

# PERFECT HOME

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When Privacy is Pertinent  
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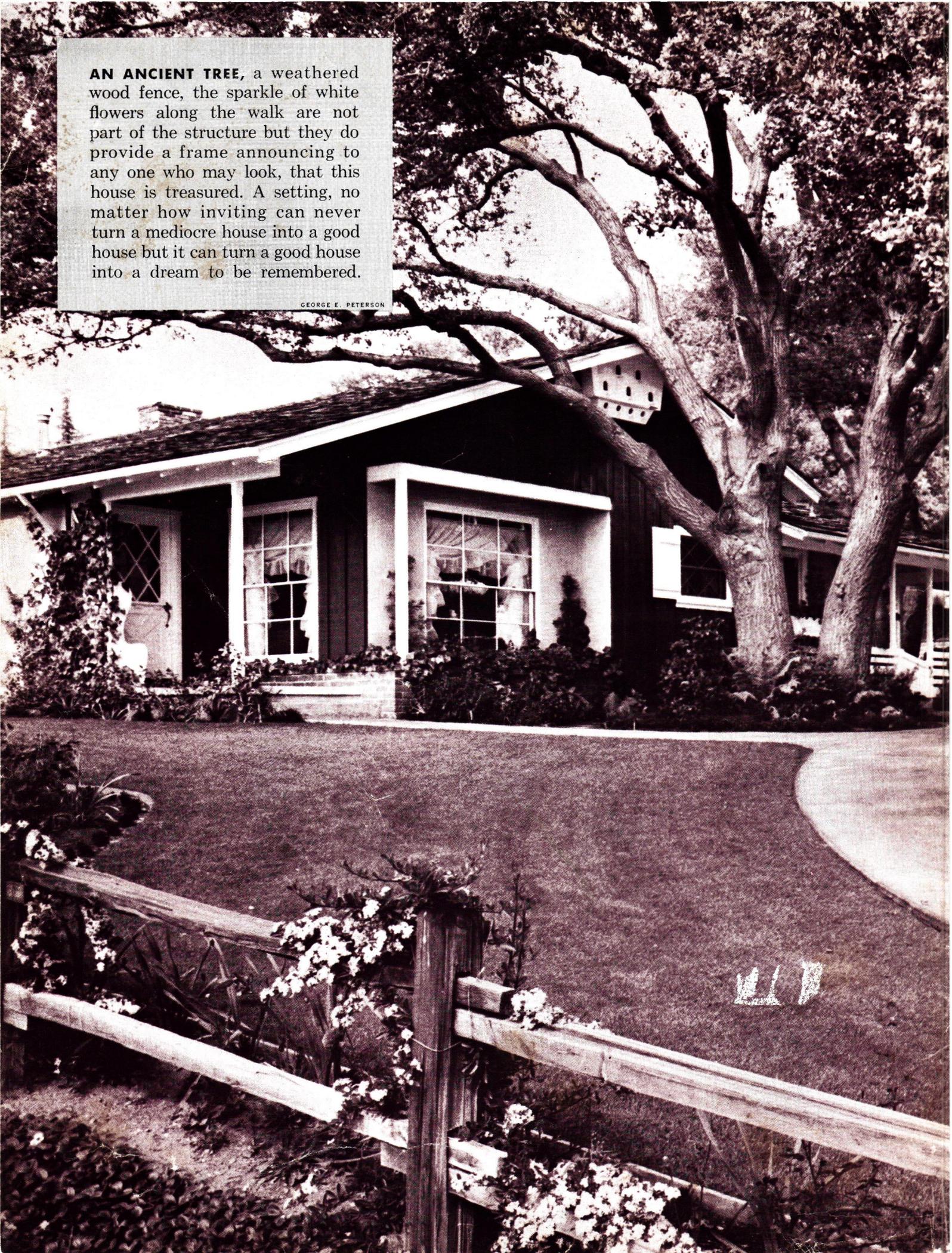
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**AN ANCIENT TREE**, a weathered wood fence, the sparkle of white flowers along the walk are not part of the structure but they do provide a frame announcing to any one who may look, that this house is treasured. A setting, no matter how inviting can never turn a mediocre house into a good house but it can turn a good house into a dream to be remembered.

GEORGE E. PETERSON



By EILEEN FARRELL

## HOME IS MY FOCAL POINT



*Eileen Farrell*

"Eileen Farrell can do anything," Leonard Bernstein once said. "She has every attribute of a great prima donna except prima donna-ishness." Unlike many singers, she likes and sings popular music. "Most opera singers don't have a feeling for jazz," she says. "Me, I get the message loud and clear." "Home," she also says, "is the place where I can play my full role as a woman."

**I**F I SAY home is the focal point of my life, the thing that gives meaning to everything else I do, I've said it all.

Where most women in my position adjust their family to their career, I have done a switch and adjusted my career to my family.

This suits my husband, Robert Reagan, who says he likes to have me around. And I see to it that he has his way, by insisting that my management gives me a fortnight at home for every three weeks on tour.

Friendship, I find is one of the most important ingredients of gracious living — something which is necessary to any good home life. For that reason, I encourage both Kathy, our 11 year old daughter and Robert, Jr., our college freshman son, to bring their friends home and invite them to dinner.

There is nothing more pleasant, I think, than a family meal shared with friends and nothing that more easily develops in young people a sense of identification with their home than the assurance that they are free to bring their friends there.

As a family, the four of us are a gregarious, companionable and sometimes noisy lot. Until this fall, we lived in a great sprawling comfortable house on a hill in Staten Island with a view that overlooked the New York harbor. Recently, we exchanged this for a spacious cooperative apartment on New York's East Side, where the view is of Manhattan rooftops. In summers we go to the Maine north woods, where we have a house and there we spend the summer months. Home, wherever it may be at the moment, is the place where I can play my full role as a woman.

The art of singing is essentially interpretive, Therefore it is only at home that I can be creative. This means not only in things like homemaking or party-giving, but also in establishing standards that my husband and I want our children to admire and aspire to. This covers a lot of ground, from respect for their faith and the laws of the land, to the enjoyment of living and the discovery and attainment of ultimate goals.

I was born in Connecticut and grew up in Rhode Island and our home hints at my New England background. As a bride I had a fondness for things like pewter, braided rugs, chintz and Early American furniture. I still do, but as my taste broadened, the braided rugs were replaced with all-over carpeting, the chintz was supplanted by more serene monotones. And with the move from a house to an apartment some more contemporary pieces have replaced some of the Early American. It all goes together companionably and the effect, I like to think, is comfortable and unstudied.

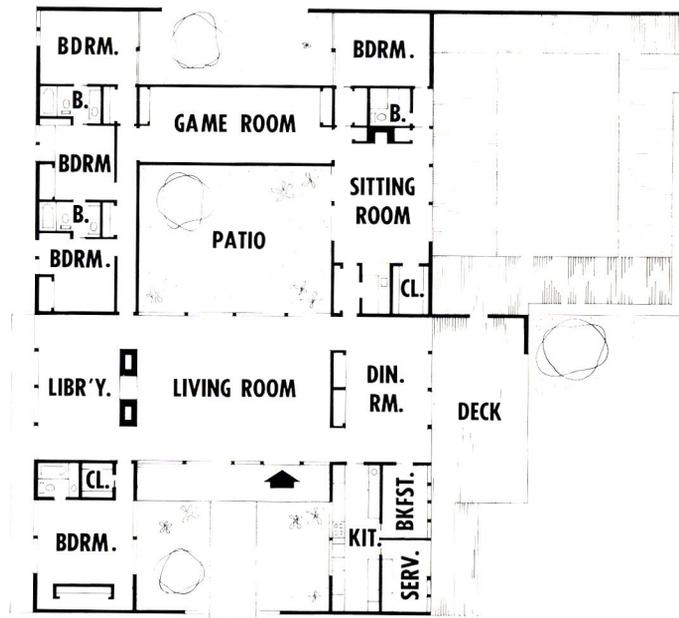
I collect Danish porcelains (the Royal Copenhagen figurines), and I do needlepoint embroidery. Before we sold the Staten Island house I was working on a set of dining room seat covers. When we moved to New York we left the dining room set behind, but I'm sure I'll find good use for the seat covers somewhere along the line.



ALEXANDER GEORGE

View from the living room indicates that though rustic materials (rough stone and stained redwood) are used extensively, the effect is sophisticated and simple

## WHEN PRIVACY IS PERTINENT



ARCHITECT: FRITZ WOEHLE

The window wall of the galley kitchen offers a large look-out station with a wide overall view of the front entry court

The glass gables of the roof flood rooms with soft light but protect privacy when used in conjunction with solid walls

The library which shares the fireplace with the living room has its own narrow deck. As in most other areas, the walls and floors are white



1.



2.



3.

STILL PLENTIFUL are lovely locations for the family preferring the privacy of a secluded setting. Neighboring with nature offers bonuses which compensate for the small problems common to isolated living.

Life in this home turns inward or outward with ease and graciousness. You meet the trees, the wildlife, the view anew each day and find constant pleasure in the pictures revealed through the living room's glass front wall. The opposite wall faces into a secluded court.

Three times the architect-owner enlarged the house to

accommodate the changing needs of his family. The rambling plan angles around quiet patios, which separate areas efficiently yet promotes to a remarkable degree the delightful sense of unity between enclosed and unenclosed space. A wood deck ties the house to the swimming pool and provides an inviting spot for all manner of outdoor activities.

Dark beams, exposed white pine ceilings and king-size scale offset the effect of so much glass, giving the home a surprisingly substantial and tranquil character.

Trees growing in entrance court protect the wall of glass from summer heat but permit winter sun to warm the living room

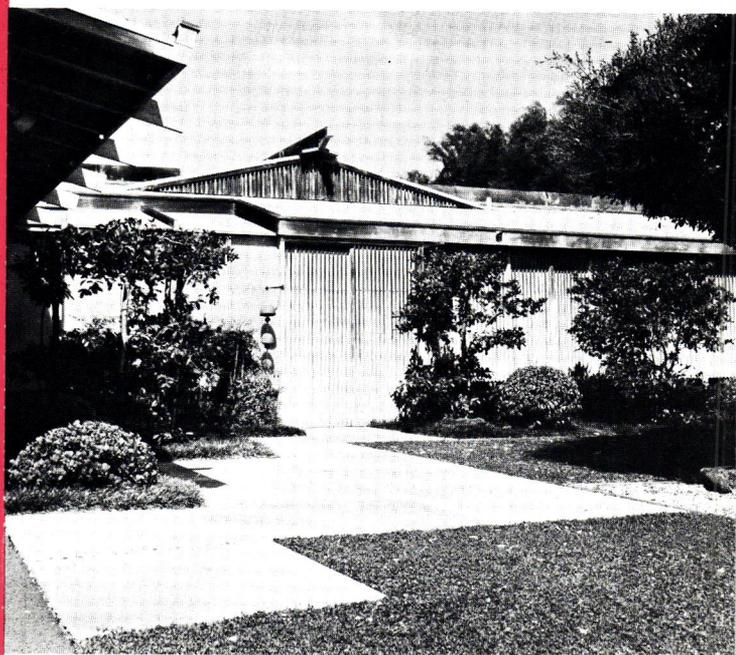
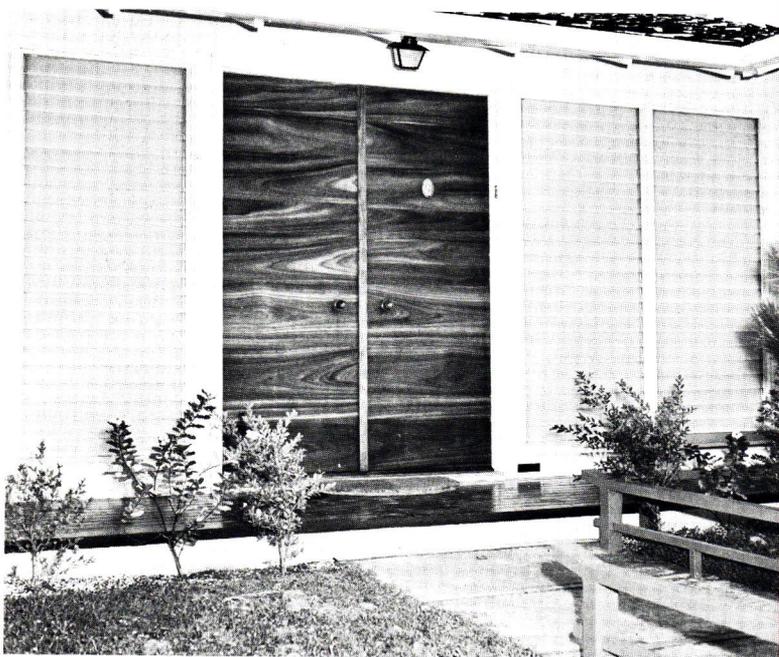


# *H*awaiian hospitality begins at the



Pebbles, plants and stepping stones invite the eye to the wide mahogany door striped with bands of brass

Horizontal grain of koa wood door blends with louvers at either side. Red fence directs the visitor to the door



Among the many fine things that Hawaii has given us is a fresh approach to home design. The blending of numerous cultures has produced a distinctive style that is both controlled and cordial, simple and elegant. Most of us think of a front door as a slab of wood, hung to guard us against the weather and unwelcome intruders. Hawaiian doors of course have the same purpose, but they announce the fact with graciousness. Care is given to make the door beautiful as well as functional, with texture, color and design. These six examples show a variety of designs which you might like to consider for your own home.

The redwood stripping of the window wall continues on over face of the door of translucent plastic panels

# Entrance



A double shoji door of translucent plastic with wood ribs leads to and softly daylights the landscaped foyer

Yellow plastic grill casts interesting shadow pattern on white door. Hardware is brass. To clean remove grill

Left-over pieces of one-by-one were dipped in home's interior paints and fitted in random geometric pattern



B. HOWELL

# This Room Has a



Striped yellow fabric is tailored into shades and bolster pillows, and is used on the white director's chair. The wicker furniture and accessories and circle of pebble pattern flooring create a sun porch effect further accented by plants.

# Secret

Concealed by all its bright and sunny background, this room has a secret. It can sleep four young ladies. Sofa and bed open to accommodate two on trim, comfortable foam mattresses.

Harmonizing colors of citron yellow and tangerine give the room an atmosphere of year-'round Spring, appropriate for teen-age daughters. Yet by changing a few accessories, the charming setting can easily adapt to its occupants' needs from high-school through college.

The choice of colors also illustrates one of the most unerring ways to produce color harmony, even with shades that are brilliant or unconventional. Yellow and orange stand next to each other on the color wheel, each including a percentage of the other. Because of this "family" relationship, such contiguous colors can be easily blended.



The citron yellow felt panel behind the bed is both a headboard and pin-up area. The room is completely coordinated with the spread. Its gay tulip motif is also inset into the vinyl floor

# You'll Never Believe It

**T**HE HOME of the future has always held great allure for us. It is fun to imagine the fantastic new conveniences that will make living pleasanter, easier, and more leisurely in ten, twenty or one hundred years from now. However, some of the new products already on the market seem every bit as exciting as those which are as yet only in the dream stage.

**A REMOTE-CONTROL FIREPLACE** can be yours today. You can turn it on from across the room with a little radio control unit which looks like a remote control unit for your TV set or radio. The gas logs are so real in appearance that you could easily be fooled into believing that you smell the flaming wood. And as an extra bonus . . . the manufacturers claim their fireplace can be installed at less than half the cost of a conventional model and that the gas to keep operating would cost substantially less than logs. And after use there's no messy clean-up job.

**A SELF-CLOSING WINDOW** has probably been everyone's dream. When a sudden storm breaks your deep

sleep you need no longer stagger from bed to shut out the rain. The controls which open and close the three swinging horizontal vents may be located near the bed or in any part of the room.

**CULTURED MARBLE** is one company's name for a new product which its manufacturers hope may give serious competition to the age-old, luxurious stone. After both seeing and feeling this new building and decorating material, we can tell you that natural marble has a worthy competitor. An expert might spot the man-made version at once, but the only tip-off to the amateur is the warmer surface of the processed version.

Cultured marble is non-porous, thus is stainproof against most of the products by which it might normally be damaged. It is more chip resistant than natural marble and it lacks the natural imperfections which sometimes cause cracking in natural marble. And cost is considerably less.

**GAS-FIRED OUTDOOR BARBECUES** permanently installed will banish forever that difficult and messy job of lighting charcoal. One new model

has a complete range of heat adjustments and a heavy cast aluminum top to hold the heat. Most families have discovered the pleasure and convenience of outdoor cooking but have been unenthusiastic about the cost and inconvenience in using conventional barbecuing fuels. Experienced cooks will appreciate the more even heat and the warming racks which come with most models.

**PICK UP YOUR LIGHT AND WALL** with a rechargeable lamp which takes its power from two C-size, rechargeable, nickel-cadmium batteries. The two bulbs burn up to three hours on a 16-hour charge; one bulb alone burns six hours. To reactivate the batteries one end of a cord is plugged into the lamp, the other into a wall switch. A dimmer switch varies the light from a candle glow to reading bright.

**A HOT FOOD SERVER** makes it possible for you to prepare a dinner even hours before you plan to serve it. Scientifically controlled moisture and temperature keep foods hot and fresh without any loss of flavor. Many foods can be held for four, five

## THE NEW COUNTRY STYLE

Casual and charming

The "family" furniture of Europe's earlier days has an informality and charm which have insured a lasting place in our affections. Unfortunately, we cannot always find a spot for it in our homes. Most is far too massive for our contemporary houses.

However, manufacturers alert to the valid attractions of these pieces, are now adapting this country-style

furniture to today's living. Many of the new pieces are scaled down imperceptibly. Others are completely new, but so skillfully executed that you will need a keen eye indeed to perceive they're not actually ancient.

The furniture on our cover as well as the dining furniture and the hunt board and hutch (right) are typical of the interest in this new revival.

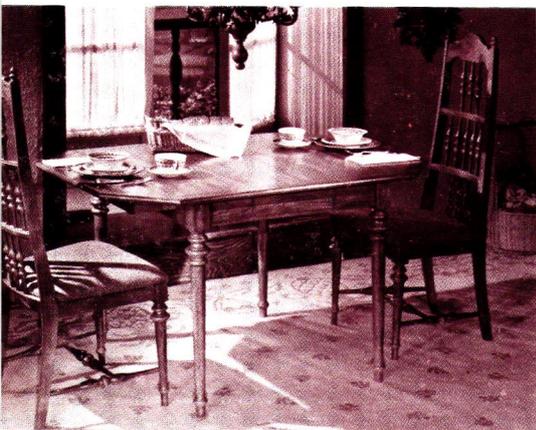
BY AVA LOUIS

For even six hours. Moist foods stay soft and crisp foods crisp. Overcooking is prevented by a precise temperature control and double insulation prevents the air movement within the drawers. Interior covers seal in natural food vapors and prevent the transfer to adjacent drawers.

NEW RADIANT HEATING PANELS are almost as simple to install as conventional dry-wall panels. A just-introduced ceiling heating system operates with wireless, graphite resistors embedded between layers of insulation. In appearance, and manner of installation the radiating surfaces are almost identical to conventional gypsum panels. Tiny pronged clips join the resistor panel to your electrical circuit. The remainder of the ceiling is finished conventionally.

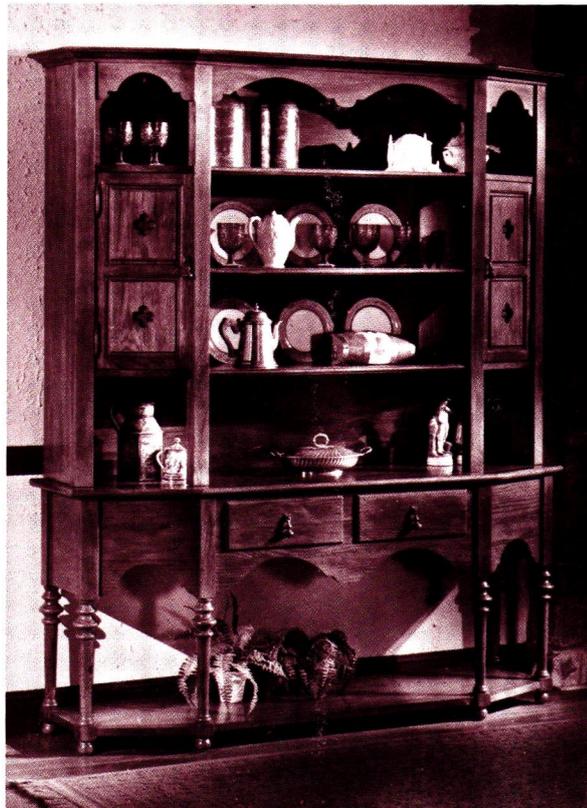
Even though you know that the ceiling is the source of your comfort, there is nothing to reveal the secret. The amount of heat is regulated by thermostats and you may paint your ceilings to harmonize with your decorating scheme. Cost of operation in homes properly insulated for year-round electrical comfort-conditioning is comparable to other systems.

The spindle-back chairs and drop-leaf table are perfect where space is at a premium since the octagonal table easily expands from a slim 21 inches to a gracious 62-inch length for dining



“The home will play a larger part in American life in the near future than ever before. It has become a refuge from the automobile and the tiring confusion of traffic. We stay at home not because we cannot escape, but because it is the pleasantest place to be. A whole new world of home activities is being created and enjoyed by the American people. They love it.”

DR. ROBERT D. PATTON, Professor Emeritus  
of Economics — Ohio State University



Crafted of Appalachian oak solids and veneers, the pieces feature pewter and oak hardware and Brittany and char oak finishes. Used here with the hutch, the hunt board may also be used alone as a serving unit

For a cook who  
likes company



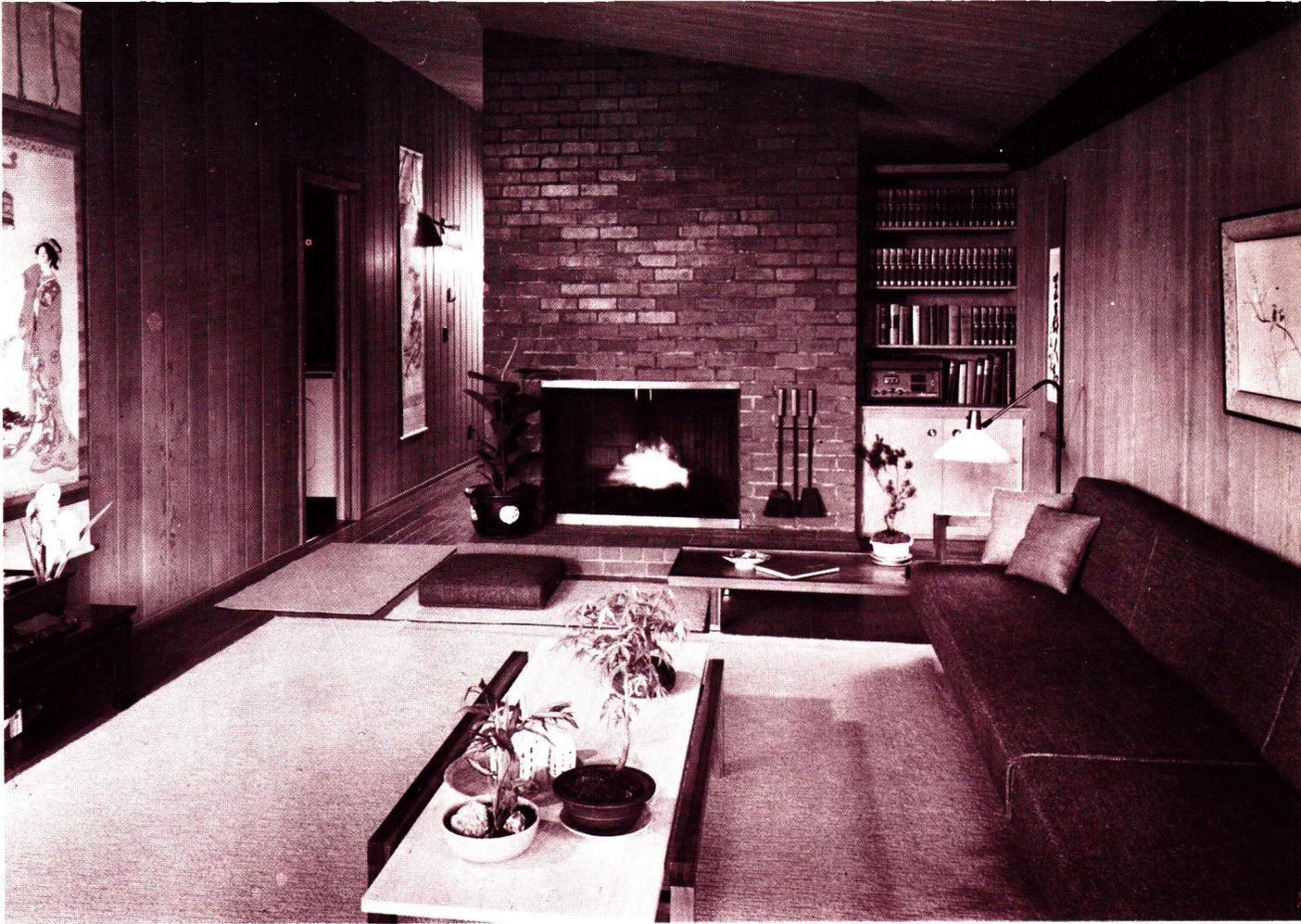
YOU'LL HAVE TO LOOK and look again to discover the kitchen so deftly planned into one end of this combination living room, dining room, kitchen. You actually have to tip up the folding top which conceals the built-in range before you can be certain you can even cook here. Recessed into the neat island counter is a four-burner stove and large grill. The oven and refrigerator are inconspicuously tucked into the wall and the dishwasher under the counter beside the sink. They blend so well with the fruitwood of the surrounding cabinets that you can easily miss seeing them.

This is the result of ingenious remodeling. One large kitchen and a dining room are united to form this family living center. Though the kitchen is unobtrusive, the cook can be very much a part of the proceedings in the living area and this old-plus-new blend is far more charming (and more convenient) than many completely new settings.



LELAND LEE





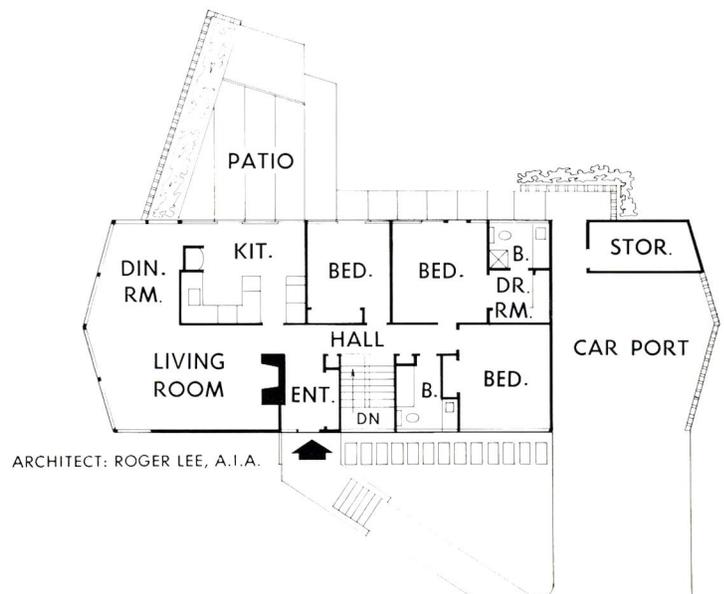
The massive red brick fireplace acts as a dividing wall between the entrance hall and the living room

# L is for that *Livable Look*



Panels of redwood and transite are accented by dark-stained trim and by massed low evergreen plants set in raised planters

THE PLAN is the key to this home's unusual convenience. Note the fine separation of zones, the hospitable yet isolated entrance, the combination dressing-bedroom of the master suite, and the manner in which the kitchen is concealed but not enclosed. The stairway leads to a lower level hobby room



**T**HE DIFFERENCE between merely existing and living gracefully is often a matter of setting . . . of surroundings. Along with the obvious physical needs, this home was designed to captivate the eye through the interplay of structural surfaces. Vertical wood siding is balanced by the horizontal lines of brick, by the long ribbon of dark cornice boards in contrast with the natural redwood of the walls.

There is a serene simplicity in the structure, in the furnishings and in the accessories. Wall decor is dramatic, not abundant. The few large, oriental scrolls are hung to be viewed from various angles. There is a pleasant absence of bric-a-brac, and its attendant spottiness. The mood is one of order and repose.

The house was designed with due regard for the relationship of several natural materials and for the fitness of details in a modest house. Walls of wood are balanced by painted walls or panels of natural red brick. Millwork was kept free of excess detail.

A glance at the plan will reveal the fine separation of zones. The entry is spacious and hospitable but it does a perfect job of shielding the family areas. A large guest and storage closet bounds one side and the pleasant texture of a brick panel (the back of the fireplace) the other.

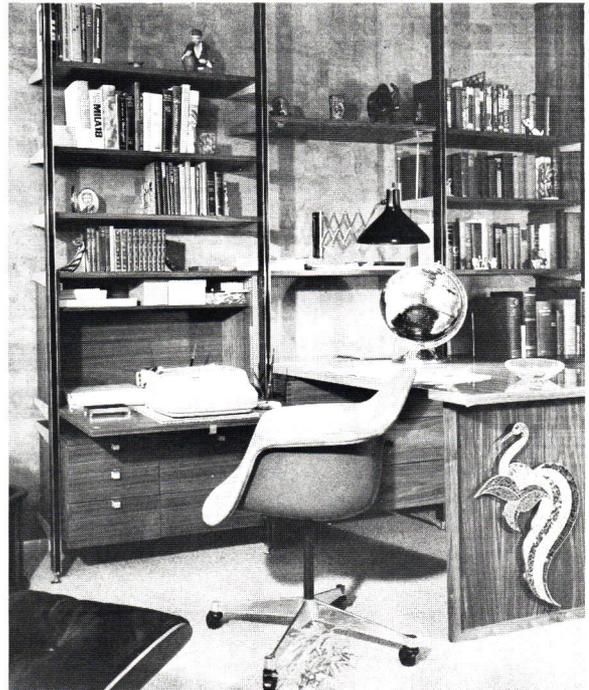
Since the carport is a long way from the kitchen two routes have been provided — one across stepping stones to the front entrance, the other around to the kitchen's sliding door which opens on the paved patio.

The dining area, which is located in the prow-like end of house, has a leafy view in three directions



PHIL PALMER

**A BUSINESSLIKE OFFICE** hides within this handsome tier of shelves. Reading from left to right, a typewriter which pulls out onto the drop-down door of its own storage compartment; the drop-down desk surface and a practical work light on a retractable bracket. Accessories on the shelves behind the work surface are not disturbed by either opening or closing of the unit. When not in use this office appears to be a fine looking shelf and storage unit with a colorful mosaic panel. Today's home office needs something more efficient than a dining table.



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*I think we should not hesitate to spend what money we can on our homes — not pretentiously, but to make them right for us, and a place to which our friends will like to come. — SUSAN GLASPELL*