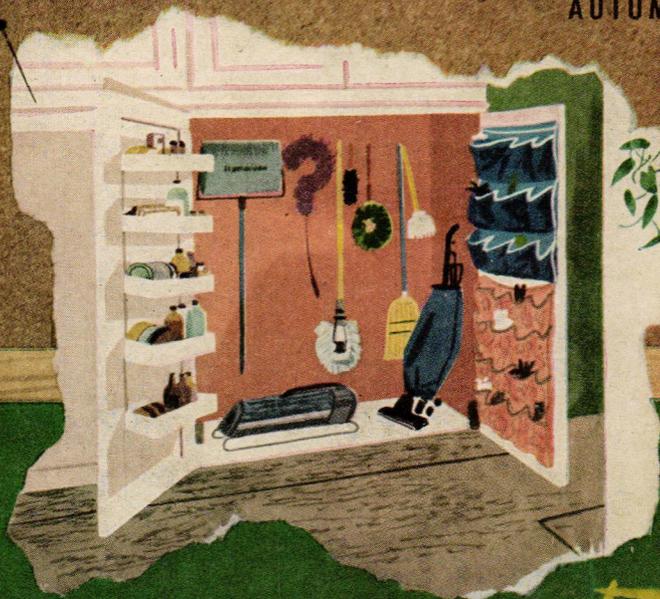


# POPULAR HOME

AUTUMN • 1951



Dear John:— Popular Home  
came today... I clipped out the darling table and  
the closet we need... and it has some good Built-in  
Safety ideas.  It shows the   
corner windows we want... and now you'll know  
how to fix the bedroom door!



Back by 11  
Martha

Oakridge Builders Supply Co.  
Oakridge, Oregon



# Why Mehitabel moved in with the Jones'

**Smart Cat! She wanted more room . . .  
more comfort . . .  
better living!**

Better living! That's what everybody wants. And *you* can get it, just as the Jones's did, by a little re-designing of your home. A bit of planning, a modest investment and you've worked a miracle.

*Start now . . . see us!*



## Re-designed for comfort

Changing a partition, re-locating a window, re-doing marred walls or flooring often introduces welcome new charm that makes an old house really "home, sweet home."

## Don't move!

Such things as insulation, re-roofing, re-siding can be applied so easily you hardly know they're happening. But you *really* feel the benefits—for years to come!



## Re-designed for convenience

It's easy to alter passageways to save steps, to add a couple of convenient closets, to "finish off" a little-used attic or basement!

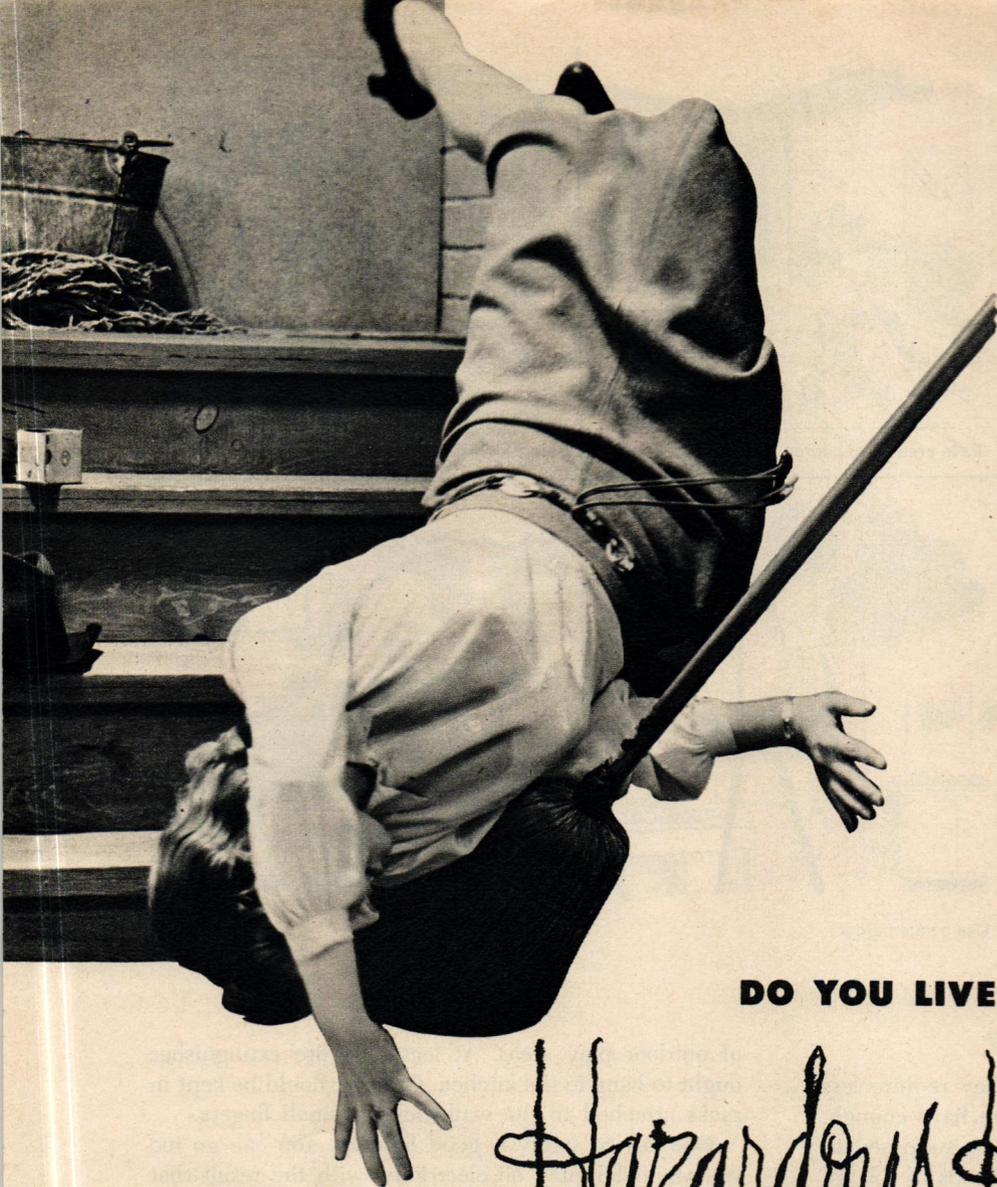
## Pause and consider

It's good sense to modernize. Even better sense to enjoy extra comfort and convenience *now*. See us for information—and *inspiration!*

## Live better now!



**LET US HELP YOU  
See our name and address  
on front and back covers.**



**ON THE COVER:**  
Built-in Safety for Your House, the theme of this issue, is highlighted on a background formed by POPULAR HOME'S new *Chalky-Talky*, the inexpensive chalkboard-bulletin board that's introduced in this issue as a knockdown kit.

Built-in Safety for Your House

DO YOU LIVE IN

# Hazardous House U.S.A.?

**You'll find that good planning, improvements avoid accidents**

ONE FALSE STEP—that's all it takes, Attic, basement, and outside stairways are the chief villains. Too steep for easy ascent and poorly lighted, they become dangerous catch-alls, yet we couldn't do without them.

A little ordinary care, you say, and things like this wouldn't happen. Not ordinary but *extraordinary* care is the only way to prevent accidents—continual effort to eliminate each unsafe condition.

A large share of the hazardous clutter of many houses can be traced directly to inadequate storage facilities. Children's toys are notorious closet clutter-uppers—and children aren't always to blame either. You can't expect order where there are too few shelves, cabinets, and drawers. Too few houses are equipped with built-ins to handle children's things!

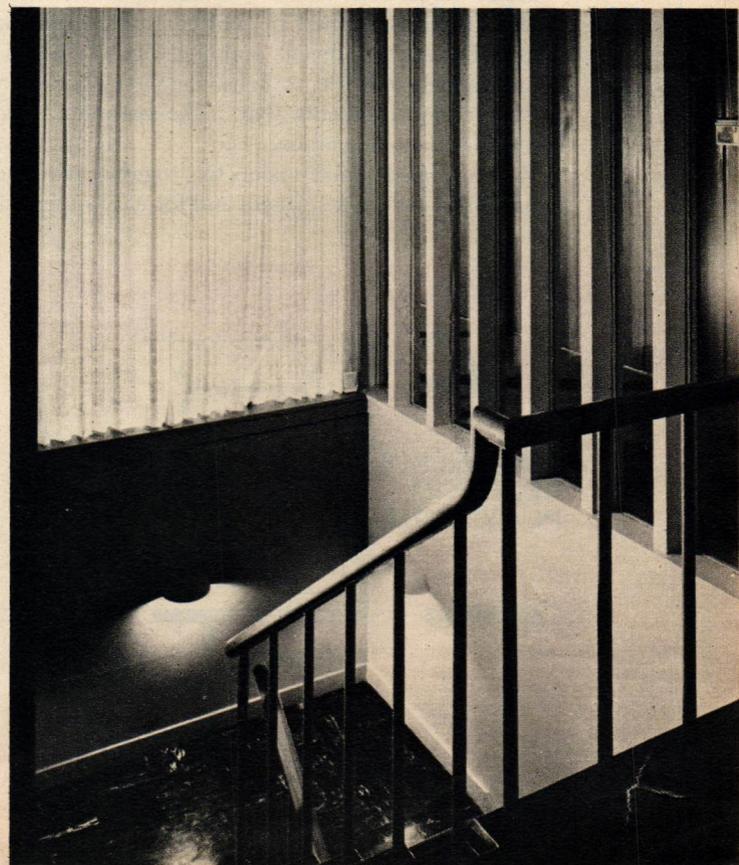
*Continued on next page.*

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**Stairways should have** landing lights, non-skid treads, and handrail low enough for children. Tapering treads of winders make them distinct menace; straight runs with landings are safer.

HOME OF DR. LEE I. SMITH, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

PHOTOGRAPH: HEDRICH-BLESSING

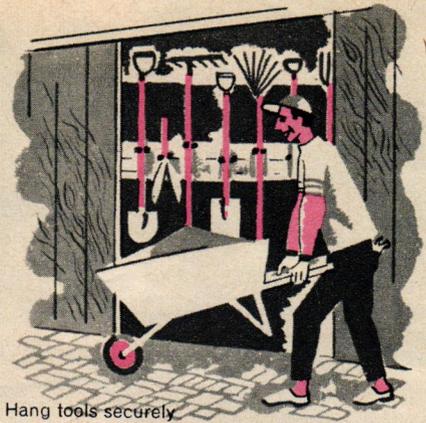




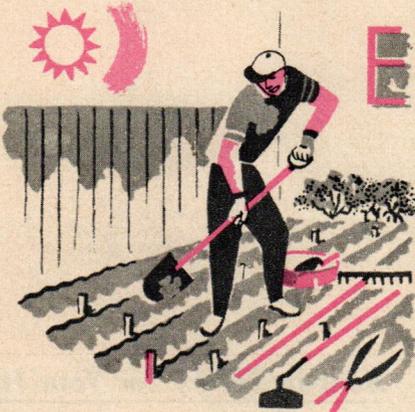
Brightly mark low wires



Pave areas for children



Hang tools securely



Paint tools, keep edges down



Use a safe ladder



Guard steps against falls

## Hazardous House, U. S. A. (continued)

Bathrooms are another offender. They require less storage space than kitchens, yet seldom have enough. A single cabinet in many a bathroom is supposed to serve all the cleansing and medicinal needs of a large family. Convenient, colorful, waterproof, and sanitary beyond reproach, bathrooms are not yet accident-proof. Cosmetic jars, toiletries, drugs, poisons, loose razor blades—all huddled precariously on some narrow shelf—are just waiting for an accident to happen.

Razor blade slots, locked and automatically lighted medicine chests, ribbed flat-bottom tubs, grab bars, mixing faucets to prevent scalding, light switches at doors, built-in electric wall heaters, non-skid floors—these are improvements that make bathrooms more livable and less dangerous.

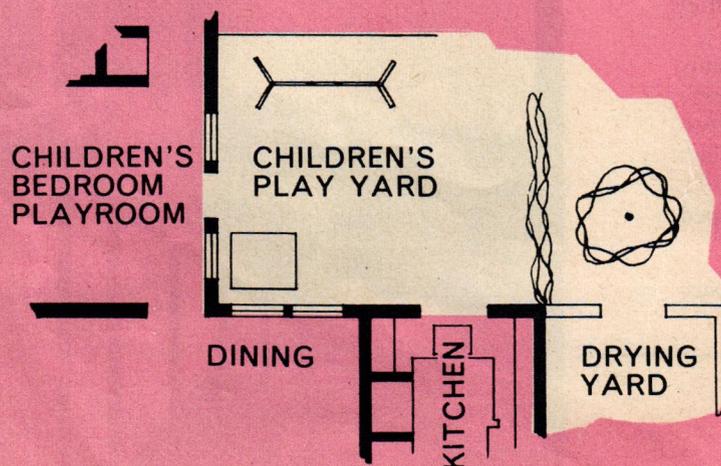
Kitchens need non-slip floors too, together with more natural light for work surfaces and for easy supervision

of outdoor play areas. At least one fire extinguisher ought to hang in the kitchen. Cutlery should be kept in racks attached to the wall—beyond small fingers.

One key to safety is good lighting. You can go too far when skimping on electricity, with the result that you impair your own safety. Turning lights on and off as you go through the house should be as natural as walking. Too many changes of level in a home invite falls, but at least they should be properly lighted.

Yards are an important factor in home safety, too (drawings above). And there's always the need for more storage space for garden tools, children's toys, and vehicles.

Keep your eyes open for the new products constantly appearing on the market as an aid to home safety. Typical of these is the vertical balance bar for step-ladders illustrated above; another is an automatic closet light that does not require special wiring.



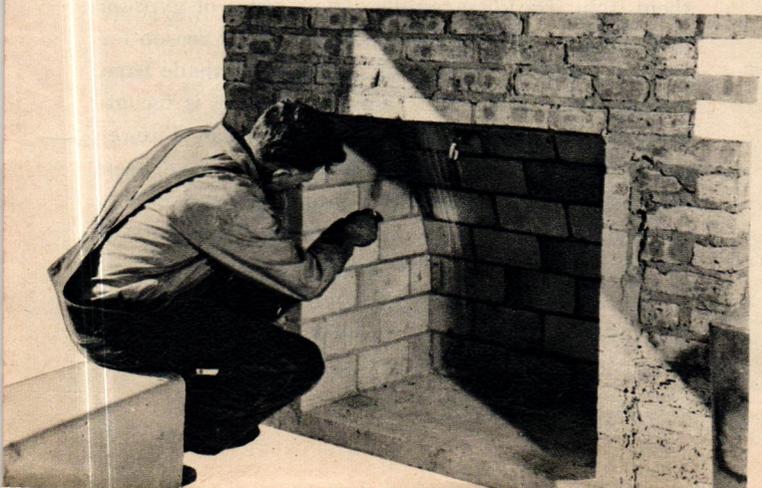
**Protected play area** in plain view of kitchen and living room is one of best safety factors where small children are concerned. Placement of drying yard near kitchen is convenient, step-saving. Clear separation (by means of walks, hedges, or fences) of all outside activities—gardening, clothes drying, play—is a mark of good planning.



**Utility closet** has space for each item of cleaning equipment, racks on doors for small articles, cabinets for chemicals and poisons. Easily built-in closet like this is an accident-eliminator.

**Complete directions for building** housekeeping closet similar to above—designed by National Safety Council—are included in POPULAR HOME Photo Plan 51-6. It's yours for 10 cents from firm named on cover of this magazine.

**Inner lining of fireplace** should be of firebrick, and fire screen should always be used. For other pointers on fire prevention in your home, turn to page 6.



**Grab bar above tub** in bathroom is essential to safety; bar is especially helpful to elderly persons. Modern bathtubs with flat ribbed bottoms and flat rims offer protection against falls.



**Ouch!** Sliding-door cabinets in kitchen reduce danger of bumps, head injuries. Top shelves should be reached without your having to use chair or stool. Spice racks on back of doors are handy.



1. USG Thick Butt asphalt shingle roofing.
2. GLATEX Asbestos Cement Shingles.
3. RED TOP Insulating Wool.
4. ROCKLATH Plaster Base.
5. USG Sheathing.



## here's a hidden ally against **fire**

**You'll be at ease with this protection in walls, ceilings**

**D**URING National Fire Prevention Week, October 8 to 12, the nation once more will count its annual toll of lives and property lost in fires which destroy our homes. On the basis of past records, we are likely to find that around 7,000 persons—half of them children—have perished in residential fires during the past year. More than 300,000 dwelling fires probably will have been reported, with total property loss estimated at upwards of \$200,000,000.

There are many precautions that should be taken to keep fires from starting in the home. An equally important part of fire prevention, however, is to keep

them from spreading rapidly. The success of gypsum in serving both of these purposes is a prime reason for today's extensive use of building products made from this remarkable mineral. Gypsum not only is incombustible, but is very slow to transmit heat. Fire-resistant ratings of 45 minutes to one hour have been established, for instance, for gypsum lath and plaster on wood frame partition construction. These ratings are accepted generally by building code authorities.

The first known use of gypsum for plastering was in the pyramids, built over 4,000 years ago. Gypsum products were first manufactured in the United States

in 1835, but only in the last 25 years have they supplanted other materials in wide public use. For today's building and remodeling, there are economical, time-tested gypsum products—each with built-in fire resistance—for both interior and exterior surfaces of the house. Here's how they give *your* house effective, lasting fire protection:

**Applied on the outside** of the wall studding as a base for siding or masonry, USG Sheathing forms a barrier against flame spread from the outside.

ROCKLATH plaster base, RED TOP basecoat plaster, and Ivory finishing lime-gauging plasters combine to retard the spread of fire from one room to another, and from the inside through exterior walls and ceilings. They provide protection for the framing members in the walls. Wood, used normally for framing members, ignites at about 400°F., but as long as an unbroken barrier of uncalcined gypsum stands against the flames, temperatures on the other side cannot exceed about 212°F. (boiling point of water).

SHEETROCK gypsum wallboard, like ROCKLATH plaster base, has a gypsum core that protects wood construction and resists flame spread. Both ROCKLATH and SHEETROCK provide added fire protection when applied on basement ceilings—particularly necessary over the furnace and to enclose attics.

PYROBAR, the fireproof gypsum partition tile, is an ideal material for enclosing furnace rooms, laundry and utility rooms. Lightweight PYROBAR is easily cut and fitted to room dimensions. It's the same material that's specified in skyscrapers and large apartment buildings where fire-resistance requirements are highest.

**Gypsum, of course,** is not the only guardian against fire in the well-constructed house. There are other important building products that possess excellent fire-resistance qualities. Among these are USG Thick Butt asphalt shingle roofing, GLATEX asbestos cement siding, and ORIENTAL exterior stucco finish applied over a base coat of portland cement, lime and sand. Exterior walls and roofs of these materials offer added protection against the danger of chimney sparks and burning embers.

On guard against the hazards resulting from electrical short circuits and overheated attics is RED TOP Insulating Wool, made in blanket batts of fire-resistant mineral wool, for installation in outside walls and ceilings. Gypsum plaster applied over USG COLOR-RITE Metal Lath is also recommended for enclosing the "danger areas" of the home.

Before *you* build or remodel, get the advice of your local USG dealer on fire-resistant building materials—a vital element in effective fire prevention.



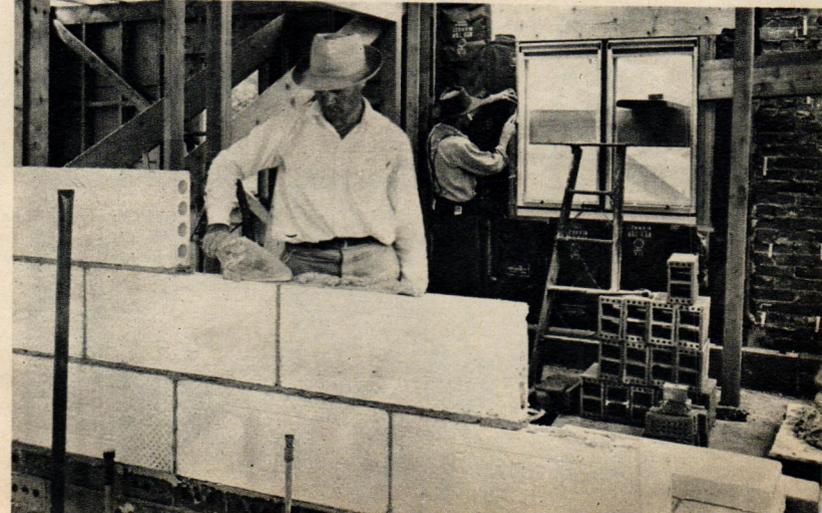
USG Thick Butt asphalt shingle roofing resists sparks, embers



RED TOP Insulating Wool and ROCKLATH Plaster Base are in this wall



RED TOP Plaster adds fire resistance to wall near fireplace  
It's PYROBAR to enclose basement "danger areas"



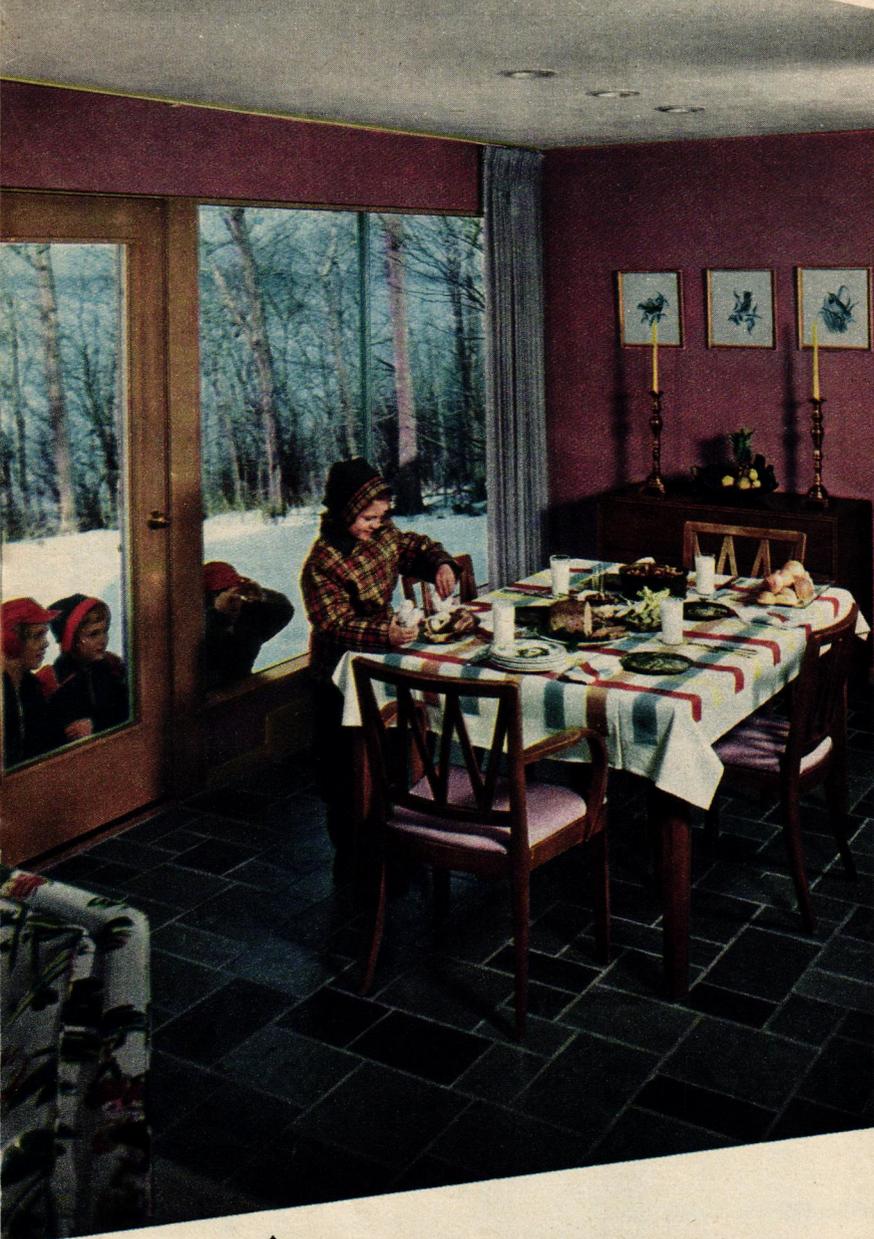
# Making the most

**It's a matter of placement and the correct types of windows to bring nature's beauty indoors**

Everyone can't have a lakefront or mountain view, or even a large lot with "homemade" scenery. But in the most modest of houses, windows can be planned to obtain the best effect from the surroundings, whatever they may be.

Architect Fritz von Grossmann recently proved the full potentialities of window placement and design in a house built for his own family on a sloping lakefront site at Milwaukee, Wis. Through the use of picture windows, all major living areas in the two-story house share the superb view of Lake Michigan. These basic ideas are applicable to many typical small houses, old or new, and the photos on these pages may help you to visualize the view you're neglecting in the rear yard, garden, or on the street side.

The modern trend is to the grouping of windows and the use of more glass throughout the house. The point to remember is, however, that your windows



▲ **The von Grossmanns combined a door and a two-section fixed window to brighten their dining room with light and color—the latter provided by plaster walls decorated with TEXOLITE paint. Floor is of Vermont slate. Recessed spotlights in ceiling illuminate dining table.**

▼ **Magnificent view from bedrooms** is captured by picture windows placed high enough to permit use of furniture underneath—important for bedrooms in any home. Casement windows at sides of large windows provide ventilation. Soft, light-absorbent colors on walls minimize light intensity in both rooms; were achieved with TEXOLITE paint. Bedspreads, stool cushions and draperies are of chintz.



# the VIEW

should be planned to give you the beauty and sunlight of the great outdoors *without* surrendering your privacy to neighbors and passers-by. This, too, can be done, if you pay attention to the direction to which your largest window areas are oriented, and if you choose the types of windows best suited to do your particular job. They can be the fixed double-glazed insulating type like the von Grossmanns, or any of the double-hung or casement styles, in wood or metal, that are carried by the dealer in your community. Think of your windows when you think of remodeling or building—and ask the advice of the local firm named on the covers of this magazine. You'll be glad you did!

**Truly a dream kitchen**, this room has high strip picture windows and awning-type ventilating windows (in rear wall). Blue walls contrast beautifully with red plastic-upholstered benches. Furred-down ceiling over breakfast corner conceals a necessary beam and separates that area effectively from kitchen.

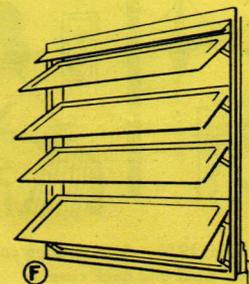
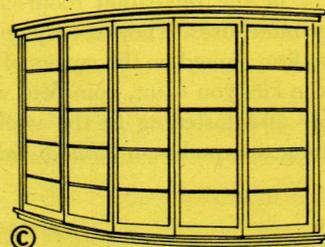
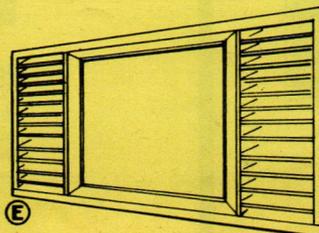
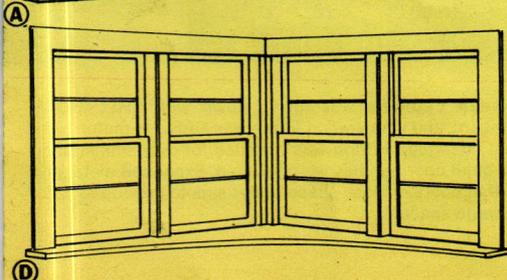
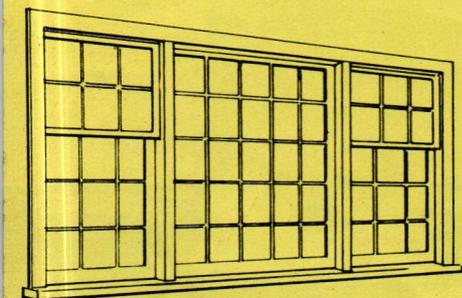


PHOTOGRAPHY: HEDRICH-BLESSING

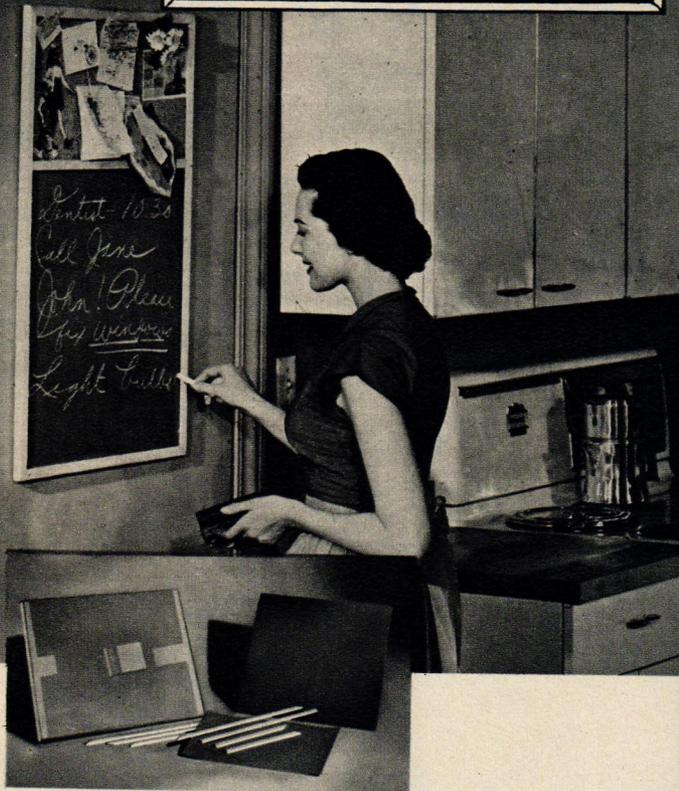
## MODERN WINDOW TYPES MADE FOR EVERY PURPOSE

Stock windows fall into a number of general types, several of which are illustrated below, although they vary widely as to available sizes, number of "lights" (panes) etc. Some types are manufactured both in wood and in metal, as your local building materials dealer will be glad to explain. (A) "Window Wall" unit with fixed middle sash and 15-light double-hung windows at sides; also used for bays. (B) Double casement windows operated by gear and handle from inside, screens fitted on inside; single casement windows also available. (C) Bow window

unit with three stationary sash in center, ventilating sash at ends. (D) Corner unit of double-hung windows with horizontal panes. (E) Fixed window unit with louvered openings at sides, top or bottom; louvers have air-baffle door on inside to control ventilation. (F) Awning windows operated by single lever from inside; maximum opening is almost horizontal; screened on inside. Single windows of this type are used in clerestory or high strip-window arrangements; also available in double-pane units.



POPULAR HOME'S  
**Chalky-Talky**  
For Work and Play!



Here's the end of lost messages, forgotten items on the shopping list, and maybe even of the marks on the children's walls. It *almost* talks, and a piece of chalk or a thumbtack puts things where they belong in *your* house—on POPULAR HOME'S new *Chalky-Talky*.

This is the clever little chalkboard-bulletin board that's the latest in POPULAR HOME'S series of ready-to-assemble furniture kits—the *lowest-priced* item in the series and one of the most useful. It comes in two parts—an 18x20-inch chalkboard with a durable, easily-cleaned green surface, and an 18x10-inch bulletin board of genuine cork. Molding, already mitered and cut to size, is furnished to frame the two sections as an 18x30-inch unit.

Make it *easy* for your family with several *Chalky-Talkies* in the kitchen, in the children's rooms, near the telephone or in the recreation room—and you'll discover many more uses. They're easy to get, too—just step into the firm named on the covers of this magazine and order the kits you want, complete with directions for assembly and fastening to the wall. You'll agree there's nothing to equal your *Chalky-Talky*!



POPULAR HOME • Autumn, 1951 • Sent through courtesy of  
Local Company named on front and back covers



There are

# Fewer Footsteps

in this Kitchen

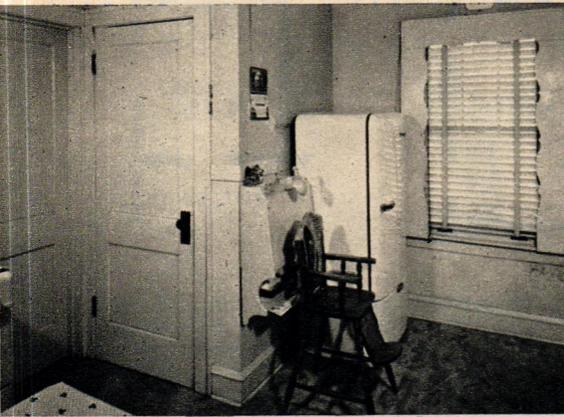
Simple Remodeling by Owner  
Saves Space in 11x12-foot Room

Before



Space between cabinets was furred down with SHEETROCK gypsum wallboard, and a new wood frame was added to match cabinet doors (not changed). Wiring was installed for over-sink lighting and clock. Cabinet door handles were lowered. Expanded metal grill and new cabinet doors enclose space under sink to provide radiator cover and storage space.

## Before



**Now the kitchen has eating space.** Built-in bench, located near pleasant window, is upholstered in forest green leatherette. Separate seat cushion with pad of foam rubber rests on flattened expanded metal base. Linoleum-topped table has convenient shelf. Birch plywood cabinet, at end of seat, rolls around kitchen on ball bearing casters. Aqua painted walls and white ceiling echo the colors in printed muslin curtains with green, aqua, coral and white.

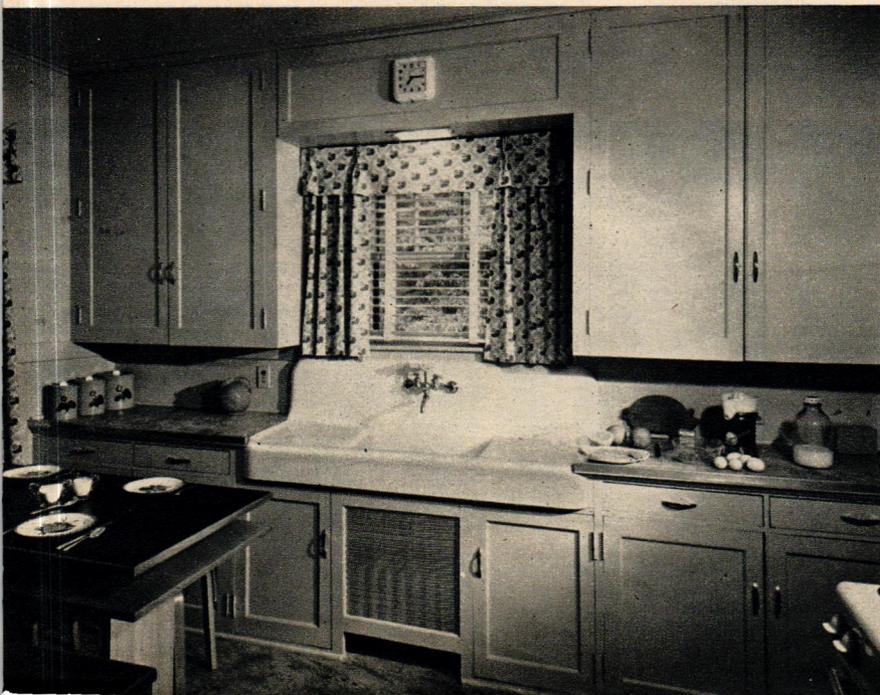


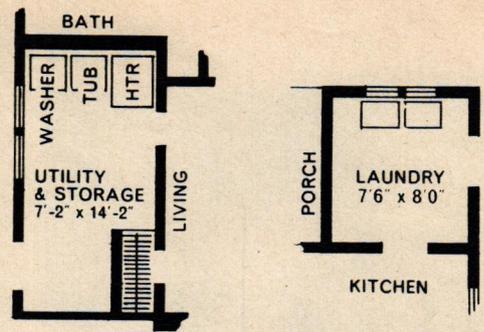
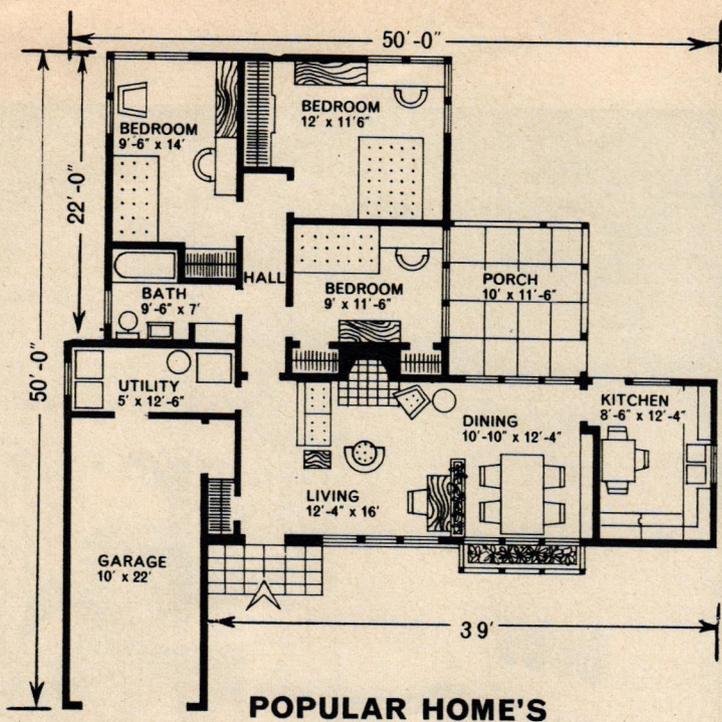
**One Sunday morning** a homeowner sat chatting with his wife while she busily prepared breakfast for a family of five. While he counted her hurried steps he mentally rearranged the kitchen equipment, visualized a breakfast nook that could be installed in the saved space, and dreamed up other minor improvements within his realm as a handy man with a hammer and saw.

The results of his good planning are shown here for inspiration to other homeowners who view their houses with a critical eye and desire to add convenience, good looks and comfort. In this case, the reward for ambition and ingenuity was quick in coming—in an easier life in the kitchen for mother, and in an advanced price when the house was sold, a few months later. *You can do the same!*



**Yours for 10 cents**—complete instructions for building table above, suitable for other rooms as well as your kitchen, are included in the Handyman Section of POPULAR HOME Photo Plan 51-6. Get it from the firm named on the covers of this issue. How to Build a Housekeeping Closet is a second Handyman feature you won't want to miss.





**House of Low-Cost Luxury** contains 1,100 sq. ft., 11,550 cu. ft. exclusive of utility room and garage. For more technical information on house, ask your POPULAR HOME sponsor, named on covers, for Photo Plan 51-6, price 10 cents. Tells how to order building blueprints from the architects, Wilson, Morris & Crain, 3330 Graustark, Box 6216, Houston, Tex. Above, drawing shows how utility-storage room can be enlarged if garage is omitted; a second alternate plan adds a convenient laundry room to the rear of the kitchen.



# House of low-cost luxury

A THREE-BEDROOM HOUSE that makes the most of economy but offers much more than the minimum living facilities of most small homes, is POPULAR HOME'S House of Low-Cost Luxury, adapted from the well-designed residence in Houston, Texas, shown on these pages.

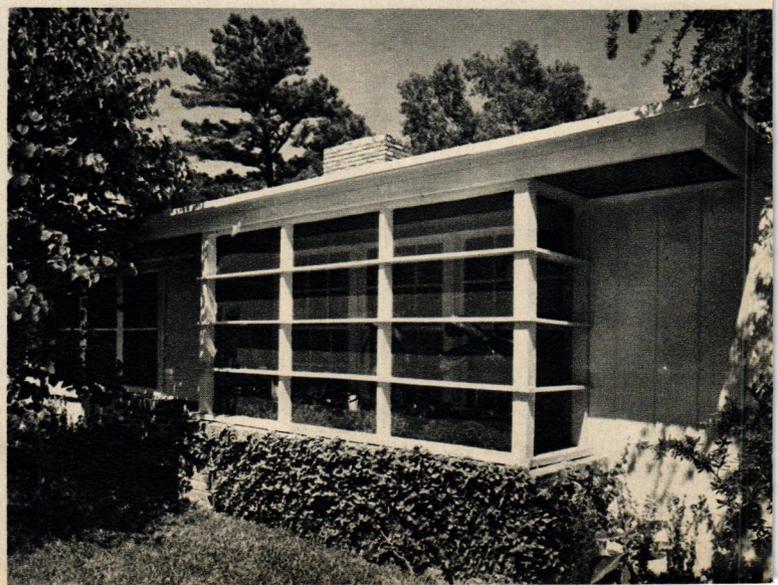
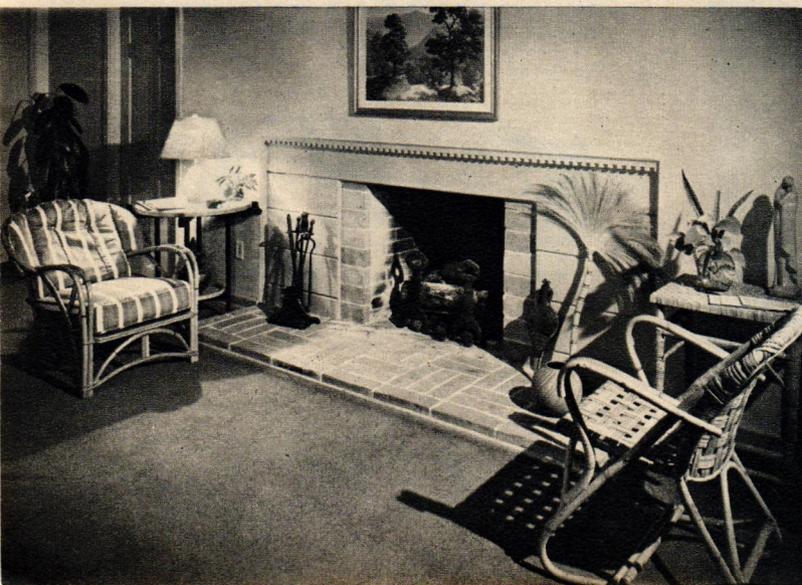
Planned by Wilson, Morris & Crain, Houston architects, to withstand any climate in the country, this is one small house that has adequate living space at the start. Yet it has the virtue of flexibility that will permit omission of the garage and porch or expansion of the kitchen to provide an adjoining laundry room—all within the confines of approximately 1,100 square feet of floor

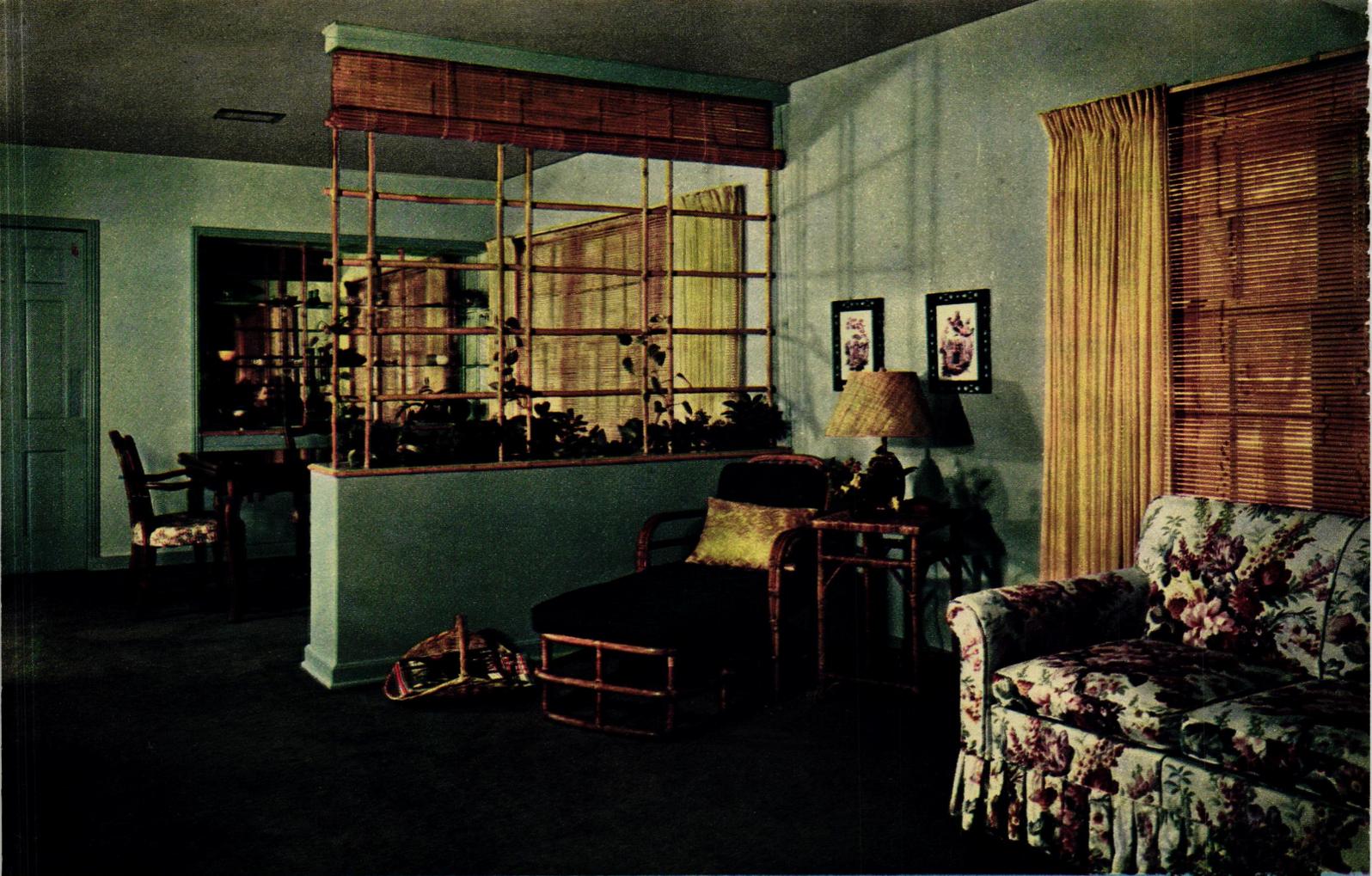
space. The plan ideally meets the varying requirements of POPULAR HOME readers who may wish to build the house for themselves.

This is not a house for a narrow lot, since a 60-foot frontage is the minimum required, and it should be placed well back from the street. Its economy is in the efficiency of room arrangement, in the incorporation of luxury features seldom found in houses of this size, and in the use of durable, quick-to-go-up building materials. These materials include SHEETROCK gypsum wallboard and TEXOLITE paints for interior walls and ceilings, GLATEX asbestos cement shingles for exterior walls, and USG selvage edge mineral-surfaced roofing.

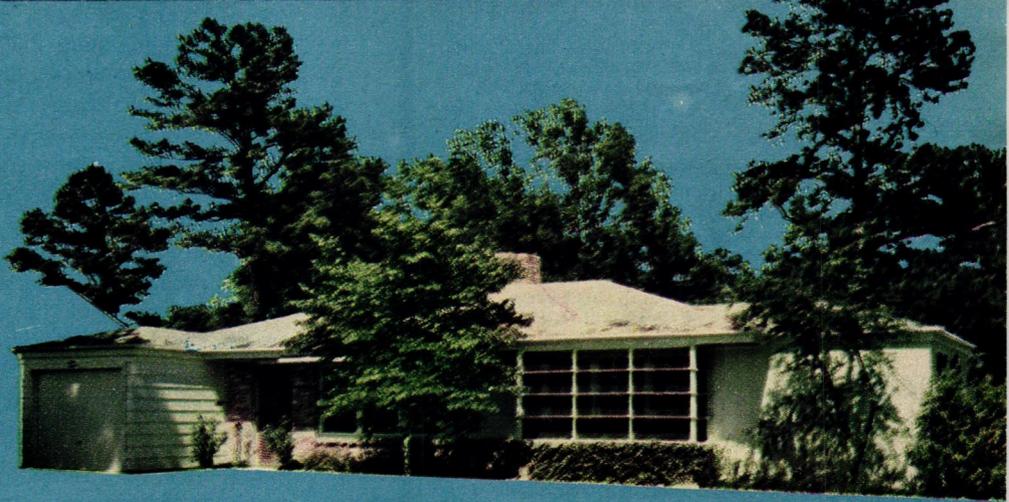
**Fireplace is focal point** in living room, has tile hearth, and is flanked by bamboo chairs and woven straw table. Door at left leads into bedroom wing, providing neat separation of family functions.

**Unique screened planting bay** on front exterior adds interest to view from dining area, permits cultivation of plants and flowers from inside. Conventional double-hung windows are behind bay.





**Partial partition of SHEETROCK** gypsum wallboard and bamboo latticework, containing plant box, separates living room from dining area. Mirrored recess in rear wall, next to kitchen, shows off prized bric-a-brac. Yellow bamboo blinds and draperies contrast smartly with light green walls, deep green carpeting.



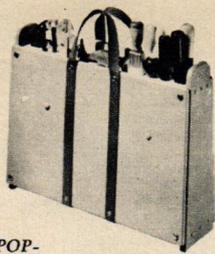
**Exterior of House of Low-Cost Luxury** is pleasing combination of brick and frame siding, both horizontal and vertical, with hip roof and large central chimney. Mauve wine-colored louvered door is effective front entrance to aid air circulation in Southwest climate.

Have you a "Pride and Joy?" Here's the place for it!



**Most every family** has a clever homemade improvement around the house, and POPULAR HOME will be delighted if yours is the kind that will fit into the new *Pride and Joy* column, to make its first appearance in the next issue. It's a column for the readers, devoted to bright ideas that add beauty or convenience to the home. If you've done it yourself, tell POPULAR HOME's other 3½ million readers about it! Simply address *Pride and Joy* Column, POPULAR HOME Magazine, 300 W. Adams St., Chicago 6, Ill.

# tools and how to use them



Illustrated above is the POPULAR HOME tool kit, available in knockdown, pre-cut form at modest cost through firm named on covers. It's a perfect companion for a good set of tools!



When planing edge of door its full length, use a plane not less than 12 in. long. Set it for cutting thin shavings. Planing is done on hinge side because it's easier to remove hinges and deepen mortises than to relocate the latch.

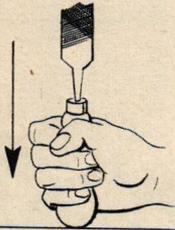


Fig. 1

Files range from fine to coarse spacing of teeth; are called "smooth," "second cut," "bastard" and "coarse" in that order. There are various shapes and they come in sizes from 3 to 14 in. in length (not including tang length).

**Handles:** Round handles with ball ends are recommended. Don't attempt to hammer file into handle, but force handle on snugly by striking handle on bench top as in Fig. 1.

## METAL FILES

Your home tool kit isn't complete without a few files for work on metal. For roughing cuts you use "double-cut" files—those having crisscross rows of teeth. For finishing you use "single-cut" files—with parallel rows of teeth in one direction.

**Holding the work:** Metal to be filed should be held rigidly for accurate filing just below elbow height. Clamping it in bench vise is most convenient generally. To prevent vise jaws from marring work, use slip-on jaw covers which you can make from copper, lead or aluminum. Or, you can use a piece of wood between each vise jaw and the work.

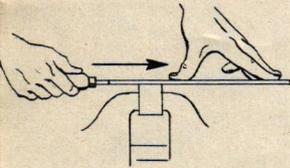


Fig. 2

**Handling files:** In holding a file, use two hands, the right one grasping handle, round end in the palm, and left hand holding tip of file, Fig. 2. On flat surfaces hold file so that it cuts uniformly in all-over contact with the work. Avoid rocking file even slightly, which produces a convex surface. Apply pressure on forward stroke only.

On return stroke you raise file off surface of hard metals to avoid dulling teeth. Crosswise ridges left from coarse filing are removed with a smooth file, Fig. 3. Resulting finer ridges then are removed by draw-filing—holding file as in Fig. 4 and drawing it across ridges. Further finishing is done with fine emery or crocus cloth.

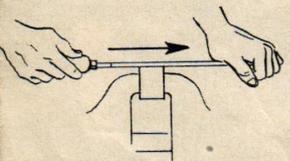


Fig. 3

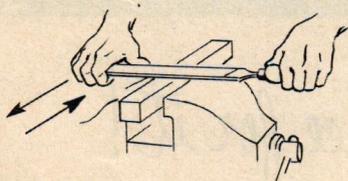


Fig. 4

**File care:** To keep your files clean, use a file card (special wire brush) and a file pick to clear teeth. When storing files in a drawer, don't let them rub against each other. Wrap files with paper or cloth, use partitions to separate them, or hang them up on a wall rack.

## WHAT TO DO ABOUT

# the door that binds

Properly-hung doors should have a 1/16-in. clearance all around, but slight binding still may occur periodically. Then, it's always better to make adjustments at the hinges than to plane the door. First check for loose hinges and see that all screws are tight. If screw holes are enlarged, plug them with match sticks or small dowels dipped in glue, or use screws of larger diameter.

Often, binding is relieved by merely shimming the hinges. Narrow cardboard strips are slipped under edge of hinge leaves on frame, to draw door slightly toward hinge edge (Fig. 1). Thick shims make hinges project above the mortises. Then, instead of shimming you chisel mortises at a slight bevel (Fig. 2).

If shimming hinges doesn't help, use a block plane or a coarse file to remove just enough wood from the door to free

it and allow for painting. Planing at an upper corner (Fig. 3), can be done often without removing the door from the frame. Cut across end grain of stile from corner to center. To remove door, first push out hinge pins (Fig. 4). Then set door on edge, clamping it to a simply made brace or "jack" (Fig. 5), to hold door securely for planing.

When rubbing occurs between hinge edge and stop bead, move hinge leaves on frame a little farther away from the stop bead, plugging screw holes before relocating screws. When shifting hinges be sure to keep them in alignment. When a two-hinge door rubs against stop bead at its center only, install an extra hinge to draw door away from stop bead, after carefully marking its position on both door and frame with a scribe or knife.

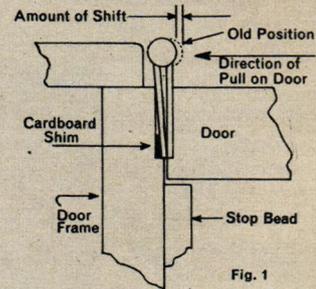


Fig. 1

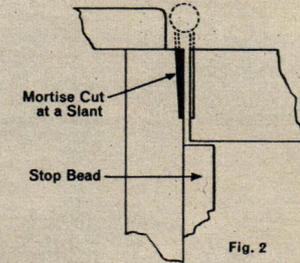


Fig. 2

Fig. 3



Fig. 4

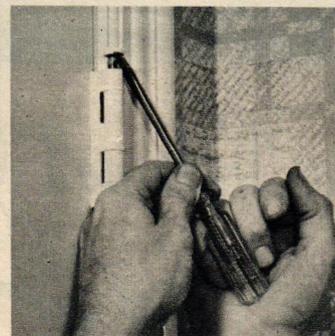
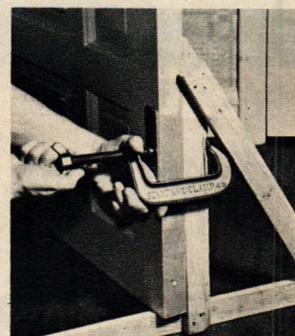


Fig. 5

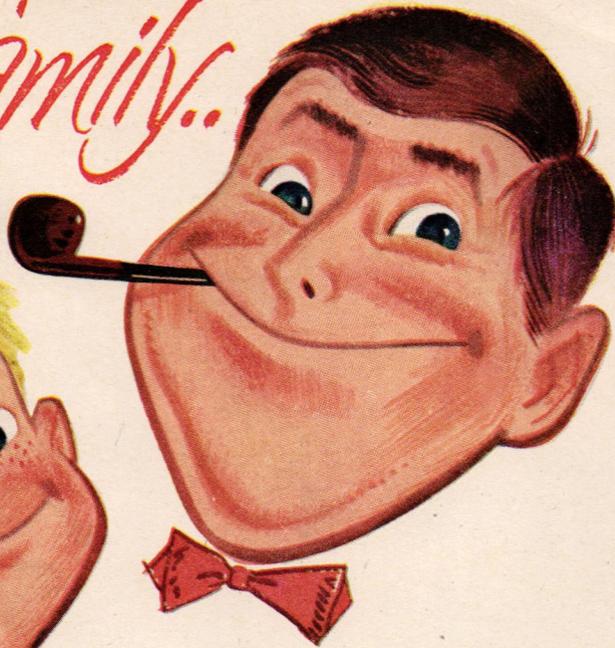
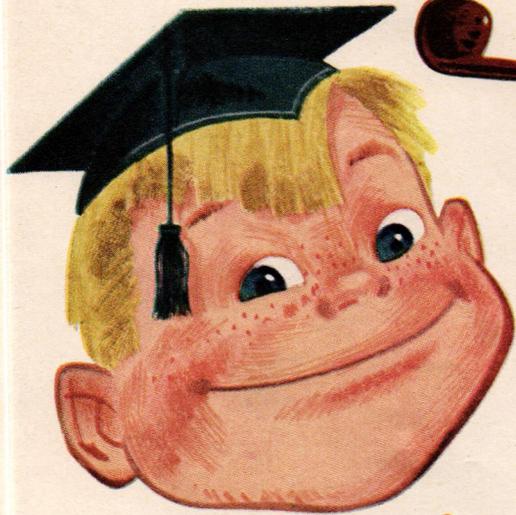


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happy family..

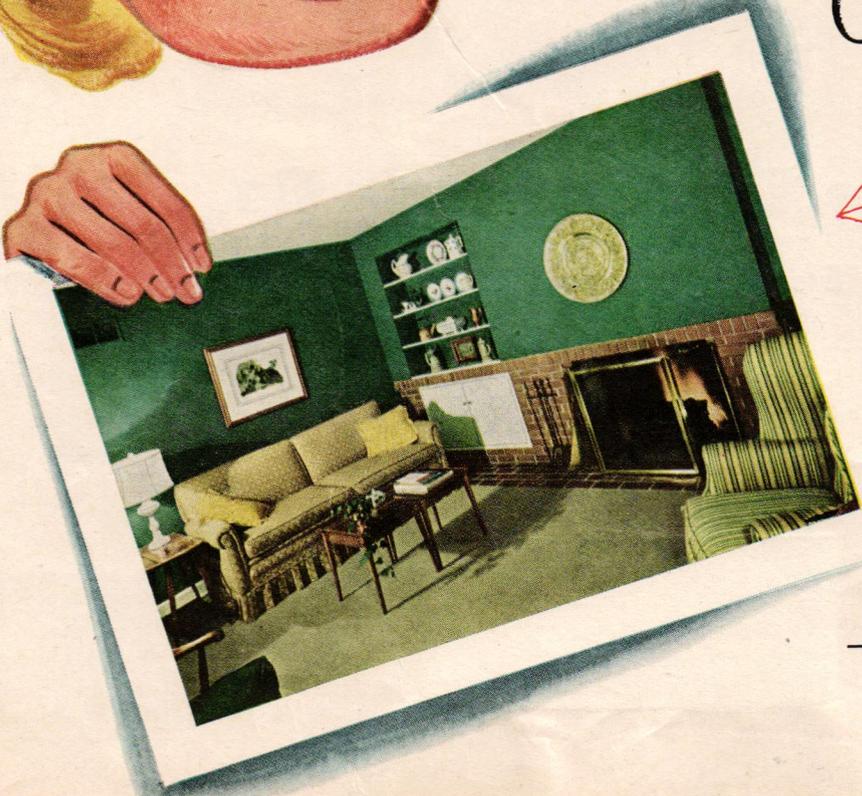


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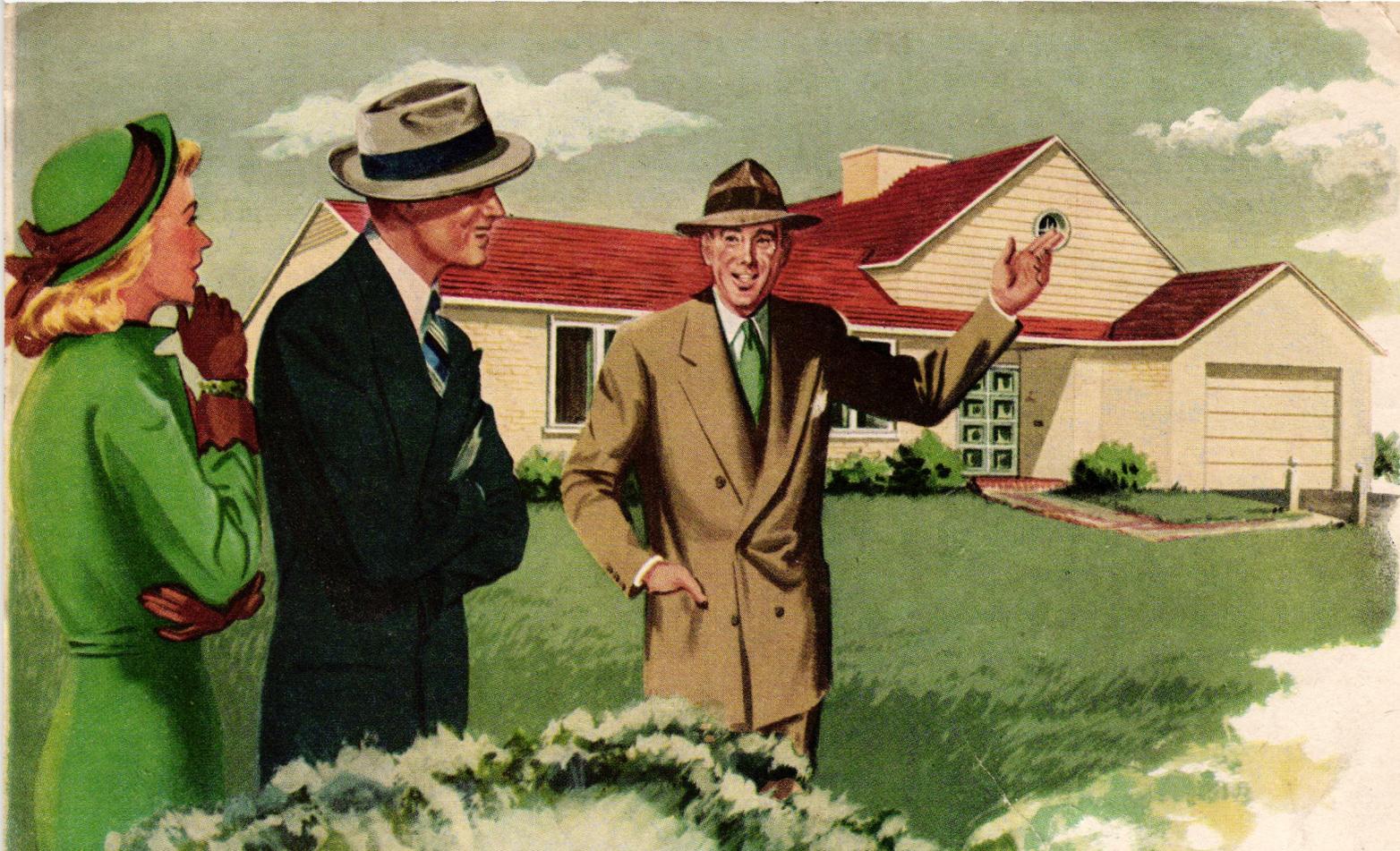
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