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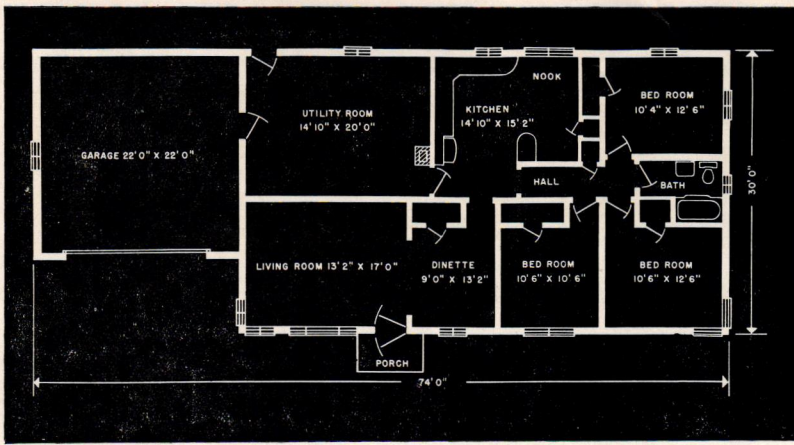
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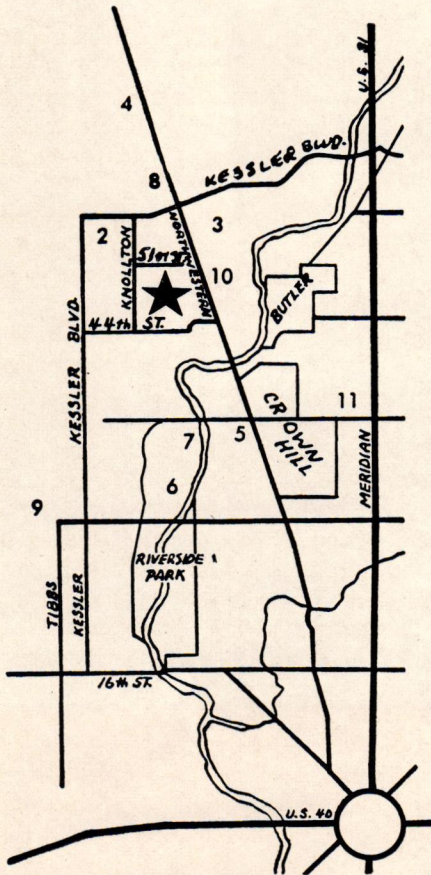
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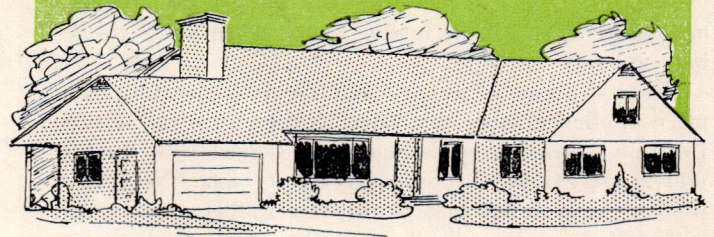
"BUILDERS OF QUALITY HOMES"

IS YOUR HOME

FIRE - SAFE?

Check to make sure.

There are many hazards
of which you may not be aware.



WHEN SMITHSON'S home burned to the ground one day last winter, neighbors weren't surprised. They had expected it. They knew Smithson was a u-fixer—one of their clan. But, oh! Brother, was he careless!

They shuddered at the mention of his workshop: Open paint cans on the shelves, oily rags strewn about, sawdust pilings on the floor. And the payoff: Smithson puffing away on a lighted cigar!

The miracle was that Smithson, his wife and two children weren't burned to death. It was only Smithson's luck, they commented. He'd taken the family to a movie that evening.

Smithson, however, isn't typical. The average u-fixer working around the house and garage is neat, clean, and careful. You'll find his home workshop rivals his wife's kitchen.

As with a lot of things in life there is a sensible middle ground in this field, and millions of householders operate happily there. They have learned their potentialities and also have learned their limitations. And the latter is of great importance.

A house is a valuable property, normally the largest single investment a family makes, and is accountable for a good part of the family's continuing expenses. It needs constant shepherding to safeguard values. This means that the basic fabric of the house must be kept in good condition.

It is here that the over-ambitious amateur can run into trouble, of two kinds. First, he can endanger his own safety; second, he can lay out money and time on projects that are better left to the experts—and frequently wind up in an expert's hands, anyway.

For those of us who aren't really experts on anything but who enjoy working around the place, here are certain areas of definite limitations:

New installations and major overhauls of existing heating plants are for the experts. The householder may be able to clean out the smoke pipe and the combustion chamber and oil the motors. But he shouldn't fool around with the numerous electric relays and cut-offs in the modern

automatic types. Some of these are safety devices and should not be tampered with. In any case, the automatic controls are delicately balanced and too tricky for most.

Defective or overheated chimneys or flues are an important cause of fire in the home, according to the National Board of Fire Underwriters. They accumulate soot, especially if wood or soft coal is burned or if your oil burner is poorly adjusted. Also, they become overheated or cracked and as accumulated soot is burned out, sparks sometime ignite the roof or nearby combustible building materials. For this reason, chimneys and flues should be cleaned at least once a year.

No matter what type of furnace you use, it is important that pipes leading to the chimney be in good condition and be protected from flammable materials by metal or asbestos sheets and rafters. Other woodwork near the heating plant should be protected by non-combustible material such as asbestos.

Woodwork and combustibles should be protected or stored away from furnace heat. Paints and varnishes should never be stored near heating plant nor should gasoline or other fuels be kept in the basement.

Any wiring that goes through a wall, floor or ceiling is out of bounds for the amateur—whether replacement or installation. He can safely replace outlets or switches in existing boxes. But he should not cut into present wiring or tap into the fuse box. These are jobs for the licensed man, and the city electrical inspector can be very tough about it.

According to the National Board of Fire Underwriters, misuse of electricity causes the highest total dollar loss.

The average 15-or-more-year-old house—and many a newer one—has inadequate wiring. Most fires are due chiefly to overloaded or short circuits, often between the walls of the house. When a circuit is overloaded, or shorted, the wires heat up and unless there is a circuit breaker or fuse in the line, a fire may result.

The common fuse for home circuits is 15 amperes. Voltage usually is 110. When fuses are blown, they should be replaced with those of similar capacity—never with a

continued on page 4

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Harry Bernstein, *Editor* • Frank Angelini, *Art Director* • Dave Fleming, *Production Mgr.* • Marie George, *Plans Editor*

IS YOUR HOME FIRE-SAFE?

continued from page 3

makeshift. Turn off the master switch when a fuse is being replaced.

Here are some adjustment and repair suggestions: Replace appliance cords that have become worn or burned. Use only extension cords and plugs tagged with the UL (for Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc.) label. Never run wire or cords under rugs or carpets. Rather, secure cord with fasteners along the base of the wall and don't use this for permanent wiring. Pull on the plug and not on the cord when disconnecting wires.

The use of paints, varnishes, lacquers, and enamels presents both a fire hazard and a health hazard. Paint thinners, solvents and removers are toxic and combustible in varying degrees, and care should be used to provide adequate ventilation when they are being mixed or applied.

When pouring thinners, such as turpentine, hold the metal container so that its spout is even with the can into which the thinner is being poured. This prevents splashing and dribbling.

All rags used for wiping up paints should be disposed of or stored in metal containers.

Always wear rubber gloves when handling paint removers, thinners, and other materials that may irritate the skin. And be sure your hands are thoroughly clean before handling food.

Remember, too, that many polishes contain flammable ingredients and they should be as carefully handled as gasoline and other flammable liquids.

In the living room your television set may become a fire hazard. Quite likely, you're responsible for that, too. Didn't you tinker with the wires, maybe cover up the ventilating holes that dispose of accumulated heat?

While we're on this subject, what about a lightning rod? The television aerial may increase the danger of lightning striking your house. A properly installed lightning arrester would overcome this hazard.

And before you forget, move the set so that sunlight can't fall on the magnifying lens. Remember the fish-bowl! Magnified sun rays have been known to set fires.

In the bedroom you should take adequate precautions to overcome these hazards: 1. Falling asleep while smoking in bed. Toxic gases from the smoldering mattress are likely to render you unconscious before the heat can rouse you. 2. Failing to turn off a portable oil or gas heater before going to bed. Many persons suffocate because they used unvented oil or gas heaters in tightly closed rooms. Above all, don't place them in a position where they can easily be overturned. 3. Using lighted matches to search in dark closets. A flashlight would have been much easier, certainly much safer.

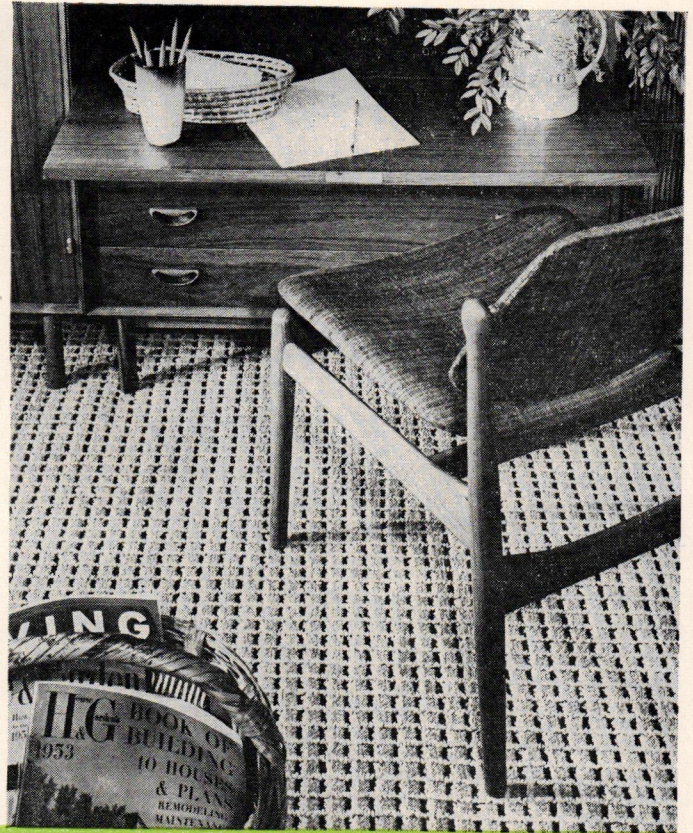
No matter what type of furnace you use, it is important that pipes leading to the chimney be in good condition, and that walls into which the pipes go be free of cracks.

Photo from National Board of Fire Underwriters





Good quality Axminster has a compact pile with excellent crush resistance that gives long service. Fretwork motif of this Axminster is pleasantly asymmetrical like carving on East Indian wood screens.



Precise as drafting paper, the crisp, appealing check is scored in gradations of black to white, monotone browns or greens. Danish teak chair and Arne Vodder chair are in the same fresh, informal mood.

of jute, but cotton canvas is also used. After the tufting is completed, the yarn ends are secured by a coating of latex on the back of the carpet.

Tufting permitted broad cotton carpet to be produced on a wide scale. Originally all tufted rugs were solid color, since dying followed construction. The nature of the process does not allow the flexibility of design and multiple color use permitted by the Wilton and Axminster weaving processes. However, developments are being made in color and texture variations.

An example of the Tufted carpet is shown in the first photo, top left. It has an outdoor theme, brings an airy, informal tang to interior plans this year. Indoor terrace of brick shapes worked in smooth and nubby looped pile is created by this new carpet. In the next picture, right, you see an Axminster with a touch of Far East spice. The fretwork motif of this carpet is pleasantly asymmetrical like the carving on East Indian wood screens. Nubby wool yarns, underscored with dark outline, contrast with smooth cut pile in fresh color ways like charcoal with beige and black, and emerald green or cerulean blue with beige. Bottom photo illustrates the Wilton. Richly textured scroll of looped yarns is echoed in the flowing lines of warm fruitwood pieces and accented with curved paneling.



Graceful scroll shapes are repeated on every level of this harmonious French Provincial room. Richly textured scroll of looped yarn in the Wilton is echoed in flowing lines of warm fruitwood pieces.

Baseboards Are Warming Up

For the coming heating season

BASICALLY, most modern heating systems are good systems, and all of them are widely used by architects, builders, and heating men. But it should be emphasized that the success of any system is dependent in large measure upon its application—how well it is selected for its purpose and how well installed. Before you begin to weigh the merits of the various plans available, you should understand the three indispensable requirements of good heating. They are: (1) Good equipment. Dependability and operating cost are more important than initial cost. (2) Good layout. This means a good plan for your individual heating plant. It also means selection of the right system for your particular job. (3) Good workmanship. The installation of a modern heating plant requires technical competence.

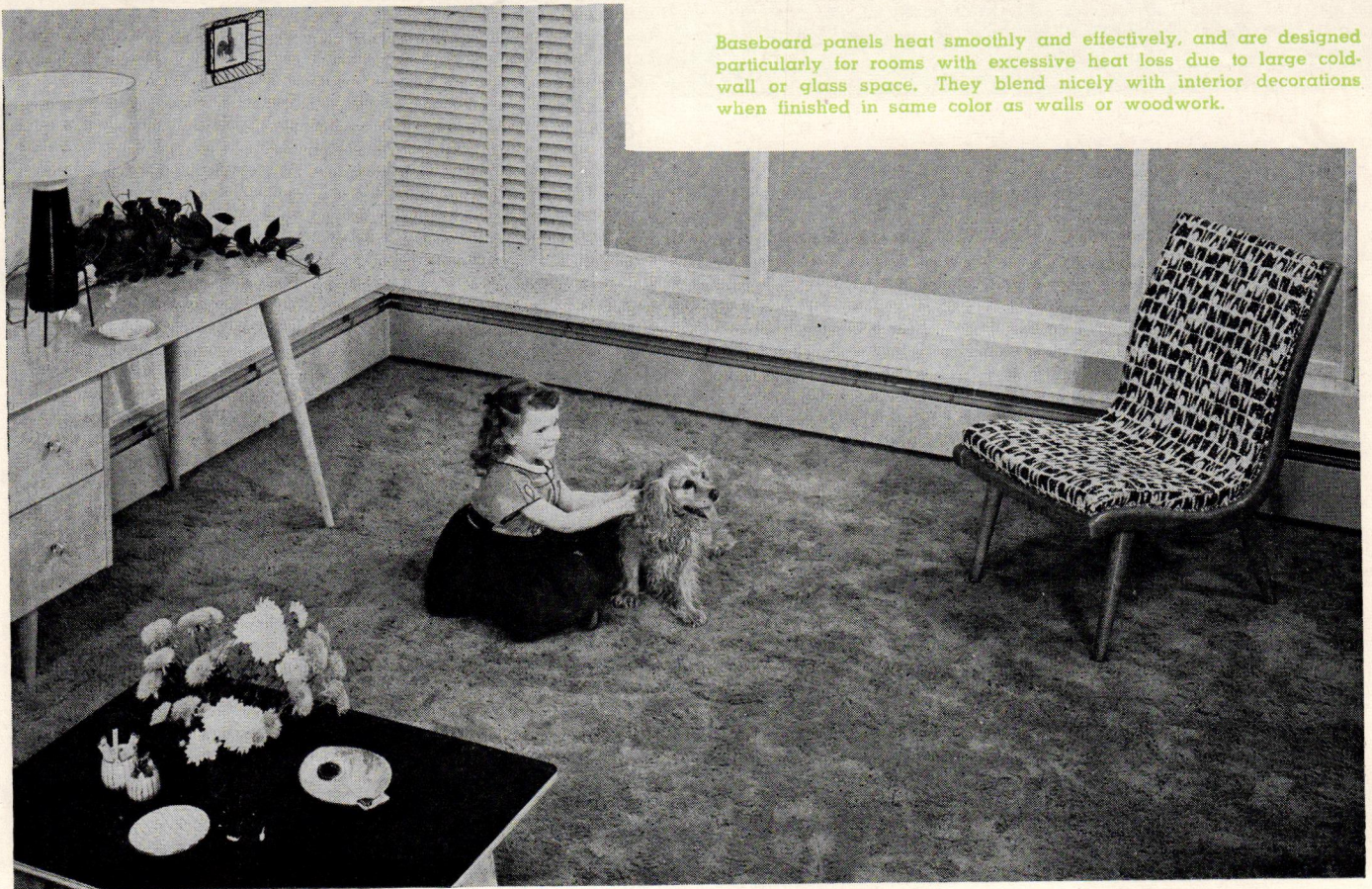
In heating, as in every other specialized field, professional knowledge and experience can be of great value to you. A reliable heating man can save you from serious disappointment.

Baseboard heating is a comparatively recent development, and is ideal for installation in rooms with excessive heat loss due to large cold-wall or glass space, as shown in the picture above.

The baseboard heating units are fairly inconspicuous, and blend well with interior decorations when finished in the same color as the walls or woodwork. Almost no livable space is taken up, and considerable freedom is allowed in arrangement of furniture and draperies. The heat flow is spread out across the wall so that there are no direct currents of concentrated heat from the furnace.

Baseboard heating can be equally effective with warm air or hot water systems. In the former system, warm air rises from a compact grille along the entire length of the baseboard register, and then spreads evenly through the room. This air movement counteracts the cold down drafts from outside walls and windows which are a troublesome source of discomfort in many homes.

Baseboard panels heat smoothly and effectively, and are designed particularly for rooms with excessive heat loss due to large cold-wall or glass space. They blend nicely with interior decorations when finished in same color as walls or woodwork.





Left, charming master bedroom reflects modern tastes of adults. Lines of furniture are clean, light and young-looking, yet there is a substance and character often lacking in today's contemporary furniture.

Below, a bedroom that is decorated to suit the tastes of the young lady of the house, and one that also doubles as a sewing room. Much has been made out of a comparatively small space borrowed from unfinished attic.

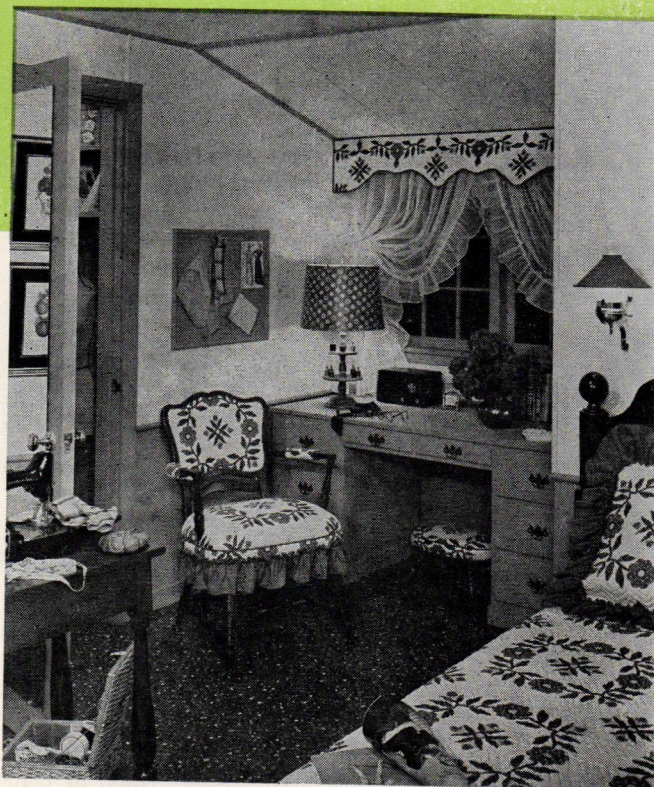


Photo by the makers of Armstrong's Temlok

D

ecorate your bedrooms

To suit the individual tastes of the family

BEDROOMS are personal rooms where individual tastes, hobbies and whims may be expressed. Although sleeping is its primary use, the bedroom often serves as an extra living room, study, sewing room, or workshop.

The first requisites are a comfortable bed and lighting and ventilation that are adequate and can be readily controlled. The color scheme should suggest repose, for the bedroom above all other rooms should be a haven of peace and comfort.

Bedrooms need rugs or carpets in light colors so that they will not show every speck of lint and every grain of powder. Bedroom furniture is not very flexible in arrangement and bedrooms need the unifying influence of a room-size rug or carpet. Since they are used by only one or two people, bedrooms take less expensive rugs than family rooms.

Bedrooms express the tastes and interests of the people who use them and they may be entirely different in color and style from the other rooms in the house. Junior may be patriotic and want a red, white and blue room, while sister prefers pink and white, as dainty as a birthday cake. The children will take more interest in their rooms if they have a part in selecting the colors. Try to guide them in the selection of a color scheme and room arrangement that will grow up with them.

A guest room will welcome the guest and make him comfortable if the color scheme is cheerful and the room well planned. There are a few appointments to check to

insure your guest's comfort. A luggage rack is a small but very worthwhile investment. A rack will save your bedspread or furniture from the soil that accumulates on luggage, and if your guest's visit is of short duration, he will probably live out of his suitcase, supported on the luggage rack. If luggage is stored after unpacking, the rack will serve to hold breakfast or luncheon tray or tray with convenient thermos bottle of water, cigarettes and a silent butler. Provide closet space for wraps and other clothing, and drawers for small clothing items and toilet articles.

See that soap, towels, a comb, bobby pins and kleenex are readily available. A conveniently placed waste basket, plenty of cigarettes, ash trays and matches are necessities. A comfortable chair with a good reading light and a light placed for reading in bed adds to anyone's enjoyment. Supply your guest with current magazines and a few books, preferably of short stories. Extra pillows will take care of varying sleeping habits and extra blankets and quilts should be easy to find in case the night turns cold.



THERE'S ECONOMY IN FALL SEEDING

You'll need less seed and get better results

WHEN THE RIGHT SEED is selected for fall planting, a lower rate of seeding will produce equal or better turf than a much heavier rate for spring seeding.

Why? Because the cultural loss from fall planting is less. The seed lodges in warm soil which is likely to have good moisture conditions for germination. Shorter days and cool nights favor greater root development of the seedling. There is less weed competition—all in all a better chance for each seed to produce a mature plant.

Based on tests it seems obvious that with average soil conditions, a planting of four pounds of good seed per 1000 sq. ft. in the fall will produce thicker and better turf than six to eight pounds in the spring.

The fall seeding season extends later than most folks realize. While earlier seeding produces turf to be enjoyed in the fall, it is all right to proceed with the lawn planting just as late as the soil can be worked whether October or November.

What is the right seed for fall planting? It must be composed of perennial varieties that will not winterkill. The seed should be of properly cured and thoroughly re-cleaned quality, free of bulky chaff and coarse varieties.

This kind of seed can be planted sparingly. Most folks plant two or three times as much as they should. This

is not only wasteful—it is harmful. The grass comes up too thick—it is as unhealthy to try growing too many grass plants on a given area as to have too many people in a stuffy room.

Folks often have the idea they should sow heavily because “the soil is too poor.” That is not true. Poorer soils will not support an excessive number of plants any better than a few. Liberal use of grass food before sowing will help, but extra seeding—never!

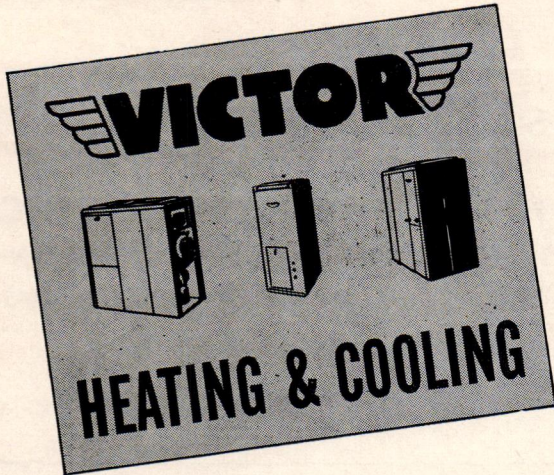
A good place to invest part of the saving in using less seed is in lawn food. This will help the new seedlings get off to a better start, insuring quicker coverage, more vigorous growth and a uniform stand of new grass seedlings.

If the seed is to be hand broadcast, mix with an equal bulk of sand, screened soil, vermiculite or other inert material. Or, punch holes in the lid of a coffee can or metal lid of a glass jar. Use an 8 penny nail, driving through from the inside of the lid. Put seed in can or jar, fasten lid securely and you have a shaker arrangement for light seeding.

Better still, use a precision spreader that is capable of sowing as little as two pounds per one thousand sq. ft. evenly and accurately. The savings in seed will soon pay for the spreader.

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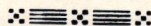
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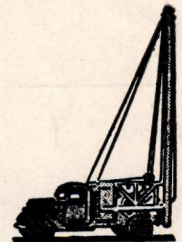
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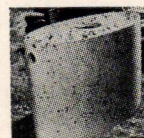
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