUSICAL BLOCKS** have the music going 'round and 'round to the great entertainment of the small fry. Six blocks decorated with Mother Goose characters can be built up to a giant 22" tower which plays the Cradle Song as it revolves, or tots can fit them into each other for storage. Winding Swiss mechanism. $2.98 ppd. Walter Drake, Drake Bldg., Colorado Springs 2, Colorado.

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**PENCILS WITH YOUR NAME IN GOLD**

6 Pencils only **25¢**, 12 only **50¢**, 24 only **$1.** Always welcome this beautiful practical gift of fine quality pencils with smooth soft #2 leads and pure rubber erasers or different colored lead. Gift boxed. One name to each 25¢, 50¢, or $1 set. Print name desired clearly and specify black or colored lead.

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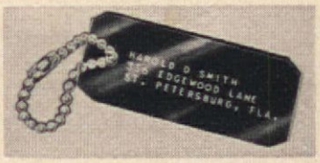
Personalizes stationery, envelopes, photos, checks, books, records, clothing—everything you own. Handsome black polished, plastic ALL-IN-ONE kit comes complete with automatic inker. Prints up to 3 lines. Compact size ¾"x2⅝" for pocket or purse. Makes a most appreciated personalized gift. Only **$1.**

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This handsome crystal-clear Lucite tag is unbreakable, wear-resistant: a distinguished practical way to identify luggage, keys or important valuable possessions. Comes with handy chain that attaches to handle, etc. Choice of Red, Blue, Green, Black or Clear Tag with name in contrasting color. Specify color tag desired. An unusual gift. Only **$1** each or 3 for **$2.50**

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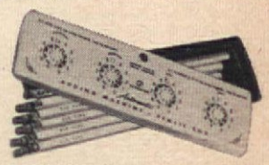
Figures are fun when your child learns addition and subtraction quickly and easily with this amazing Automatic Adding Machine Pencil Box. Just dial the figures and the correct answer appears automatically! What's more, this attractive cream and red, washable pencil box contains 12 quality pencils personalized with your child's full name and stylus, only **$1.98.**



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Spitz Jr. Planetarium brings the mystery and beauty of 40 constellations into your home, including the Big Dipper. The Little Dog and other northern hemisphere constellations! Completely scientific and accurate, just plug it in AC current to reveal the heavens from the Equator to the North Pole. Made of sturdy plastic, 14½" x 7½" with 7" diameter sphere. 32 page booklet and sky charts with each model.

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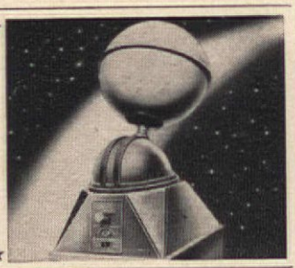
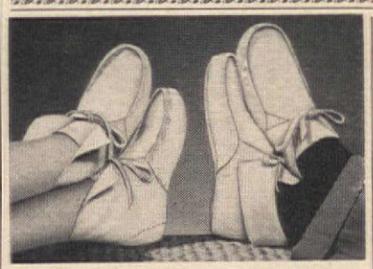
Send 10¢ for Christmas Catalog — Postpaid — Sorry no C.O.D.'s

**PAGE & BIDDLE** 21 Station Road, Haverford 2, Pa.





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from the Indian Reservation Country of soft, washable suede cowhide, flexible, padded soles, lifted inside heel cushions and insoles. BLISS TO WEAR indoors and out with cuffs rolled up or down. HANDCRAFTED in Natural, Turquoise, Brown, Red, Em. Green, Russet, Golden Corn, Indian White.

**FOR MEN and WOMEN in sizes 4 to 8..$4.95**
**in sizes 9 thru 12..$5.95**

FOR CHILDREN too in natural or brown only. Sizes S, 7, 9..$2.95—Sizes 11, 13, 2..$3.95

*Send cash, check or m.o. For COD's send $2 deposit. Immed. delivery. Gift orders carefully handled.*

**OLD PUEBLO TRADERS** Box 4035, Dept. PA-2 Tucson, Arizona

**IT'S A DESK • A TABLE • A BLACKBOARD**

A triple treat for youngsters—a blessing for mothers . . . it's a full fledged junior classroom and office in one! Children love it for writing, drawing, eating, "T-V"ing. Built for rugged use—thick bicycle-type seat, ample store area, sturdy hardwood legs (removable for storage or in auto). Large top of smooth, tough "Novoply". "Easy-write" blackboard complete with chalk and eraser. Handcrafted in honey tone knotty pine or maple finish.

20" high for 1 to 6 yr. olds ....$12.85 Postpaid
24" high for 7 to 12 yr. olds ..$14.85 Postpaid
Add 85¢ W. of Miss.

*Money Back Guarantee—No C.O.D.'s*

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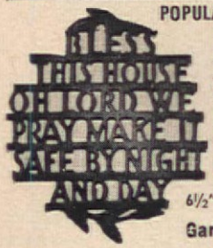



**POPULAR PIN-UP TRIVETS**

Beloved House Prayer a grand gift for new homes or old. Black iron, 7" x 8½". A cheery companion-piece (not shown) points out that "A Merry Heart Doeth Good Like a Medicine". Black aluminum, 6½" x 7". **$2.50** Each postpaid

**Garret Thew Studios** Westport, A-19, Conn.

*For Pigtailed Cooks . . .*

**Small Fry COOK SET**

Everything works! Teakettle whistles, percolator actually makes coffee. Kiddie Kookware is just like mother's only smaller—makes your favorite pint-sized cook an expert on doll-size dinners. Made to scale of polished aluminum. Roaster is 6" long, other pieces in proportion. There's a double boiler, teakettle, percolator, fry pan, angel-cake pan, oven roaster, layer cake pan. No sharp edges to hurt tiny fingers. **$1.95**

COMPLETE SET, postpaid .....

*No C.O.D.'s please*

**ARTISAN GALLERIES** 2100-D12 N. Haskell Dallas, Texas

**an old salt with a lot of pepper**

A new pattern for many, an old pattern for many more. Copy of the old onion pattern large size salt and peppers. 5" high. Fine china with the same old blue design. **$2.95** a pair postpaid.

*No C.O.D.'s, please.*

**EDITH CHAPMAN**
50 Piermont Ave., Nyack, N.Y.

**SAD-EYE SAM THE ONION MAN**

This teary-eye guy has a right to cry! He's the keeper of the onions, the ice-box watchman who protects delicate foods from the odorous leftovers. Use him formally to serve chopped or sliced onion on the table where his hand-painted, tearful personality will add fun and flavor. He's 5" in diameter, 3½" high, glazed ceramic. Onion Man Sam is every lady's man. Just ..... **$2** plus 25¢ postage.

**THE STINKY CHEESE JAR**

Folks who favor fancy cheeses no longer need to hear nasty comments about their choice, odorous brand! Instead, bless 'em with this clever new Stinky Cheese Jar. The 4" x 4" x 1½" ceramic jar holds most quarter-pounds comfortably. Cutest little winking skunk, in black and white, is sculptured in deep relief on the lid. Base is canary yellow.

Charming, smile-provoking, it will go right from the refrigerator to the table and delight guests. And the man-of-the-house, searching for a late snack, will spot it in a jiffy!

**$2** plus 25¢ postage

**GREENLAND STUDIOS** 5858 Forbes St. Dept. A-2, Pittsburgh 17, Pa.

**IMPORTED FROM SWEDEN.** The popular Rosita pattern silver plated Pickle Fork and Jelly Spoon. A beautiful and useful adornment for your hors d'oeuvres tray. For Christmas entertaining and parties anytime. Wonderfully inexpensive gifts. Order several at our special holiday price of $1.25 per set. Mailed postage free in attractive box. Flamingo Sales Company, Box #512, Wayzata, Minnesota.

## THE IDEAL CHRISTMAS GIFT

STURDY! Will not tip or tilt

**All-Steel Vio Holda**

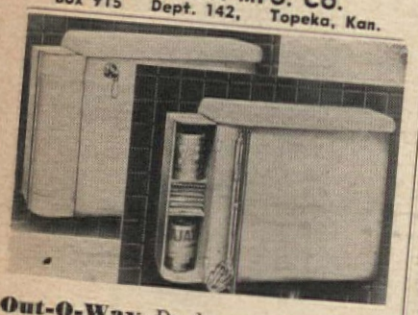
# PLANT STAND

**• Holds 11 plants, 10 on Revolving Arms**

A wonderful stand for flower lovers! Finest all-steel welded construction. 40 inches high. Antique black, white or green enamel finish (your choice). The 10 revolving arms, extending 6 to 12 inches from sturdy center shaft, may be moved with a touch to enhance arrangement or allow even sun and air exposure. Light weight. Easy to clean. Requires little space—and a grand gift idea.

ORDER BY MAIL today for only $14.95 plus $1.00 for packing and postage in U.S.A.; $2.00 for shipment to Canada. Specify color. Send check, money order. C.O.D. if desired. Satisfaction guaranteed.

**VIO HOLDA MFG. CO.**
Box 915 Dept. 142, Topeka, Kan.



**Out-O-Way** De luxe metal cabinet for the bathroom has 3 shelves to hold soap, tissues, etc. Comes with Jonny Mop Handle which hooks on door, and 6 pads in special compartment. Baked white enamel finish. Clips to either side of tank, takes only 4½" space. Gift idea. $3.98 ppd. Northern Industries, Inc., Dept. A, 407 E. Michigan St., Milwaukee 2, Wis.

**SOAKEZE** multiple plant soaker soaks roots in 5 flower beds at one time. Saves time and work. Attaches to any standard garden hose or faucet. Brass connection and 5 lengths of gleaming plastic hose (total 51 feet.) deliver water for deep, thorough soaking of selected plants. Light and durable. 5-year guarantee. *Gift-wrapped and mailed with gift card.*

SAME DAY SHIPMENT.

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only $5 complete unit postpaid

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*Add a touch of*

## Victorian Charm

to your home with an exact brass plated copy of great-grandmother's wall bracket lamp with swivel hinge. Enhances beauty of any wall in your home or club house. Complete with milk glass lamp, electric adapter and kerosene burner. May be used either as electric or kerosene lamp. Electric adapter has standard size socket that burns 100-watt bulb; bracket extends 11 inches from wall and lamp is approximately 12 inches tall.

*Only* $12.50 *Postpaid in U. S. No C.O.D.'s*

**JACK DANIEL** CENTRALIA ILLINOIS

## "SACRO-BLOCK" Relieves Backache

**Different — Patented**

• Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.

Braces and fits hollow of lower back. Prevents tiring slouch on long rides or sitting at home. Lie on it to relieve tense, aching back or neck muscles.

Ideal foot prop in bed. Feet are cushioned by foam rubber covered with air-cooled woven plastic. Non-slip back prevents sliding.

Boon to seriously ill using bed pan.

PRICE $3.95 each. Postpaid. Size 7"×13".

**Sacroiliac Block Co.**
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Single $1.35 Triple 1.95
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## DON'T BE FAT!

If you just can't reduce and have tried dieting, pills and tablets—try relaxing, soothing SPOT-REDUCER, a massager that's tested, and has U.L. approval. Lose weight where it shows most! The relaxing soothing massage helps break down FATTY TISSUES, helps tone the muscles and flesh, and the increased awakened blood circulation helps carry away waste fat—helps you regain and keep a firmer and more graceful figure. When you use the SPOT REDUCER, it's almost like having your own private masseur at home. It's fun reducing this way! Lose pounds and inches quickly, easily, safely without risking health. For aches and pains due to overexercise. Also used as an aid in the relief of pains for which massage is indicated. Sold on MONEY BACK GUARANTEE! Reduce or NO CHARGE! (FIRMS FLABBY TISSUE!)

110 Volts A.C.

Restores elasticity to sagging skin.

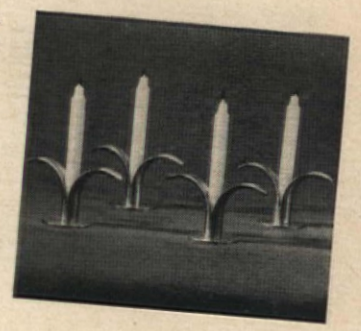
**STANDARD MODEL only $9.98**

**AMAZING DELUXE MODEL only $12.98.**
(Save 90¢ postage. Send payment with order)

send to **BODY MASSAGER COMPANY**
318 Market Street, Dept. B-676, Newark, New Jersey

**MONEY IN THE MAIL BOX.** It's never too early to start saving toward your first million, and junior will love this sturdy metal bank for stashing his cash. Before he knows it, he'll have enough for that bike. A perfect replica of a rural mail box, complete with red flag, padlock and keys, and a name plate on top. 7" high. $1.95 ppd. Gelzer's, Dept. AH-12, 799 Broadway, N. Y. 3, N. Y.

**TULIP CANDLESTICKS.** The most graceful little candlesticks we've seen come from Sweden and are made of solid brass. Just 2" high and 3½" wide, they come with four tiny 4½" white candles. Line them in a row at one end of the mantel right now for the candle-lighted season. They make a lovely gift. $5.50 postpaid. Haig Giftware, Dept. AH, 20 Church Street, Montclair, New Jersey.



**TOTEM POLES** hand-carved and painted by American Indians set off your Contemporary décor, make wonderful gifts for the person who has everything (but probably not a Totem Pole). About 8" high, the symbols of protective Spirits of good fortune. Raven (without wings) or Thunder Bird, $1.75 each, 2 for $3 ppd. Ye Olde Curiosity Shop, 46 Colman Dock, Seattle 4, Washington.

## VERY NEWEST IN FOOD CUTTERS

No Clamps — No Screws — No Bolts
Complete with stand and 3 cutters

Now — for LESS MONEY — you can enjoy the perfect cutting, easy-to-clean and operate HOLLYWOOD SALADMAKER. Newest development in food cutters — chops, peels, waffles, slices, strings, crumbs, grates, shreds. A must for preparing quick meals, canning, freezing, baking, baby foods, vegetable juices, salads, etc. Beautifully mirror-polished with 3 CHROME PLATED, SOLID STEEL BLADES. Postage paid if check with order. PRICE ONLY $12.95 Higher Outside U.S.

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*Give a Jewel Box Brimful of*

## 20 LUSCIOUS VINTAGE CHEESES!

ONLY $2.95 postpaid

Here's a gift to please your most discriminating friends — and a wonderful gourmet's bounty for your own entertaining.

A fascinating assortment of 20 hearty, mouth-watering cheeses, beautifully packed in attractive, re-usable ruby-red plastic case. Delicious, exciting blends of superb processed varieties: Sharp Aged Cheddar, Smoked Cheddar, Wine Cheddar, Aged Gruyère Swiss, Munster, Brick, Limburger, Swiss and Tomato, Swiss and Kummel. Each luscious wedge is individually jacketed in gold foil to preserve intact its delicious flavor.

***Order Now By Mail • Unconditionally Guaranteed***
*Christmas delivery guaranteed E. of Miss. on orders received up to Dec. 22nd; West, Dec. 20th.*

**Old World Cheese House, Inc.**
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## DOGGIE GIFT

It's wonderful for Cats too!

## Hilo DRY BATH

**in Handy Aerosol Dispenser**

Cleans without water! No muss or fuss! No danger of colds! Just puff creamy, fragrant lather onto pet's coat, rub in and towel off. Kills fleas! Deodorizes! Leaves the coat soft and glossy! Only $1.49 ppd.

*Money-back guarantee*

Dept. A-12 **The Hilo Co.** Norwalk, Conn.

*The "Natural" Gift for a Teacher!*

**THE MODERN, DUSTLESS WAY OF BLACKBOARD WRITING.** Encourage the teacher's efforts with a practical token of your appreciation. New HAND-GIENIC, an Automatic pencil for chalk, ends forever: chalk-dusty hands and clothes, fingernails scratching on board. Every working hour she will bless her HAND-GIENIC and you—or your children. And what an impressive appearance! 22K gold plated. Ppd. $2.00. (no COD's please.) All orders shipped same day.

**HAND-GIENIC Specialty Co. Dept. 14**
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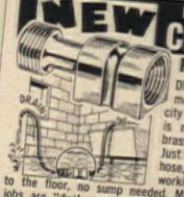
**NEW IMPROVED SUCTION CELLAR DRAINER**

**Pumps 300 GALLONS an Hour**



DRAINMASTER takes the curse out of basement flooding problems. Operates on normal city water pressure. Electric power failure is no problem. Made of "life-time" solid brass, no moving parts to adjust or wear. Just connect to a handy faucet with garden hose, turn on faucet and DRAINMASTER is working, floodwater is removed. Right Down to the floor, no sump needed. Many other drain and pumping jobs are "duck-soup" for DRAINMASTER. At your favorite Hardware Store, or add 30c for handling and postage and we'll rush DRAINMASTER to your aid. Write to:

$1.95

**M. P WHITE CO., Dept. 2-AH 55 Stuart St., Boston, Mass.**

**ON TOP OF THIS CHRISTMAS TREE** you can put a hot platter of turkey. It's a hand-cast iron *trivet*, tree-shaped and painted green with gay decorations and the message, "Merry Christmas to (any name)." A gay gift, it can hang on the wall or hold down a pile of Christmas cards, too. 9½" long. $1.95 ea., 2 for $3.50. Add 25¢ post. Crown Craft, Dept. AM, 246 Fifth Ave., New York 1, New York.

**GETTING DOWN TO CASES,** at last they've come up with smart ones for compacts. One is basically beige, with an arty palette design (left); the other chic black with fan and mask pattern. Pick one to keep your own best compact from scratching (and discard that flimsy case it came in) and order more for gifts. 3½" sq. $1.10 ea. ppd. Charlotte U. Auman, 305 Broadway, New York 7, N. Y.

**GEORGE WASHINGTON IN A BOTTLE** can't help but make a lot of collectors glassy eyed—we admit this isn't an antique, but it doesn't seem to matter. Anyone with a window will want to fill it with a bit of ivy and stand it where the light will shine through it. Jewel colors like amber, amethyst, etc., but you may not specify. $3.95 ppd. Adele Green, 181 E. 87 St., New York 28, N. Y.

"Little Angel" Pans
BAKE MINIATURE CAKES

Now you can bake perfect miniature cakes—just the right size for individual servings—with "Little Angel" cake pans. These delightful serving-size cakes will get compliments galore at your dinners, parties or other festive occasions. For a special treat, fill the center of cake with ice cream or fruit. "Little Angel" pans are ideal, too, for gelatin desserts and salads. Made of heavy-weight aluminum, 3⅝" wide at top, 1½" deep.

Set of six pans...only $1.95 postpaid.

ARTISAN GALLERIES 2100-D12 N. Haskell Dallas, Texas

PRESERVES FROM OREGON MOUNTAIN MEADOWS...

for CHRISTMAS GIVING

"CHUCK WAGON" BOX. Five asst. 5½-oz. jars Oregon Wild Blackberry, Greengage Preserves, Oregon Whole Strawberry, Seedless Loganberry Jam, Seville Orange Marmalade; gift packed in rustic box decorated with forest sprays and cones.

FREE BOOKLET LISTS GIFTS $2.95 to $31.75

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STONE VENEER YOUR HOME

AS LOW AS 5¢ PER SQ. FT.

with nationally advertised simulated stone as natural looking as your most expensive cut stones.

SEND $1 for "STONE VENEERING," a complete booklet with sketches and step-by-step instructions for stone veneering; the method used by most Artificial Stone Co., so simple the average person can do a professional job with no previous experience. Also plans for easy to make plaster-paris molds.

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In 9 sunfast, decorator colors an unusual fabric with many uses

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AIR CONDITIONER COVERS

*Protect Your Investment*

Made for rugged weather—storm proofed. Tailored to fit—strong finished seams. Sizes to fit perfectly any air conditioner. Anyone can install quickly. Medium weight, closely woven water-proofed forest green canvas. Fits any model. Send make and capacity with order.

$4.95 postpaid—No C.O.D.'s please

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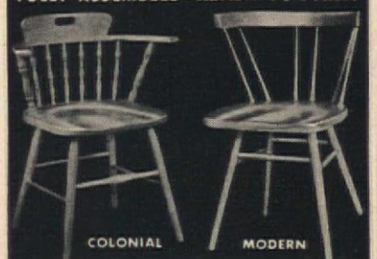
DIRECT FROM FACTORY!
SOLID BIRCH OR MAPLE!
Captain's Chairs
FULLY ASSEMBLED • READY-TO-PAINT




WITH SADDLE SEATS! Choose Either Style 2 for $14.95

The finest glue and dowel construction with saddle seats and bent wood backrests for a full lifetime of comfort and service. Smart clean lines that make them at home in any room. Solid birch or maple sanded silky smooth ready for you to paint, stain or lacquer. These chairs are full size—seat 17" x 16½", overall height 28½". Minimum order, 2 chairs. Packed 2 of a kind to a carton.
PROMPT DELIVERY—shpg. chgs. collect. Send check or money-order. Sorry no C.O.D.'s.
MONEY BACK GUARANTEE.

FREE! Ask for beautifully illustrated catalog and instructions on "How to Finish Unpainted Furniture."

MAKERS OF FINE CHAIRS SINCE 1851
MEADOWBROOK INDUSTRIES
Meadowbrook Bldg.
2268 Bellmore Ave., Bellmore 8, L.I., N.Y.

FIREBALL THE NEW CHRISTMAS TREE FIRE EXTINGUISHER

CONTROLS FLASH TREE FIRES IN SECONDS

$2.95 EACH Postpaid

Sorry No C.O.D.'s

At last, fire prevention for Christmas trees. Our Fireball disguised as a tree ornament is in reality a superlative fire extinguisher. Hung on your Christmas tree, it will snuff out the heart of a flash fire in a matter of seconds. Thermal spring activated and supplied with a bracket, it may be used in the house year 'round from attic to cellar.

*Send 10¢ for Christmas Catalog.*

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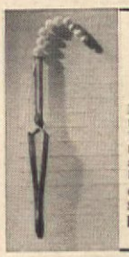

POST BEAD STRINGER AND KNOT TYER FOR CHRISTMAS

It's new—it's quick—it's positive and durable.
You can make your string of beads longer or shorter. It ties a very close knot between each bead, also on your clasp.
Complete, with bead cord. Send $1 ppd. We ship daily.
Post El. Company, Inc. Box 34 Andover, New Jersey

Christmas Decoration Special!
Miniature Electric Starlights

Twenty tiny sparkling firefly lights for trees, mantle, or table decoration, white or green cord—specify, $7.50. Extra globes, 10 for $2.00.
Heavy outdoor lighting wire, complete with end connection for additional sets, 15 lights on 20 ft. of cord, $8.50. Extra globes, 10 for $2.50.

*Sent postpaid. (No C.O.D.'s)*

EVE GRIMES Dept. A
25 W. 19th St., New York 11, N. Y.

"ANGEL CHIMES"

Heat from burning candles causes angels to revolve. Their wands, lightly striking bells produce a chime-like sound as charming as sleigh bells in the night! Of heavy gauge, highly polished brass, 13" high. Buy two—one for yourself, the other for a gift.
$1.95 postpaid
2 for $3.75 postpaid
("Angel Chimes" Candles, 4 included free with each chime. Extra candles, 2 dozen for $1.00, postpaid.)

"FROSTY SPRUCE" PLASTIC CHRISTMAS TREE

Decorated with 48 tiny iridescent, vividly colored glass balls. Gracefully shaped boughs carved to simulate actual needles. 11" high, ready to easily assemble and decorate. Perfect for mantel, table, centerpiece.
$1.25 postpaid

CHRISTMAS TREE SCARF BALL

Gold-flecked clear plastic ball contains one green and one red scarf. A beautiful spot of vivid color for the tree, an ideal personalized gift. Scarves are 18" square. Please PRINT name.
$1.95 postpaid

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Of colorful hand-painted pottery, hand-decorated and glazed. Santa's costume is in vivid Christmas red, with fringe on cap, sleeves and coat in snowy white ceramic fur. Large opening in bag for holly, mistletoe, cut flowers, or growing plant. 6½" high.
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Roll it along the floor; when it stops, it cries "Mama"! Baby will never tire playing with it—and it has first name on it, hand-painted—with special, non-chipping, non-toxic washable paint. Pink, blue; sturdy plastic.
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The daintiest, most exquisite little Christmas decorations you could possibly imagine! Of soft felt, in assorted gay colors bedecked with glittering stars, fringed top and colored sequins. Fill them with tiny surprise gifts and hang them at the mantel or on tree. 4½" long. 6 for $1.95 postpaid

"SYBILLA" SWEDEN'S CHRISTMAS CANDELABRA

A traditional part of the Christmas scene in nearly every fine home in Sweden! Of highly polished, solid brass with 9 gracefully shaped, adjustable arms, it stands 13½" high. Burns "Sybilla" Candles, 10-inch, non-drip, white tapers. (9 included free—extra candles, 10 for $1.00.) We've sold thousands at $11.95! Now, due to volume imports, we can offer it for only . . .
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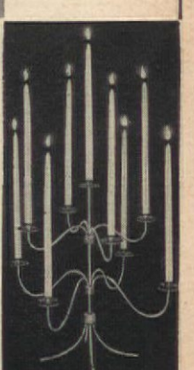

Black and Company
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(SOMETIMES CALLED HEART-SAVERS)

**They convert any chair into a Contour Chair. Wonderful for varicose veins, leg cramps and poor circulation. Replaces clumsy ottomans. Fine for televiewing. Stands without fastening. Folds flat.**

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*These and other REST-WELL Products, designed to make life more comfortable and enjoyable are priced from $2.98 up. Make ideal gift items.*

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**IT LOOKS LIKE SNOW** when you shake one of these old-fashioned paper weights, and we can't think of anything better to be stuffed into the toe of a Christmas stocking. We don't know of anyone who didn't have one as a child. Left one contains a Nativity scene, on right, a skater and skier. Either one, $1 ppd. Q-T Novelty Co., Dept. A, P.O. Box 54, Murray Hill Sta., N.Y.C. 16.

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**LITTLE PITCHER WITH BIG EARS** is an engaging character who will serve up a smile along with the cream or syrup. 3½" high of hand-decorated glazed ceramic, his yellow cap is a removable lid, his big ears, good handles. Best of all, he'll remind you not to mention what Santa has up his sleeve in front of the children! $2.25 ppd. Greenland Studios, 5858-A Forbes St., Pittsburgh 17, Pa.

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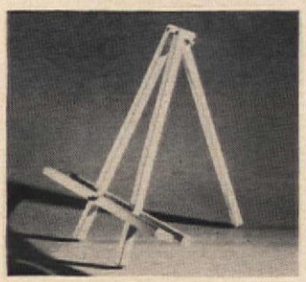

**SUNDAY PAINTERS** will enjoy this easel which stands on a table or desk, has an adjustable tray for the canvas that can be raised or lowered to proper height, and best of all folds up compactly when not in use. So whether you've just sent for your first AMERICAN HOME painting pattern or are ready for a one-man show, it is $1.95 plus 35¢. Page & Biddle, 21 Station Road, Haverford 5, Pa.

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### ONLY 1¢ A YARD

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Send 10c for Postage and Handling

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## 'ROCKING' Teeter-Totter PLANTER
### and Enchanting IMPS

Salt & Pepper SET
Complete with Lovely FLOWER GARDEN
ALL FOR ONLY 50¢

Bargain! To get new customers. These devilishly cute and colorfully decorated Imps sit on their Teeter-Totter and ACTUALLY ROCK up and down. Remove them and one pours salt, the other pepper. Colorful, imported ceramic. Adds a gay note as a table centerpiece, on mantel, end-table, or shelf. **Miracle Plants Included**—Comes complete with cute Bucket in which you can produce a lovely indoor flower garden, quickly and easily. Simply add water. You'll enjoy a display of Asters, Petunias, Marigolds, etc. The rustic Bucket may be used for other purposes, too. Satisfaction guaranteed or money back. Not more than two Sets to each customer. Add 15c to each Teeter-Totter Set ordered for postage and handling. No C.O.D.'s please.

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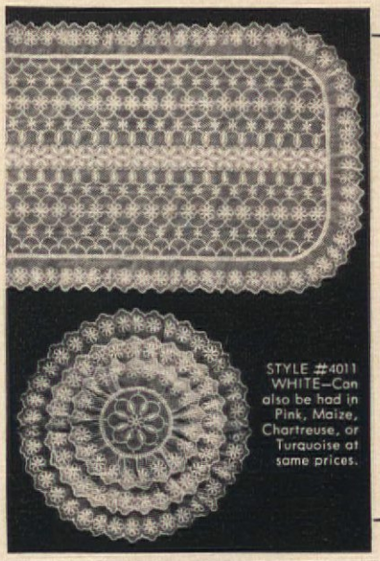
Sheer ruffled NYLON, with dainty cotton-embroidered decoration. Adds beauty to your every room. Durable ... easy-to-wash ... little or no ironing.



STYLE #4011 WHITE—Can also be had in Pink, Maize, Chartreuse, or Turquoise at same prices.

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Indicate quantity and color desired next to size wanted. *We Pay Postage.*

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| | 15" x 63" 1 ruffle | | 2.75 ea. |
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| | 8" x 14" 1 ruffle | | .75 ea. |
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Please send the scarves and doilies, in the sizes, colors, and quantities indicated above.

I enclose $..... Check ☐ Money Order ☐ Cash ☐ No CODs.

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This wonderfully sentimental English brass plaque features a motto felt more strongly today than ever before! The heavily embossed floral border frames a homey fireside scene. Measures 11⅜" x 8¼" . . . is lacquered to prevent tarnishing. Use it over your mantel or on your foyer wall for a heart-warming touch. Makes an inspiring theme around which to build a home.

**$2.50 each; $4.75 matching pair, ppd.**

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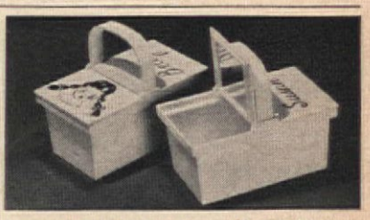

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. . . and you don't need to sand, scrape or remove old finish. Easy to apply. Economical to buy. Order by mail.

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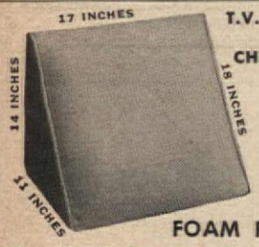


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A comfortable, molded Foam Rubber 3-way pillow—for use anywhere in the house. Non-allergic, keeps its shape, never mats down. Use on motor trips, fishing boats, in rumpus room. Non-slip construction. Just the thing for bed readers or invalids. Zipper covered in decorators fabric with corded edge. Gray, green, chartreuse, gold or maroon.

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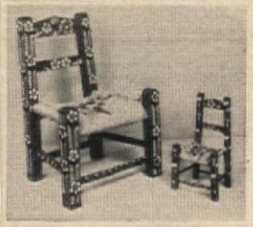

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OR PLAIN PRINTS
*THINK OF IT! THEY'RE*

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IN FULL COLOR

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The red bird bobs in and out of the window as the pendulum swings. Clock is three dimensional, carved design with walnut finish, 7¼" x 4¼" x 2½". Only **$3.95** ppd. Fully guaranteed. Adds charm in any room of the house. Ideal Christmas gift.

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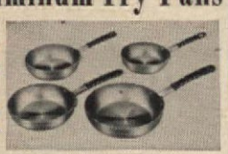
**Heavy Aluminum Fry Pans**

***Imported from Italy***

**FULL SET OF 4 NOW ONLY $2.95**



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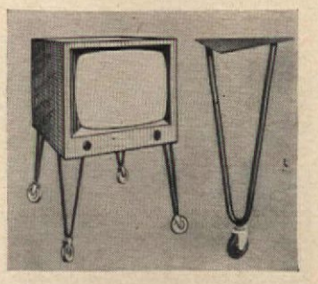
**Really Works—World's Smallest**

Carry in your pocket. New Preset Crystal eliminates All Tubes, Batteries or Electric "Plug-ins" Forever! Sweep band dial—Beautiful Red Plastic case.
**GUARANTEED TO WORK on local stations—use most anywhere — home, cabins, farm, etc. SEND ONLY $1.00** (bill, ck., m.o.) and pay postman $3.99 C.O.D. postage on arrival or send $4.99 for P.P. delivery.
COMPLETE WITH EXTRA LONG DISTANCE AERIAL KIT AND PHONE. LIMITED SUPPLY—ORDER NOW! MIDWAY Co. Dept. BAH-12, KEARNEY, NEBRASKA.

**PARK YOUR BOOKS** on a black wrought-iron book-rack fashioned after a park bench. Just the right size to keep a stack from the library on a bedside table, hold a pile of cookbooks in the kitchen, keep reference books on a desk, or just line up your reading for the long winter evenings ahead. 12" long x 6". $2 postpaid. Mastercraft, 212A Summer Street, Boston 10, Mass.

**THE OBJECTS OF HER AFFECTIONS** on Christmas morning are bound to be these gay playmates. Rusty and Sue are a new kind of rag doll with movable bodies soft enough for the big squeezes they will get, but firm enough to stand alone 21" tall. Their pixie heads are realistic rubber. Kits for making, $3.85 each. Completed, $9.95 ea. Ppd. Mark Farmer, Box 573A, El Cerrito 6, California.

**TV IS GETTING AROUND.** Caster legs convert your table TV set into a free wheeling floor model—you can roll it from room to room, back out of the way when not in use. Rubber wheels, ball bearing casters in polished brass, on sturdy black 15" wrought iron legs with large support plate to attach with screws provided. Set of 4, $12.85 ppd. Yield House, Dept. AH, North Conway, N. H.



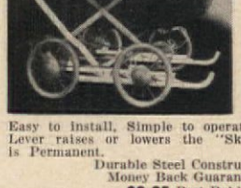
**GOOD DEED.** We own a little piece of land down in Florida—and anyone can become a property holder the same way, because just $1 buys a square foot of honest-to-goodness Florida real estate and you get this properly notarized, signed and sealed document to prove it—which of course you will frame. A wonderful gag gift! $1 postpaid. Frank Berlin, 1356-A Main St., Sarasota, Fla.

**MULE EAR CHAIRS** come from sturdy stock and are just what you need for the dinette, the bedroom, in front of the desk. They are handcrafted of hardwood with double-ply natural cane seats. Minimum order, two. Unpainted, 2 for $8.95; light natural finish, 2 for $10.95; mahogany, cherry, pine, walnut, or maple finish, 2 for $12.95. Exp. Coll. Jeff Elliot, Dept. AH5, Statesville, N. C.

**GIANT NURSERY ROOM FULL COLOR CUT-OUTS**

Now decorate your nursery or play room the way you've always wanted. These Giant 22-inch full color impish circus cutouts come complete with all the trimmings; tent poles, canopy, stars, etc. including decorating suggestions. Set of 4 animals just $2.00. Set of 8 animals plus trimmings and adhesive for mounting, only $3.98 postpaid. Money back guarantee.

**DICK & MARIE,**
P. O. Box 266, Inyokern, California



**"BABY SKEEZ"**

**Transform Baby Carriage into Baby Sleigh.**

Easy to install. Simple to operate. A flick of the Lever raises or lowers the "Skeez". Installation is Permanent.
Durable Steel Construction.
Money Back Guarantee.
**$8.95** Post Paid.
Send Check or Money Order.
**The Herbert Co. P.O. Box 203, N. Olmsted, Ohio**

**THE OLD RED LANTERN**

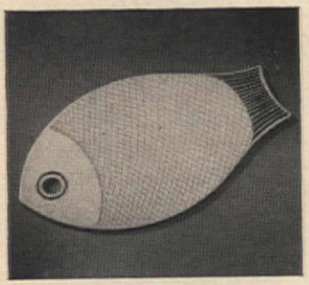
converted into attractive 3 way lamp unit. Regular bulb in lamp plus miniature bulb within lantern can be lit together or separately, as small bulb alone makes ideal TV light, night light, etc. Stands 15½ inches tall. Comes complete with shade. Price $5.95 ppd. No C.O.D.'s please.

**Briteway Gifts**
**1212 Ogden Ave.**
**New York 52, N. Y.**

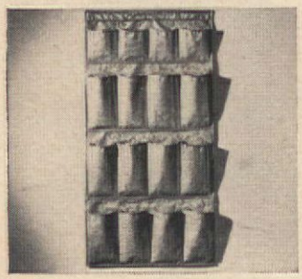
**ANY OLD BAG** won't do for a precious horde of jacks or hard-won marbles. These genuine suede leather pouches, soft as butter, have two jingle bells attached to the drawstrings. One branded with the word "Jacks" holds 8 of them and a rubber ball. "Marbles" pouch gives a fella a start of 20 of them. $1 each postpaid. Western Classics, Box 4035, Dept. APO, Tucson, Ariz.

**SEW WONDERFUL** as a gift for that handy gal who makes all her own clothes and always looks as if she has just stepped out of a fashion magazine. Naturally she's proud, and naturally she'd love these hand-woven taffeta labels saying *Hand Sewn by* and her own name. 12 for $1.50; 20 for $2; 40 for $3. Ppd. Designs Publishing, Dept. AH 4-12, 211 East 37 St., New York, N. Y.

**MAKE MINE BLACK.** A cup and saucer *not* for coffee is of smart black metal trimmed with a brass handle for use as a clever flower holder—see the brass mesh inset for holding the stems, or it can be an unusual ashtray. A jolly gift for the lady next door who always asks you over for a mid-morning cup. $1.50 ppd. House of Schiller, Dept. 17N, 180 N. Wacker, Chicago, Ill.



**WELL-SCALED FISH** from Finland is 12¼" long and presents a shiny tile surface for cutting or dicing, and of course comes clean afterward. He also puts in a polished appearance serving cheese, or as a hot dish trivet. White with brown decoration, the hole for an eye gets him hung up, and thereby hangs our fish tale. $3.50 ppd. Cortley Gifts, Box A, 305 E. 83 St., New York 28, N. Y.



**HANG YOUR STOCKINGS WITH CARE** along with your shoes in a combination *Shoe and Hosiery Bag*. A row of four special pockets harbors them above space for six pairs of ladies' shoes. Heavy gauge plastic embossed with a taffeta-like finish, comes in attractive metallic blue, rose, or green. 17x35". $1.98 ppd. Weill Specialty Co., Dept. AH, 1650 E. 38 Street, Brooklyn 34, N. Y.

**A QUALITY EUROPEAN IMPORT HAND PAINTED FIGURES**

So realistic you almost expect them to spring to life! Charming costumes in full color, with painstaking regard for detail, authentically depict the mid-eighties.

Made of durable metal, they are accurately scaled to size (up to 3 inches high).

A wonderful wintertime setting for your table centerpiece, mantel, window or niche. A welcome, fascinating and educational gift for all children of school age.

Complete Set, 30 pieces . . $3.95 Post
Introductory Set, 15 pieces $2.45 Paid

SEND FOR FREE FOLDER
MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

**Old Fashioned Ice Skating Party**

**ART CRAFT PRODUCTS, P.O. BOX 389, NORWALK 9, CONNECTICUT**

## LAZY SUSAN COCKTAIL TABLE

In knotty pine, 34" in diameter and 20" high with a 16" revolving Susan. Handmade finished in a rich honey antique pine and well lacquered to prevent accidents. Hand-rubbed to a satin lustre. Only $34.95 express collect. No C.O.D.'s please. Free folder on request.

*Handmade Reproductions of Early American Furniture*

**HEINRICH'S WORKSHOP**
**ADAMS, NEW YORK**
(On U.S. 11)

## THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR THE PET LOVER

The K-9 Traveler makes traveling with your pet a pleasure. He sees out windows without bothering you. Fully adjustable, fits all cars, folds for storage. Red, green, blue or yellow with aluminum frame. State if for convertible. **$12.50** ppd. Cash or money order. Order early.

R. J. Sigafoo Products
Box 158
Loudonville, Ohio

## Say Merry Christmas

with the finest of Florida's fruits and delicacies from Cobbs. The merriest gift you can give . . . packaged with all the warmth and brightness of Florida's sunshine! Shop in armchair comfort!

**HENRY COBBS SAYS:**

*Your friends, business associates and loved ones will say, "How thoughtful!"* World famous Cobbs gaily packaged Fruits and Delicacies are always excitingly received . . . you can give no finer gifts!

*Henry Cobbs*

**GIFT No. 35 $7.95**

Approx. 25 lbs.—A gaily colored hand woven imported Basket brimming over with an assortment of Florida's finest fruits . . . Pineapple Oranges, Sugar-Sweet Grapefruit, Giant Persian Limes, Chinese Kumquats and "Zipper" Tangerines. One of our most popular hampers year after year. Positively guaranteed to please ANYONE!

GIFT No. 11 $12.85
Exactly the same as above Gift No. 35 except twice the size and contents.

**GIFT No. 2 $7.45**

Approx. 27 lbs.—Fruit 'n Jams, delightful to look at, delectable to taste . . . truly a treat for the eyes and the palate. Oranges big as Coconuts and Grapefruit even bigger. Chinese Kumquats, tangy Tangerines, Persian Limes and 3 large jars of Guava Jelly, Pineapple-Cherry Marmalade and Tropical Fruit Conserve.

GIFT No. 1 $5.95
Same as Gift No. 2 except does not contain any delicacies . . . ALL FRUIT.

## OBEY THAT Christmas URGE... Order Now!

Send Check or money order; express charges will be prepaid. No foreign shipments except Canada—add 15% for Canada and west of the Rockies. Unless otherwise instructed, delivery will be made for Christmas.

**Cobbs**

BOX 1-C, LITTLE RIVER (MIAMI), FLORIDA

FREE GIFT CATALOG SENT ON REQUEST

## Perfect Gift For Young and Old

**Tyler MAGIC SAW KIT**

Boys and girls from 8 to 80 enjoy making hundreds of useful items with this wonderful "build-it-yourself" hobby kit featuring 100% safe Tyler Magic Saw that cuts any material but can't cut your hand! So easy . . . just cut along the traced designs on wood. Kit consists of Magic Saw frame, 3 Magic Spyral blades, 12 gummed patterns, 5 "build-it-yourself" patterns, screws, brads and cutting material. The perfect gift, only $2.98. No C.O.D.'s. Money back guarantee.

P. R. MacLean, Dept. A5, 1590 Crossroads of the World, Los Angeles, California

## Rose-Sprigged CHINA

17-Piece Demi-Tasse Set

**$6.50** postpaid

Elegant for after-dinner coffee . . . imported reproduction of the famous Dresden "Moss Rose" pattern gives you all the graceful delicacy of the original at an unbelievably low price! Set includes 7½" pot, covered sugar & creamer, six demi-tasse cups and saucers, all in white china sprinkled with pink rosebuds.

**REGULAR SIZE TEA SET** Large pot, sugar and creamer, 6 cups and saucers . . . . . **$10.95**

*Add 50¢ W. of Miss.*
*Write for new 50-page catalogue*

*Jenifer House*
*New Marlboro Stage*
GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

## GOLFSCOPE®

"Tells distance to Pin"

Save Strokes with GOLFSCOPE! Simply sight thru hole to read distance to "pin" for each approach shot. Also tells which club to use. Pocket size—easy to use. Durable aluminum in plastic case. **$1**

Order Today: GILLON PRODUCTS - BOX 409 - SAN MATEO, CALIF.

## Christmas Decoration Kits

Bring that joyous old-fashioned holiday spirit into your home and heart with beautiful wreaths, sprays, crosses, etc., homemade by you and the children. Our kits include everything you need with detailed instructions. Saves you money . . . there's nothing else to buy!

Wreaths: reg. 16", **$2.00**; large 24", **$3.50**; extra large **$4.50**.
Crosses: reg. 16", **$2.00**; large 24", **$3.50**; extra large, **$4.50**.
Grave blankets for remembrance:
22"x40", **$6.50**; 28"x44", **$8.50**; 28"x64", **$10.50**.
Sprays of 4 beautiful full 24" evergreens with cones, **$3.50**. 12 window decorations of princess pine and cones, **$3.50**.
All orders shipped same day as received. All prices postpaid. Send 25% deposit for C.O.D.'s.

**Treasures Of The Forest, Box 48, Sterling Forest, N.Y.**

## 62 BALLOONS $1 THAT MAKE GIANT CIRCUS ANIMALS

great for parties, instructions included
124 Balloons $1.75

**76 PARTY BALLOONS $1.00**
in assorted colors and sizes

**62 PLASTIC TOYS $1.00**
A complete Rodeo.

ADD 10¢ POSTAGE PER ORDER
Circus Balloons, Dept. D-17, Scarsdale, N. Y.

## "DISC JOCKEY" CART BY FAMOUS KOCH METALCRAFTSMEN

Roll it from room to room, out on porch or patio. Grecian metal top is 16"x21". 3-section record shelf fits all sizes of records and albums. Large easy-rolling swivel casters. Satin black finish. No. DJS-10-A.

ORDER TODAY! $17.95 EXPR. COLL.

*Santa Claus Land*
SANTA CLAUS, INDIANA

## WHY BE FAT!

If you want to reduce and just can't, try pleasant tasting scientifically tested KELPIDINE CHEWING GUM for just 7 days . . . Lose up to 5 lbs. a week . . . safely, quickly, easily . . . Amazing new Kelpidine Chewing Gum formula curbs your appetite. You reduce and lose ugly fat without drugs, exercise, or feeling hungry. Sold on money back guarantee. For full 12 day supply send your name, address and $1 cash, check, or money order or send $2 for a 36 day supply to

AMERICAN HEALTHAIDS CO.
Dept. CH-664, 318 Market St., Newark, N. J.

Hi! HAVING WEATHER TROUBLE...? WANT TO KEEP TRACK OF IT...? ...JUST CURIOUS? Here are four handsome accurate instruments I recommend for your home use. These are the unusual CHRISTMAS GIFTS that will be appreciated and used throughout the year.

**Clint Youle wind speed-direction indicator**

Keep an eye on that wind! Anemometer weather vane... mounted outside... connects to decorative grey plastic panel (5¾ x 7¾) on inside wall. Dial shows accurate wind velocities from 1 to 80 mph.-hurricane speed! **$19.95** ppd.

**Clint Youle 4-way thermometer**

Tells you at a glance:

1. Present indoor temperature
2. Present outdoor temperature
3. Highest temperature } since last
4. Lowest temperature } setting

Black or ivory plastic with gold trim, **$8.50** ppd.

**Clint Youle instruments to match**

Barometer ..... **$6.75** ppd.
Humidity Guide and Indoor Thermometer.. **3.75** ppd.
*EXTRA! complete set $36.00 ppd.*

**YOULE ENTERPRISES, Inc.**
Box 43K Kenilworth, Illinois

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*Personalized*
## COV-A-ROBES

Luxurious comfort. Fluffy, absorbent Terry Cloth. Ideal for after-bath, beach, that dash to the phone, between clothes changes—or just plain loafing. Keeps you dry and toast-warm. Easy to launder: never need ironing. Snap on or off in a jiffy: adjust to fit perfectly.

**LADIES'** An attractive sarong while applying make-up, washing hair, etc. Choice of gay colors: Azure Blue, Canary Yellow or Snow White. **ONLY $3.95**

**MEN'S** Great after showering, while shaving, or in locker room. Big roomy pocket for cigarettes, shaving gear, etc. Snow White. **ONLY** .....$2.95

**Satisfaction Guaranteed or Money Back**

Artistically monogrammed in contrasting colors with any first name, or 2 or 3 initials. Men's or women's sizes: small, medium or large. Send check, money-order or cash. Add 25¢ to each Cov-a-Robe ordered for postage. **Orders shipped same day received.** No C.O.D.'s.

**Dobbs Products Co., 900 W. Lake St., Dept. 17, Chicago 7, Ill.**

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## GIFT INSPIRATIONS!

## TEPEE TENT

Watch the children amuse themselves hours and hours with a real Tepee Tent! Sets up easily indoors with suction cups; outdoors with pegs. 48 in. high, 15 ft. around, decorated in 4 colors with REAL INDIAN SIGNS. Tent complete with pole, pegs and suction cups only ..... **$4.95** postpaid

*Sparkling Elegance! Hand-Cut Crystal*
**DINNER BELL**

An unusual value, unusual gift! Patient Bavarian artisans hand-cut the exquisitely detailed leaf and flower design on hand-blown crystal. Note the gem-cut handle. Combines traditional Old-World elegance and beauty with usefulness. Produces crystal-clear musical tone. 6" high. Save ordering direct-by-mail; an actual $5 value for only ..... **$3.25** ppd.

**BODINE'S**
444-A Belvedere Ave.
Baltimore 12, Md.

FREE! Write For New Catalog

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## YOUR OLD FUR COAT

*. . . Into New Cape, Stole,* **$22.95**

Remodel your old worn fur coat into glamorous new style cape or stole. Save over 50% at our one low price! We *clean, glaze, repair* fur, *reinforce* weak seams . . . lusterize to like-new sheen. *Remodel* completely, add *new lining* and *interlining*. Your Monogram. Send no money. Mail old fur coat with dress size and height. Pay postman $22.95 plus postage when new cape arrives.

*Free folder of other styles.*

**I. R. FOX, 115 W. 27th St., Dept. 119, N. Y. 1, N. Y.**

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## LADY BE GOOD!

**GIVE "HIM" A XMAS GIFT HE'LL APPRECIATE!**

Genuine small grained, rich brown, baby ALLIGATOR WALLET. Double bill-fold compartments, 8 identification card holders, 2 personal card pockets. Air Mailed in beautiful gift box. An ORIGINAL CREATION by WORLD-RENOWNED Alligator Hunter, ROSS ALLEN. Bonded GUARANTEE for full satisfaction. Ladies companion billfold at same price.

Send check or M.O. *Only* **$5.95** Incl. Tax Air Mailed PPD.

**MAGIC CITY GIFTS**
300 N.E. 1ST AVE.—BOX 2037, MIAMI, FLORIDA

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## YOUR BABY'S FIRST SHOES

Preserved in lustrous Solid Bronze-plate. Special price $3.95 pair; a permanent and cherished gift. Shoes are also mounted on beautiful all-metal Picture Frame Easels, Ash-trays, Book-ends. For Free illustrated literature, shoe mailing receptacle and special discount certificate, send name and address to **Bronzecraft Company** Dept. A.H., Drawer A Greenville Station Jersey City, New Jersey

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## GLAMORETTE—Scarf Collar & Cuff Set

It's brand new! We're sure Santa himself couldn't pick out anything you'd rather have than this lovely accessory for your sweater or newest tailored dress. The collar and cuffs are made of the finest imported French Angora. Washes beautifully and is easily basted on edge of sleeves and neck line. Comes nicely gift boxed with scarlet scarf (or one of your own choosing). A wonderful gift for the "hard to buy for" girl.

**The Set $3.95 ppd.**

**the unique shoppe**
312 Front Street Galva 4, Illinois

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Imported CANDLE-DRIP BOBECHES

Dress up candleholders, sconces, chandeliers—and protect your table linens, floors from dripping wax. Each bobeche has 1" center hole and 3" diam. Satisfaction guaranteed. Minimum order 6 bobeches.

#041 49¢ ea. #043 39¢ ea.

#012 59¢ ea. (decorated edge)
#010 29¢ ea. (plain)

#042 39¢ ea. #040 59¢ ea.

Complete stock of bobeche styles available. Check or Money Order—Add 45¢ for Postage and Handling.

**PAULEN CRYSTAL CO.** 296 Broadway, Dept. A-124 New York 7, N. Y.

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## BOWL OF NUTS—for Christmas

Beautiful golden colored aluminum candy or nut dish, 9" in diameter, filled with **2 lbs.** of freshly roasted choice salted nut mixture (no peanuts), mailed to you or to whom you wish it sent for only **$4.50** ppd. —Check or money order.

*1 lb. plastic box of above nut mixture $1.95 ppd.*

**MOUND CITY SHELLED NUT CO.**
1811-13 Cass Ave., St. Louis 6, Missouri

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**NOT FOR THE BIRDS,** but definitely for bird watchers. Salt and pepper shakers of pressed glass with silver plated tops are tiny bird baths with little silver birds perched on the edges. A whimsical note for your table. About 3" high, the silver is lacquered to prevent tarnish. $2.98 postpaid. (Tax included) Merrill Ann Creations, Dept. AH, 102 Warren Street, New York, N. Y.

**THE YOUNGER GENERATION** would find it a toss up to choose between these bright and lovable stuffed animals from Guatemala where they are made of handloomed cotton with unique finger-woven Mayan designs. But whichever you select may indicate your own political leanings. About 10" tall. Elephant or Donkey $2.49 ea. Pair $4.50. Ppd. Bropar, 6 Bropar Bldg., San Antonio 6, Tex.

**TO GO TO ANY LENGTH.** A double strand of simulated pearls rates mention because of the attractive gold clasp which catches at any place so that the length is adjustable. Also, it can be worn to the front, back, or to one side for various effects. A smart lady will love it to top off her basic black. $4.95 ppd. Aimee Lee, Dept. A, 545 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

**MAKE COPPER ENAMEL JEWELRY** with *Trinkit*. Enamel is beautifully colored glass ground to powder, then baked until it melts into a smooth gleaming surface. Little electric oven so safe you can work with it on the living room table and everything you need for 2 pairs of earrings, a key chain disk, and 2 pins. $6.95 ppd. Artisan Galleries, 2100 N. Haskell Ave., Dallas, Texas.

**GIVE THE LADY A HAND** for holding her rings and watch or bracelets while she's not wearing them, and they won't do a disappearing act and give her heart failure wondering if they slushed down the drain. The Hula Hand is graceful as a Tahitian maiden, just 3½" high with a hibiscus blossom at the wrist. $1.50 postpaid from The Krebs, Dept. AH, Westerly, Rhode Island.

**TAKE A SEAT** along to the golf course for those waits to tee off, to the horse show, races, museum-trotting, when you're roaming through Rome. Aluminum Sport-seat a compact 2½-lb. lightweight can support 500 lbs. in its comfortable contour seat. Carry it like a cane. A gift to sweep mother or dad off their feet. $13.95 ppd. Lowy's, 260-A 116 St., Rockaway Park, N.Y.

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## SEMINOLE DOLLS

Made in the heart of the tropical Everglades by Seminole Indians. Authentic in every detail. 10" high—Collectors item or for child. $2.50 each. Add 35¢ postage. Check or Money Order. No C.O.D.'s. Specify male or female doll.

**Everglade Trader Everglades, Fla.**

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## LORE-LOVER'S ANDIRONS

A Lore-Lover's Dream. The originals of these rare George Washington andirons were found in the attic of an old Richmond, Va., mansion. These century-old antiques are believed to be the only andirons of the kind in existence. Reproduced in solid cast iron, with fire-resistant dull black finish. Iron backstands. Ht. 15 in. Shipping wt. 25 lbs. **$14.95** per set. Send check (no c.o.d. please) or money order for shipment railway express collect.

**HOLIDAY HOME ANTIQUES**
4107 Lemmon Ave.
Dallas 19, Texas

# new '55 DODGE flashes ahead in style!

*New Dodge Custom Royal V-8 4-Door Sedan in Cameo Red over Sapphire White*

## *It's flair-fashioned... and alive with beauty*

You will know, from your very first glimpse of its sleek silhouette, that here is a car of a hundred surprises!

A car that gives you a *new outlook* on the world through its swept-back New Horizon windshield.

A car that captures the flair of the future in the taut, eager beauty of its flowing lines.

A car that sweeps you forward at the command of Flite Control, bringing new magic to PowerFlite.

A car of many innovations: Tubeless tires . . . push-button windows and seats . . . an aircraft-type V-8 engine.

You can expect the unexpected in the flair-fashioned '55 Dodge . . . on display now!

***Take Command . . . Get the Thrill First Hand!***

"My Dad built me my own room!"

Yes, and you can do it too, with

**Johns-Manville Panels, Plank and Terraflex Vinyl Floor Tile**

Like so many others today, this growing family found that they needed an extra room. So Billy's Dad built one in unused attic space.

**The Wall Plank** was the first finishing touch. Billy's Dad chose a Buckskin Tan color for the "cowboy bunkroom" effect. Like all J-M Insulating Board, this plank comes pre-decorated from the factory, so painting isn't necessary. It also has a special flame-resistant finish for added safety.

**The Ceiling Panels** of J-M Insulating Board were easily fastened to furring strips and all nails or staples were hidden by the special J-M Lightning Joint. Of course, both the walls and ceiling area were first insulated with batts of Johns-Manville Spintex Home Insulation.

**The Terraflex Floor** went down quickly and easily. This new Terraflex® in 1/16" thickness is especially designed to install yourself, can be cut to fit with scissors. Best of all, it's made of vinyl plastic and asbestos, so it defies scuffing and stays shining bright with just a damp mopping.

You'll be surprised how easily *you* can build a room like this, too. You can get all of the Johns-Manville products at your building materials dealer.

**Free** How-to-build-it plans for room above, and color brochure on J-M Insulating Board, mail coupon to Johns-Manville, Dept. AH-12, Box 60, N.Y. 16, N.Y.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____

(In Canada, write 199 Bay St., Toronto 1, Ont.) IB

JOHNS-MANVILLE JM PRODUCTS

**Johns-Manville**


# Contributors

• • • **SALLY PLAUT** (see page 29) practices what she preaches, for she "likes neighborhood picnics in our own big yard, and family gatherings for any occasion at all." She's a mighty active gal around her Connecticut home—she does all the inside painting, wallpapering, and furniture recovering ("we really *use* your magazine") in addition to riding such hobbies as violin playing and writing. All this, plus three children!

• • • **QUAINTANCE LEITH** (in private life, Mrs. Alma Rigg) is a Grandma Moses of writers. Born 94 years ago, she began teaching piano at 18, continued until she was 88—meanwhile raising a family. There was no time for writing until, at 70, she enrolled in a university class to the "pity and tolerant amusement" of the other students. "But when I was the first in the class to sell an article (for $100), they were astonished—and so was I." Her only piece of fiction, an Easter story, brought a check for $17 which she spent on an Easter bonnet. As a resident of Colorado, she has long been interested in evergreens (see page 44). She also enjoys "the society of young folks, the best on radio, reading to keep up with events (and hoping I will live to see more peaceful conditions), cooking, sewing, trying to do a little gardening (which I believe to be the best therapy for the aged). I spend some time every day at my typewriter and am determined, if possible, not to become stagnant, mentally or physically. Under these conditions, it isn't too much of a hardship to live 94 years."

• • • **EDWARD FORTUNA,** as Art Editor, contributes greatly to *every* issue of American Home, and this month we point to him with pride as winner of an inter-office contest for our Christmas cover design suggesting the warmth of family visits, festive food, candlelight, and the sparkle of holiday trimmings. Ed won his first art prize in high school, has been with AH for nine years, enjoys golf, square dancing, and singing with wife Blanche in their church choir.

• • • **MARILYN PARKS DAVIS,** a successful wife, mother, teacher, and free-lance writer (see her inspiring story on page 38) might be a top-notch mountain climber as well (she climbed in the Rockies) but for the fact that three children and a variety of other interests have kept her hustling. She married husband Edwin after receiving her M.A. at Columbia, and they live in Evanston, participated in the project she describes.

Take a good look and see why...

*This Republic Steel Kitchen can be duplicated or modified to fit your home.*

# Republic Steel Kitchens

## give you the most for your money!

Right off, you're impressed with the fresh, modern beauty of a Republic Steel Kitchen. A closer look reveals the *extra benefits* you get when you choose this all-steel kitchen line, quality guarded from ore to store by Republic, world's largest producer of alloy and stainless steels.

Try a drawer. It opens smoothly and quietly on nylon glides. Look inside and see rounded bottoms that eliminate hard-to-clean crevices. A clearance rail separates top drawers from counters, preventing binding or sticking. See, too, how Republic caters to your own special storage needs, with adjustable shelves and inner sliding drawers designed for under-counter cupboard space. Priced with the lowest, Republic's long list of extra advantages—all contained in a wide selection of stock units—assures you the most for your kitchen dollar.

**Visit Your Republic Kitchen Dealer**—There you can prove to yourself you get the *most for your money!* See on Republic's Showdown Comparison chart the list of last-a-housetime features that five other leading brands *together* don't give you, even as *extras.*

**New Double-Bowl Stainless Steel Sink**—Gives a custom look; flanked with Formica counters. Of Enduro Stainless Steel, and costs no more than porcelain.

**Little Drawers, Big Space Savers**—Ideal for silverware, linens, small tools. Handy cutting board can be switched to lower location if desired.

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Kitchens

*The World's Most Modern Kitchens*

**BRAND-NEW, COLORFUL BOOK ON KITCHENS**

☐ *Praise-Winning Kitchens* takes the mystery out of kitchen planning. Gives you the how and why of sound arrangement and storage. Filled with beautiful examples like those on this page.

☐ If you're remodeling, you'll also want *101 Ways to Make Awkward Kitchens Behave.* Actually solves 101 problems within its 32 idea-filled pages.

Check one or both, and enclose necessary coin. One booklet, 25 cents, both for 40 cents. Address: Republic Steel Kitchens, Department A, 1038 Belden Avenue, Canton 5, Ohio. AH-4512

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"Joy to the family"

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Say it with
Flowers-By-Wire

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

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Your F.T.D. Florist

Florists' Telegraph Delivery Association, Headquarters: Detroit, Michigan

TRADEMARK

FLORISTS' TELEGRAPH DELIVERY
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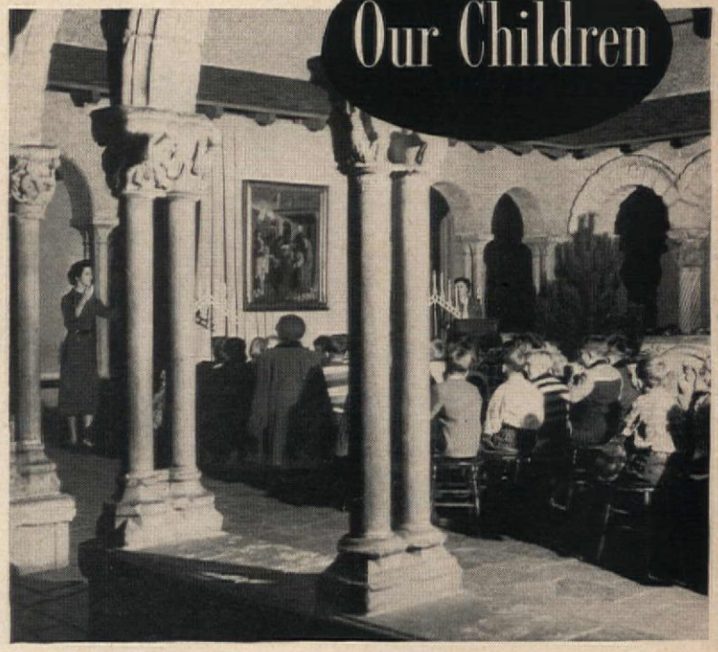
INTERFLORA

Our Children



# Old Masters Bring Christmas to Toledo

GLADYS GAGE DIBBLE

Christmas, children, and culture mix at the Toledo, Ohio, Museum of Art, and the result is a rare and wonderful experience for all concerned. In this beautiful, white-marble building, housing some of the finest art in the world, a special program, based on the great works in the museum's collections which relate to the birth of Christ, is held during the three weeks preceding school Christmas holidays. For 20 years, this has been one of the highlights of the city's Christmas celebration.

The Museum has always cherished its contact with children. It was one of the first art museums in the world to specialize in art education for children, and the first to admit children unaccompanied by adults. At the Christmas season, an estimated 4,250 grade-school boys and girls from Toledo's public and parochial schools come to the Museum. Staff members gather them in little groups and tell them the Christmas story. The children go attentively from gallery to gallery to enjoy such delicate reminders of the first Christmas as Filippino Lippi's *Adoration of the Child*, or an unknown German artist's ancient painting of *Three Kings of the Orient*, or a rare medieval manuscript bearing the age-old words, "—and she brought forth her first-born son and laid him in a manger." Then in the Cloister, under roofs decked with pine, one magnificent work of art is especially lighted and the story is finished. Carols are sung to the accompaniment of an organ and the children file out to the strains of "Silent Night."

# For reflective beauty and for convenience . . .

# a home needs Pittsburgh Plate Glass!

**"BE MY GUEST."** When friends drop in, or for your intimate snacks, there is no need to worry about marring your fine table top finishes – if you have the protection of Pittsburgh Plate Glass. Spilled liquids, cigarette burns, stains are no longer a threat.

**PRESTO!** . . . and this living room acquired more depth, life and brilliance. What was the magic that caused this transformation? Just a Mirror of Pittsburgh Plate Glass placed over the mantel. See how all the color and beauty of the room's appointments are reflected here. Then imagine how "flat" and cramped this room might look without it! Here is a practical, moderate-cost idea that will do wonders for any home. And the special brackets, supplied with Pittsburgh Wall Mirrors, make it easy to install them yourself. Decorations by Marie Stosskopf, A.I.D., Chicago; Furniture by Heywood-Wakefield.

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**A faucet with a Spring-Flo Aerator** fills your tap water with millions of air bubbles that cushion the stream, prevent splash. Splash-free water washes, rinses *faster*. The disappearing bubbles trap and carry off foreign tastes and odors after adding healthful oxygen to your drinking water. Cloudy water is made crystal clear. Spring-Flo delivers better looking—better tasting—better working water.

**ASK YOUR PLUMBER**

***on all leading makes of faucets***

**SPRING-FLO® AEROATOR**

CHASE BRASS & COPPER CO.

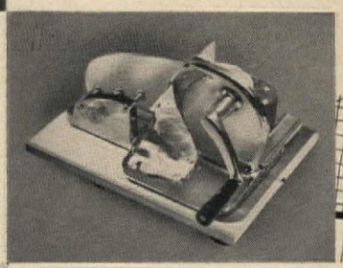
AGHNIDES U. S. PATS. 2,210,846—2,316,832

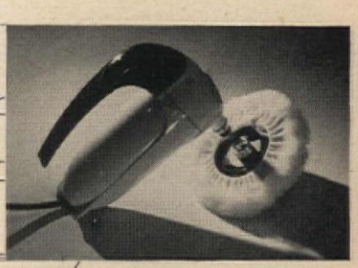

# The Case of the Missing Gadgets

**EDITH RAMSAY**

SOLVE THE MYSTERY of disappearing bowl scrapers (right) by casting an eye into the workshop. Papa probably discovered they're terrific for paint cans, mixing small amounts of plaster, etc. The solution—get him some of his own. Only 29¢. Rubbermaid Products

SMART ACCESSORY TO THE JOB of turning out a fast snack is chrome slicer below. Board with suction cups holds it steady. $29.95. General Slicing Machine Co.

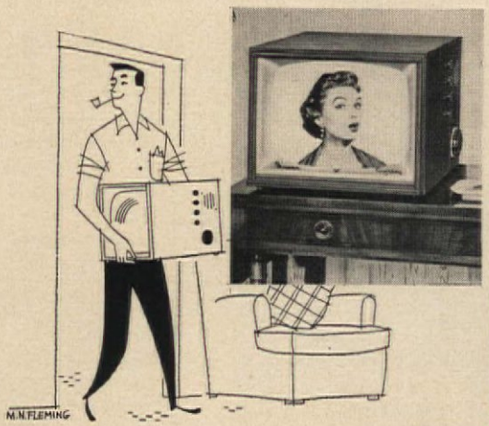




FOR A FAST GET-AWAY on a car-waxing job, Pop takes over this hand mixer, attaches a rotary polishing disc. Attachment, $3, from Towle Mfg. Co., to fit most hand mixers

IN WEIGHING THE EVIDENCE we can't deny that this 7½-lb. cleaner can do a vacuuming job in nothing flat. This portable honey has five attachments to get into every nook and cranny. $49.95. Westinghouse

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE of this small TV set below could be traced to Papa, since it's so tempting for him to pick up and move into his own retreat. This portable, 17-inch TV fits into small space. Prices start at $140. Crosley




CHERCHEZ LA FEMME who can resist lending him the handsome, efficient blender at right. It does a hundred jobs during the day as well as mixing egg nogs in the middle of the night. $39.50. Universal Mixablend

ALL PRICES ARE APPROXIMATE

**Modern T-cushion, channel arm Hide-A-Bed** with button back and Beautyrest seat cushions. In sage green "Luxury" metallic tweed (as shown), full size: $299.50. Apartment size: $289.50. Also in brown, gold and charcoal. With Beautyrest mattress, $20 extra.

**Modern round-end Hide-A-Bed** with either right or left arm. $329.50 in persimmon "Haddon" textured friese (above). Also in willow, smoke grey, toast, dark green and blue. Available with Beautyrest cushions and Beautyrest mattress!

**Modern T-cushion Hide-A-Bed** with Beautyrest seat cushions. In gold "Trigger" metallic tweed—also in brown, olive and charcoal. Full size (as shown): $249.50. Apartment size: $239.50.

## The mattress is half the sofa-bed!

# Only Hide-A-Bed® sofa can give you sofa beauty plus a famous Beautyrest mattress

**Since a sofa-bed** is an important buy, make sure you don't get one with a "makeshift mattress." Remember—only Hide-A-Bed can give you a Deepsleep* mattress by Simmons, at no extra cost! (Or, if you prefer, famous Beautyrest,* only $20 extra.)

Both mattresses are longer, wider, thicker than you can get on average sofa-beds—thanks to Simmons' exclusive patent. See the many styles, sizes and fabrics of Hide-A-Bed at your Simmons dealer's!

## Only Hide-A-Bed sofa can offer you all these features:

**Wide choice of colors.** More than 100 luxurious decorator fabrics to choose from—in many attractive colors.

**Longer, wider seating space** than the usual sofa-bed. Patented cushion support gives extra seating comfort.

**Easy as opening a drawer.** Easy to close! Patented locking action folds away bedding and all at fingertip touch.

**All-steel frame.** Some sofa-beds have wood frames built only for a time. Hide-A-Bed has an all-steel lifetime frame.

**Easy to clean.** Tilt forward and hard-to-reach places are handy. No pulling, tugging to clean behind Hide-A-Bed!

*Trade-mark Reg. U. S. Patent Office. Copr. 1954 by Simmons Co., Mdse. Mart, Chicago, Ill.

# Greet Santa with a wood paneled fireplace wall like this—only $74*

Install it yourself this weekend with Plankweld —it's guaranteed for the life of your home!

*Approximate cost of 8′ high x 12′ long wall area in Honduras Mahogany shown.

If your lord and master can hang a picture then he can easily install the beautiful *real wood* paneling you see here.

Every package of Plankweld includes special metal clips which hold panels in place and hide nailheads. Each 16¼″ wide x 8′ high panel is carefully *pre-finished* by skilled craftsmen who know and love fine wood. Plankweld is easy to clean and is *guaranteed for the life of your home!*

Like to have a wood paneled TV nook, playroom, or dining room? Go to your lumber dealer's today! Or see the complete assortment of Weldwood paneling, including superior Douglas Fir Weldwood, at any of the 73 United States Plywood or U.S.-Mengel Plywoods showrooms in principal cities. In Canada: Weldwood Plywood Ltd.

**HERE'S ALL YOU DO!**

Plankweld can be installed over present wall or directly on studs. No furring needed; metal clips hold panels in place. Edge-grooved panels overlap to conceal clips. Can also be installed flush with New Weldwood Contact Cement.

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Please send free literature on Plankweld, including step-by-step installation pictures.

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# Christmas Painting Party

ETHEL McCALL HEAD

Everyone likes Christmas decorations, and everyone likes pre-holiday get-togethers with friends. The Paul Siecherts, of Pasadena, California, came up two years ago with a practical idea to combine the two. And the result? A host of happy painted Christmas scenes that only a Scrooge wouldn't enjoy! It all started when friends came to visit for a Sunday night buffet supper and ended up painting Christmas decorations on the windows. So successful was the party that now it has become a family institution, and the friends who are willing to try their artistic efforts on the Siechert windows have increased in number yearly.

Arriving mid-afternoon on a Sunday, two or three weeks before Christmas, the guests find a barbecue table set up in the big playroom at the Siechert home. Here are arrayed cans of dry tempera, pitchers of water for mixing the paints, and a goodly number of clean coffee cans (said table is used for its original purpose later on). There is also a supply of pencils, paper, and chalk, to say nothing of a big stack of newspapers for those who are on the messy side in their painting.

Captains are selected from the twenty guests, and teams are chosen forthwith—four to a team because there are five windows in the room. Once the theme of their work of art is settled upon, one member of the team makes a rough outline with chalk on their window. The other members of the team happily putter around with their cans, mixing up the colors. There is much fun and gaiety as the least creative souls struggle to make an angel look like something besides a flour sack. An architect is in great demand as captain of a team, because he's considered the "top" artist of the group. Those born without the artistic touch are

CONTINUED ON PAGE 78

# Give the "Smartest Set in Town"!

● "Fashionfold" furniture *is* smart . . . and so are you for choosing it!

"Fashionfold" is America's newest and finest folding furniture, featuring the most comfortable folding chair made. Contour back is curved two ways. All-steel seat is extra wide, luxuriously cushioned, and saddle-shaped.

Electrically-welded tubular steel legs and frames have Bonderized, chip-resistant, baked-on-enamel finish in Ebony, Cloud Gray or Desert Sand. Washable, stain-resistant Duran upholstery, in smart nubby-weave pattern, comes in five colors shown at right.

Choose your "Fashionfold" gifts now. "Fashionfold" card tables and chairs are available separately or in sets at furniture, department and hardware stores everywhere.

**UNIQUE GATEFOLD ACTION.** Seat tilts up, legs swing in! Permits modern styling that eliminates "folding chair" look. Table legs—flared for greater style and sturdiness—have no telltale braces, cannot fold until released by hand.

Garnet Red

Jonquil Yellow

Emerald Green

Cocoa Beige

Charcoal Gray

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**COSCO®**

**"fashionfold"**

**CARD TABLES AND CHAIRS**

| | |
|---|---|
| Model 60-A Chair . . . . | $8.95* |
| Model 70-A Table . . . . | $13.95* |
| Complete Set, only . . . . | $49.75* |

*Slightly higher Colorado and west, and in Canada.

**SEE HOW BEAUTIFULLY** the new Platinum Gray fixtures harmonize with completely different color schemes.

**CHANGE YOUR BATH ACCESSORIES** and you have a "new bathroom" when you start with these Gray fixtures.

# American-Standard bathrooms in color

## *make it easy to change your color scheme as often as you like!*

Have a "new bathroom" *whenever you like* with American-Standard fixtures that are color-blended to go with *more* color schemes. All you have to do is change your towels, shower curtain and bath rugs just as you change your slip covers and draperies. See how beautifully this new Platinum Gray goes with color after color.

**Styles you admire...quality you want!**

Look to American-Standard for the finest, the loveliest of bathrooms. Notice the roominess of the lavatory above—plenty of space for make-up articles on either side of the deep bowl. And what could be more beautiful than the Neo-Angle bath with its twin corner seats, luxurious, roomy bathing area? Yet for all of its glamour, this most modern of baths fits into an area about 4 feet square. The Neo-Angle, like all American-Standard baths, is made of rigid cast iron with a gleaming, thick coat of enamel. Both the one-piece toilet and the lavatory are made of easy-to-clean, genuine vitreous china. C. F. Church makes the plastic wall tile that contrasts so dramatically with these new Platinum Gray bathroom fixtures.

**Even with no down payment ...pay as little as $4.99 a week***

Ask your American-Standard retailer about easy payment terms. He's listed under "plumbing fixtures" or "plumbing supplies" in the Yellow Pages of your phone book.

**SEND FOR BIG HOME BOOK.** It contains helpful decorating ideas and valuable information on plumbing, heating and kitchens. Just fill out and mail the coupon below with 10¢ in coin to cover cost of handling. **American Radiator & Standard Sanitary Corp.,** Pittsburgh 30, Pa.

*FOR FIXTURES SHOWN—PLUS INSTALLATION

AMERICAN-Standard BATHROOMS

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Please send me your HOME BOOK. Enclosed is 10¢ in coin to cover handling. I am modernizing ☐ building ☐

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SALLY H. PLAUT

# Christmas *you say, is for Children?*

*Quiet, holy night . . . our beautiful crèche with Babe and Manger, lovingly fashioned of gingerbread. (Make it with our pattern, page 93)*

How often have you found yourself dreading the thought of Christmas . . . of dragging out all the mantel decorations, making up long lists of relatives, family, friends, and friends of friends, ordering cards, wrapping packages, and all the other Christmas routines you follow automatically year after year? Wouldn't it be nice, if, somehow, this year could be different?

Think back. What was the magic of the first few Christmases you can remember? Was it really the new doll or the shiny red bicycle? Or was it something you didn't see neatly wrapped under the tree—something inside you bursting with excitement? Maybe there was a spell cast by silver ornaments, colored lights, and candy canes. But the real magic, when you were young, was that you had waited so long and so impatiently for Christmas to come. Then one morning you woke up and it was really Christmas Day! It had come at last—the best day in the year! It was the best day in the year because you, and those you loved, were looking at the Christmas tree together. Birthdays were your own special days, but Christmas day was everyone's, and "Merry Christmas" was the warmest greeting in the world.

Christmas is for children, you say? No magic for you. With so much rushing, spending, and downright hard work, you shrug off any talk of Christmas magic or warmhearted happiness. You're tired before you begin—and when you've picked up, cleaned up, paid up, does Christmas really seem worth the trouble?

Here's your chance to make Yuletide different *this* year. First, list the things you dislike most about the coming holidays. The high pile of cards to be addressed and mailed? The crowded stores and streets? The annual cocktail party "just to celebrate"? Whatever it is, put it down honestly—you're the only one to see what you've written.

Next, list those things you didn't do—and regret not having done—last year. And had you hoped for a quiet evening when you and the children could listen to the story of the First Christmas?

Now don't say that if you've hardly time for things on the first list, you can't be expected to add those on the second. No, that

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE

**STAR OF WONDER, STAR OF NIGHT.** Under the star, these wondrous figures at the crèche shown on page 29, the whole thing designed by our own Vera Bjorck to add more magic to Christmas this year. Long a treasured Old World tradition, such crèches in all sizes, all materials, are dear to Americans too. Ours, perfect for a buffet or mantel, is made of gingerbread, painted in colors of the Orient—deep, rich, and wonderful

**BEARING GIFTS WE TRAVERSE AFAR.** Crèche, complete with beautifully detailed inhabitants, is yours to duplicate with our pattern which includes recipe for a special gingerbread. Stable without star is 11½" high. Pattern **1578**, 30¢

# Christmas

*Is for Everybody!*

## Christmas Is For Children

**(Begins on page 29)**

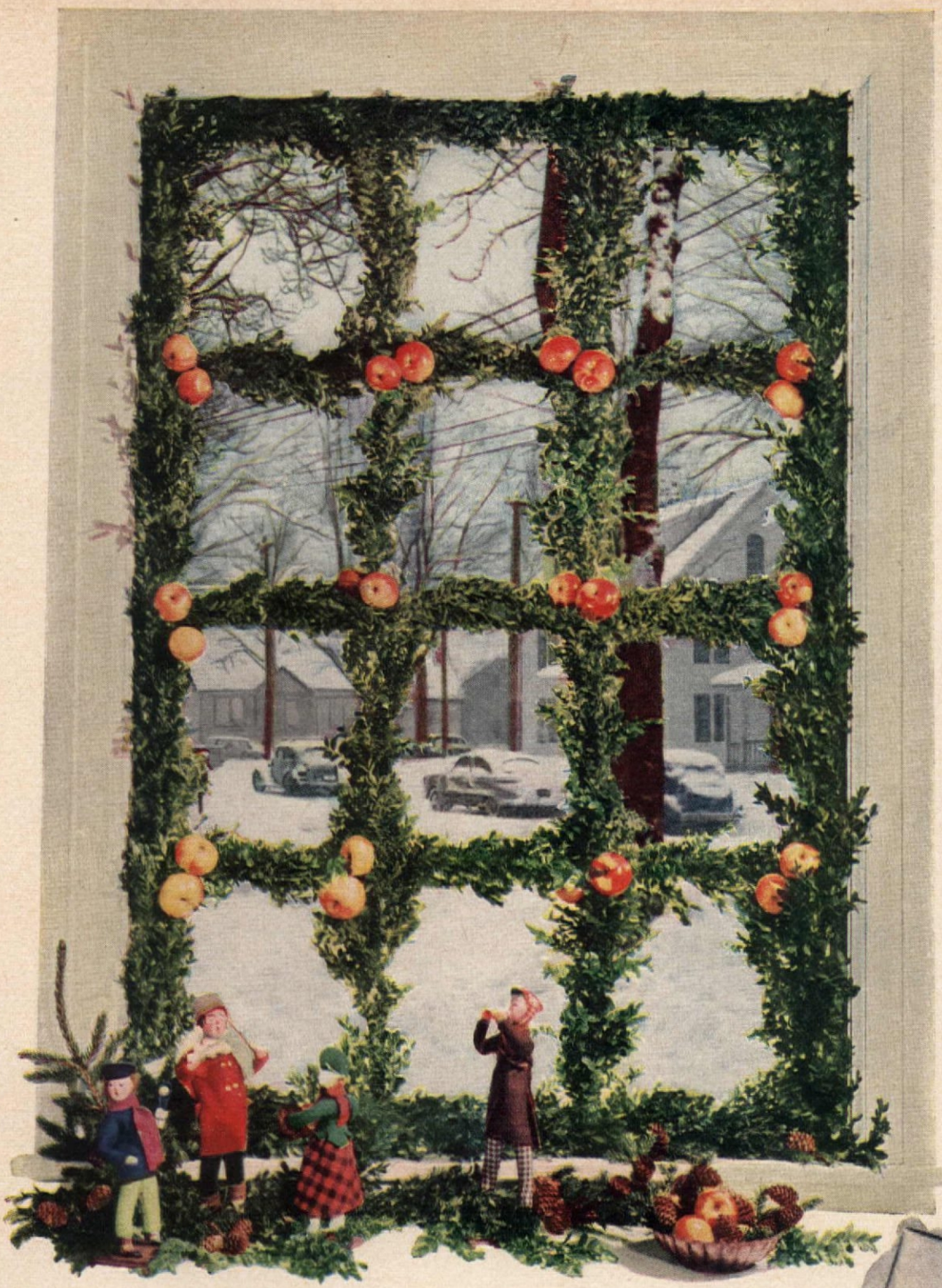
second list will remain a list of regrets unless you act now.

Christmas magic—even when you were a child—never did "just happen." Christmas was the most planned for, most worked for, most warmly received day of the year. It can be that again if you will make it happen!

Instead of combining your two lists, make a third—a list of things you'd like to change, this one time. There is, for example, that big Christmas Eve party you've always given for the people who drop in to say "hello"—and say it well on into morning. Instead, this time, why not share the night before Christmas with a few close friends who come in for an evening of carol singing—and are served only coffee and your special Christmas cake? Or why not make Christmas Eve a strictly family affair—a quiet evening when you and your children can listen again to the story of the First Christmas? But, you say, your big party is a Tradition. Well, start a new Tradition—one centered not so much on celebration as on commemoration. For that, surely, is what Christmas is: commemoration of a holy night. Christmas is for you, for the whole world—not just for the children!

**DECK THE HALLS**—but not necessarily with wreaths of holly, for Christmas is a good time to start new traditions, too. For example, Mrs. J. Lloyd Berrall makes this "flowering shrub" fit for any Sugarplum Fairy—an arrangement of greens on which are suspended pink and white candies shaped like flowers. On gifts, your very own mark might be such a garnishing of gilded eucalyptus berries as that shown here

SEE PATTERN ORDER FORM ON PAGE 93



**HERE WE COME A-WASSAILING AMONG THE LEAVES SO GREEN.** To frame the carolers without, and the good activities within, this engaging window decoration designed by Mrs. Simeon T. Shields. Boxwood is wired to frame the window and mark off the panes, real or imaginary, and to this background are wired pine cones and pert lady apples, shellacked for durability. On the sill, Mrs. Shields uses small figurines, straight out of Dickens—but a crèche, or a tiny town blanketed in snow, would also be effective here

**LOVE AND JOY COME TO YOU** with this Kissing Ball. Globe is two can rings, gilded. Trimmings are store-bought macaroni bows, gilded, a tiny sleigh bell added to center of each. Within, a large golden bell, and a fat spray of mistletoe. Designed by Mrs. J. Frederick Murray

**AMONG YOUR FRIENDS AND KINDRED, THAT LIVE BOTH FAR AND NEAR,** such a package as this, a real work of art, spells out the loving spirit of Christmas giving, and counts for much more than the contents. Ingredients used by Mrs. J. Frederick Murray who created it are: sequins; an old fake pearl necklace; silvered whirligigs of macaroni (rotini), and seashell macaroni, the latter silvered outside and painted pink within. Greens are Chamaecyparis (false-cypress) and "ribbon" is silver lace type. Good adhesive, sparingly applied, anchors everything securely. But don't do such packages singly—several go almost as quickly as one!

● Use a collection of any figurines (they needn't be angels) to make a tableau around a small arrangement of flowers. In this one by Betty B. Merriam, blossoms are narcissus, and they are surrounded here by boxwood and gilded dry material

● In a trio of milk glass bowls, Marion Rowley "saw three ships come sailing"—so she brought them to life for Christmas. To hold a cargo of flowers, she used sardine cans, painted white. Masts are garden stakes; cedar-trimmed sails are hardware mesh, painted gold—all secured by clay. Angels are of wood

GERTRUDE BRASSARD AND JOHN LIPPERT

# Tables with Holiday Airs

● This Santa Claus is chock full of candy and Christmas cheer for a youngster's dinner party. Glue together two brandy inhalers. Add bright ribbon belt, black paper buckle, red felt arms and hat, trimmed with cotton batting. Cotton, backed with cardboard, forms the flowing beard. Place cards are candy-filled silver mugs, decorated by Heirloom Sterling in "Reigning Beauty" pattern to match flatware. The "White Clover" baby plates and mugs are from Harker Pottery

● Some not-too-rare baubles, tiny candles, old beads, make our "tree," by Patricia Easterbrook Roberts (for full know-how, see page 82). It lights up a table set with Doulton's "Rondo" dinnerware, Imperial's "Gold Band Hair Line" stemware; Towle's "Esplanade" sterling flatware. The round metallic cloth is from Spun-Glo

● Dime-store glasses and ordinary tree ornaments capture the blithe spirit of Christmas under crystal. To make this festive turret, use two inexpensive brandy inhalers (one large, one smaller), a Pilsner glass, a Martini glass—plus glass adhesive and ornaments chosen for color. First, arrange some ornaments in larger inhaler. Then glue the two inhalers together. Next, place ornaments in Pilsner glass, and glue Pilsner to base of smaller inhaler. Top this with inverted Martini glass; glue in place. Adhere final ornaments to outside. We set it up on a field of green felt strewn with spangles and fake jewels, the ensemble a most fitting centerpiece for table appointments so elegant as Franciscan's simple, handsome dinnerware, "Encante Nuevo"; Wallace's sterling goblets and "Grand Baroque" flatware; Tiffin's "Corona" crystal stemware; and Felix Tausend's "Festival" metallic cloth. Final touch: place cards, also bejeweled.

See "Where Credit Is Due," page 92

MARTHA B. DARBYSHIRE

# This Heartwarming Home Can Be Yours!

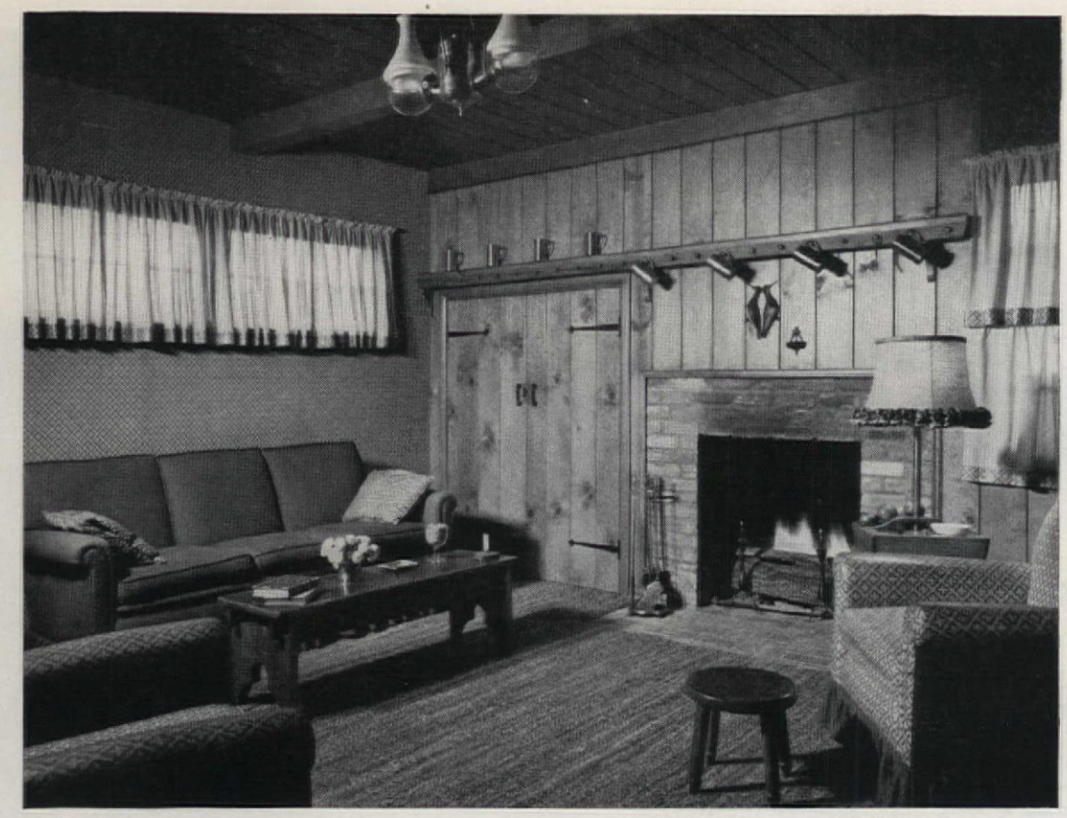
"Give us a beautifully simple house with a friendly face and an abiding appreciation of creature comforts," Dr. and Mrs. Glen E. Jones told their architect. "Let's stress the family, impress the family rather than others," they instructed their decorator. They got what they wanted —and in a form so attractive and so practical (turn the page to see the plan and the sunny exterior in detail) that this house, tailored to the Joneses of Los Angeles, seems to appeal to everyone. It would look well in any American suburb, so if it's the kind of heartwarming, family-centered plan you've been seeking, send for our blueprints and materials list—they're all your contractor needs to duplicate this home for you. (See order form, page 90.)

The Joneses chose traditional architecture because they wanted to use possessions that had meaning for them. But that doesn't imply that they wanted to live in the past. Indeed, their idea was to start afresh, to bring to the culture of their family a background rich in ideas and interests not at all traditional in concept. Characteristic of such thinking is this relaxed living room which shows a welcome reversal of a recent trend. In too many homes, the living room is so done up that the family leaves it cold and huddles in the small den for comfort, or builds a new Family Room but in this house, the living room *is* the Family Room—not slicked up and dressy, but a room planned for a heavy schedule of activities that may center around the piano, the fireplace, or any of the cozy seating groups. It is furnished for fun without fuss—pine tables, sturdy carpet and fabrics make for an atmosphere where

CONTINUED ON PAGE 90

FOR MORE PICTURES OF THIS HOME, TURN THE PAGE

DECORATOR: LOUIS DEHAVEN SHAW, A. I. D.



While the living room shown on the preceding page is for conversation, the den is dedicated to record-playing, TV, and pre-teen gatherings. It opens to the patio and to eating end of the kitchen where a round table invites good discussions over cups of cocoa. Record player and records are built into cupboard

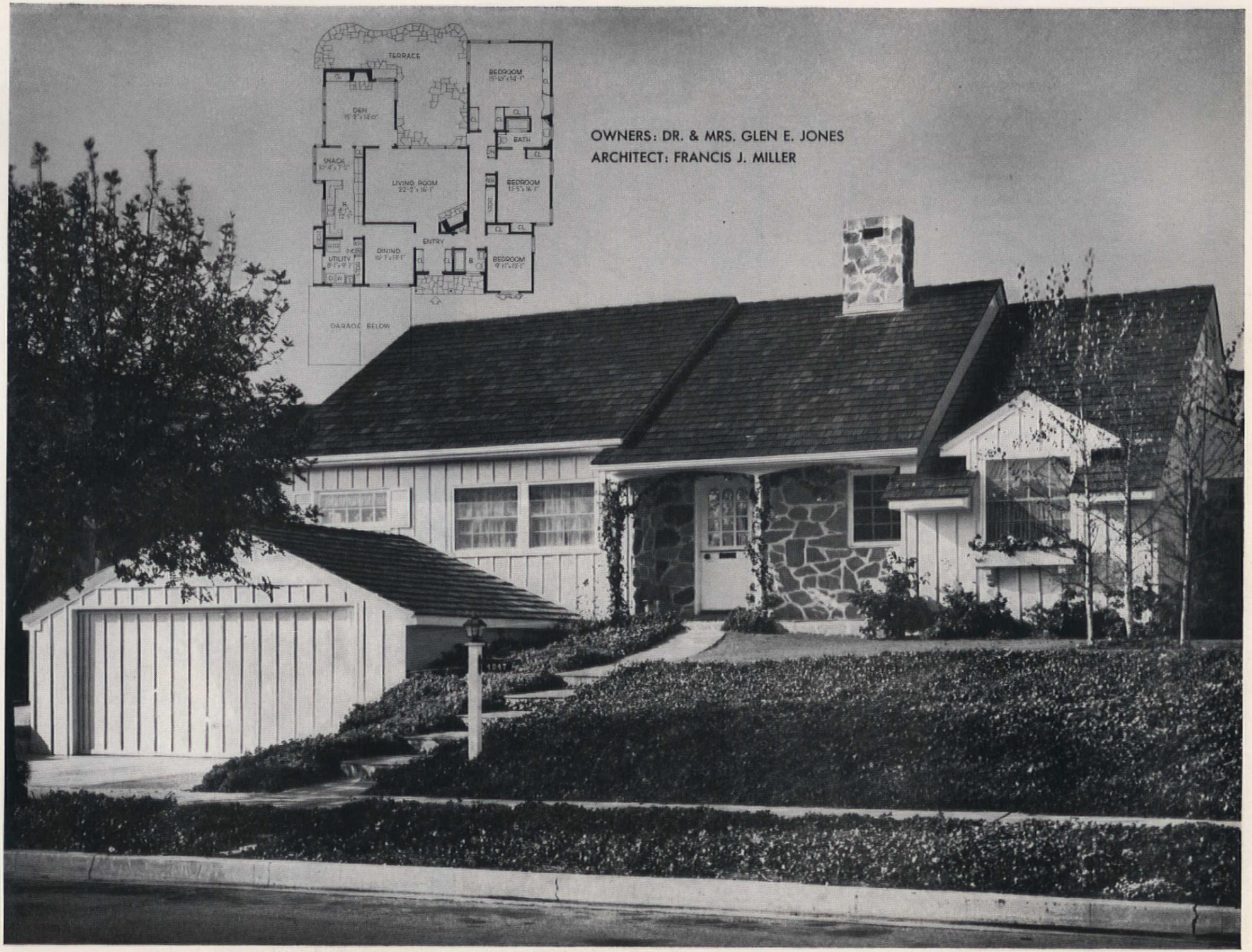
Face and facts of a home designed for family-shared leisure and planned around large living room, den, and well-protected terrace reached from either den or bedroom wing. Note two fireplaces, two baths, separate dining room, large eating area in kitchen, 13 closets plus two storage walls and outside storage. Exterior is wood siding with fieldstone. There are about 2200 sq. ft. of interior space, all on one floor, plus double garage (no basement). Ceilings and walls are plaster throughout except for wood paneling in den

In dining room, furnishings are simple, and great warmth comes from wood tones which blend with colorings of wallpaper and rug. Note high placing of windows in dining room and den to give better wall space and privacy

Guest room is furnished for comfort, and smiles in gay shades of yellow, coral, and blue. Sleigh seat makes a charming little settee. An old crocheted bedspread was dyed yellow and used over a yellow blanket that shows through



*This Is Blueprint Home No. 36 ★ Order Form Page 90*


TERRACE
BEDROOM
DEN
BATH
SNACK
LIVING ROOM
BEDROOM
ENTRY
DINING
UTILITY
BEDROOM
GARAGE BELOW
OWNERS: DR. & MRS. GLEN E. JONES
ARCHITECT: FRANCIS J. MILLER

Evanston, Illinois, in an inspiring community project,

"Put Christ Back into Christmas—" to show love,

tenderness, and hope to all who have eyes to see

# Now the Dark Streets Shineth

MARILYN PARKS DAVIS

Back in the spring of 1951, an Evanston, Illinois, housewife, Alice Hamm, reflected upon the forthcoming Christmas. She was not pondering about her own projects, but upon the problem of how a community could recapture the spiritual significance of this holy day. What could she herself do? Could one busy mother recruit enough help to make a dent in the overly commercialized observance of Christ's birthday? Not long afterward, in a meeting at the Hamm home, a roomful of young married couples organized the Christian Family Christmas Committee. Their aim the first year was the encouragement of public displays portraying the season's deeper meaning; their slogan: "Put Christ Back into Christmas."

They set to work immediately. By November, volunteers had given 30 talks to various groups, and 100 citizens attended a public meeting at Northwestern University. After that, all Evanston pitched in—judges, businessmen, housewives, churchmen, teachers, civic leaders. "Practically no one turned us down" recalls an early booster, and young people joined their elders enthusiastically in building life-sized Nativity figures for outdoor displays. Lumbermen offered patterns to home craftsmen, an art studio offered free instructions in the making of crêches. Pastors and priests wrote Christmastide editorials, and the local press published them. A bank ran a full-page Christ-in-Christmas ad. Busses carried slogan on cards, radio and TV joined in.

Before Christmas Eve, 60 public Nativity scenes cast their spell of love, tenderness, and hope upon all who had eyes to see and hearts to receive. It was apparent to townspeople that their community had arisen to show love for Christ and his birthday. Upon out-of-towners, the impact was startling. "First," reported one woman visitor, "we stopped at the electric company to admire the beautiful crèche in the window. Strains of Handel's 'Messiah' quickened the air, and we were thrilled to see the Manger depicted in the windows of jewelers, bakers, and florists. Then we passed an insurance building in which a Nativity soared six stories high. Later, passing a theatre, we were confronted with giant letters on the marquee: 'Put Christ Back into Christmas.' The cumulative effect was impressive. We went home feeling that, amid the feverish hustle of shopping, we had been warmed and nourished by the deep, inner core of Christmas."

During the second year, 1952, the Committee sought to maintain their previous gains and to stimulate more emphasis upon the religious theme in home decorations. Prizes were offered for the best home displays visible from outdoors; newspapers asked homeowners to show their faith; outgoing mail from several large firms was stamped with the slogan; the words were set to music. And the whole town lit up.

The third year was even better, and Evanston's business, civic, and spiritual leaders all hope that the religious emphasis upon Christmas will be permanent. Letters have poured in from all parts of the country asking help in starting "Christ Back in Christmas" projects.

"Money for the work? It's no problem," explains one of the leaders, "it keeps coming in." But the persons who have contributed their time, talents, and money prefer to remain anonymous, or at least inconspicuous. Each will tell you: "We all worked on it!"

For weeks before Christmas, students from public and parochial high schools, and from Northwestern University, donate after-school hours to painting life-sized figures for outdoor displays. This tableau, built in a giant box, brought the Adoration to a downtown Evanston park

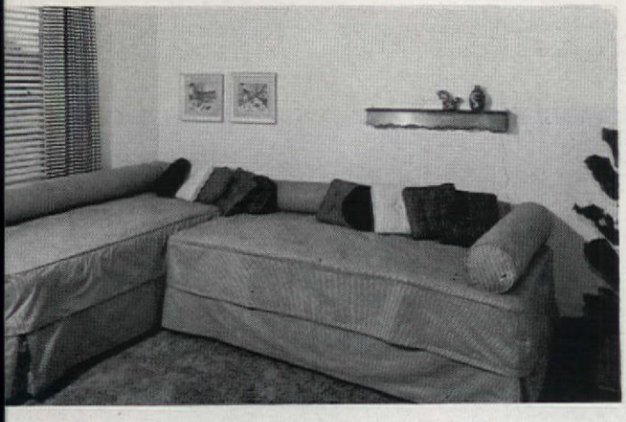
Instead of commercial displays, such themes as this. "Across the second-floor windows of one store," an out-of-towner reported, "we saw the Wedgwood-like Wise Men journeying to the Manger." Cumulative effect of the religious emphasis left her "warmed and nourished by the deep, inner core of Christmas"

Modern in design, but age-old in sacred sentiment is the crèche above, shown in the Marshall Field store. The florist's display at your left is typical of the way smaller shops joined the Christ in Christmas program

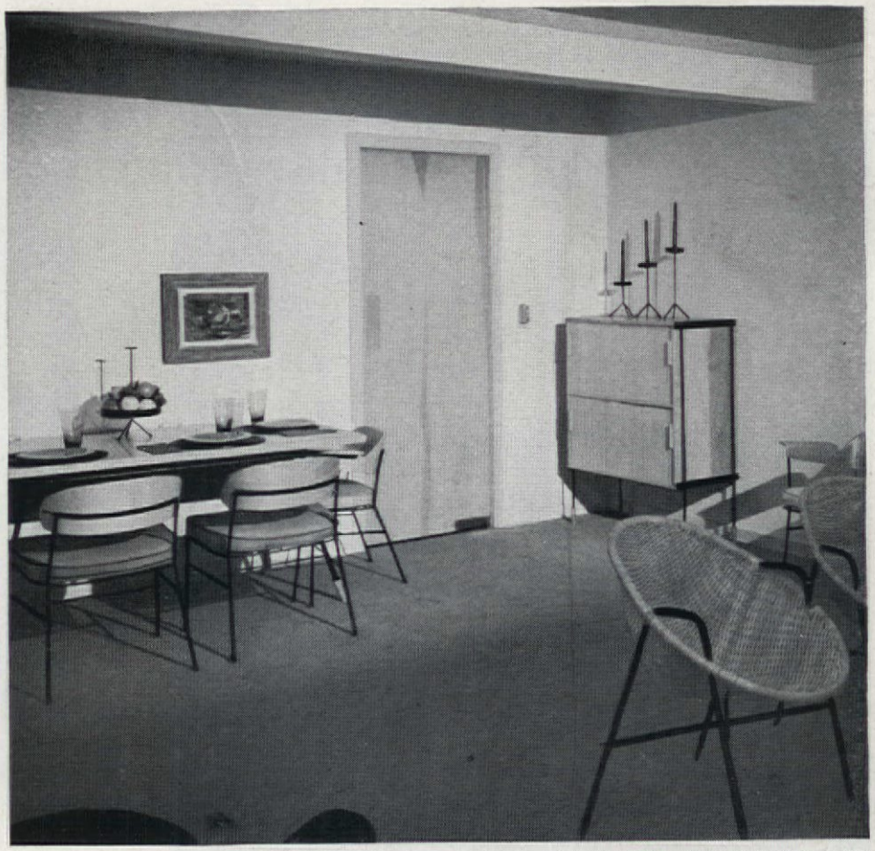
In the increasingly smaller bedrooms in garden apartments, twin beds side by side with a single headboard take less floor space than beds separated by a night table, leave room to walk around three sides. Study wall spaces before you rent—most distinctive and "quiet" arrangement is to center dresser on wall opposite beds. Leave about three feet for aisle between chest and beds

In the newer apartments, the separate dining room is a thing of the past. Your dining area is in the living room and is treated as part of it. An eating area in the kitchen is a must, for breakfast and for snacks. Try for distinction in things you can take with you: curtains, table and chairs, accessories; also, if you have a color choice, in paint and resilient floor covering

# The Garden Apartment: *HOW TO GIVE IT CHARACTER YOU CAN TAKE WITH YOU LATER*



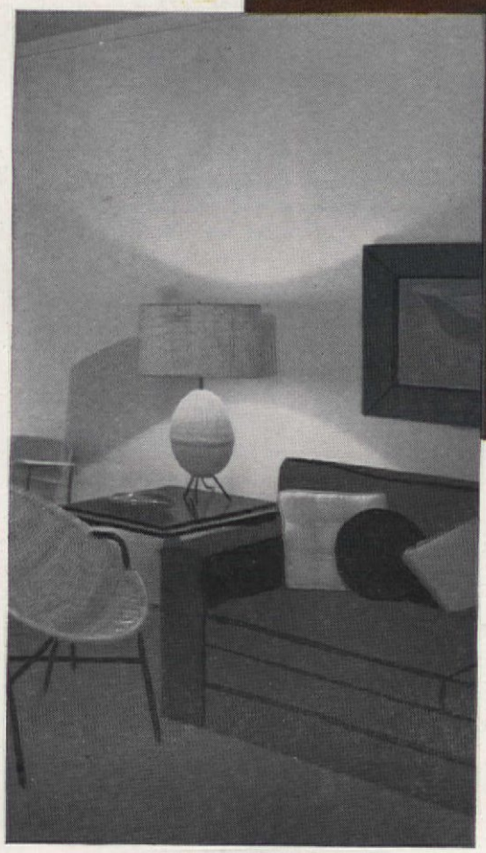
The second bedroom usually presents a problem in accommodating twin beds. This L-shaped arrangement leaves most floor space. If there's room, put a big square table with an important lamp in the corner



Right: The one compromise with movability in this case was the wall-to-wall carpeting which adds a feeling of space to the room. Yet, with the exception of a small L-shaped jog at the entrance door, the room is square, which means the carpet would fit another room, or could be cut to fit two smaller rooms. If your living-dining area has a more pronounced L shape, room-size rugs might be a better investment for you in the long run

DECORATOR: MARION HEUER, A.I.D.

Confronted with the box-like rooms in the newer garden-type apartments, many ardent home lovers try to give individuality to the characterless space by employing expensive architectural built-ins or custom wallpapers—a dead loss if you decide to up and move. In the room illustrated below, decorator Marion Heuer accepted this lack of interior detailing, had no truck with built-ins, put the character where it counts: in furnishings you can take with you. Her strong modern color scheme has its punch, and its character, in contrast—stark white walls and curtains, rich black sofa, accents of straw color in chairs, lamps, pale woods



Costly built-ins and custom wallpapers aren't the only answer for giving distinction to box-like rooms. A striking color scheme and well chosen furniture, are investments on wheels—you *can* take them with you

ROBERT BAGAR

# MUSIC for Christmas

"If we could have devised an arrangement for providing everybody with music in their homes, perfect in quality, unlimited in quantity, suited to every mood, beginning and ceasing at will, we should have considered the limit of human felicity already attained."
EDWARD BELLAMY, *Looking Backward* (1887)

There is something mysterious and beautiful and rather strangely disturbing to me in Edward Bellamy's words written 67 years ago. I mean the implication—though scarcely intended—of a musical future encompassing micro-groove recordings, Hi-Fi, and music "suited to every mood, and beginning and ending at will." Fabulous, don't you think? Though we're still a considerable distance away from the "limit of human felicity" Bellamy speaks of.

But there is "balm in Gilead," for the LP catalogues of the various companies have been growing steadily. Now they can really be called formidable in both quantity and quality. The shelves of the disk shops fairly sag under the weight of captive music. So we don't have perfection. (Proof, if needed, is that engineers and producers are constantly striving for it, since perfection is a relative thing—a mere step to another and greater one.) We do have what we have, however, and that is remarkably good. And Bellamy is no less a prophet.

This being a piece on the subject of recordings for Christmas listening and giving, the writer will be pardoned his sudden swerving into the thick of it. He does urge the reader, though, to have all confidence in the wares he will come upon in the good shops. There is so much to choose from! And the giver—whether he wishes recordings of Christmas music specifically, or any music at all—barring the totally inapropos—is sure to find what he seeks, the final selections influenced, as they should be, by the personal tastes of the recipient.

Anyway, here are some suggestions of my own, made with due consideration for such matters as quality of interpretation, sound, and the rest:

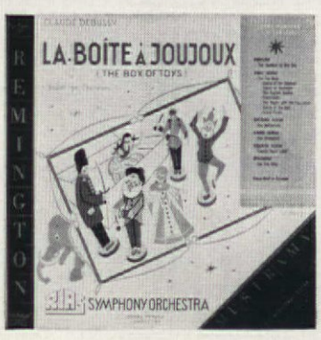
**BERLIOZ:** ***L'Enfance du Christ*** **(*The Childhood of Christ*), Opus 25**
**The Little Orchestra Society, Thomas Scherman, Conductor**
**Mary Davenport, Contralto; Martial Singher, Baritone; Leopold Simoneau, Tenor; Donald Gramm, Bass**
**The Choral Art Society, Williams Jonson, Director**
**COLUMBIA, two 12-inch LPs, SL-199, $11.90**

Perhaps the finest work ever to come from the mercurial pen of Hector Berlioz is this composition for four soloists, chorus and orchestra. We have the story, in three parts, of the Holy Family's escape from Bethlehem and the dread tyrant Herod; their Flight into Egypt; and The Arrival at Sais. The whole work is suffused with melody of the most affecting delicacy for voices and for orchestra as well. Often Berlioz in his instrumental passages attempts miniature tone pictures of the events in the text (which he himself wrote). Everywhere he communicates—in the lines of the soloists and chorus and narrator as well as in the orchestra. The power of this composer to project ideas, moods, atmosphere and dramatic emotion is nothing short of fabulous. And the beauty of the score is all the more remarkable for its over-all serenity; such a serenity in fact, as one acquainted with this composition only a year or two had not expected from the sonorous and often violent sounds of Berlioz.

The conductor of this performance is Thomas Scherman, to whom all praise is due for a fine, understanding approach to a work that is deeply moving and of a fragile loveliness. The excellent soloists are Mary Davenport, Leopold Simoneau, Martial Singher, Donald Gramm. The Choral Art Society, William Jonson, director, furnishes the choral parts splendidly. The whole is a production of the Little Orchestra Society. Thomas Scherman founder and musical director, which created a sensation in New York with their performance of this work some time ago.

**BRITTEN:** ***A Ceremony of Carols***
**The Copenhagen Boys Choir, conducted by Benjamin Britten**
**LONDON, one 10-inch LP, LD 9102, $3.85**

All the sweetness and grace of medieval Christmas songs are present. Selected and sensitively reharmonized by Britten, these pieces are sung with infinite tenderness by the choir, whose master is Morgens Wöldike, though Britten conducts. The accompaniment is with harp, played by Enid Simon, and a more congenial mating between boys' voices and instrumental sounds I can hardly imagine.




**DEBUSSY:** ***La Boite à Joujox*** **(*The Toy Box*)**
**RIAS Symphony Orchestra, Jonel Perlea, conductor**
**REMINGTON, one 12-inch LP, 199-159, $2.99**

To children, Christmas would be as nothing without toys, nor would it mean quite as much as it does to older folks who, of course, give them to the young. Here, then, is a musical toy—in fact, a "box of toys," all brightly packaged, as you can see. For example; we have a kind of tale about toys, their joys, their problems. And across our miniature stage the tiny people and tiny animals cavort. We have, among others, a Doll and a British Soldier and a Harlequin and ("Step this way, folks!") an Elephant. Debussy's music is perfect—he could

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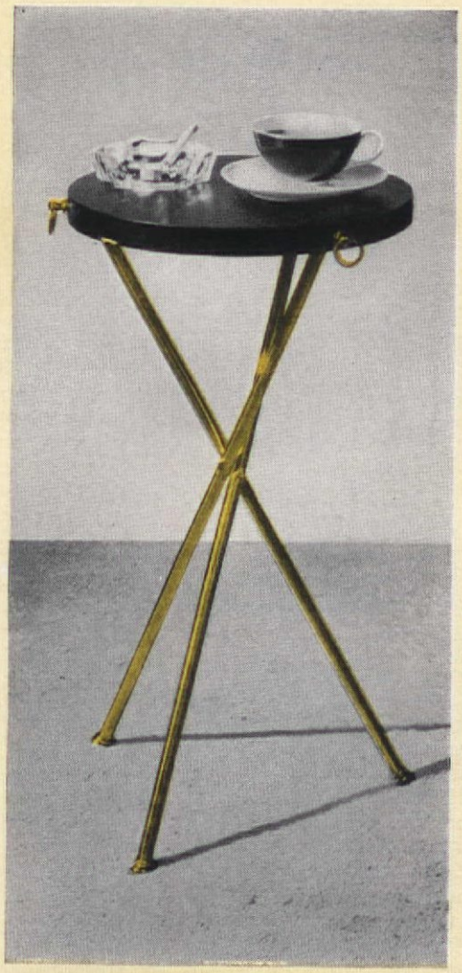
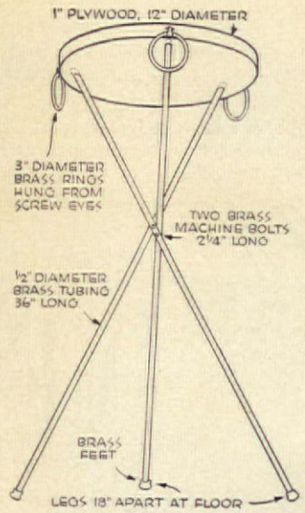
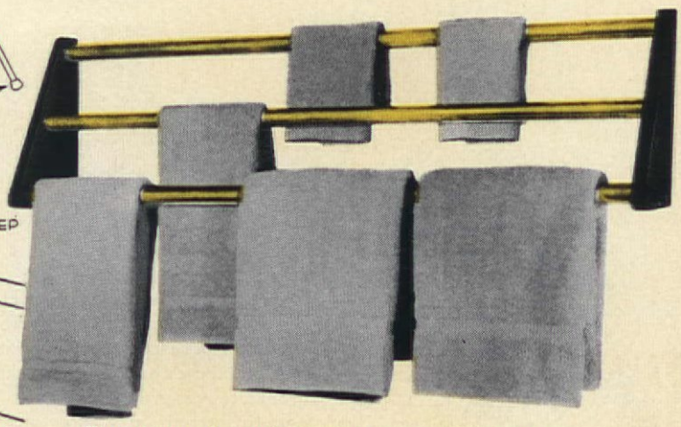
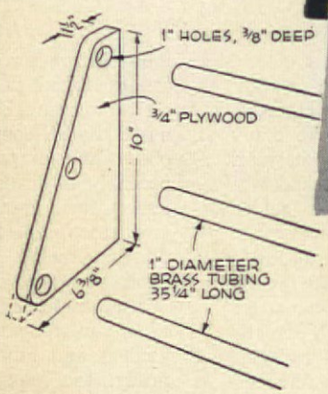





**TRIPOD TABLES** go back to the ancients, but our very modern version is fashioned from standard ½" curtain rods (tubing) and pole ends supporting a wooden top. Brass rings are also from the drapery department, fastened to top with small brass eyes. Such tables as these cost from about $20 to $50 ready made, but you can produce one for about $5. The trick is to drill the three holes for the legs on the underside of the wooden top, and just at the right angle to make the brass legs cross in the middle. A brass nut and machine bolt hold the legs together where they cross. Table in sketch is 36" high; the top, 12" in diameter

**EASY-TO-MAKE RACK** leads a double life, depending on how you hang it. We show it as a more than

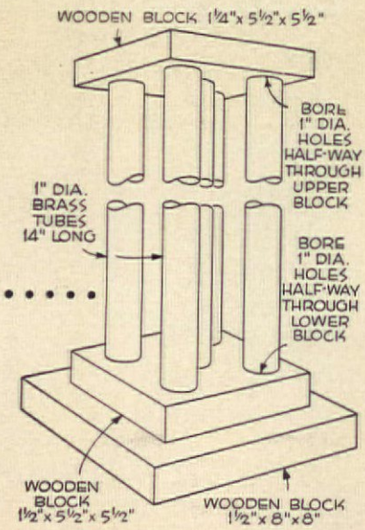





adequate towel rack but turn it another way and you have a hat rack (it could hold magazines as well). Two triangular blocks of wood with rounded corners make the ends; drill holes 1" in diameter half-way through to hold the 1" brass rods. Brass curtain rod in the 1" size (12' long) costs approximately $5.50

# BRIGHT and BRASSY . . . They're Curtain Rods

ROBERT W. HOUSEMAN




HANDSOME LAMP that Pop can make at little expense, and in no time at all if he follows our directions. Cut wood blocks to size (see sketch). Using 1" drill, bore holes half-way through in each of the four corners of the two smaller blocks. Bore center holes half-way through with 1" drill, then continue drilling center holes clear through with ¼" drill. This allows lamp base fitting to pass through wood blocks. Drill ¼" hole in center of large wood block. Attach this to small block with screws. Insert five lengths of brass rods (each one 14" long) into the 1" holes in the bottom and top wood blocks. Lamp base fitting goes through center rod and wood blocks, is secured top and bottom with nut and threads of the fitting. Stain or paint wood, use 12" deep shade to make the lamp approximately 30" high.

# Let's Go Shopping for EVERGREENS

QUAINTANCE LEITH

The old Scotman's good advice to his son was, "Plant a tree, Jock; it will gie ye pleasure while ye live, an' be growin' when ye're gone." To which I add, plant a lot of evergreens, of different kinds, for they are hardy, long lived, serve many purposes, and beautify garden and landscape throughout the year, providing a panorama of colors ranging through many shades of green to bluish, purple, bronze, silver-gray, and warm golden tints. I have seen silvery new tip growth on spruces and scarlet buds on Douglas-firs to equal in beauty that of spring shrubs.

But even the familiar term "evergreens" needs defining. It means, of course, plants that, in climates where other trees are deciduous, stay green the year around, even though actually shedding their old leaves all the time, as the floor of any pine forest proves. Many of the best known and most useful evergreens are narrow- or needle-leaved, and cone-bearing (coniferous). But one cone-bearer—larch—is deciduous; and juniper and yew, though narrow-leaved, bear, not cones, but berrylike fruits. The so-called broad-leaved evergreens—rhododendrons and their kin—are such a big, important group that we are not even including them in this discussion.

To select from the dozen leaders listed in the accompanying table—or, rather, from their hundreds of species, varieties, and strains found in nurseries and catalogues—you should know their rates and habits of growth, and the other characteristics noted, for all contribute to or detract from their fitness for the places and purposes you have in mind for them. You will probably buy small plants to enjoy during the first quarter or less of their normal lives; but you must realize that some will grow to forest height unless controlled by regular, perhaps drastic, pruning. Others are so slow-growing or of such dwarf habit that they may not get out of bounds in your lifetime. Discuss these matters with your nurseryman; keep them in mind when you study attractive home plantings or material in botanic gardens and arboretums (which you should visit frequently). Study, too, details of form—whether slim and pillarlike or conical; graceful and feathery or stiff and angular; upright or drooping; loose and open or dense and compact; rising in vase form, cascading in billowy masses, tightly globose, or spreading in gentle undulations. The large, medium, and small size categories are only general guides as to what a mature plant may become; they must be considered in relation to both form and the conditions under which the plants will grow. Yews, hem-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 88

**EVERGREENS FOR GARDENS. KEY—SIZE: L (arge, 50' up); M (edium, 8-25'); S (mall, under 8'). FORM: T (reelike); C (onical); N (arrow column); B (ushy); S (preading); G (lobular); P (rostrate). COLOR: D (ark green); L (ighter); G (rayish); B (luish); Y (ellow). FOLIAGE: N (eedles); S (cales). FRUIT: C (one); B (errylike). USE: B (ackground); S (pecimen); H (edge, windbreak); F (oundation planting); R (ock garden); T (ubbed).**

| NAME | SIZE Mature | FORM | COLOR | LEAVES | FRUIT | USES | NOTES |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ARBORVITAE (Thuja) | L M S | T C N B G | D L Y | S waxy | C (small) | S H F R T | Hardy, slow-growing, likes moist site; foliage flat, fragrant, dense |
| CEDAR, TRUE (Cedrus) | L M | T C | D L B | N to 2" | C to 5" | B S | Four handsome, half-hardy exotic species; graceful; cones held erect |
| CRYPTOMERIA (C. japonica) | L M | T C-N | D | N to 1" | C to 1" | B S H | Half-hardy; stately; tufted foliage browns in fall; fine along drives |
| DOUGLAS-FIR (Pseudotsuga) | L | T C | D B | N | C (hang) | B S H | Hardy; branches droop, dense foliage; fine ornamental and Christmas tree |
| FALSE-CYPRESS (Chamaecyparis) | L | C | D B G Y | S | C to ½" | B S H F | Many useful forms (one "white-cedar"); young forms called Retinispora (below) |
| FIR (Abies) | L | C | D L B | N flat | C erect | B S H | Hardy; stiff branches; bristly needles on falling leave twigs smooth |
| HEMLOCK (Tsuga) | L | C-T | D | N to ½" | C to 3" | B S H | Hardy; graceful, drooping; likes part shade; stands hard shearing |
| JUNIPER (Juniperus) | M S | N S P | D L B G Y | N-S | B (blue) | B S H F R G T | Many hardy forms; easily grown; young growth is needled, later scaly |
| PINE (Pinus) | L M S | T C S G | D L | N 2-6" | C | B S H F R T | Many hardy, easy-to-grow kinds; light-loving; stands drought well |
| RETINISPORA (Two genera) | S | C B G | D L Y | N-S | — | S H F R T | Young plants of false-cypress and arborvitae; good landscape material |
| SPRUCE (Picea) | L | T C | D B | N 4-sided | C (hang) | B S H | Hardy, shade-tolerant; stiff needles leave twigs rough; easily grown |
| YEW (Taxus) | M S | T N S B | D | N flat | B (red) | B S H F | Many useful forms; hardy, slow-growing, dense; shears well |

TABLE BY E. L. D. SEYMOUR

"DEAR MRS. AUSTIN:

"Would you be interested in the story of the transformation of a plain house into a very attractive house? I enclose pictures to illustrate. Mrs. Robertson has been taking your magazine for years, and because of her interest in antiques, I have become a loyal reader too. Further, I finally got bitten by the antique bug, and you can see the result in the photographs of things produced in our home workshop. I think it honest to say that we both received much inspiration from your many articles on the accomplishments of husband and wife teams.

"I have been in the printing and advertising business all my life, so when we set out to make over this house, I determined to keep a pictorial record and send it to you. Mrs. Robertson ridiculed my idea that you might publish it, but I managed to get it photographed without her knowledge (except for some shots she thinks were made for a paint company). I fear I have done some plain and fancy fibbing to cover up visits from the photographer, and we were nearly caught in the act several times.

"Mrs. Robertson and I did everything ourselves, not because of the economic factor, but because we wanted to create our home with our own hands. It would be impossible to find words to express our pride, our soul-satisfying sense of accomplishment in what we have created. We have no children, just a Scotty named Heather, so perhaps that gave us more time than would ordinarily be the case.

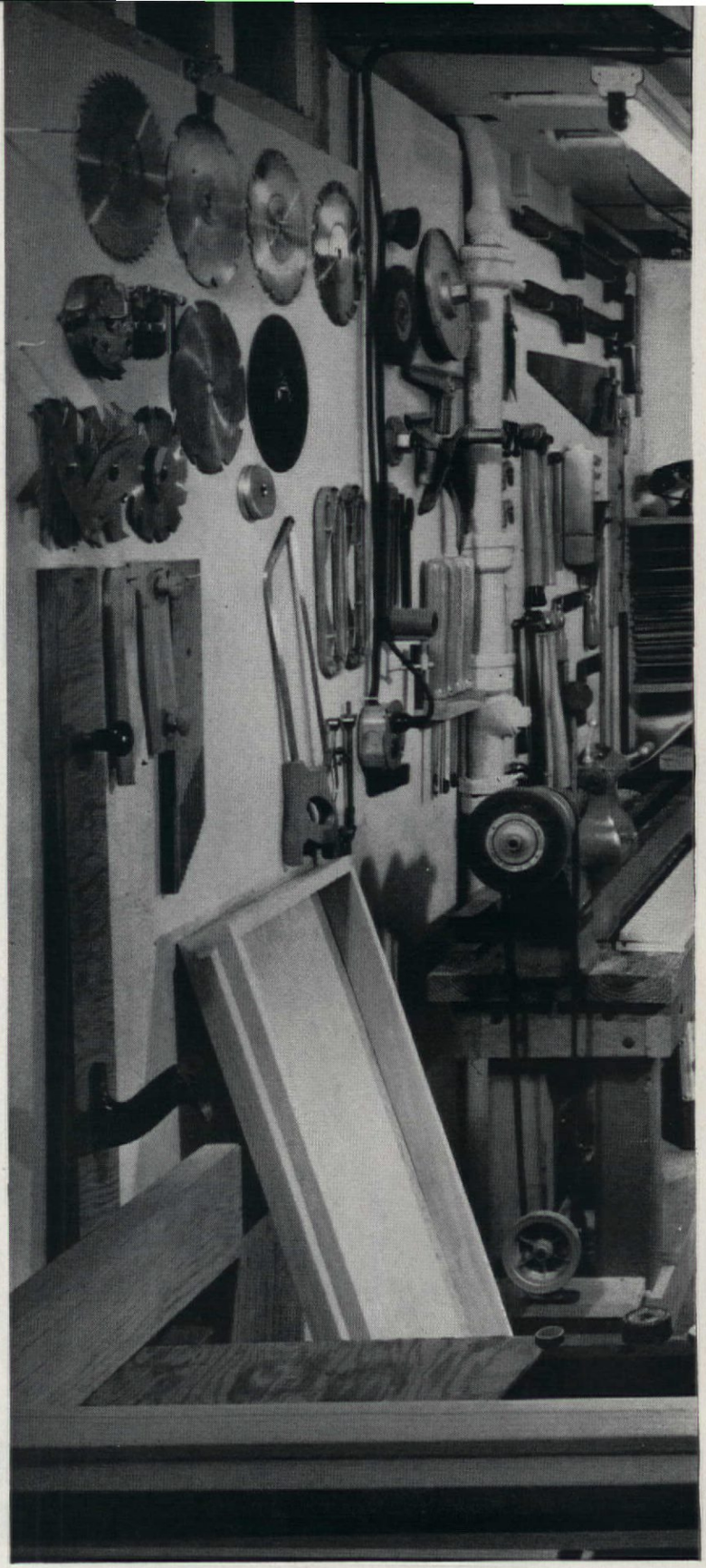
"I would appreciate hearing from you—and in the interests of my furtive efforts, please address me at my office rather than at home.

Sincerely yours,

H. LODGE ROBERTSON"

Mr. Robertson's efforts, both furtive and otherwise, did indeed make a whale of a story (see next five pages), and because it is packed with so much inspiration for so many, it gives us great joy to publish it now, as a sort of Christmas present from a man to his wife—and to all of our readers. To supplement the original pictures, we sent our own photographer out to the Robertson home in Wichita, and asked Mr. R. to round out his story. Here it is:

"When we bought the house in 1951, it was just an ordinary cottage. But it was soundly built, about ten years old, and well arranged. In addition to all the rooms we needed, there was a large utility room we could turn into a shop—I had always wanted to have a complete home workshop because we are both pretty adept at using our hands and heads, though we had been apartment dwellers all our married life, and so had been limited.



MR. ROBERTSON'S POWER HOUSE (in the former utility room) is equipped to the hilt with power and hand tools which enabled him to remodel his home, and to build and refinish his furniture. It has its own washroom with shower, and is located next to the basement recreation room where "future projects" are kept. "Needless to say," Mr. R. tells us, "it is always way ahead of us." Chest at left is one of two made from an old vanity. Mr. Robertson lined the drawers with Pacific Cloth and installed holders for Mrs. Robertson's sterling

# Mr. Robertson's Power House

"I think that, subconsciously, we both wanted to do everything possible ourselves—repaint the exterior, redecorate the interior, refinish our furniture and build new furniture. We could have had it done by painters, interior decorators, carpenters, etc., but we certainly would not have had the feeling of accomplishment we now have.

"We worked on the exterior first. We had traveled rather widely throughout the Southwest and had fallen in love with the colors used in Dallas, so we decided on Lambert Green Light, for the body of the house, Lambert Green Dark for the trim, and Dusty Pink for accent color. I painted the house, Mrs. Robertson did the windows and screens (the 'frosted' roof was done by a professional). I made the scrolls around the porch, built the cupola, and did the brickwork.

"Inside, Mrs. Robertson wanted to furnish in Early American—more or less primitive. She had been collecting antiques for a few years and had inherited some Onion Pattern china to which she was adding. We did the living room twice—didn't like our first color scheme as it was too cold. I built the bookcase in the living room. Mrs. Robertson made all the braided rugs and curtains (the largest rug took her 240 hours!). Our 'antiques' have been gathered up, or reclaimed, from about ten states, but some pieces, such as the chest in the bedroom, I made in my shop (following the methods of early craftsmen).

"I should add that Wichita is unusual in that people here are so conservative with their homes. We certainly introduced a new note here, and have been widely copied. Our home has attracted a good deal of attention in other ways, too. The Chamber of Commerce used it in a folder, the Wichita Art Association put in on their House and Garden Tour, and the city forester and seed houses send people out to look at our lawn and planting to see what can be done by scientific lawn care, for this is a difficult area if you want a good lawn. Altogether, we are quite proud of our handiwork."

FOR THE ROBERTSONS' HOUSE, SEE THE NEXT FOUR PAGES

# Their Home Is Their Hobby

**"We did everything ourselves, not because of the economic factor, but because we wanted to create our home with our own hands. It would be impossible to express our satisfying sense of accomplishment in what we have created"**

**WE HAVE PATTERNS FOR THE MEISSEN ONION MOTIF**
Whether or not you're a collector of Onion china, its crisp blue and white freshness painted on small objects can bring a smile to many a spot in your home. We've made patterns for painting it on a table cloth, mirror frame, door knobs, window blind, and variety of engaging small white enameled objects. (See Order Form, page 93)

**MR. ROBERTSON'S WOODWORK, MRS. R.'S RUGS AND ONION PATTERN**
Bookcases were turned out in the "power house," and one section was designed to frame a Meissen Onion tureen, part of the collection Mrs. Robertson used as the theme song of the dining room above (she "borrowed" the motif to decorate small accessories throughout the house). Mrs. R. braided all the rugs, and together they refinished the chairs and made attractive tables from an old iron stove, a stout meat block, and antique spool cabinets

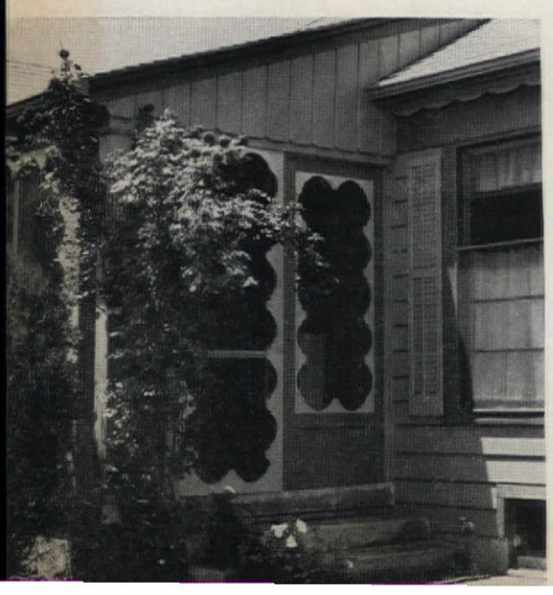
MORE INTERIORS ON PAGE 83 ● TO SEE THE EXTERIOR OF THIS HOME, TURN THE PAGE

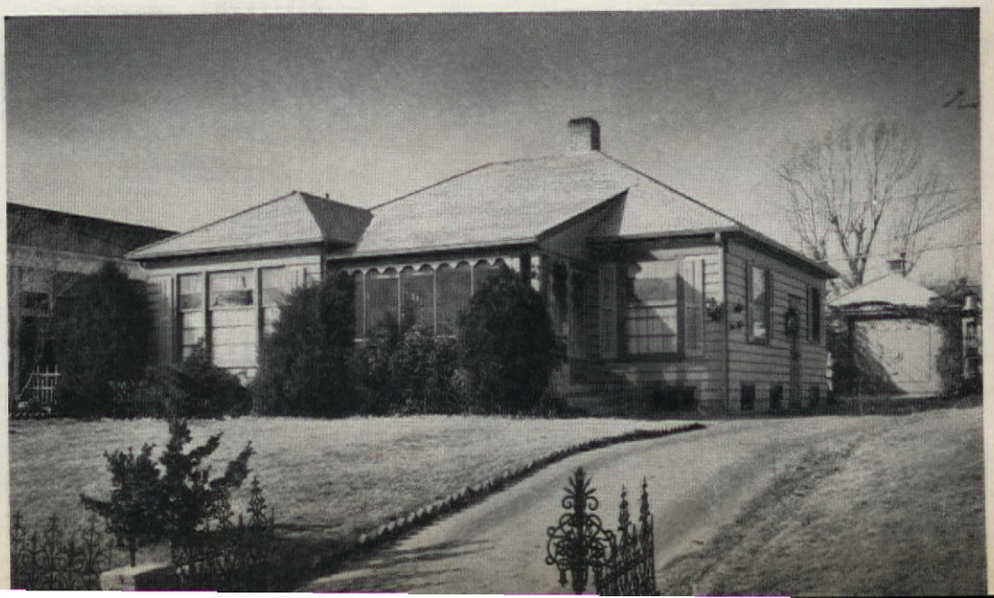
# Their Home Is Their Hobby

(Begins on page 46)

The Robertsons' imagination, as well as their skills, is what gives their home distinction. Scalloped trim on the screened porch was made by Mr. Robertson who designed it by adapting a motif he found on an antique New England corner cupboard. Mr. Robertson reports that it has been widely copied, and that one woman even sent her contractor over to borrow his pattern so it could be duplicated exactly. Ingenious furniture on the porch includes a table made from an old iron stove front—its legs fold up like a card table's

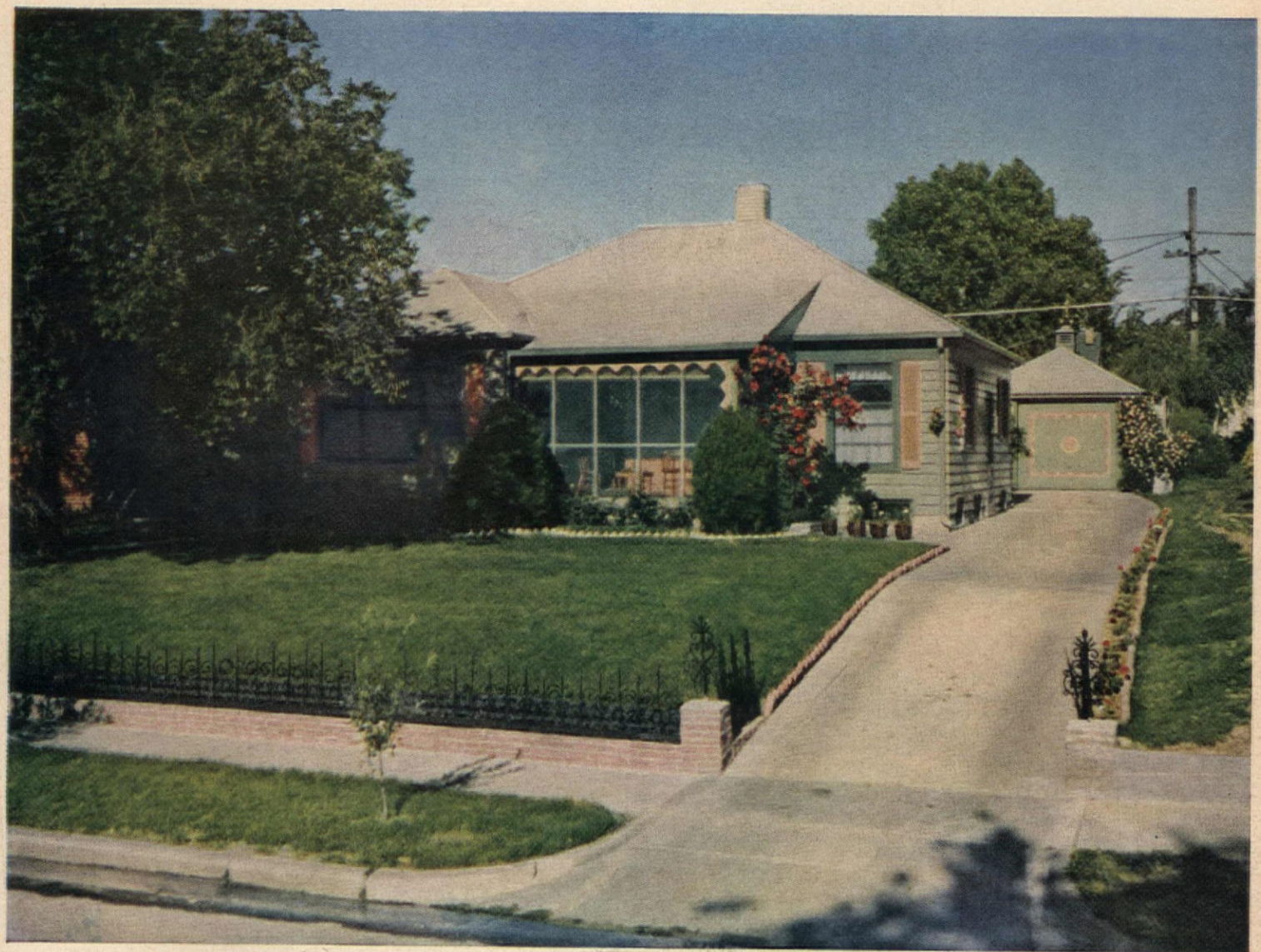
There's nothing of the "afterthought" look about this garage. Scalloped trim matches that used on the screened-in front porch, and center plaque gives great emphasis. Mr. Robertson built the cupola, and topped it with a gold-leafed weather vane from New England. Decorative iron fencing under the bell matches the front fence. The Robertsons found it on an old building in eastern Kansas, but it required three months of negotiations to convince the farmer who owned it to sell it to the Robertsons and allow it to be removed





*1st. STAGE:* The house as the Robertsons bought it, in June, 1950. "Just an ordinary cottage, 10 years old—in the $15,000 price range where the average city dweller lives." It was soundly built, well arranged inside—and very dull. The grounds had no distinction either, and even so early in the season, the lawn looked burned-out and poorly, for really good lawns require exceptional effort in these parts

*2nd. STAGE:* Mr. Robertson had repainted the house in a bold color scheme, had made and installed scalloped trim around the porch, made the cupola for the garage. Mrs. Robertson had done the windows and screens. Lacy iron fence, which frames the grounds, sets the place apart. Mr. Robertson did all the brickwork and installed the fence. Notice that lawn has already begun to flourish



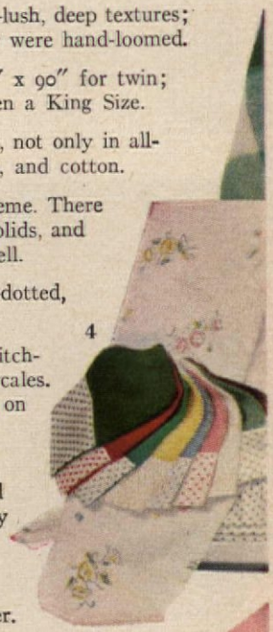
*3rd. STAGE:* With the addition of shutters, garage trim, and more planting, Operation Exterior is complete—at least for the moment. When the Robertsons go traveling, they always bring something home. Their color scheme, for example, was one they saw and loved in Dallas, Texas—so they imported it to Wichita. The shutters were collected in several states, and fence was also an "import". Lawn and flowers and shrubbery are so luxuriant that the city forester and seedmen send people out to study the Robertson's methods. Are the Robertsons proud of their work? Just ask them!

# And to All – A Good

GERTRUDE BROOKS DIXSON

Never before has Santa's pack held more practical enchantment, for to bring you dream stuff as fabulous as this, Santa once had to buy handmade imports, limited in variety, and priced for maharanees —but the bed linens and blankets shown here are now easy to find in stores the country over, at little more than the cost of the Plain-Jane blankets and linens.

- There's news in blanket weaves—lush, deep textures; luxurious blankets you would swear were hand-loomed.
- Blankets come in new sizes—65″ x 90″ for twin; 80″ x 90″ for doubles. There's even a King Size.
- There are weights for all seasons, not only in all-wool, but in blends of rayon, wool, and cotton.
- Blankets cater to your color scheme. There are more high-style shades in the solids, and you will find plenty of pattern as well.
- Bindings are gay as Christmas—dotted, striped, some luscious nylon velvet.
- Bed linens have gone in for bewitchment, sturdy muslins as well as percales. Lovely new borders on sheets and on pillowcases companion the news-making blankets most effectively.
- Very new: all-over prints on bed linens—some subtle, some decidedly bold; a number on sheets that are handsome enough, and also large enough (90″ x 108″) to be used as proud bedspreads, summer or winter.
- All this colorful printing on bed linens is perfectly safe in your own washing machine.
- To simplify giving, many linens come in prettily packaged sets: one sheet, two pillowcases. Others are sold individually.



**1.** Inspired colorings, borrowed from famous paintings, give added excitement to a new bouclé weave. Kenwood's "Astra-Ken" all-wool blanket bound in nylon velvet ($50). Dan River's percale sheet and cases bordered with "Tic-Tac-Toe" pattern will partner it perfectly ($10.50, set).

**2.** Santa chose these for his own bed, too: blanket, North Star's all-wool "Oriole" looks as if it came from a craftsman's hand loom ($16.95, twin; $19.95, double). Sheet, Dan River's percale, printed all over with sweet, nostalgic "Sampler Rose" (sheet, $9.79; cases, $3.49 pr.).

**3.** Two colors for one with Chatham's "Purrey Reversible" rayon and wool blanket ($10.95). With it, Dan River's muslins, "Floribunda" border ($6.50, set).

**4.** Polka-dot border raises the already high spirits of St. Marys' all-wool "Reverie" blankets ($18.95, twin; $20.95, double). In keeping, Fieldcrest's percales which are printed all over with "Morning Glory" ($9.98, set).

**5.** "Festival" blanket by Fieldcrest is a fleecy blend of rayon, wool, and cotton, bordered in stripes ($9.95). For pattern, add Bates' "Rosebud and Polka Dots," a small-scale, all-over print on silky percale ($14.95, set).

# Night

ALL PRICES ARE APPROXIMATE

9

8

FOR ADDITIONAL DATA ON MERCHANDISE SHOWN, SEE "WHERE CREDIT IS DUE," PAGE 92

7

6

10

**6.** Chatham's "McAlister" all-wool plaid blanket, which looks so lively here, is pleasingly subdued in its other colorings ($15.95). A gentle echo of its tones, Dan River's white percales with a simple border of "Sampler Rose" ($10.50, set).

**7.** "Spinning Wheel," an all-wool striped blanket by St. Marys, has a very hand-loomed look (twin size only, $22.50). Perfect foil for it. "Cartwheel," an assertive all-over print on percale by Dan River (sheet, $9.79; cases, $3.49, pr.).

**8.** Acres of diamonds: Fieldcrest's "Mar-Ray" blanket, a blend of wool, rayon, and cotton ($6.95). Dan River's percales with white border embroidered in "Kimberly Diamond" characterize a new way with color. ($10.95, set).

**9.** Strewn with roses (hand-screened and washable) is this lightweight, all-wool blanket, "Floral Nocturne" by North Star ($22.95, twin; $25, double). In the very same mood, Dan River's yellow muslins bordered in "Shadow Check" ($6.95, set).

**10.** Looking to spring, North Star's lightweight, all-wool "Maypole Nocturne" with its gay, imaginative striped border, takes on different character with each coloring ($15.95, twin; $17.95, double; $25, king size, four sides bound). Under—or over—it, Dan River's spread-size percale "Sunburst" (sheet, $9.79; cases, $3.49, pr.).

# Good Victuals

JEAN AUSTIN

CONFIT JOYEUX

This month of months, the month of Christmas, it gives me great pleasure to present victuals that are not only good, but as traditional and international as is Christmas itself. The confections and the Pommes Bonne Femme, from the French; the antipasto, Italian; the pocketed rib roast, from Mrs. Price who lives in Texas; the plum dumplings of English origin; the Hazel Nut Torte from Vienna in its good old days and the Venir Tierta, an old family recipe of the Icelandic in-laws of Mrs. Peterson, who lives in Oregon, U.S.A. Now isn't this a very fine beginning for Christmas cooking? I think so, and if any single recipe I have given you finds a permanent niche in your recipe file, I shall feel happy indeed to have contributed to your Christmas traditions. Way back when—and you know how long ago *that* was—one could, and did, buy fine candy. So much else there was to do at Christmastime, we gave up the old-time custom of homemade candy. Now whether it was sugar rationing or the fashion of dieting, or both, that discouraged the making and selling of exquisite candy and sweets, the fact remains that it is almost impossible to buy today—and if available, exorbitantly priced. Why not, this Christmas, keep a bowl of homemade sweets at hand, for family munching or holiday callers? Excitement and rushing about puts butterflies in the tummy anyway—and those so dull as to adhere to a diet at Christmastime—fie on them, and pass the Confit Joyeux! I've tried to make the selection very special, and well worth taking time for this busy, busy month ahead. Superb gifts, too, for sophisticated friends who "have everything." Tell me, isn't Angelo's Antipasto jolly looking? For visiting snackers, a holiday buffet, or Christmas Eve supper when everybody but the house cat

ANGELO'S SPECIAL

PLUM ROSIES

MRS. PRICE'S
POCKETED RIB PORK ROAST

ONIONS AND POTATOES GRATINÉE

VENIR TIERTA

HAZELNUT TORTE FESTIVE FROSTING

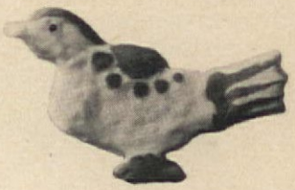
is too busy to sit down to eat a hot meal, here's the perfect answer. Angelo's is, in my opinion, the best of all good Italian restaurants in this city of knowing Italian cuisine, and I am flattered and vastly pleased, too, that the maestro himself prepared and gave his know-how to me and to my Good Victuals friends. A very nice Christmas card it is, this recipe card from Angelo—to you and me. Angelo's Special is a gay medley of lily-shaped ham rolls with black olive hearts; stuffed mushroom caps, artichoke hearts and pickled peppers; pimientoes topped with strips of anchovies; eggplant cooked with tomatoes and a bit of onion; radishes wearing their own plumes; red, juicy slices of tomatoes with tuna, alternated with slices of pastrami and "tired" cheese; little cloves of garlic in the center, lightly bruised to give off their lovely aroma. You can add or subtract, as you can in all antipasto and its first cousins, hor's d'oeuvres

CONTINUED ON PAGE 76

RECIPES ON PAGES 60, 62

See "Where Credit Is Due," page 92

Think they're beyond your talents? Not with the aid of our patterns! They're authentic Pennsylvania Dutch—and "wonderful good"

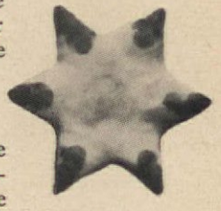


# Belsnickel Cookies

DOROTHY LAMBERT TRUMM

What's Belsnickel? Well, first you must understand what Christmas means to the Pennsylvania Dutch, for no people on earth make more of Christmas decorations, Christmas cooking, and Christmas visiting forth and back. The Christmas tree as we know it, and Santa in his American guise, both probably came to us from this region. But long, long ago, jolly Santa had a shadowy *alter ego* called Belsnickel ("St. Nicholas in furs" is what the word means), a Santa in reverse who came around just before Christmas to give naughty children their comeuppance. Belsnickel still comes a-calling, but he has lost his ominous mien and become a kind of blood brother to the Halloween Trick and Treaters. Youngsters offer him fruit and cookies—Christmas cookies, baked only at Christmastide. You never saw such cookies, or so many, for it is not unusual for a housewife to fill a 50-pound tin with these goodies—some fanciful in shape for reasons of symbolism, or just "for pretty."

Among them all, the children's favorites are those we show here, the colored dolls, and animals, and stars that date back to pagan times in Germany—real wonder cookies to hang on trees or to give as small presents. To make ours, Mrs. Adele Hostetter Hershey of Hamburg, Pennsylvania, and her daughter, Mrs. Ruth Hershey Irion, used antique cookie cutters of a type handed down from mother to daughter (and now rapidly snapped up by collectors—may they put them to their intended use at Christmas!).



To wish a merry Christmas to you and yours, we translated these delightful figures and fancies into a pattern that includes 15 full-size line drawings for you to trace on cardboard and then use as "cutters." We also include the recipe for the gingerbread cookies themselves, and a color key for the sugar frosting. To get your pattern, fill in coupon below. Pattern **1579**, 30¢

## SEND FOR OUR CHRISTMAS COOKIE PATTERNS

**To order the figures and fancies above, and the beautiful crèche shown on page 29: Kindly enclose check or M.O. (no stamps please). Add 15¢ per pattern if air mail delivery is desired.**

Send to American Home Pattern Department,
P.O. Box 153, Forest Hills, New York.

☐ **1578—30¢** . . . Nativity figures with stable.

☐ **1579—30¢** . . . 15 Penna. Dutch cookie designs.

NAME _____

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Please print clearly

# New Casseroles *from* Campbell's

## SO QUICK—SO NUTRITIOUS—SO SIMPLY DELICIOUS!

*By* Anne Marshall
Director, Home Economics, Campbell Soup Company

Any good cook knows a casserole's the simple, satisfying answer when there's a meal to plan in a hurry.

But have *you* discovered how quickly you can make your favorite casserole with Campbell's Soup?

Cream of Celery, Cream of Mushroom, Tomato, Cream of Chicken—they're all fine in casseroles. Just open a can of meat, chicken or fish (or use leftovers), add a vegetable or two, and a can of Campbell's Soup. Bake about 25 minutes in a moderate oven. Then watch that casserole disappear when you put it on the table!

Try the four favorite recipes we're giving you—or make up your own. Any casserole is a better casserole . . . when it's made with Campbell's Soup.

### PERFECT TUNA CASSEROLE

In 1-quart casserole combine 1 can Campbell's Cream of Mushroom Soup with ½ cup milk, 1 cup drained, flaked tuna (7-oz. can), 1 cup drained cooked green peas and 1 cup crushed potato chips. Garnish top with potato chips. Bake in moderate oven (375°F.) for 25 minutes. 4 servings.

### SHRIMP 'N' RICE BAKE

In a 1-quart casserole combine 1 can of Campbell's Cream of Celery Soup with ½ cup milk, 1½ cups cooked rice (½ cup uncooked) 1 cup cooked shrimp, ¼ cup slivered, toasted almonds and 2 tablespoons minced parsley. Bake in moderate oven (375°F.) 25 minutes. 4 generous servings.

### TOMATO LIMA BAKE

Fry 4 slices bacon. Brown one large onion, chopped, in bacon drippings. Combine bacon and onion with 1 can Campbell's Tomato Soup and 4 cups drained cooked lima beans. Put in 1½-quart casserole. Sprinkle with buttered crumbs. Bake in moderate oven (375°F.) for 30 minutes. 6 servings.

### HAM 'N' NOODLES

In a 1½-quart casserole combine 1 can of Campbell's Cream of Chicken Soup with ½ cup milk, 2 cups drained cooked noodles, 1 cup diced cooked ham and ¼ cup sliced ripe olives. Bake in moderate oven (375°F.) 25 minutes. Garnish with green pepper or pimiento strips. 4 generous servings.

# Crisco ends pie crust failure

*Yes! You get flaky, tender pastry every time!*

**No worry about over-moistening!**
That's right—pure, all-vegetable Crisco ends all guesswork about water. Because of the way Crisco is made, we can tell you *exactly* how much to use. Crisco is *specially made* to mix with water.

**No worry about over-handling!**
Just change to Crisco and Crisco's pastry method and you can re-shape and re-roll your pie dough without fear. Yes, even two or three times! Wonderful Crisco acts to keep pie crust light and flaky.

**And no wonder.** After all, shortening is the most important ingredient in flaky pie crust. And pure, creamy Crisco is the finest, all-vegetable shortening money can buy! Use it—for flaky, tender pie crust *every* single time!

### CRISCO'S CARD PARTY CHOCOLATE PIE

**( Makes one 9" pie )**

If you want the easiest way ever to mouth-melting pie crust, be sure to use the pastry recipe you'll find on Crisco's wonderful "Recipe Roundup" label. Follow the double crust recipe or double the single crust recipe for perfect pastry every time.

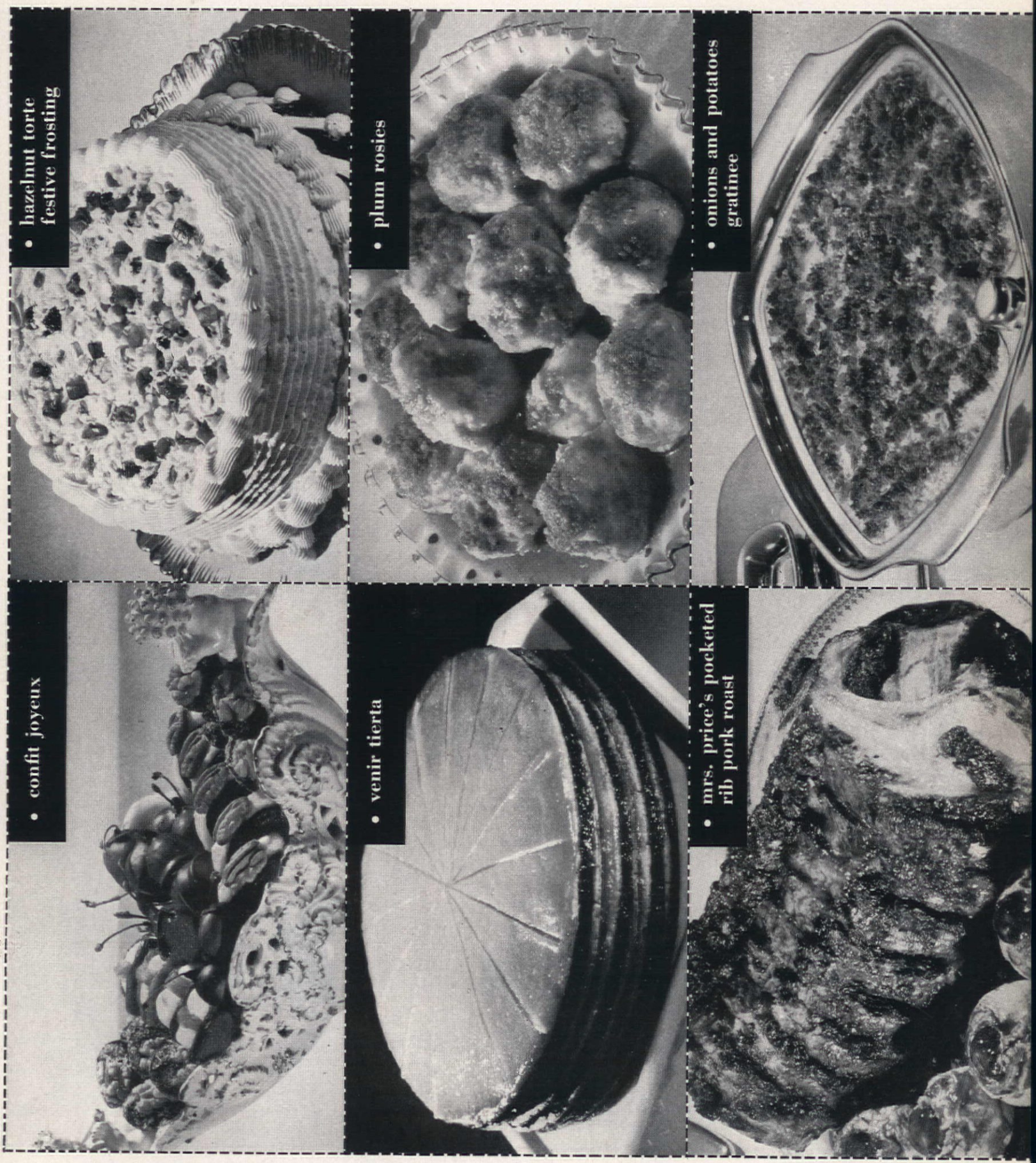
**CHOCOLATE FILLING:** Use your favorite chocolate pudding or pie filling mix. For a generous thick filling use two packages.

**SPECIAL TWIST:** Make pastry cut-outs, using "bridge set" cookie cutters. Bake separately and place on pie before serving.

BAKE AND FRY WITH **Crisco** IT'S DIGESTIBLE!

# American Home Recipes

(Good Victuals, pictured in color on page 54)



## • mrs. price's pocketed rib pork roast

1 7-rib pork roast
2 14 oz. jars mince meat
1 cup raisins
2 tbs. Cognac
Cider

Have your butcher chop nearly all the way through the spine bones of a seven-rib pork roast to make thick chops, but do not separate from the backbone. Cut pockets in the chops. Strain *all* liquid from mincemeat, add raisins, and lace with Cognac. Fill pockets, packing very firmly. Tie twice, lengthwise. Do a small ridge of mincemeat across top—about 1 inch wide. Save balance of mincemeat, add to pan drippings, and thin with cider. Use this to baste roast when it is nearly done. One good-sized chop is about all you'll want, as this is very rich. It's even better next day warmed up.

Recipe by Mrs. Walter A. Price

## • onions and potatoes gratinee

Peel and cut into thick slices 6 medium onions, and cook. Boil and slice 6 potatoes. Alternate potatoes and onions in a buttered baking dish. Pour 1 cup medium white sauce over potatoes and onions. Add ½ cup grated parmesan cheese, salt and pepper, and sprinkle with buttered bread crumbs. Bake in 350° F. oven for 15 min.

***Serves 6***

Recipe by Jean Austin

## • venir tierta

Cream 1 cup sugar
1 scant cup butter
Add 3 eggs, one at a time, beating after each addition
1 tsp. vanilla
4 cups flour
3 tsp. baking powder
½ tsp. salt

Divide dough into seven equal parts. Chill. Roll one part into a 9-inch circle, using additional flour for rolling, and place on greased cookie sheet. Bake in 425° F. oven for 10 min., until lightly browned. Lift from cookie sheet and place on dish towel. Repeat with remaining six parts.

FILLING: Cook 1 lb. dried prunes with ¼ cup sugar. Drain. Pit and then grind. Add ½ tsp. nutmeg.

Cook 2 lbs. dried apricots with ¾ cup sugar. Drain. Grind about half of mixture. Save balance for top glaze.

Spread bottom layer with ⅓ apricot mixture; second layer with ⅓ prune mixture. Repeat for four remaining layers, leaving top layer for glazing.

GLAZE: Strain balance of apricots through fine sieve. Spread on top layer. Wrap in foil or wax paper and place in refrigerator for at least two weeks. When serving, slice very thin.

***Serves 16***

Recipe by Mrs. Lee Peterson

## • plum rosies

6 medium-sized potatoes
1 cup flour
6 tbs. butter
2 tbs. bread crumbs
1 tbs. sugar
1 egg
1 tbs. salt
16 canned plums

Cook potatoes, put through ricer, and beat in the egg, salt and flour. Let dough stand about 10 min., then make it into a roll, and put it in refrigerator for 1 hr. Meanwhile, stone plums, and put one small lump of sugar inside each plum. Cut a piece of dough off roll and flatten it out with hands, adding more flour if necessary. Put a plum in the middle, and wrap dough around it, rolling it between palms of hands to make it round. Have ready in frying pan melted butter, mixed with bread crumbs and sugar. When all the plums are prepared, drop them in a large saucepan of boiling water. Keep them boiling fast for 10 min. Lift them out with a strainer spoon, drain, and then roll them around for a minute in the crumb mixture, until they are well-coated. Serve very hot with an extra supply of the crumb mixture, or with sauce made as follows:

1½ cup juice from can, 2 tsp. cornstarch, 1 tsp. vanilla, 2 tbs. lemon juice. Let come to a boil and cool.

***Serves 6 to 8 people***

Recipe by Jean Austin

## • confit joyeux

Pitted dates stuffed with walnuts rolled in sugar
Large pitted prunes filled with fondant and decorated with a strip of apricot or pecan nut
Chocolate covered cherries:

Drain the juice from a jar of stemmed maraschino cherries without removing the cherries. Fill the jar with brandy, or a sweet cordial, and replace the cover. Let stand for 24 hours or longer at room temperature. When cherries are marinated, drain, and remove cherries from the jar. Be careful not to break the stems. Melt semi-sweet dipping chocolate (for candy making) over hot, but not boiling, water. Dip the cherries, one by one, in *luke warm* chocolate, coating each thoroughly and sealing around the stem. Place on wax paper to harden. Dip again if coating is too thin.

Recipe by Jean Austin

## • hazelnut torte festive frosting

Beat: 4 egg yolks
½ cup sugar
until thick and lemon-colored

Fold in: ⅔ cup ground roasted hazelnuts (packed tightly)
2 tbs. rum
1¾ cups mashed potatoes (packed lightly)
1 tbs. vanilla

Fold in: 4 egg whites, stiffly beaten

Pour into 8-inch spring mold buttered and sprinkled with finely crushed hazelnuts. Bake for 1 hr. at 325° F., or until cake leaves sides of pan. (We made the recipe twice and baked one 9-inch and one 8-inch torte.)

FESTIVE FROSTING

Beat 4 tbs. of butter until creamy. Stir in 1 egg yolk. Add 1 cup confectioners' sugar, a little at a time, beating until light and fluffy. Flavor with ½ tsp. vanilla. Divide the frosting in half. Fold in contents of one small jar (1 cup) mixed chopped candied fruits and ½ cup chopped nuts. Use remainder for decorating with pastry tube.

Recipe by Jean Austin

# American Home Recipes

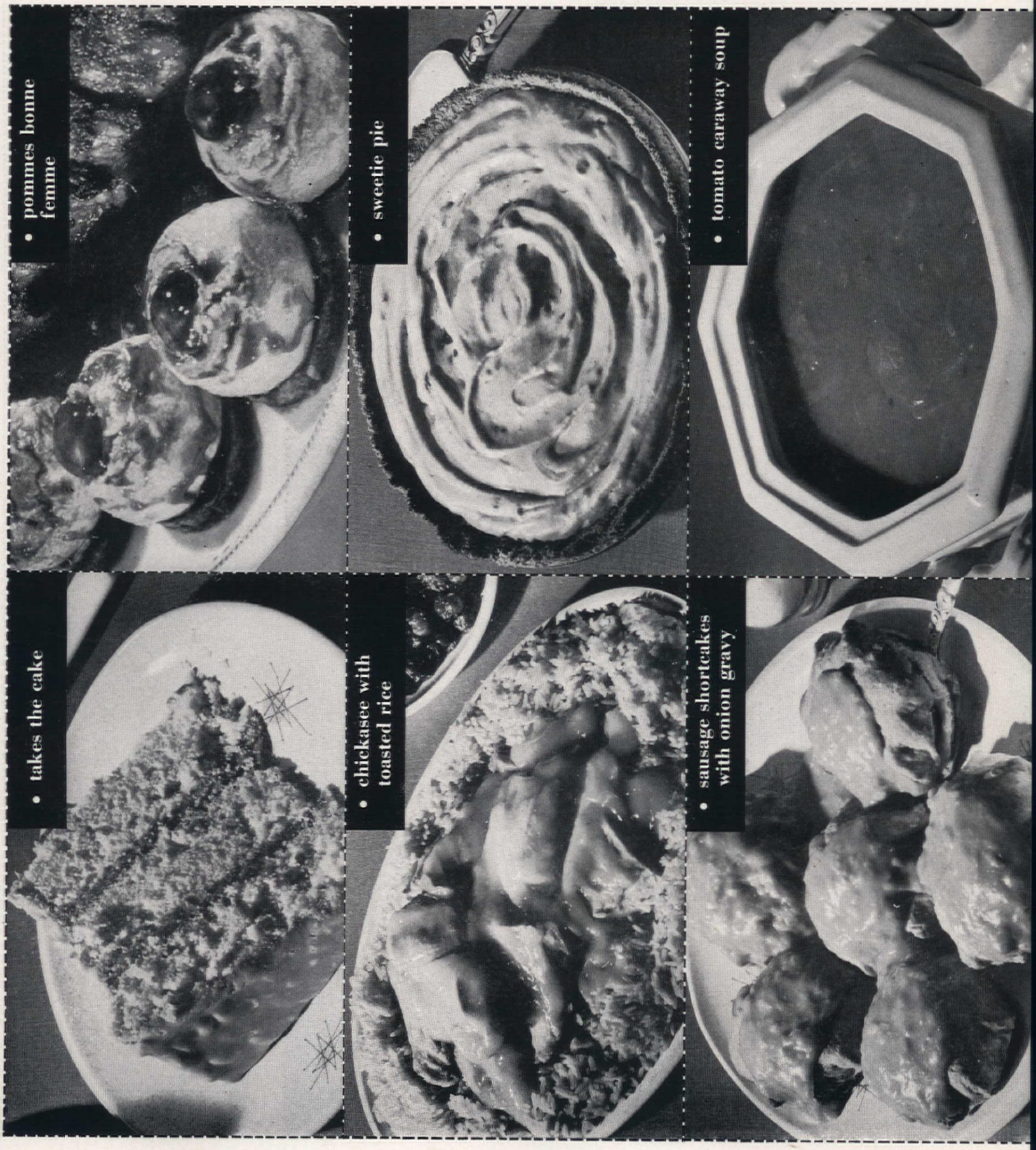
(Good Victuals, pictured in color on page 54)

AMERICAN HOME Magazine offers cellophane envelopes for protecting recipes in your card file. They come in a standard 3 x 5 inch size and are open at both ends so that recipes may be easily inserted. You can order them in lots of 100 for $1 from:

THE AMERICAN HOME, Dept. O-54
American Home Building, Forest Hills, N. Y.

# American Home Recipes

(Family Food, pictured in color on page 68)
(Good Victuals, pictured in color on page 54)



## • sausage shortcakes with onion gravy

***Preparation time: 15 min.***
***Baking time: 20 min.***

¼ cup milk
¼ cup bread crumbs
2 tbs. finely cut onion
½ lb. bulk sausage
2 tbs. sausage drippings
½ cup milk
2 cups prepared biscuit mix

• Mix together ¼ cup milk, bread crumbs, onion and sausage. Shape into 6 patties. Fry until golden brown. Reserve 2 tbs. fat. Add reserved fat to ½ cup milk and stir into biscuit mix—to form a soft dough. Roll on floured board to ⅛ inch thickness. Cut into 12 rounds. Place sausage patty between two rounds, press edges together. Bake in 400° F. oven, for 20 minutes.

Gravy: Brown ¼ cup finely cut onion in some fat from sausage, stir in 2 tbs. flour, cook until smooth, stirring constantly. Add ¼ cup hot water. Season to taste and serve with shortcakes.

***Serves 6*** ***398 cals. per serving*** ***Source of vitamin B***

Recipe submitted by Helen Parker *Tested in* THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS

## • tomato caraway soup

***Preparation time: 5 min.***
***Cooking time: 25 min.***

1 onion, sliced
2 tbs. butter or margarine
2 cans (1 lb. 3 oz.) tomatoes
2 cups water
2 tsps. salt
Dash of pepper
2 chicken bouillon cubes
1 tbs. sugar
1 bay leaf
1½ tsps. caraway seeds
Toasted rye bread cubes

• Brown onion in butter or margarine. Add remaining ingredients except bread; simmer 20 minutes. Garnish with bread.

Note: Substitute 1 can condensed onion soup for onion, 1 can condensed tomato soup for 1 can tomatoes if desired.

***Serves 6*** ***94 cals. per serving*** ***Source of vitamins A, B, C***

Recipe submitted by Mrs. Doris Stebbins *Tested in* THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS

## • chickasee with toasted rice

***Preparation time: 15 min.***
***Cooking time: 1½ to 2 hrs.***

5 to 5½ lb. fowl
2 large onions, sliced
3 stems celery and leaves
4 or 5 sprigs parsley
2 tsp. salt
⅛ tsp. pepper
1 cup uncooked rice
1 tsp. salt
2 tbs. butter or margarine
2 cups water

• Cut fowl in pieces, or buy ready-cut for fricassee. Wash and clean. Cover with boiling water; add onions, celery and leaves, parsley, salt and pepper. Cover. When boiling reduce heat and cook slowly until tender (about 1½ hrs.). Remove chicken to hot serving platter. Blend flour or cornstarch with cold water and stir into remaining stock. Stir until thickened. Pour gravy over chicken or serve separately. (Proportion of thickening about 2 tbs. flour to each cup of stock.) Serve with Toasted Rice: Spread rice in a pan; place in 350° F. oven for 30 minutes or until rice is golden brown. Stir rice during toasting. Then place toasted rice in saucepan. Add salt, butter or margarine and water. Place saucepan over high heat. Bring to boil: then turn low. Cover saucepan and leave for 15 minutes. Turn off heat and allow rice to steam for 10 minutes, without removing lid.

***Serves 6*** ***Cal. per serving 307*** ***Source of vitamin B***

*Tested in* THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS

## • sweetie pie

***Preparation time: 15 min.***
***Cooking & Chilling time: 2 to 3 hrs.***

15 graham crackers
3 tbs. softened butter or margarine
3 tbs. sugar
26 marshmallows
½ cup milk
Dash of salt
¾ cup heavy cream, whipped
½ cup chocolate chips
or
½ cup shaved semi-sweet chocolate
1 tsp. vanilla

• Crush crackers between waxed paper, use rolling pin or press with hands. Combine crumbs with softened butter or margarine and sugar. Press firmly into an even layer against bottom and sides of 8" pie plate. Chill in refrigerator. Place marshmallows, milk and salt in top of double boiler. Stir until marshmallows are melted; cool slightly. Stir in chocolate. Cool and fold in whipped cream and vanilla. Pour into chilled pie shell.

***Serves 6*** ***381 cals. per serving*** ***Source of vitamins A, B***

Recipe submitted by Mrs. J. D. Waska, Jr. *Tested in* THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS

## • takes the cake

***Preparation time: 20 min.***
***Baking time: 30 min.***

1 cup shortening
3 cups sugar
4 cups cake flour
1 tsp. salt
1¾ tsps. cream of tartar
1 cup buttermilk
10 egg whites
½ tsp. soda
1 tbs. hot water
1⅓ cups roasted peanuts, crushed
2 tsps. vanilla flavoring

• Cream shortening, add sugar slowly, creaming mixture well. Sift flour, then measure. Sift again with salt and cream of tartar. Add sifted ingredients alternately with buttermilk to the creamed mixture. Stir in peanuts and vanilla. Beat egg whites until soft peaks form. Fold into cake mixture. Add soda to water; add last. Bake in three greased and floured deep 9" cake pans in moderate oven, 350° F., for about 25 to 30 minutes.

Frosting: Mix thoroughly 1 cup buttermilk, ½ cup light brown sugar, 2 cups granulated sugar, ½ tsp. soda and ½ cup light corn syrup. Cook slowly until it forms soft ball in cold water. Remove from heat; cool; add ½ cup butter or margarine; ½ cup peanut butter and 1 tsp. vanilla flavoring. Beat until creamy. Add ½ cup crushed roasted peanuts. Spread between layers and top of cake.

***Serves 15*** ***708 cals. per serving*** ***Source of vitamins A, B***

Recipe submitted by Mrs. Robert Gwaltney *Tested in* THE AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS

## • pommes bonne femme

Core and peel apples, and cut so that they are flat. Cut a round slice of bread for each apple and butter each round. Place apples on bread rounds, fill centers with butter. Arrange in a flat baking dish and bake 30 min. at 350° F. Turn heat up to 450° F., take out apples and sprinkle liberally with granulated sugar. Put them back in oven and bake 15-20 min. longer. Fill with currant jelly. If using as a dessert, add a drop of vanilla to each apple before sprinkling with sugar, and serve with heavy, unwhipped cream.

Recipe by Jean Austin

# American Home Recipes

**(Good Victuals, pictured in color on page 54)**
**(Family Food, pictured in color on page 68)**

AMERICAN HOME Magazine offers cellophane envelopes for protecting recipes in your card file. They come in a standard 3 x 5 inch size and are open at both ends so that recipes may be easily inserted. You can order them in lots of 100 for $1 from:

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# SEND FOR NEW 6 AMERICAN HOME COOK BOOKLETS

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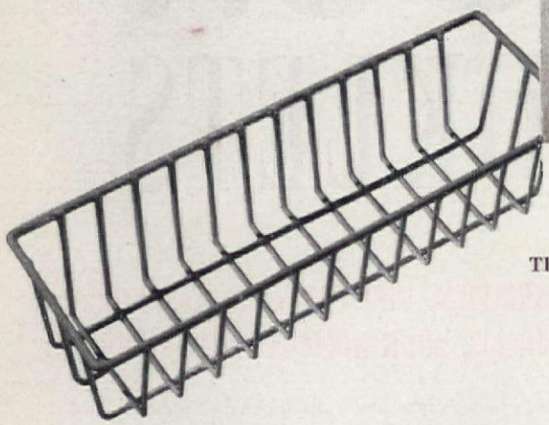
# Double Take–from Your Kitchen

The best part of Christmas often centers around simple family projects that call upon the talents of one and all to add their bit to the festivities. Making your own Christmas music is better than viewing the greatest of Christmas stage "shows." Stringing cranberries or popcorn on the rich green branches of the family tree is always more rewarding (and often more effective, we're much inclined to believe) than using ready-made ropes of beads and bangles.

The decorations and holiday accouterments we show here are the kind to which you give a little lighthearted labor for a big, warmhearted effect. It takes a second glance to discover their mundane beginnings, and you have the satisfaction of making something out of next to nothing—plus the imagination you bring into play. Most of the makings you'll find around the house, and your local hardware store, stationery store, and dime store can supply the rest at little cost.



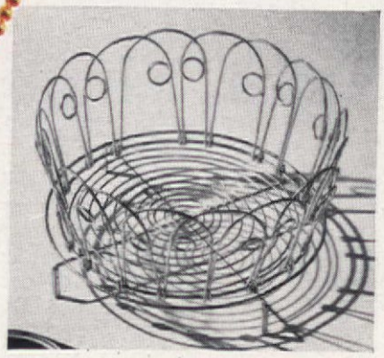
TIME OUT FOR THE EGG BASKET, while it holds a huddle of ornaments and gives good cheer to all who ring your doorbell. Weave bright strands of ribbon about the base, fill with ornaments wired securely in place, and add fresh greens. Two cup hooks on the door "string it up," a third holds ribbon support at the top

THIS HOSTESS' HELPER, an enterprising epergne, bears a suspicious resemblance to your battery of cake pans and funnels when you see it disassembled. Its double life is due to the excellent camouflaging with stars and fruit. Funnels and cake pans stack up from bottom, large to small. Aluminum foil padding holds them steady. Garnish with shiny stars and gift tape

ROBERT W. HOUSEMAN

# Believe it or not, these festive fixin's are all made from items found in most kitchens. Here's the proof, with how-to's

PLENTY OF TRICKS IN TREAT at your right which turns muffin tin into server. Red cellophane tape dresses the tin. Cups are labeled with guests' names, and guarded by Santa straws. To make the Santa, buy stars of red metallic paper, use gummed circles for heads and hands, and whiffs of cotton for beards. Anchor stars to straws with cellophane tape.



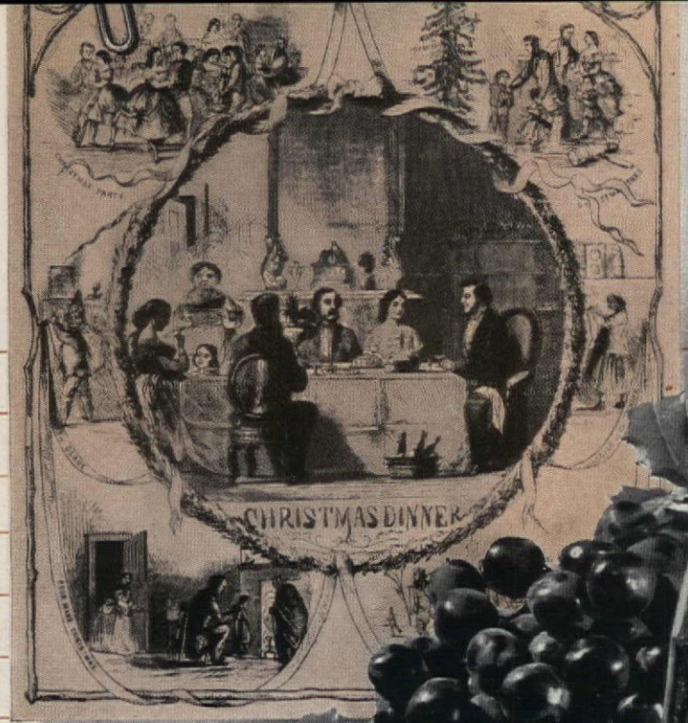
INSPIRATION FOR KISSING RING above comes from a shining-bright vegetable steamer basket, and very appropriately, too, for the custom of kissing under the mistletoe probably spread to the upper regions of great English houses from the servants' halls. In addition to the traditional mistletoe, this one sports gay ornaments, bands of ribbon and beads. Hang it in a strategic spot, stand beneath it, and collect the bounty! Ribbons and strings of Christmas beads (the kind you put to use on the tree) hold this vegetable steamer aloft. Deck both inside and outside with ornaments to suit your fancy

A SUCCESSFUL ALIAS is assumed by plastic refrigerator boxes, when they put on airs as gift containers for Christmas treats made in your own kitchen—your own special Christmas cookies or fruit cake or rare sweetmeats. Bits of ribbon and gold Dec-it give new status to these practical partners. Adhere with the aid of clear cellophane tape

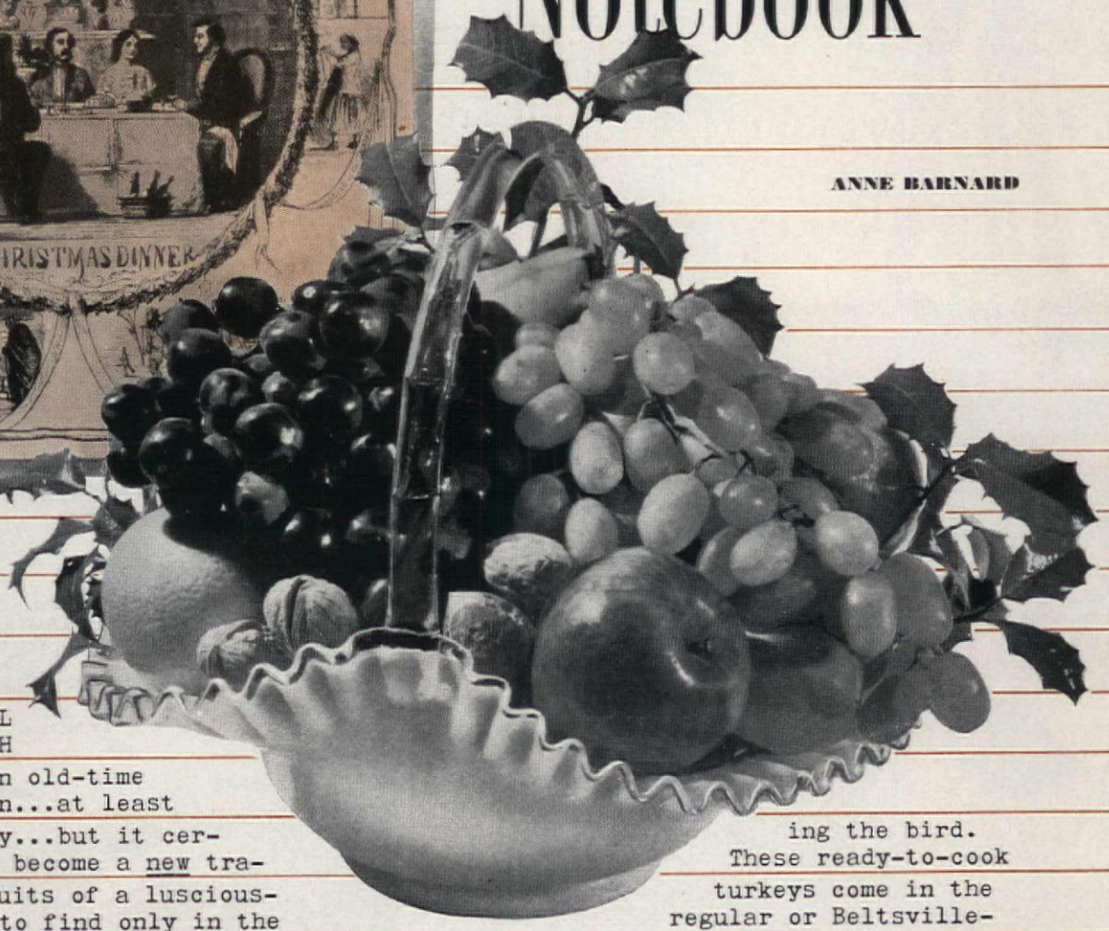
See "Where Credit Is Due," page 92

# Anne's Notebook

ANNE BARNARD




*"Christmas Dinner," Family Reunion before the Civil War. 1860*



A BRIMMING BASKET OF BEAUTIFUL FRUIT BEDECKED WITH HOLLY may not be an old-time Christmas tradition...at least not in such variety...but it certainly deserves to become a new tradition now that fruits of a lusciousness you'd expect to find only in the gardens of the Magi are available most months of the year. We think that waistline watchers should wear blindfolds at Christmas, but with fruit like this at hand, the dessert can be passed up and we can feel both noble and well nourished.

CHRISTMASY IS TART CRANBERRY SHERBET as a starter for the holiday dinner. If you serve it in stemmed sherbet glasses, tie a bit of holly on the stems with green ribbon. Gives a festive touch and is easy to do long before serving time.

BROILED GRAPEFRUIT WHETS THE APPETITE. After cutting sections loose, sprinkle with light brown sugar and dot each half with butter. A dash of sherry or Dubonnet gives a special zip. Broil about ten minutes or until warmed through and browned at edges.

"TUCKED" TURKEYS WILL MAKE THEIR APPEARANCE AT HOLIDAY TIME this year. The traditional turkey dressed in a new style which eliminates the old-fashioned trussing and sewing after stuffing the bird. These ready-to-cook turkeys come in the regular or Beltsville-type. Now marketed frozen, they are "tucked" and protected by clear wrappers. Parchment-wrapped giblets are included. Adequate are the directions on the package.

HERE ARE SOME HOLIDAY BREAKFAST SUGGESTIONS: When making French toast, add orange juice and grated orange rind to egg-milk mixture. Cook in the usual way. Good with a sprinkling of light brown sugar. Serve with crisp bacon.

PINEAPPLE JUICE AND A DASH OF CINNAMON added to egg-milk mixture also gives a new flavor twist to French toast. Serve with broiled slices of pineapple and Canadian bacon.

CRUSTY AND TASTY ARE SAUSAGE LINKS OR PATTIES cooked this way: dip in milk and roll in flour before cooking. Fry as usual. Serve with pancakes and maple syrup. This hint came from English friends.

PRETTY AND APPETIZING ARE GRAPES served with the orange juice as a breakfast surprise. Just place a small bunch of grapes on the plate with the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 82
See "Where Credit Is Due," page 92

# So new! So gay! So good!

## ANOTHER GOLD MEDAL SUCCESS FOR YOU!

### Christmas Bell and Tree Cookies

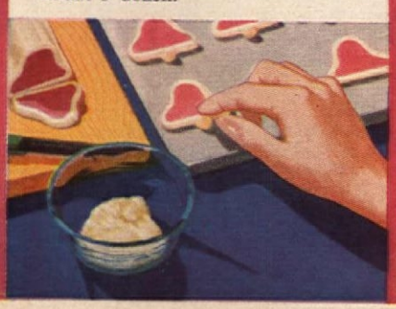
**Mix** well:
**1/2 cup soft shortening**
**1/2 cup sugar**
**1 egg**
**1 tsp. vanilla**

**Sift** together, then stir in:
**1-1/2 cups *sifted* GOLD MEDAL Flour**
**1/4 tsp. soda**
**1/2 tsp. salt**

**Color** 2/3's of dough red or green. Mold this into 1½ x 10" roll and chill. For Bell Shape... squeeze top half together, leaving lower half flared and curving like bell. For Tree Shape, squeeze into triangle.

**Save** ¼ cup of white dough to form bell clappers or tree trunks. Roll out rest of white dough on paper into a 10 x 4" rectangle large enough to cover colored dough. Trim edges. Wrap around colored dough. Chill.

**Heat** oven to 375° (quick moderate). Slice dough with sharp knife, ⅛" thick. Place on ungreased baking sheet, ½" apart. Press tiny balls of white dough to bottom of bells to form clappers or to trees to form trunks. Bake 8 to 10 minutes. Makes about 5 dozen.



## NEW GOLD MEDAL COOKIES

### EASY TO MAKE AND SURE TO PLEASE!

● Betty Crocker's festive refrigerator cookies are so crisp and delicious made with Gold Medal Flour. And you can be doubly sure of success with this *"Kitchen-tested"* recipe and flour. Make the cookies days in advance, bake them when you wish, then pack 'em in a plastic box (easily available), tie with a jaunty ribbon and... well, there's no nicer way to say "Merry Christmas."

THIS YEAR GIVE FOOD

*"A little of your love goes with every gift you bake"*

Says Betty Crocker, of General Mills

For details about table appointments, see "Where Credit Is Due," page 92

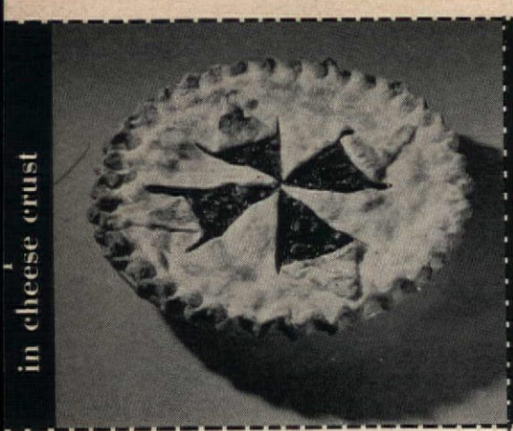
# Families are funny that

# Family Food way!

JEANNIE WILLIS

Families are funny that way indeed! No matter how busy you are wrapping Christmas presents, no matter how hectic with planning and shopping, no matter *what*—your family still expects to be fed three times a day, every day, for the whole month before the grand finale of Christmas dinner. They just plain won't settle for your second-best efforts for weeks while you're giving your all to the big production. They're funny that way mayhaps—but that's the way it is. So instead of concentrating upon the Great Feast, we thought you'd appreciate from this department some new recipes to help you through the rest of the month. For instance, a good hot soup just right for a busy day is made from plain old, good old, canned tomatoes—but caraway and other spices give it a flavor that shows them you care. The Chickasee cooks itself while you're occupied elsewhere, but you serve it on toasted rice that has the fascinating texture of the fried rice turned out by the best Chinese cooks. Very good with the chicken or any meat or fish, our suggestion of waxed beans fancied up with some canned pimiento (no recipe needed for this one, of course). For luncheon or supper, try sausage shortcakes wrapped in blankets of biscuit-mix biscuit, and very good eating for the short time they take. Of course, you won't even want to try to shortchange your family when it comes to good December desserts, so we give you two whoppers. Takes the Cake does just that, a glorious tall white cake bedecked in peanut-studded frosting to please the family and also to serve when company comes calling. As for Sweetie Pie, all chocolate and marshmallow made mellow, it will vanish mighty quickly once it is cut, but you can make it up in advance.

RECIPES ON PAGE 62



in cheese crust

• mincemeat topped ham

• mincemeat filled cookies

# PERKED-UP WITH MINCEMEAT

**ALL-TIME FAVORITE MINCE PIE** could use this flavor change: Add ½ to ¾ cup grated cheese to your pie crust mixture before adding water. Roll and prepare as usual. For variation, add chopped apples, crushed pineapple or chopped cranberries to prepared mincemeat. If you wish, cut star or tree out of cardboard and use as pattern for top. Cut away crust with sharp knife.

**THIS GLAMORIZED HOLIDAY HAM** is baked 'neath a blanket of spicy mincemeat. Dilute 2 or 3 cups of mincemeat with fruit juice or water. Bake as usual, basting frequently with mixture in pan or add additional fruit juice. If doing a few ham slices, spread mincemeat between them, bake as usual. Reserve sauce from baking, add more fruit juice, serve with ham.

**SPICED-UP HOLIDAY COOKIES** can be filled, sandwich-style, with mincemeat, as shown. Or stir mincemeat into cookie dough, replacing all or part of the liquid. Another good trick—a mincemeat upside-down cake: Spread mincemeat on bottom of pan; add spice cake or gingerbread mixture. Turn out right side up with the mincemeat on top.


Quick Tricks for the Holidays

WITH Fruit Cocktail from California

EASY RECIPES

For dessert you'll need fruit cocktail
Betty Crocker Angel Food Cake Mix,* Reddi-wip

For salad you'll need fruit cocktail
Philadelphia Brand Cream Cheese

**PARTY PERFECT ANGEL FOOD.** Simply bake a cake with Betty Crocker Angel Food Cake Mix. To serve, top slices with Reddi-wip and heaping spoonfuls of well-drained fruit cocktail.

**PARTY PERFECT SALAD.** Beat together until fluffy one 8-ounce package Philadelphia Brand Cream Cheese, 2 tablespoons syrup from fruit cocktail, 1 teaspoon lemon juice, ½ teaspoon grated rind. Fold in well-drained fruit from No. 2½ can fruit cocktail. Pack into 4 custard cups. Chill several hours. Unmold.

**Family and friends** will applaud when you simply spoon out gay fruit cocktail for between meal or evening snacks, as beginner for dinner or showy dessert. It has such a refreshing flavor! Golden cling peaches, pears, grapes, pineapple, cherries. Neatly cut. Close-packed so you get lots of fine fruit in each can. Keep thrifty fruit cocktail handy.

*Product of General Mills, Inc.

Cling Peach Advisory Board  Bartlett Pear Program Committee

*make it easy with mix*

# make it sparkle with Diamonds

NOW AT NEW LOW PRICES

**ST. NICHOLAS RING—golden and fruity, with Diamond Walnuts galore!**

- 1 pkg. hot roll mix
- ½ cup brown sugar, firmly packed
- ¼ cup flour
- 1 tbsp. grated orange rind
- 1 cup chopped *Diamond* Walnuts
- ½ cup sliced candied or maraschino cherries
- ¼ cup melted butter or margarine

Make sweet dough as package directs. When ready to shape, divide in half. Roll one half into rectangle 7 x 14". Mix remaining ingredients and spread half on dough. Roll tightly in a long roll; seal edges. Place on greased baking sheet. With scissors cut roll in half the long way, making 2 strips 14" long. Place one strip across the other to make an "X"; keep cut sides up. Now, starting at center and working out toward either end, loosely criss-cross strips, keeping cut sides up. This forms a long twist. Now form into a ring and seal ends together.

Repeat with remaining dough and filling. Let rise as package directs. Bake at 350° (moderate) 20 to 25 min., till golden brown. Makes two 9" rings.

**To decorate:** Frost with 1 cup confectioners' sugar mixed with 2 to 3 tbsps. milk. Trim with thin slices of gumdrops, candied cherries and *Diamond* Walnut halves. So easy to add glamour and goodness with *Diamond* Walnuts! So thrifty, too—with *Diamond* Walnuts in-the-shell—you get over 2 full cups of fresh, plump kernels per pound!

**WALNUT STRAWBERRY FLIP**

Who'd guess what a tempting team they make—strawberries and *Diamond* Walnuts! But that's the way with walnuts—they go with everything. And glorify it!

Thaw 1 pkg. frozen strawberries till juice begins to appear. Dissolve 1 pkg. strawberry-flavored gelatin in 1½ cups boiling water; add 1 tsp. lemon juice and berries. Cool till syrupy. Stir in 4 marshmallows, cut small, and ½ cup chopped *Diamond* Walnuts. Spoon into sherbet glasses; chill. Serve with whipped cream and tempting *Diamond* Walnut halves. 5 or 6 servings.

Add the touch that adds so much

## DIAMOND WALNUTS

**2 ways to buy them...take your choice**

**In-the-shell for economy**—fresh and sweet in 1 lb. cellophane bags (large walnuts in red bags, medium size in blue).

**Ready-shelled for instant use**—crisp halves and pieces, in 8 and 4 oz. vacuum cans. So easy to use. Keep some handy!

# Take a Package of Pie Crust Mix

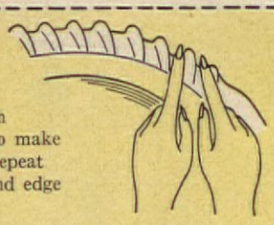
CATHERINE NISSLY

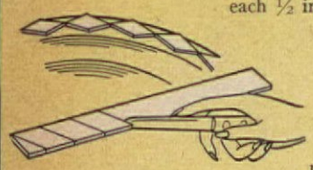
A pretty-as-a-picture pie is a rewarding thing to serve up, but the kind of decorated crust that Mr. Big Hat Chef himself would turn out (see our very professional tricks) does take time in the doing. All the more reason, then, to use a quick, ready-mix crust to gain the extra minutes the fancy work demands. And with a supply of mixes on your shelf, you'll find yourself inspired to experiment with all manner of pies by varying the flavor of pie crusts as we suggest below—and to try new fillings as well. Here are some tips for making the most of those wonderful mixes.

DOUBLE-CRUST PIES: Roll out dough for bottom crust. Turn pie pan upside down over crust. Allow 1½ inch margin. Cut around. To place crust in pan, roll dough over rolling pin, transfer to pie pan, and unroll into place. Pat all over surface to eliminate any air pockets under pastry. Roll top crust ½ inch larger than pie pan. Fold under bottom crust. Press edges together and decorate. Cut gashes in top to allow steam to escape. If pie has uncooked fruit filling, bake at 425°F. about 35 minutes, until fruit is soft and crust lightly browned. Allow 10 minutes less if cooked filling is used.

PIE-CRUST SHELL: Prepare as for bottom. Finish edging. Prick with fork. Bake at 450° F. for 12-15 minutes, until lightly browned.

DIAGONAL FLUTE: Trim overhang to within ½ in. of plate edge; fold under. Place forefingers ¼ in. apart in diagonal position, then push right forefinger gently toward left to make rounded flute. Repeat each ½ in. around edge





DIAMOND: Fold overhang under ½ in. Cut remaining pie crust into ½-in. strips. Cut at an angle ½ in. apart. Dampen rim; press diamonds down lightly

POINTED: Fold overhang under ½ in. Using pointed edge of beer-can opener, place sharp side against edge of pie plate and cut out pie crust

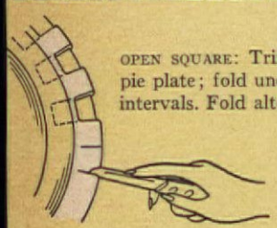
## • for main-dish pies

• Prepare pie crust mix according to package directions. The following amounts are for the whole package (2 crusts). Use half the amount for 1 crust.

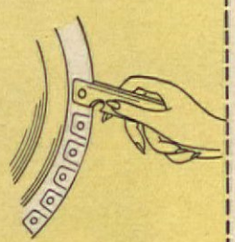
Add one of the following to the pie crust mix before adding water.

¾ cup chopped fresh mint
4 or 5 tbs. tomato puree, omit water
1½ to 2 tsp. celery seed
1 to 1½ tsp. poultry seasoning or sage
2 cups onions, fried
1½ to 2 tsp. curry powder
1 cup chopped shrimp

• Don't stretch dough. Stretching causes shrinkage.
• For even browning, make sure dough is rolled or cut to uniform thickness.



OPEN SQUARE: Trim overhang ½ in. from edge of pie plate; fold under. Cut pie crust edge at ½ in. intervals. Fold alternate squares under



BEADED: Trim overhang ½ in. from edge of pie plate. Fold overhang under. Press rounded end of a beer-can opener firmly into pie crust rim.

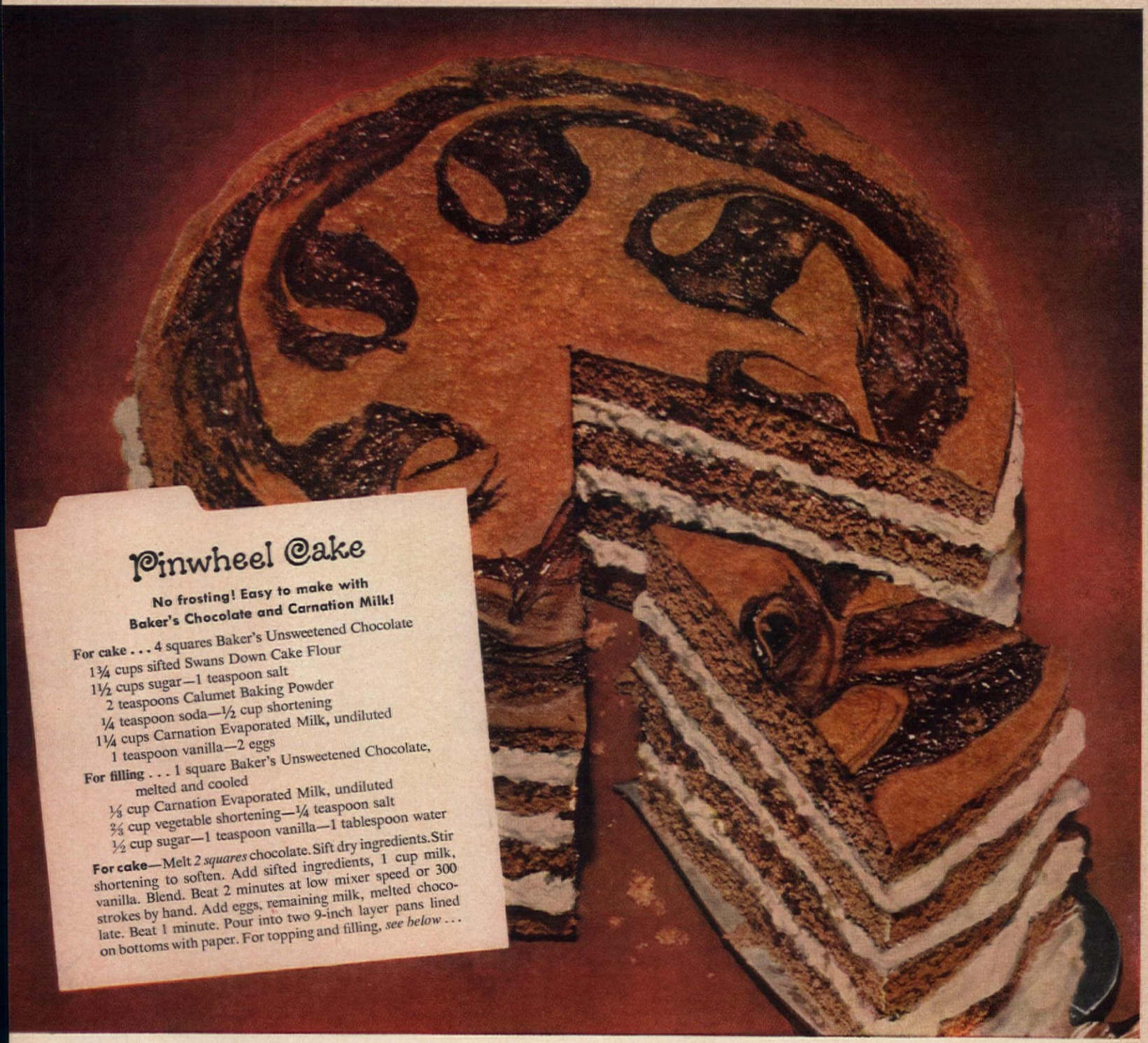
CORNUCOPIA: Allow ¾ in. overhang; do not turn it under. Cut pie rim in points at intervals. Roll points to form cornucopias. Press down lightly

## • for dessert pies

• Prepare pie crust mix according to package directions. The following amounts are for the whole package (2 crusts). Use half the amount for 1 crust.

• Add one of the following to the pie crust mix before adding water:

2 tsp. grated lemon rind and lemon juice, instead of water
⅔ cup walnuts, chopped fine
Use coffee as liquid in crust for coffee chiffon or cream pies
Use orange juice as the liquid in crust for a chocolate pie
Use pineapple juice as the liquid in apricot pie



## Pinwheel Cake

**No frosting! Easy to make with Baker's Chocolate and Carnation Milk!**

**For cake . . .** 4 squares Baker's Unsweetened Chocolate
1¾ cups sifted Swans Down Cake Flour
1½ cups sugar—1 teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons Calumet Baking Powder
¼ teaspoon soda—½ cup shortening
1¼ cups Carnation Evaporated Milk, undiluted
1 teaspoon vanilla—2 eggs

**For filling . . .** 1 square Baker's Unsweetened Chocolate, melted and cooled
⅓ cup Carnation Evaporated Milk, undiluted
⅔ cup vegetable shortening—¼ teaspoon salt
½ cup sugar—1 teaspoon vanilla—1 tablespoon water

**For cake**—Melt *2 squares* chocolate. Sift dry ingredients. Stir shortening to soften. Add sifted ingredients, 1 cup milk, vanilla. Blend. Beat 2 minutes at low mixer speed or 300 strokes by hand. Add eggs, remaining milk, melted chocolate. Beat 1 minute. Pour into two 9-inch layer pans lined on bottoms with paper. For topping and filling, *see below* . . .

# Terrific NEW cake idea!

## CHOCOLATE TOPPING BAKED RIGHT IN

**…opping,** melt remaining 2 squares …olate and pour into circles on top of …s. (Remember—only Baker's gives you *…perb* chocolate flavor that makes this …and topping so rich, so delicious!)

**Make swirls** on top with rubber spatula to form pattern. Bake about 30 minutes in moderate oven (350°F.). While cake cools, combine ingredients for delicious filling, Whip 10 minutes, or until very fluffy.

**Split layers** to form 4 layers. Spread ⅔ cup filling between each layer. A spectacular cake—rich and luscious because you use Baker's Chocolate and Carnation Milk. Extra-delicious when chilled!

**BAKER'S CHOCOLATE**

**Carnation MILK**

Be sure to use CARNATION—double-rich milk with special blending qualities. And remember—chocolate makes it good, but Baker's makes it best! Only Baker's Chocolate is Premium No. 1

# Turn off the oven! Here's a top-of-the-stove ham loaf

## *and it's marvelous with* born-to-be-better corn☆

☆ grown from special seed we developed ourselves to give you sweeter flavor and extra-tender kernels in DEL MONTE Corn

Even the best seed available didn't grow corn good enough to match our idea of what DEL MONTE Corn should be.

So for years we've been developing our own — exclusive strains that yield not only super-thin-skinned kernels, but high natural sugar content and rich farm flavor, too.

If you pride yourself on knowing good corn, you really ought to try this... DEL MONTE Corn, any style, the kind that's *born* to be better.

### TWIN HAM LOAVES with CORN SAUCE

**½ lb. smoked ham, ground**
**1 lb. fresh pork, ground**
**1 egg**
**¾ cup dry bread crumbs**
**½ cup milk**
**¼ cup minced onion**
**1 tablespoon prepared mustard**
**½ teaspoon salt**
**¼ teaspoon pepper**
**Scant ¼ teaspoon ground cloves**
**2 No. 303 cans DEL MONTE Golden Cream Style Corn**

Combine all ingredients except corn; mix thoroughly. Open corn; empty into a saucepan and refrigerate till time to heat. Remove labels from corn cans, wash out cans and pack carefully with equal amounts of ham mixture. Tie waxed paper or foil over tops of cans. Set upright on rack in deep kettle; pour hot water into kettle until it comes within ½ inch of tops of cans. Cover; boil gently for 2 hours. Remove from water; pour off excess liquid. Unmold; slice. Arrange in low serving dish with the corn, which you have heated and seasoned. If desired, garnish with hot, seasoned DEL MONTE Brand Green Beans, and pimiento strips. Serves 6-8.

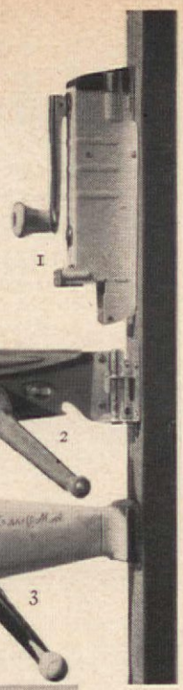
*Try all 3 styles: Golden Cream Style • Golden Whole Kernel • White Cream Style*

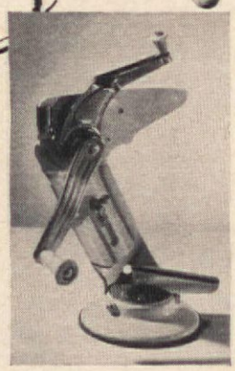
**Del Monte® Corn** — *the brand you know puts flavor first*

# Can Openers

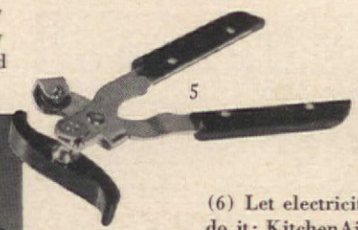
A century ago, cans were hacked open with hatchets —but you, my lady, can do the job with an electrically powered motor, if you please—or with a variety of other safe, smooth-working appliances. So retire that old, dangerous, pointed number and put new meaning into the phrase: "easy as opening a can." Although the food-canning industry dates back to 1810, nobody patented a can opener until 1858—and a murderous object it was. Since then, many improvements make it increasingly easy to get at the 788 cans of food an average U.S. family uses yearly

MIRIAM OWEN

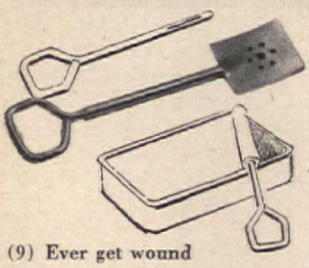


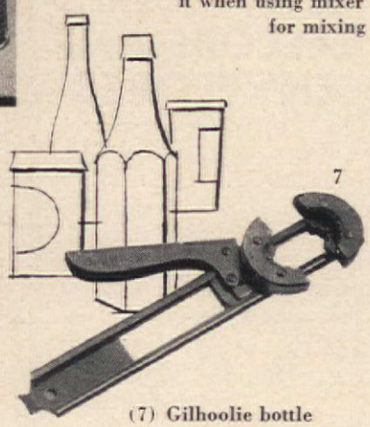




(1) Space-saving model by Edlund fits flat against wall, (2) Swing-A-Way combination wall can opener and knife sharpener does just what its name indicates. (3) No more fishing for lids in the soup with Rival's wall model which has a magnet to attract and hold lids. (4) Boon to those who can't install wall type is the portable Dazey whose suction cup grips any smooth, flat surface. (5) Pick-up-and-go hand opener by Ekco is invaluable for picnics, very sturdy, and comfortable in the hand

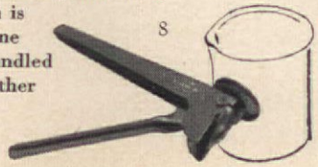


(6) Let electricity do it: KitchenAid mixer has an attachment for opening cans in a jiffy with little help from you. Moreover, you don't have to remove it when using mixer for mixing






(9) Ever get wound up opening coffee tins or been stuck with a broken key on a can of sardines? Then you'll bless Servopener which is a key opener at one end and a long-handled bottle opener at other




(7) Gilhoolie bottle opener by Riswell, for pry-off lids and screw-on tops also reseals carbonated beverages! (8) Spouto forms pouring spout by bending side of can

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with Taperlite® DINNER CANDLES

Poised, competent, serene! She budgets her time, her work, her fun. Enjoys a full life without nervous hurry or fatigue.

Taperlite Candles provide *grace notes* for her skillful entertaining. All arranged like magic before or after the show, bridge or concert . . . with no exhausting after-chores to rob the evening of its fun.

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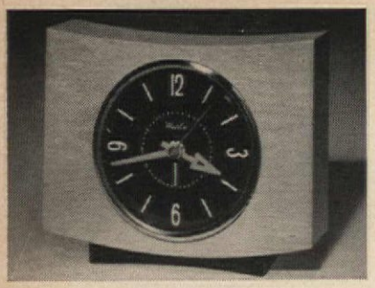
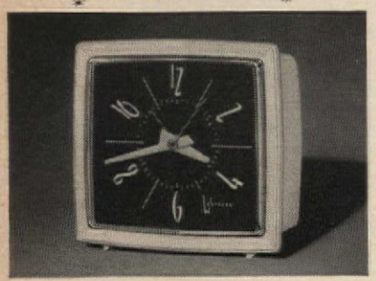


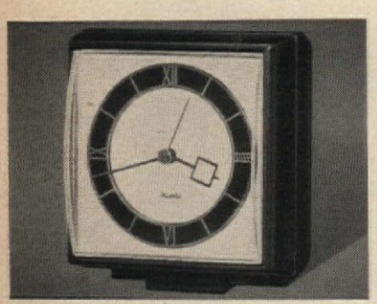
**PITTSFIELD ELECTRIC ALARM.** Attractive modern styling in rich wood case. Blond or mahogany finish. Only 4½ inches high. Bell alarm. $7.95. With luminous dial, a dollar more.

4 New Westclox electrics

**JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS GIVING**



**SLEEPMETER ELECTRIC ALARM.** Smart modern case and dial. Only 4 3/16 inches high. Bell alarm. Non-breakable crystal. Sweep second hand. Ivory color. $5.45. Luminous, $6.45.



**BYRON ELECTRIC ALARM.** Gold-colored Roman numerals make handsome contrast with red, green or silver color case. Plain dial. Bell alarm. Guaranteed for a year. $10.95.

**PRIM ELECTRIC WALL CLOCK.** Only 5¾ inches in diameter. Non-breakable crystal. Sturdy metal case with dials in red, yellow, white or green. $3.98. In sparkling chrome case, $4.98.

*Prices do not include tax and are subject to change*

**WESTCLOX**
**Electric Clocks**
made by the makers of **BIG BEN**
La Salle-Peru, Illinois

Products of GT GENERAL TIME Corporation


# Good Victuals

(Begins on page 54)

and smörgåsbord. It's up to you—but remember this is Angelo's *Special,* and that's pretty special, ma'am.

Next, a variation on the eternal turkey and ham entrees, Mrs. Price's Pocketed Rib Pork Roast—the pockets stuffed with mincemeat laced with cognac, the most heavenly sauce over it, and garnished with Mrs. Austin's baked apples (Pommes Bonne Femme) oozing butter from every pore (remember what I said about dieting at Christmas!) and served with a pungent casserole of onions and potatoes gratinée to offset the sweetness of the pork. I hate to say this, but it's an oven dinner, beginning to end, and anything one can pop in the oven and forget (well, forget for a while) is an easy meal. That's nothing against this delicious dinner, but don't, for Heaven's sake, confuse it with an ordinary "oven meal!"—a phrase I've learned to hate, because it is so often lazy and uninspired as *well* as oven-ed! The Pommes can serve as a fitting end. Instead of tart jelly, a drop of vanilla into each buttery apple, sprinkle with sugar for sparkle and serve with a pitcher of yellow cream (unwhipped, please). La! a beautiful dessert instead of the side dish with the meat and casserole of onions and potatoes, as I've shown them. Either way you do it—it's all oven stuff and savory stuff and *good.*

What's for dessert—rather, what else for dessert? Three quite wonderful desserts, madam, on our Carte du Jour. Two tortes, every sliver of which will satisfy the most gnawing hunger. These you make weeks ahead of the big rush—for the older they be, the better they be—and isn't *that* good to know this hectic month of December? As a matter of fact, I make the Hazel Nut Torte a full four months ahead and freeze it. And it is heavenly! Usually I just butter the pan, pat in some ground nuts and, when the cake is done, merely dust a little confectioner's sugar over it. But Christmastime is a special time—and besides, it was having its picture taken again. Last Christmas, it was on our cover, decorated two ways—a stunning glazed fruit pattern on pure white icing, and reindeer against snowy pine trees on rich, brown chocolate background — remember? Well, here you see it in it's 1954 festive dress—and this year there is the recipe as well. This year I've gayed it up for Christmas with a butter cream icing and doubled its normal size to serve a mighty crowd of revelers. Remember, the merest sliver is sufficient, so very, very rich is this sweet.

Now before I tell you about the next torte you'll want to make this Christmas, may I tell you how smart


Gifts

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For the whole family

**SILEX FREEZE-O-TRAY**
Make delicious ice cream right in your own refrigerator — conveniently, electrically—with the new SILEX FREEZE-O-TRAY.

Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping

Use a **SILEX HANDY HOT BLENDETTE**
To blend healthful frosted milk shakes and for a multitude of other kitchen uses.

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SILEX FREEZE-O-TRAY—$18.95
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**JOLLY TIME POP CORN**
EVERY KERNEL POPS OR YOUR MONEY BACK

***RECIPES IN USE NEED***
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# Good Victuals

it is to make two batches of the same recipe at times like this. It takes so very little more time, you have everything out anyway, and you might just as well chop-chop for two cakes as for one cake, especially with a cake like this that improves with age. (Mashed potatoes and rum keep it moist even in its "old" age.) Do one recipe, and bake in a 9-inch pan. Do another, and bake in an 8-inch pan. (You know of course, one cannot just *double* a recipe like this!) Now then, setting the smaller, fatter one over the larger, flatter one, you have a lovely tower you can decorate far more dramatically than were the two layers the same size. In serving, you slice down to the bottom layer only, exactly as you would slice a tiered wedding cake.

Now about that second torte, or *Tierta* as they say in Iceland. The dough is a rich cooky dough, baked as seven great cartwheels. The traditional recipe Mrs. Peterson sent me used ground prunes only for the filling, and called for a powdered sugar icing. We followed it faithfully the first time we made it. We liked it very well. But as we thought about it, we decided alternate layers of prunes *and* apricots would titillate the palate more, and apricot glacé more intriguing to the eye. Here's our version—but done either way, it is a very, very handsome addition to your holiday desserts—can be made two or more weeks before Christmas, economical because it is rich and therefore served only in small portions, like my Hazel Nut Torte.

Lastly, what I call Plum Rosies. I call them that to avoid the name "dumpling" which they really are—but the lightest version of a dumpling, and not remotely like the dumpy kind that have made Americans averse to anything by that name. Awfully good, these, and particularly good after a rich pork entree. Pretty, too, swimming in their pink, hot sauce, a rosy plum plumb in their middles for a tart surprise.

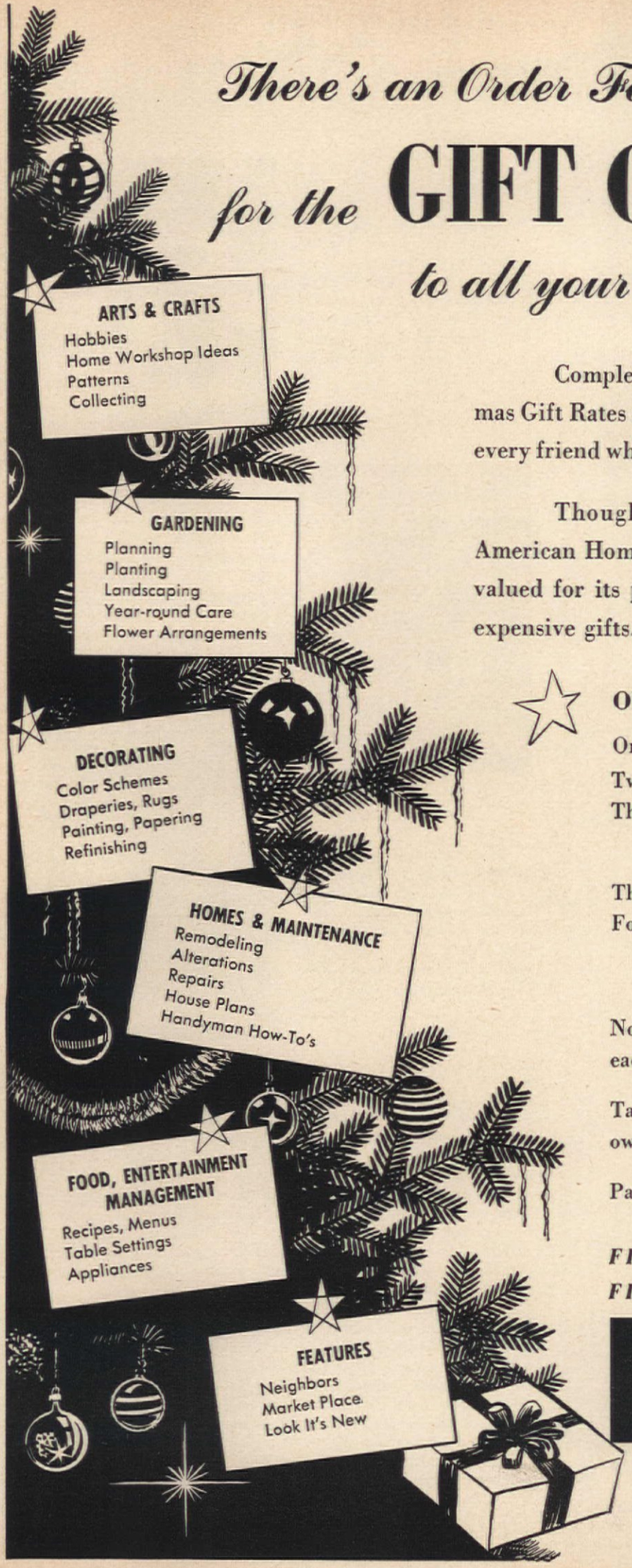
May I wish for all my G.V. friends a very special kind of Christmas or, as my little friend Clyte would put it—a *gooder* one. A merry one of course, your house vibrant with family love, exuding good cheer and happiness. A board groaning with God's bounty, gloriously beautiful food from the fulsome heart, the unselfish effort and the skillful hands of a truly good cook. My toast to you this Christmas Day of 1954 is an old Christmas song from *Poor Robin's Almanack* for 1695, and was probably sung while eating. In those days of Gargantuan eating, they held in horror the mere idea of fasting, and this

CONTINUED ON PAGE 82

*There's an Order Form in This Copy*

# *for the* GIFT OF THE YEAR

## *to all your Home-Loving Friends*




Complete, year-long home-making help and special Christmas Gift Rates make The American Home your gift of the year for every friend who shares your own interest and pride in good living.

Though priced as low as a casual remembrance, The American Home is admired for its beautiful color reproductions, valued for its practical ideas and plans, prized among the most expensive gifts.

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*(All 3-year Subscriptions, $6 each)*

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

**GIFT RATES EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 1954**

No extra charge for the colorful Gift Card supplied for each name on your list.

Take full advantage of the Gift Rates by including your own subscription or renewal in your order.

Pay now or in January as you wish, but . . .

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AMERICAN HOME BUILDING
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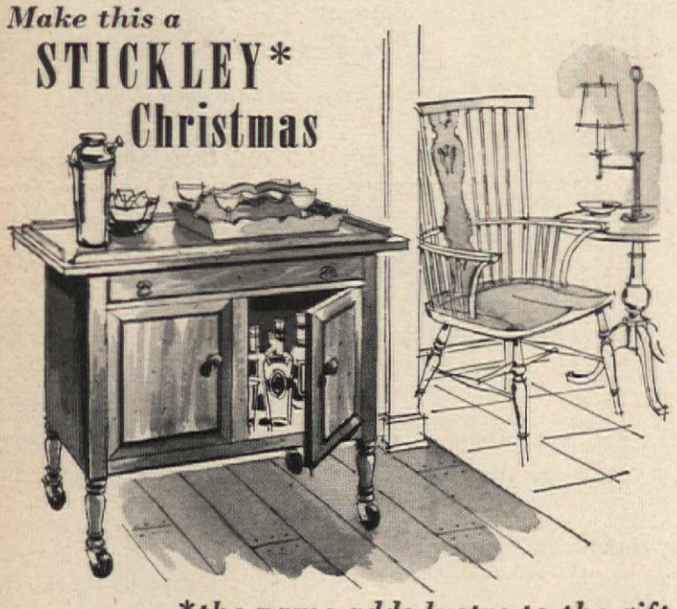
*Make this a*
**STICKLEY* Christmas**



***the name adds lustre to the gift***

A Stickley gift for the home is a gift for everyone in the home. Its rare artistry and matchless finnish; its rigid structure and Old Master joinery . . . all make it a gift of status and social pride.

And this Stickley Portable Bar & Server is a focus for social activity . . . for guests, hospitality and good cheer. In Stickley's lovely Old Mansion cherry, with four easy-rolling casters suited to any floor surface or covering.

Windsor chair (No. 7144) and lamp table (No. 5055) are other popular Christmas choices from your Stickley dealer's collection.

**Or buy by mail** the Colonial knife tray (shown on bar). Stickley's finest cherry fruitwood and craftsmanship; Old Mansion finish. Price, including sample of Stickley Furniture dressing: postpaid $10.00. West of Mississippi . . . $10.50
*Send for 32 page style Brochure, 50c*

**STICKLEY**
CHERRY VALLEY WORKSHOPS
*Fayetteville, N. Y.*
*Visitors Always Welcome*

# Painting Party

(Begins on page 26)

Here are some of the Christmas scenes the Siechert family and their guests painted on the playroom windows. This one shows a jovial, oversize Santa Claus, on a pane next to a Christmas tree being trimmed by pert little angels

This "work of art" was awarded first prize and was titled "Star of Bethlehem." The proud team of four winners were particularly pleased with how well the poinsettias in the lower left corner turned out

Tree-trimming time for the Siechert family is depicted on this window. Note the amusing scale showing cost of the tree, and the signatures of the proud artists. We're completely enchanted, too, by the lad who untangles the tree lights

usually allowed to paint round globules that bear *some* resemblance to Christmas tree balls.

A bowl of hot steaming cider and Christmas cookies stand on a table in the corner to give nourishment to the busy beavers intent on making their window the winner. The Siecherts always give two prizes, a First and Second to the winning team members, and all 20 guests vote on how the prizes are to be awarded. Everyone is amazed to see the latent talents of the guests emerge: For example, one guest admitted having a "complex" from her inability in school to draw so much as a stiff little tulip, but turned loose with a big brush and the coffee can of red paint, she found herself doing fine.

Usually, it takes about two hours to complete the windows, then a simple buffet supper is served, as everyone relaxes and purrs with pride over the afternoon's achievements. The Siechert daughters, aged six and ten, are allowed to express their talents on a door in the bedroom hall. The painting washes easily from the windows once the holidays are over, and the dry cans of paint and the washed brushes are stored away for next year's decoration party.

Isn't this a clever way of combining a Christmas party with holiday decorations? No wonder that the Siecherts find many friends hinting that they would be glad to swell the ranks come next time!

# Now when mother buys her HOOVER

Prices begin at $84.95

# daughter gets a play one FREE!

Now small fry, too, can have a Hoover—it's free for your trade-in on any new Hoover.

So much fun for the little ones—and such wonderful training, too. Kiddies play with it. They learn with it. Actually, they clean with it—this toy Hoover really picks up dirt.

It's an exact replica of Mother's big Hoover. Just the thing for little girls who like to play grownup. And sure to delight any little boy because it's a real mechanical toy—it lights as it hums as it runs!

No doubt you've always wanted a Hoover. Take advantage of this big bonus offer—and the easiest of easy terms. Call the Hoover Company or your Hoover dealer to see this toy cleaner now.

## Only a Hoover gives you Power Cleaning!

**Hoover does the work, not you!** True power cleaning—no complicated connections—just turn it on and guide it. No bending over, no scrubbing. No dust bag to empty!

**It beats, as it sweeps, as it cleans**—to get the deep-down dirt. Motor-driven vibrators gently loosen grit . . . powered brushes pick up surface litter . . . suction whisks it all away.

**It cleans anywhere easier!** Draperies, furnishings, hard floor surfaces. Exclusive Veriflex hose stretches, flexes, never kinks. Long, light extra attachments snap right on.

## It really works!

**A kid-size Hoover that runs and hums. That's safe—and fun. It lights up. Bag fills up. It's available only through Hoover dealers. Retail value $14.95.**

**The Hoover Company,** North Canton, Ohio
Also makers of Hoover Irons, Washers, Floor Polishers

*NEW FROM BLACK & DECKER—*

# Perfect Christmas Gift for Every Handyman!

**INCLUDES:** *Famous B&D ¼-inch Drill and 14 most useful accessories in tool chest.* **$29.95**

**$34.25 value! Save $4.30 at Christmas price of**

Here's a brand-new Electric Tool Chest in a combination gift carrying case specially designed for Christmas giving! Has everything the man in your family needs to make home jobs easy and fun. Kit includes the world's most popular drill—Black & Decker's Utility ¼" Drill, plus 7 drill bits, rubber backing pad, polishing bonnet, 3 sanding discs, wire cup brush, paint mixer. Get this new B&D Electric Tool Chest from your dealer this week!

**NEW! WORLD'S SAFEST SAW ATTACHMENT**

Fits B&D ¼" and ⅜" Utility Drills. Complete with telescoping guard, blade and rip fence. Adjusts up to 1-3/16" deep. Only **$12.95**

*Bob Davis says:* Send 25c in coin for my *"Handy Tips"* booklet, full of hints on home jobs. Address: Bob Davis, Dept. A-124, The Black & Decker Mfg Co., Towson 4, Md.

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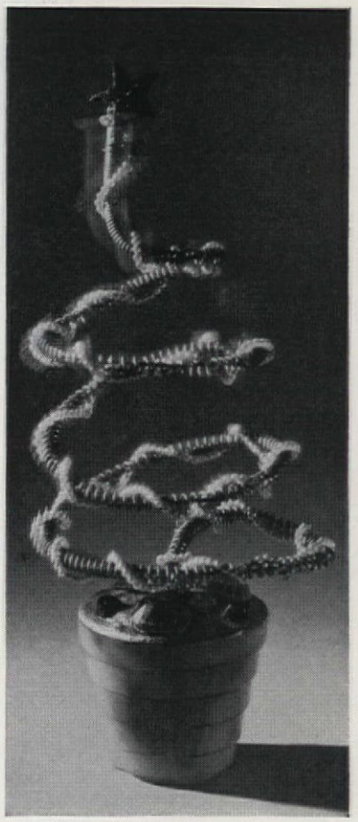
**PORTABLE ELECTRIC TOOLS**

For nearest dealer, look under "Tools-Electric"

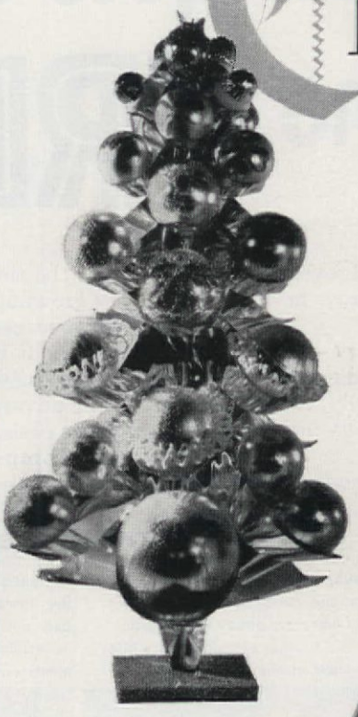
B&D


Our "Jiggle-Wire" tree is a far cry from the evergreen, but great fun to watch, for the slightest vibration sets it dancing. Take an ordinary black door spring, stretch, and insert a heavy wire. Hook ends, and twist into tree shape. Fill flower pot with plaster of Paris and insert base of tree when nearly hard. Paint coil and pot top gold, pin gold star to top of tree. Twist cheap strand of pearls around coil and attach with fine wire. Glue plastic jewels to pot in any desired position. Designer, Patricia Easterbrook Roberts



Jack Frost would approve the sparkling metal-foil tree below. You can buy it in such decorative colors as gold, silver, royal, pink, chartreuse, etc. Its frosty fronds hold ornaments of several sizes—it's up to you to blend your own color scheme. Stands firm on a glittered base and is durable enough to grace your table year after year. Two heights, 22" and 15"

# Christmas



The fact that you can see through the jaunty gift package below makes it all the better. Mrs. Richard Mockler, who designed it, suggests that you fill it with matches, razor blades, candies, gum, soap, stamps, pencils—or you name it. Base, glorified with greens and bells, is a pack of recipient's favorite brand

See "Where Credit Is Due," page 92

Wrapping another shirt package? Do it with a flourish as did Mrs. Frank Scherer—put a striped paper shirt on the outside, too. This time you don't have to worry about the collar size—just cut out a strip of heavy white paper, fold, and paste. "Tie" is of holly leaves; holly berries are buttons

This Santa's a gay blade who'll always break the ice—and a fine gift he makes to buy for the "mostest" hostess you know. His 18" tall figure is made of polystyrene, hand-sculptured by Jeff Velario. Fur is spun glass, buttons are "pearls"

# for All

Hate to see your beautiful wrappings end up in the trash heap? Then glue decorative papers to the box lids so that gifts may be removed without tearing papers. The empty packages, still looking their best, go right back under the tree, and your best creations can be saved to do service next year. The group above was pictured in the home of the Richard E. Platers

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Thermopane® INSULATING GLASS

**KEEPS WINTER HEAT IN**
You'll feel less drafts, less chilliness near windows. That means more usable floor space.

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Your storm sash days are over. No storm sash to buy, paint, wash, hang, or store.

Really, doesn't that add up to good sense? A lot of people think so—for more than 4,000,000 *Thermopane* units have been sold. Before you build or remodel, talk with your architect and builder about having windows with this built-in insulation. *Thermopane* is stocked by L·O·F Glass Distributors for ready delivery. Call your L·O·F Glass Distributor or Dealer for information—he's in the yellow pages of your phone book. And write for our booklet, "Self-insulating Windows of *Thermopane*". *®

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REGINA

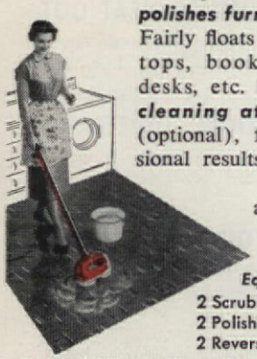
TWIN-BRUSH

POLISHER & SCRUBBER

does your scrubbing, waxing, polishing . . . all around the house.

$64.50 plus excise tax

*From basement to attic,* you'll find your Regina Polisher a "strong right arm" that takes over the jobs you like to do the least! At the touch of your finger-tips, the versatile Regina scrubs linoleum, asphalt tile, plastic *super-clean.* It waxes and polishes all your floors . . . buffs them to a jewel-like lustre, a lasting protective finish. With its high-speed twin brushes, the Regina will save you hours of back-breaking labor month after month. Another important reason for owning a Regina — your *pride* in sparkling-beautiful floors . . . floors that tell the world what a wonderful homemaker you are!



***Regina waxes and polishes furniture, too!*** Fairly floats over table tops, book shelves, desks, etc. ***New rug-cleaning attachment*** (optional), for professional results at home, saves time and money.

***Completely Equipped with***
2 Scrubbing Brushes
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Optional 25-piece Reconditioning Kit for sanding and refinishing.

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Name_____
Address_____
City_____ Zone_____
State_____
Canada: Switson Industries, Ltd., Welland, Ont.


# Anne's Notebook

(Begins on page 66)

glass of juice for pleasing change of pace. A kumquat or two on the side won't go amiss if you and your family like kumquats. We do.

**TOO SELDOM DO I THINK OF HONEY** in spite of the fact that I like the flavor. This is an easy trick and seems to please: Split English muffins and toast lightly under broiler. Mix honey with soft butter and spread generously over muffins. Back under broiler they go until topping is hot and bubbly. Sprinkle with chopped nut meats and serve.

**TRY COOKING FRESH CELERY IN CONSOMME OR BOUILLON** instead of water. Flavor is delicious! Good, too, when you thicken the stock and serve over sliced turkey.

**SPEAKING OF CELERY,** remember to use the crisp celery tops in tossed green salad. Finely chopped . . . good in bread stuffings.

**TRICKS THERE ARE TO EVERY TRADE** and cooking is no exception. Venturesome we should be to have fun and interesting flavor results. Here are two:

**WHEN BROILING** steak or lamb chops, add a few drops of Worcestershire sauce to a little melted butter and brush over the meat. Repeat . . . when you turn the meat.

**GLAZED POULTRY GIVES AN ADDED SPARKLE TO ANY MEAL.** The next time you broil or roast a chicken, duck or small turkey, try brushing the surface of the poultry with barbecue sauce just 15 or 20 minutes before it is done. The added barbecue sauce gives a fine flavor and a beautiful browning job. The man of the house can take this one over when he's in charge.

**BAKED APPLES ACQUIRE A HOLIDAY FLAIR** when stuffed with mincemeat. Baste with a sugar syrup and serve hot with or without hard sauce.

**LET'S NOT FORGET GARNISHES WHEN SERVING SOUP.** We particularly like sliced ripe, green or stuffed olives with tomato; crisp bacon bits or browned frankfurter slices with pea soup. Parsley or watercress give a zesty flavor to cream of chicken, mushroom, or celery.

# Good Victuals

(Begins on page 54)

may well have been considered the heaviest curse on those who refused to do homage to the spirit of Christmas. A toast to you, madam!

Observe how the chimneys
Do smoak all about,
The cooks are providing
For dinner no doubt;
But those on whose tables
No victuals appear,
*O may they keep Lent*
*All the rest of the year!*


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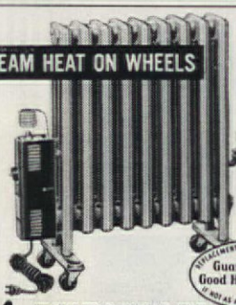

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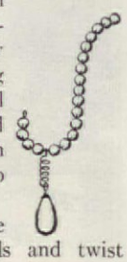
# How to Make Our Bead Tree

Baubles, candles, and beads for the sparkling tree by Patricia Easterbrook Roberts (see page 33) are as much fun to put together as to see! You'll need strings of tiny Christmas balls; half-inch ornaments in two shades; four-inch candles; pear-shaped pearls; fine, medium, and strong wire; floral tape or crepe paper; heavy foil; glitter; glue or paper cement; plaster of Paris; compote or metal funnel for the base.

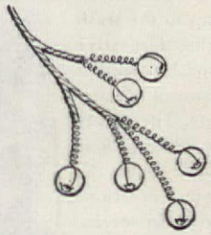
Three basic components—candles in candle holders, bead branches with pearl pendants, and wire sprigs tipped with slightly larger beads, are wired together to form the attractively balanced tree. Starting with candle at tip, work from top down.

Candle holders: Cover heavy wire with tape or crepe paper, and twist it around candles. To catch wax, tape on a small circle of heavy foil. Glamorize candles by sprinkling glitter on glue.



Bead branches: 26 small beads threaded on medium wire are held by hooking one end, taping the other. Thread pearl on fine wire. Twist around pencil to form coil. Arch branch. Hang pearl-drop at end.

Sprigs: Attach fine wire to half-inch beads and twist into coils. Join several to form a branch, adding wire for desired length.



Bind in additional wire for support, covering with tape as you progress.

Base: Fill metal funnel or inverted glass compote with plaster of Paris. When nearly firm, insert tree trunk. Hold in place until plaster hardens. Cover with glue, then sprinkle on glitter.

# Home Is Their Hobby

(Begins on page 48)

Guest room full of projects: The Robertsons gave coat of pink paint to blinds, chair, and old iron bed. Mr. R. rebuilt and painted the spool cabinet. Mrs. R. made the bedspread, curtains, lampshade. Her mother made carpet warp, and had carpet woven for this room

Beautiful chest in corner of master bedroom was made by Mr. R. from sugar pine, and all construction details follow early craftsmen's methods: Drawer fronts are feather-edged; whole chest is hand-pegged or doweled, with walnut plugs covering pegs. Chest was lovingly finished with five coats of shellac, two coats of wax

This pretty corner in the master bedroom is built around a gold-framed mirror shadow box which was a surplus window decoration bought from a department store. Below it, a table made from the legs of an old-fashioned school desk, plus a fine piece of walnut which was used as a top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# We Saw It in The American Home

Cheery décor is required prescription for New York Hospital at Christmas, and each department vies for the gayest walls. Since our lab is divided into hard-to-decorate cubicles, we started worrying early last fall. But when leafing through a copy of THE AMERICAN HOME, we were so intrigued by Blueprint Pattern 2013 for a jolly Santa's train, that we sent for it right away. Our problem was solved!

None of us has had any art training, but the directions were so simple that we followed them without any trouble. On sheets of large brown paper, we drew Santa, his pixies, and his train. It was so easy that we drew two extra cars and many more pixies by tracing the originals. We used tempera paint, outlined everything in black for contrast to our pale green walls, then fastened the drawings throughout the lab.

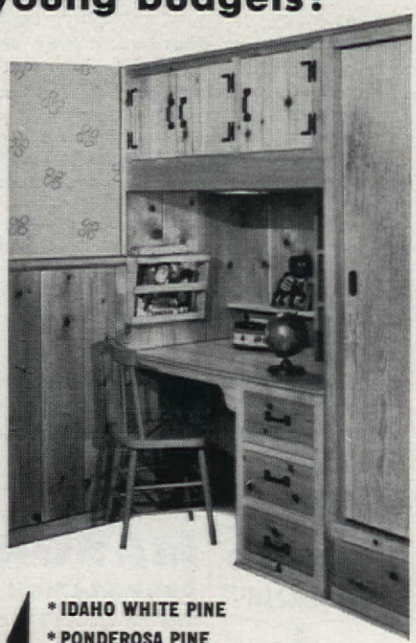
The bright colors impressed our patients, lent a holiday effect to a laboratory that might otherwise have held fear for them. And because of

the gaity and clearness of your patterns, our decorations were mounted on cardboard and installed permanently in the new playroom of New York's children's clinic.—MARY R. FINEGAN

## built-ins for young budgets!

Built in the woods of the Western Pines*, this compact corner costs but little—and adds so much in convenience, charm and practicality!

Whether you build it yourself or have it done, it will pay you to use the woods of the Western Pines for your building and decorating. See these carefully selected, easy-to-work woods at your local lumber dealer—ask him for an estimate!



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# Party Box

RACHEL VANDERWERF

● We had a spur-of-the-moment party at our house last night—and all of the trimmings came out of our party box! This party was in Daddy's honor, (he had just arrived home from a trip) so he got the miniature straw hat with flowers. Our three girls wore soldiers' hats, and I had a crepe-paper bonnet. Some of the napkins had poinsettias on them, others had birthday cakes. Even the nut cups were individual in design.

Our small girls go to lots of parties—and always come home laden with trimmings I can't bear to throw away—so we keep them in a party box on the closet shelf. Now that we have it, I'm amazed at how easy it is to find an excuse for a celebration!

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Excellent for a room with Early American furnishings and low ceiling: Embossed brass tray is a reproduction of an antique, candlesticks are modern—but they go very well with the old clock. See how much more effective this is than the conventional way: the tray hung smack in the center of the wall, the clock directly below it, and the candlesticks in pairs at either side!

# Mantelpiece Magic

MARY E. MONZE

Balance without formal symmetry: Two Victorian vases with greens have as much "weight" as the barometer plus the ornamental gold star. In such a composition, a tiny painting is perfectly happy over a mantel, and the fruit-filled tray is a finishing touch

If the hearthside is the heart of the home, the wall above it, surely, is a most important focal point, an area where your own taste can, and should, be given full play. Yet how often have you seen such spots tritely treated, with no display of imagination—a pat, symmetrical arrangement of a clock flanked by a pair of candlesticks; a mirror badly proportioned to the space; an indifferent painting, poorly lit, and not especially loved, but used just because "paintings are good over mantels"? Of course good paintings and fine pieces of sculpture *can* be ideal here—but if you can take objects chosen with care and affection, and compose them into your own meaningful still-life, you don't need a work of art to dramatize your mantelpiece. Let these four arrangements set your imagination to work. One word of caution, however: give yourself plenty of scope, but do keep in mind the character of your whole room and its furnishings.

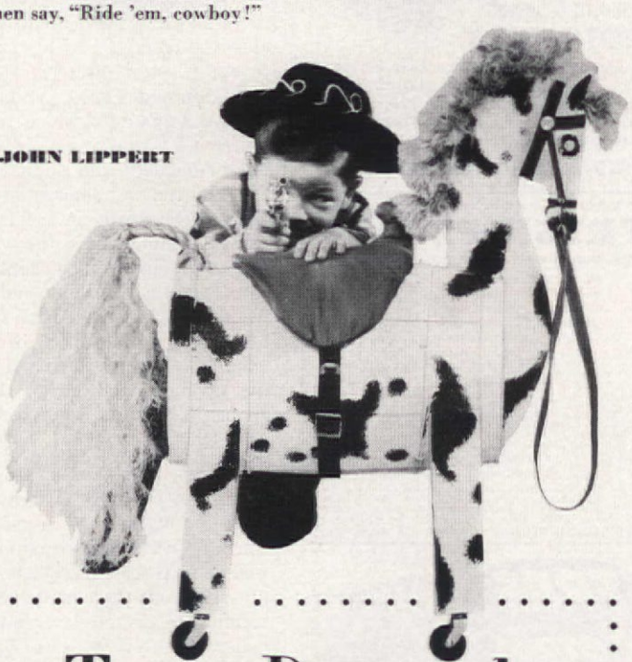
ALL SETTINGS PHOTOGRAPHED AT B. ALTMAN & COMPANY, NEW YORK

Big drama—with a light touch: Rococo gilded wood sconce was the starting point, and with it, a "just right" French clock turns a wall into a fairyland setting for engaging Royal Copenhagen figurines. The Christmas-star "tree" at left is a holiday novelty, but any lacy plant could create a similar effect

For an elegant and spacious traditional room, a symmetrical arrangement of handsome, and unusual objects. The garland and two fruit baskets are hand-carved wood, gilded—and they are closely related in spirit to the pair of antique crystal and bronze candelabra

The young range riders in your family will shore like this hoss in their corral! No buckin' bronc is he, but a well-trained critter that stands or canters at a touch. To make him, mount a nail keg (ours came from a nearby lumber yard) on four sturdy 2 x 4 legs, each shod with a heavy caster. Cut his head from plywood. Use frayed hemp rope for his tail and well-groomed mane. Reins and saddle are of plastic. Use a flat oil base to paint him piebald, roan or silver—whatever markings your young 'un hankers after—then say, "Ride 'em, cowboy!"

JOHN LIPPERT



# Two Barrels of Fun

Barrels of fun for the younger set are these nail kegs transformed by hammer and paint brush into down-to-earth or cloud-borne vehicles for quick trips to the Land of Make-Believe! It's not too late to play Santa's helper, and a double dose of happiness is in store for you when your own handiwork gives so much pleasure. Here's a Merry Christmas to all cowboys and space men!

Junior birdman blasts off to the moon on this supersonic rocket ship. A nail keg forms its body, plywood makes the wings, and four 2 x 4 legs equipped with casters make sturdy enough landing gear for any base in outer space. (We used kitchen strainer and funnel for the nose)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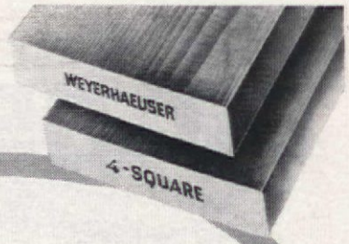


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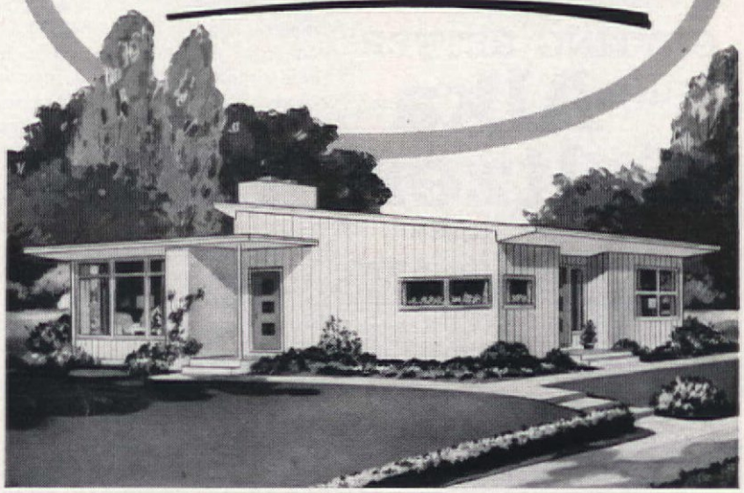
## Home Plans



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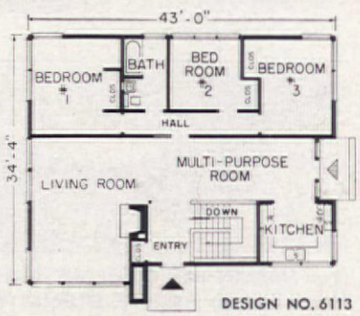

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# Evergreens

(Begins on page 44)

locks, and white and Norway pines will stand a fair amount of shade, but other pines, and junipers, spruces, firs, and retinisporas need plenty of sunlight to do and look their best.

As one owner of a fine evergreen planting said, "Perhaps more people would plant evergreens and find them not hard to grow if they understood them better and familiarized themselves with the trees' requirements and preferences. Evergreens are friendly and sociable; they like the company of other trees. We tried three times to establish a pine in a certain spot but could get one to grow there only after we were told to plant a deciduous tree near by—and followed the advice."

Now that has factual foundation in that the quicker-growing deciduous tree gave needed shade for the little pine while it was getting established. Later, when the pine got on its own feet and began to need more space, the other (nurse) tree was removed. I once bought and planted close to my house a beautiful young spruce to screen an unsightly basement window. It did so, very effectively. But, after a few years, I had to have it moved, at considerable expense, to a spot where it could develop to its full beauty and symmetry without crowding the house and us. Since that experience, I have always taken photographs showing the place I want to put a tree to show my nurseryman so he can help me choose.

If, when you have decided what to get, you cannot afford to have it planted for you (with, usually, some guaranty of replacement if it fails to grow), you can plant it yourself with a good chance of success if you follow some basic rules.

Plant at the right season which, for evergreens, can be early spring, or in August, when they are comparatively dormant. See that the plants are freshly dug and well "balled and burlapped" with a good mass of soil intact around the roots. Plant as soon after delivery as possible; if there must be some delay, put them in the shade and keep the tops and root balls from drying out.

Preferably, have the holes dug in advance, amply large to take the balls without crowding. Loosen the soil in the bottom of each hole and mix in some fully rotted manure, compost, or peat moss. When a plant is in place, trim away only any excess, bulky burlap; the rest will soon rot away. Be sure it is standing straight before filling the hole half full of soil; then fill it with water which is allowed to soak in before the filling is completed. Because moisture is so essential while a plant is getting established, I stand an iron pipe in the hole before I fill it, close

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# Evergreens

to the tree with the lower end at the roots and the other end extending above ground level. This enables me to apply water directly to the roots with minimum waste, and also provides a support to which to guy the tree until its new root growth takes hold. Adequate rain (or watering) is essential the first summer after planting, and especially in the fall, so the plant will not go into the winter dry. A good thick mulch applied right after planting and not only left in place, but replenished as fast as it rots and becomes part of the soil, helps retain moisture and provides the coolness and cover that evergreens like around their feet.

You can also—either from choice or necessity—grow evergreens from seed, but it will, of course, call for time and patience. Some nurseries, as well as tree seed specialists, can supply seed; or there may be in your vicinity an evergreen enthusiast who collects, and is glad to share, seed from his cones and berries. Cedar berries are best put in moist sand, stored in the cellar over winter, then sown in an outdoor seedbed. Here the hard seeds may take another whole year to germinate, though seedlings of pine, spruce, etc., may appear three or four weeks after planting. Their growth for the first several years may be discouragingly slow, but after they are a foot or more tall, their growth rate accelerates strongly. As soon as they are an inch or two high, they should be thinned out and given some shade, as from a lath screen. Transplant them every year or so as their growth dictates; this induces compact root systems that better stand the shock of transplanting. By the time they are two or three feet tall, they can be put in their permanent locations and subjected to the first of whatever pruning or shearing is needed to keep them within desired limits. As with all plants, the less trimming they get, the more natural and graceful they will be; this is especially the case with drooping, weeping, prostrate, and dwarf types. A juniper allowed to take its own time and course over a boulder or stone wall will achieve an artistry that even the most skilful pruner cannot hope to duplicate.

So make a study of the many kinds of evergreens in relation to the various landscape possibilities of your place. If it's a tall, thick hedge, or shelterbelt background that you need, there are kinds that will provide it. If you want to clothe a steep, unmowable slope; soften and extend the corner lines of your house; emphasize an entrance, or provide a striking accent in the near, middle, or extreme distance—why, plant an evergreen. I'm sure it will please you.

# Eat Your Pear and Have It Too

SUSANNAH A. COLEMAN

This tall (22 inches tall) tale goes back to a February day when I made an avocado ("alligator-pear" to many) salad. To throw away the chocolate-brown stone seemed wasteful and offended my gardening instincts. So I planted it in a clay pot, pointed end up and about an inch below the surface, and set the pot on a dimly lit pantry shelf so as to stimulate root growth first, watering as needed to keep the soil from drying out. Impatient after four weeks, I explored, was pleased to find a little root curling from the base, and moved the pot to a brighter place. In early April, there appeared a slender, pale green shoot which rapidly gave rise to small, pointed leaves, and continued to grow. Since, in Charlottesville, Va., frost danger is over in April, and the soil warm and eager, into the garden went the plant. Our soil was red clay, somewhat enriched so, not knowing the plant's preference, I merely mulched it with peat moss to conserve moisture. With several good waterings a week, the plant thrived and developed a succession of long, thick, glossy leaves.

In late September, knowing I had to do something about "our treasure," I dug it up, keeping as much soil as possible around the six-inch-long network of roots. These I coiled loosely in the bottom of the 7½-in. pot in which I planted it—in a mixture of garden soil, peat moss, and well-rotted manure—keeping the plant at the same level at which it had stood in the garden. To ease the shock of the move, I kept it for several days in the shade near the house, with the soil moist, but not soggy. (By now it was almost 20 inches tall, with three side shoots near the top.)

Indoors, it drooped a bit at first, but soon cheered up—perhaps because I stood it in a handsome chartreuse glazed jardiniere and gave it for company a bright-colored "Weekend Willie Bird" watering device. This, besides giving the dignfied plant a rather amusing look, supplies the roots with moisture between waterings and when we go away for a few days. By February—its birthday—the plant had grown another two inches and acquired more leaves; less spectacular growth than outdoors, but preferably so since one does not want a giraffe on one's hands. At this writing, the plant, in our Washington home, is a real conversation piece. If you, too, decide to eat your pear and have it, start a seed at any time—indoors in the winter, or outdoors, in pot or seedbed, when it's warm. Incidentally, avocado comes from a Spanish word, *aguacate*, or, possibly, another, *bocado*, meaning "tid bit," which, conversationally, is what your pear becomes after you eat it.

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

# the boy and the Star

*He is old enough now to know that the ornament on the tree is more than simply a star . . . to understand the deeper meaning of Christmastime.*

*Now he knows that it is love that has been shining on the tree year after year, the love that has wrapped and held him . . . that has given him food and warmth and laughter and the promise of joy to come.*

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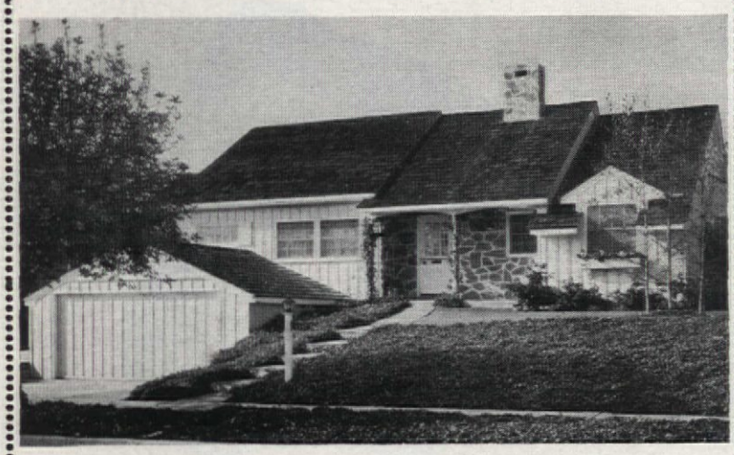
**No. 36** (page 34, this issue). Traditional stone and wood. One-level plan has three bedrooms, two baths in separate wing; living room, den, each have fireplace; dining room; kitchen, utility room; large patio. About 2200 sq. ft., plus garage




# Plans only $5.00

**No. 29** ☐ (Apr., '54, issue) Contemporary brick and wood façade. One level: 3 bedrooms, 2 baths; large L-shaped living-dining room with fireplace; kitchen; double garage; large terrace.

**No. 30** ☐ (May, '54, issue) Traditional stone and wood façade. Feature of one-level plan is L-shaped space, about 30′ x 40′, formed by living room, dining room, den. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, kitchen, laundry, double garage, optional maid's room and bath.

**No. 31** ☐ (June, '54, issue) Vacation house. Modern. Wood. 2 bedrooms, bath, living-dining-kitchen area. Porch.

**No. 32** ☐ (July, '54, issue) Vacation house. Modern. Wood. Living-dining-kitchen area, master bedroom and bath, plus 4-room bunkhouse and bath. Terrace.

**No. 33** ☐ (Sept., '54, issue) Large Traditional. Stone and shingle façade. King-size rooms, one level: 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, study; arranged for flexibility; living room; dining room; kitchen; laundry; double garage.

**No. 34** ☐ (Oct., '54, issue) Compact traditional, wood siding, Two stories, basement. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room, dining room, kitchen, double garage, porch, deck, excellent storage space.

**No. 35** ☐ (Nov., '54, issue) One-level modern. Board and batten with brick. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room, dining room, kitchen, laundry, terrace.

**No. 36** ☐ (Page 34, this issue) Traditional, stone and wood. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, study, living room, dining room, kitchen, utility, patio, 2-car garage.

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# Heartwarming House

**(Begins on page 34)**

companionship can flourish against a background of strong, friendly colors. There's also a den, off by itself, but it is dedicated to jobs of its own: TV viewing, record playing, and small gatherings of the friends of pre-teenager Julie Jones, whose headquarters this warm-hearted home seems to be.

The living room is what Julie calls the "yacking center," and it is shared by both generations. Busy schedules may not permit much time for family-shared fun, but the Joneses *make* the time, over week-ends, or in the early part of the evening. Julie's friends may spend half an hour or so with her parents in this family living room before TV takes over. The youngsters like to gather around the piano and sing out their hearts—and so do their seniors. Some nights, there are discussions around the fire, and if you think pre-teeners aren't up to serious why's and how's, you should hear Dr. Jones and the assembled floor sitters talk about everything from international politics to teachers with ulcers! This kind of thing, the Joneses feel, is a vital part of making a home.

Study the plan on page 37 to see what a good home Architect Miller has planned for any sociable family. The living room, den, and terrace (part of it a well-sheltered patio) take care of the social aspects. The three-bedroom wing, off by itself entirely, connects with both entry and patio, has exceptionally good closet space, and two baths so arranged that one serves as a powder room. The entry, as is meet in a home where guests are always welcome, has *two* good coat closets. The dining room is entirely separate, so meals need not be disturbed if the "gang" arrives early. At the den end of the inviting kitchen, there is an airy and roomy eating area, large enough for a round table and arm chairs, where evening snacks as well as breakfasts are enjoyed. At the other end of the kitchen, a compact utility room packs in the heater, automatic laundry equipment, incinerator, and a storage closet.

To bring the good shell to life, Decorator Shaw furnished the house for gay practicality. The color never sags, and each room is pointed up with bright bits of business. Rooms, like books, he believes, look better in their own gay colors. As one young friend of Julie's summed it up: "It's a swell set-up. Great family, nice house, sure fun."

*Have you seen God's*
*Christmas tree in the sky,*
*With its trillions of*
*tapers blazing high?*

—Angela Morgan, "Christmas Tree of Angels"

# What Christmas Means to Me

**A BOY'S CHRISTMAS DREAM**

Sometimes at night when I am on the border between sleep and consciousness, my thoughts drift towards Christmas and what it really means. I see happy, smiling children with new toys, people sitting down to a Christmas dinner. Then all gets strangely dark. I see a small stable with a single light, a very beautiful woman nursing a small child. The picture comes closer and I see a man standing over them. Suddenly I realize that this is the scene that took place almost 2000 years ago when Jesus was born. Sweet music starts to blow from some place unseen. Slowly the scene fades, and soon I am fast asleep. Next morning I wake up and remember the beautiful picture. I hope that the coming Christmas is a good one and that many people stop for one small minute and remember what happened on this day about 2000 years ago!

—DAVID POWERS, age 11

**THE BEST GIFT OF ALL**

My sister, some eight years younger than I, was born at home early Christmas morning. We older children had been farmed out to various relatives, but at noon on Christmas, my father collected us to go back home for our own family celebration. I can still remember the thrill of walking into the living room, to the ceiling-high tree and multitude of gaily wrapped packages, and, under the tree, a bassinet with a "real, live baby"! —TERESA C. COHALAN

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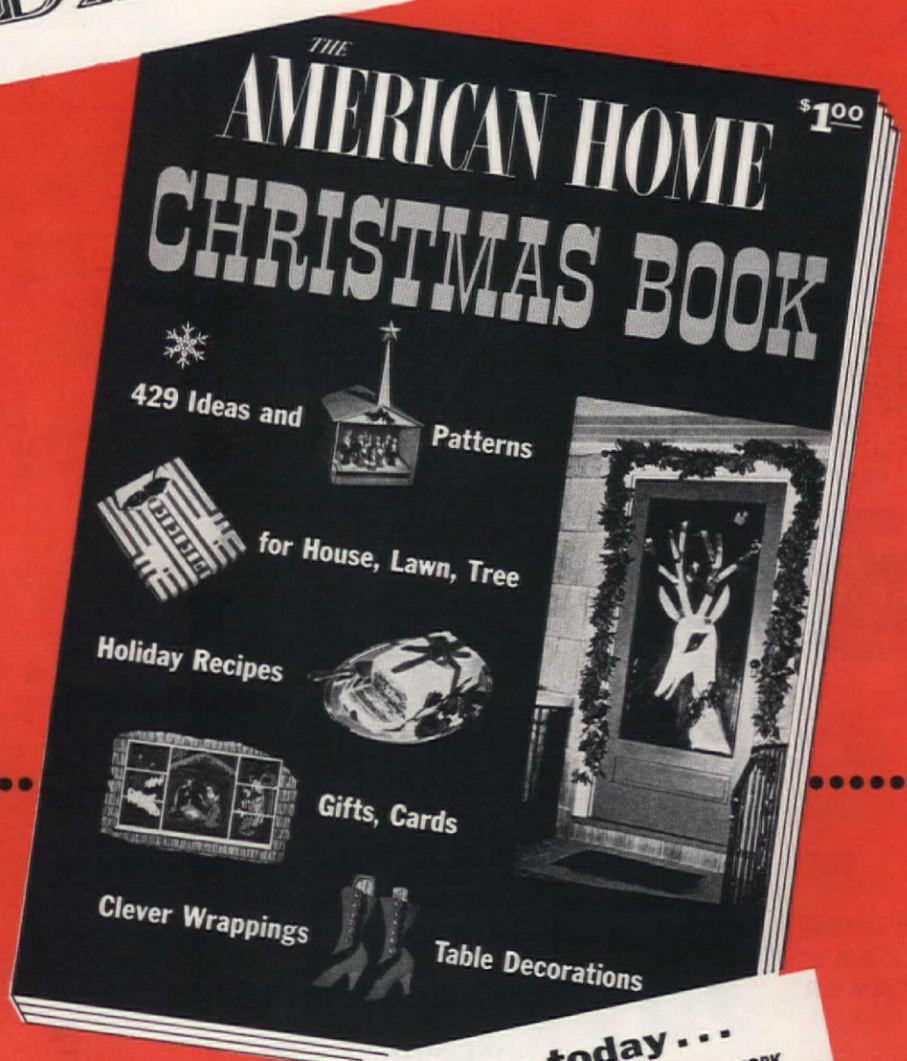


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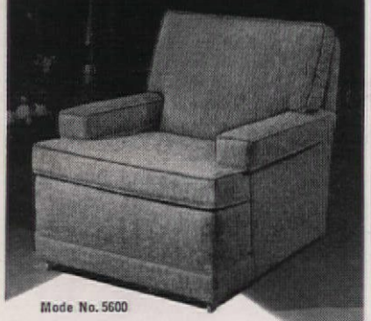

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# Christmas Music

(Begins on page 42)

work miracles with enchanting ideas like this. The score, written for the ballet of the same title, teems with delicious surprises, just the kind that all people—young and old—love to find, glittering ever so brightly, under the Christmas tree.

*Songs in Folk Style*: DVORAK
*Gypsy Melodies* and BRAHMS *Lieder*.
Amy Felbermayer, soprano, with Viktor Graef, piano accompanist
VANGUARD, 12-inch LP, 446, $5.95

Lovely songs these. The Brahms passion for *Volkslieder* (Folk Songs) is here beautifully exampled, since at least six of the ten pieces by him are all derived from original folk tunes. Dvorak just up and went to gypsy sources for these delightful songs of his. The result of all this is, thanks to the intelligence and the idiomatic quality of Amy Felbermayer's singing, decidedly to the good.

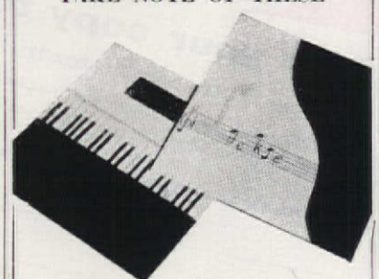
Now, here are a number of disks that I found interesting and quite agreeable, and I hope that the brief comment in each case will show you why:—

GOULD: *Serenade of Carols for Orchestra* and *Suite of Hymns for Orchestra*; Morton Gould and his Orchestra
COLUMBIA ML-2065, $4
Clever and endearing.

*Christmas Hymns and Carols*:
Columbia Choristers, Lehman Engle, director
COLUMBIA ML-2199, $4
Musically polished singing and most enjoyable.

HUMPERDINCK: *Hansel and Gretel*
Elisabeth Gruemmer and Elisabeth Schwarzkopf; Choirs of Loughton High School for Girls and Bancroft School for Boys; Philharmonia Orchestra, Herbert Von Karajan, Conductor
ANGEL, two 12-inch LP, $9.90
Utterly captivating performance by all, including the singers.

## TAKE NOTE OF THESE



What better way to wrap gift LP's? Use shiny black and white paper to make keyboard (left) and grand-piano top (right). Grease-pencil marks make keys and treble clef. Large note is gold glitter sprayed on paste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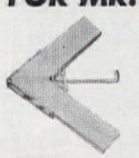

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# Where Credit Is Due

**COVER**
Wallpaper, Sigfrid K. Lonegren, Inc. Ruby and crystal wedding bowl, Westmoreland. "Lord Saybrook" hurricane lamps, International Silver Co. "Mardi Gras" tablecloth, Bates Fabrics.

**CHRISTMAS YOU SAY, IS FOR CHILDREN?**
**Page 29:** Wallpaper, Piazza Prints, Inc.

**TABLES WITH HOLIDAY AIRS**
**Page 32: Bottom photo:** "Encanto Nuevo" dinnerware 5 pc. place setting $13.50, Franciscan. Tiffin "Corona" saucer-champagne and wine glasses, $2.50 each, U. S. Glass. "Grand Baroque" flatware, 6 pc. place setting about $43.50, silver goblets, $16.50 each, Clam Shell Almond Dishes 3½" dia., $3.75 each, Clam Shell Mint or Nut Dish 5" dia., $13.75 each, individual salts and peppers, $27.50 a dozen, Wallace Silversmiths. "Festival" cloth 65" by 85" and 8 napkins, $24.95 a set, Felix Tausend.
**Page 33: Top photo, left:** "White Clover" pottery baby plates and mugs, $1.95 a set, Harker Pottery. "Reigning Beauty" flatware (6 pc. place setting $27.50) and mugs, $7 each, Heirloom Sterling. Celadon "Colorflax" cloth 64" dia, and 6 napkins, $19.95 a set, John Matouk. Santa Claus set, wall colors, Colorize Assoc. **Photo, right:** "Rondo" 5 pc. place setting $22.50, Doulton and Company. "Gold Band Hair Line" stemware, $2 each, 8" plates, $1.50 each, Imperial Glass. "Esplanade" flatware, 6 pc. setting $37.50, "Southwind" celery dish, $17.50 each, "Southwind" sampler tray, $15, "Southwind" accessory dishes, $4.75 each, "Silver Flutes" cigarette urn ($8.75), and napkin rings, $2.50 each, "Swirl" salt and pepper shakers, $7.50 a pair, Towle Manufacturing Company. Metallic cloth 70" dia., $15.30, Spun-Glo Products. Napkins, 59¢ each, Leacock.
All prices are approximate.

**"AND TO ALL—A GOOD NIGHT"**
**Pages 52, 53:** Satin-covered headboard, M. Mittman Co. Reindeer, doves, jeweled tree from Nu Decor, Inc., all other ornaments from Pentland Assoc.
**Additional data about sheets:**—Prices quoted on sets include 81" x 108" sheet and two pillow cases. Fieldcrest's "Morning Glory" and Bates' "Rosebud and Polka Dot" come only in colors shown. The following are available in colors listed here, in addition to ones shown:—"Sampler Rose Border"—yellow, green and blue. "Cartwheel"—light and dark blue with pink; gray, bright green and pink; yellow, orange and gray: "Kimberley Diamond"—yellow with gray and yellow border: pink with gray and pink border; green with white and green border: "Shadow Check"—pink, blue and green: All are from Dan River Mills.
**Additional data about blankets:**—"Chatham's Purrey Reversible" comes also in these combinations: pink and aqua; medium and deep blue; green and lime; red and pink; yellow and aqua. Their "McAlister" is done on soft rose, blue and aqua grounds. Fieldcrest's "Festival" can be had in white, blue, green and yellow with harmonizing borders; their "Mar-Ray," blue, pink, rosy red. "Spinning Wheel" by St. Marys comes only in color shown and in only one size —65" x 90". North Star's "Floral Nocturne" may be had with yellow, blue, or pink roses come printed on white, deep pink on light pink with white on blue.

**GOOD VICTUALS**
**Pages 54, 55:** Mat Sateen Bowl, Ardalt Imports. "Floraine" porcelain-handled carving set, serving spoon, and pie server, A. E. Lewis. Gold fluted-edge milk glass plate, Abels Wasserberg. Ceramic gold-edged cake plate, Artcraft Imports. Gold Therma-Server, Kinneola Kilns. Square milk glass cake salver, U. S. Glass. "Monticello" platter, Herman Kupper.

**DOUBLE TAKE FROM YOUR KITCHEN**
**Pages 64, 65:** Sasheen Ribbon and Scotch cellophane tape, The Minnesota Mining and Mfg. Co. Gold Dec-It, Dorothy Harrower.

*God bless the Master of this house*
—usual ending of the house-to-house carol singers in England

# Where Credit Is Due

**FAMILY FOOD**

**Pages 68, 69:** Three Christmas Belles, Susan Smith, Carpentersville, Illinois. Vegetable Dish, Soup Tureen, Ironstoneware, Samuel Copelon. Starburst, Franciscan Dinnerware. Silver Ladle, Gerity. "South Seas" Silverware, Oneida, Tablecloth, Leacock. Salt and Pepper, Bryce Bros.

**ANNE'S NOTEBOOK**

**Page 66:** Milk-glass fluted basket, Fenton Art. Three assorted ceramic angels, The Shafford Co.

**CHRISTMAS FOR ALL**

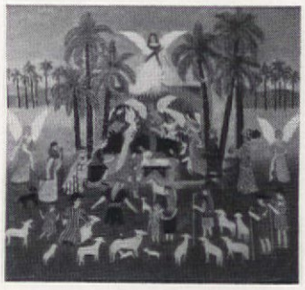
**Pages 84, 85:** Metal foil tree, 22" for $8., 15" for $3.50, Santa on skates, 17.95, both Mary Pentland.

**PHOTOGRAPHS**

F. M. Demarest: pages 29-31, 32 (top right, bottom), 33, 43, 52-56, 64-66, 68, 70, 75, 80, 82, 86. Hauger & Dorf: page 22. Harry H. Baskerville, Jr.: pages 26, 78. Philip Gendreau: page 31 (top left, street scene). Jack Roche: page 32 (top left). Kranzten Studio: pages 35 (exterior view), 37, 40, 41. George de Gennaro: page 34, 35 (interior views), 36. Evanston Photographic Service: pages 38, 39. Warren Reynolds: pages 46-50, 83. Percival Photographers: page 89.

**DRAWINGS**

Dick Ott: page 33. Sigman-Ward: pages 37, 40, 43, 75, 82. Albert Pucci: page 45. The Bettmann Archive: page 66. Elliott Flagg: page 72.

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## New Booklet Reveals Hard-Of-Hearing Wants

No need to feel lonely if you're hard of hearing! You don't *have* to live in a world apart!

L. A. WATSON

"YOU ARE NOT ALONE IN DEAFNESS" is a free booklet based on a nationwide survey among hard-of-hearing men and women. Learn how they felt when they realized they were losing their hearing, what they did about it, what they discovered about hearing aids. "YOU ARE NOT ALONE IN DEAFNESS" will be sent to you in a plain wrapper without cost. Just mail the coupon.

MAICO Room 35 D
21 North Third Street, Minneapolis 1, Minn.
Name .....
Address .....
City ..... State .....

# Pattern Order Form

**Please allow 3 weeks for handling and mailing.**

If you wish air mail delivery, kindly add 15c per pattern to cover cost of postage.

☐ 1578..30c A wonderful cooky pattern for a lovely crèche that will be the conversation piece at your house this Christmas includes recipe.
☐ 1478..30c Building and painting pattern for a delightful "Meissen" mirror frame, easy to make of plywood. Enameled base is perfect for crisp blue designs.
☐ 1479..35c Painting designs of Meissen motifs for small buckets, door knobs, spice cabinets, canisters.
☐ 1480..30c Textile painting Meissen designs for a window shade or draperies.
☐ 1481..50c Textile painting Meissen designs for a large tablecloth. This is perfect for a bedspread.
☐ 1579..30c Wonderful Penna. Dutch "Belsnickle" Christmas cooky pattern. 15 designs with recipe.
☐ 1486..25c Paint a (wash-off-after-the-Holidays), Santa in his sled on often neglected garage door.
☐ 1487..30c Gay little fringed surrey to hold real-or pretend-gifts. Mount on door or set over mantel.
☐ 1488..25c This pattern is for making choir boys of metal foil. Let them be deck windows or mantel.
☐ 1489..30c A pattern of angels to paint on your storm door or windows to welcome in Christmas season.
☐ 1490..25c Make a little choir boy of plastic foam and metal foil. This pattern shows you how.
☐ 1491..30c A graph pattern for wonderful "stained" glass windows. These are truly beautiful.
☐ 1497..25c Here's a wonderful way to decorate a Christmas cake. Pattern is forest scene with reindeer.
☐ 1441..35c This pattern has a very lovely strawberry and ribbon motif that can be used for painting on wood, tin, glass and fabric.
☐ 1442..25c This pattern is for the "Museum Horse" a wonderful copy of an old weathervane. Cut out of plywood, masonite, tin or aluminum.
☐ 1432..30c Another unusual Christmas gift idea. 5 Holland Dutch Delft painting designs for tiles to give individually, or in sets.
☐ 1435..20c If you work fast you could use this pattern to weave some wonderful Swedish designs on inexpensive Huck towels.
☐ 10c Complete list of all available patterns

*Name*

*Street Address*

*City* *Zone No.* *State*

See instructions below for ordering patterns

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☐ 2013..50c Blueprint construction pattern for building an amusing Santa's train with his Pixie helpers.
☐ 2027..50c Blueprint construction pattern for building plywood reindeer for your lawn.
☐ 2028..50c Blueprint construction pattern for building a tall modern Santa Claus to mount on your front door or stand next to tree.
☐ 2003..50c Blueprint construction pattern for building Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer and his friend.

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PRINT name and address in coupon, which will be used as label for mailing patterns. Cut out order form along dash lines, check patterns desired and send M.O. or personal check (please do not send stamps). If you live in New York City, add 3% for City Sales Tax.

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P.O. Box 153
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Manufacturing Company
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STATEMENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 (Title 39, United States Code, Section 233) SHOWING THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION OF THE AMERICAN HOME published monthly at New York, N.Y. for October 1, 1954.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, W. H. Eaton, 444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N.Y.; Editor, Jean Austin, 444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N.Y.; Managing Editor, Jeannie Willis, 444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N.Y.; Business Manager, W. H. Eaton, 444 Madison Ave., New York 22, N.Y.

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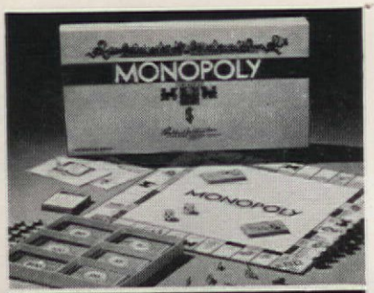
W. H. Eaton, Publisher.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 15th day of September, 1954

THEODORE F. GLOISTEN
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NEW YORK
No. 30-6545700
Qualified in Nassau County
[SEAL] (Term expires March 30, 1956)

# Look...it's new!



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For family fun, there's nothing quite like Monopoly. Youngsters and grown-ups agree that it's the most fascinating game in the world! $3, $4, $10

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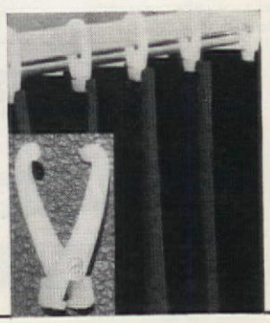
**Send for this fascinating booklet!** How to have family fun, popular parties, with Parker Games. 28 illustrated pages. Mail 10¢ today, with name and address, to: Parker Brothers, Inc., Dept. 115, Salem, Mass.

PAINT ON GLASS, peel it off after the holidays. Contents of kit includes red, green and white paint, brushes and Christmas patterns. $1.49. A-Peeling Paint Co., 3463 Ashton Ct., Palo Alto, Calif.

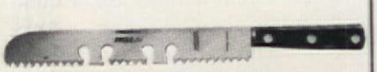
PLEAT RINGS hold café curtains in even pleats, snap off and on for easy laundering and ironing of curtains. In white molded nylon, rings can be dyed any color with fabric dyes. 10¢ each, $1.39 for pack of 14. E. L. Mansure Co. 1605 Indiana Ave., Chicago, Ill.



LIGHT SWITCH TOGGLE that glows in the OFF position makes it easy to locate. Also shows when light is off in basement or attic. $1.50. General Electric, Bridgeport, Ct.

TRACTOR SEAT CONTOUR of this steel stool makes for form fitting comfort. In high bar stool size, lower chair height or low stool, colors are rose, green, yellow, red or blue. The high one is $7.95. Tiger Tractor Corp., Keyser, W. Va.

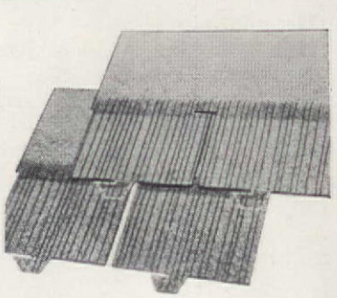
FREEZ-CUT KNIFE cuts through solidly frozen meats, fruits or vegetables (even packages) quickly and easily. Blade is 10-inch, stainless steel; handle is hard rubber. $3.95. W. R. Case & Sons Cutlery Co., Bradford, Pennsylvania



NOTHING OLD FASHIONED about this laundry tub and stand. The tub is light weight Fiberglas reinforced plastic in three colors or white, the stand is wrought iron. $49.95. Gray-Wilson Co., Detroit 7, Mich.

PROTECT AFRICAN-VIOLET plants against infection by leaf-stalk rot by covering pot rim with this new lead alloy Protectotape. Pliable, heavy, durable, easy to apply; ¾" wide, 60" costs 25¢. Grayline Specialties Co., Box 1529, Grand Central Sta. N.Y.C.

BUILT-IN LEGS of this portable automatic three-speed record player let you set it up anywhere on its own stand. Gray vinyl covering is scuff and liquid resistant. $89.95. Philco Corp., Phila. 34, Penn.



HIGH WINDS won't disturb these new interlocking, asphalt strip shingles, since they lock tight with tabs that don't show. Available in many colors. The Ruberoid Co., 500 5th Ave., New York 36, N. Y.

All Prices Are Approximate



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# You'll dance in any weather on this basement village green

r it rain! Let it snow! The picnic party's still on. For this bright village green is indoors. It's asement party room that can easily be yours. You can probably pick up most of the furniture a song—the tables and chairs from a local café, haps, the park benches from an antique shop. e bandstand is simply constructed, with scroll- k of plywood. It's a place to show off the family's sical talents, and it houses a record player, too. ind the snack counter, there's a laundry.

What really makes this wonderful party room, think you'll agree, is the distinctive floor—a nbination of two of the many handsome color- s available in Armstrong's Asphalt Tile. The bold, clear graining of this economical flooring gives dramatic beauty to every tile.

Cleaning up the morning after a party is no headache. A broom just glides over the smooth surface of Armstrong's Asphalt Tile, whisking away dirt in next to no time. Dancing won't leave scuff marks on this floor, and cigarette burns are easily removed. Even the normal alkaline moisture in basement concrete won't harm it.

See your local flooring dealer soon about this beautiful Armstrong Floor. When you discover how surprisingly little it costs, you'll understand why Armstrong's Asphalt Tile is known as "The low-cost floor with the luxury look."

**Individual design** possibilities are endless with Armstrong's Asphalt Tile, since tiles are laid block by block. This floor combines Style No. D-900, Ivory, with No. C-902, Foam Green. An occasional washing and waxing is all the care needed to keep this floor bright and new looking for years.

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**The "Younger Set,"** all the basic sterling pieces needed to set a glamorous table for four. Choice of lovely Heirloom Sterling patterns. 19 pieces only $99.90†. . . including the handsome chest!

**Smart gift?** It's Heirloom Sterling's new *perfect* place-setting idea! Not the usual six pieces—it includes an *extra teaspoon* at a "savings" price. Only $29.75† for all *seven* pieces!

**Lovely serving pieces** in Heirloom Sterling—a gift to delight any hostess' heart! Gravy ladle $9.25†. Pierced, round server $11.50†. Cold meat fork $9.25†. Pickle fork $4.00†

*This year—give for the future*— Any one of the beautiful Heirloom Sterling patterns is a *glorious* choice for a bride. And—perhaps this is the year to give *your* family the sterling it deserves! Heirloom Sterling is fine, heavy, impressive *solid silver*, one of the wisest investments you'll ever make. See your jeweler *now* for gifts in Heirloom Sterling beginning at $3.25 . . . and remember, all prices *include* Federal Tax.

†Extra heavy Stanton Hall, slightly higher.

*Heirloom Sterling*