

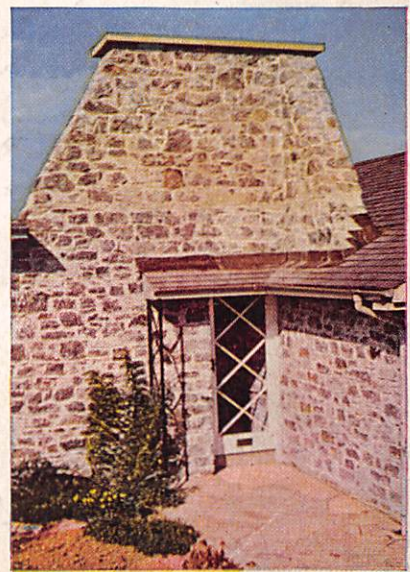
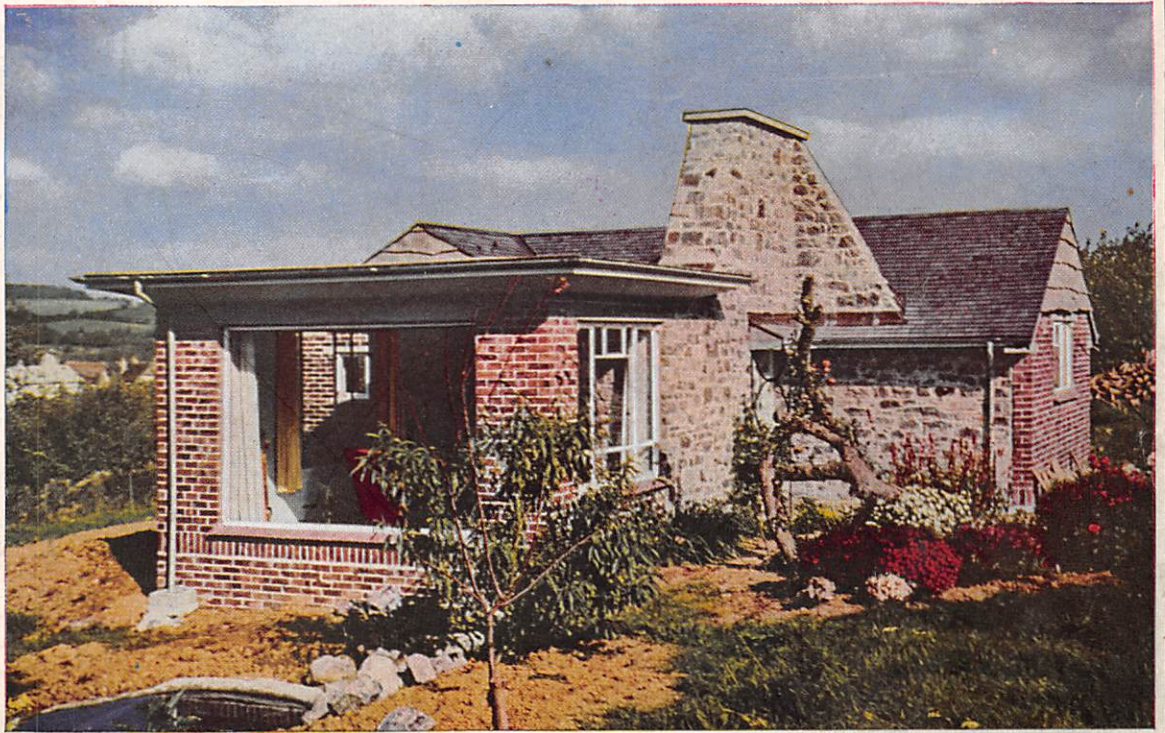
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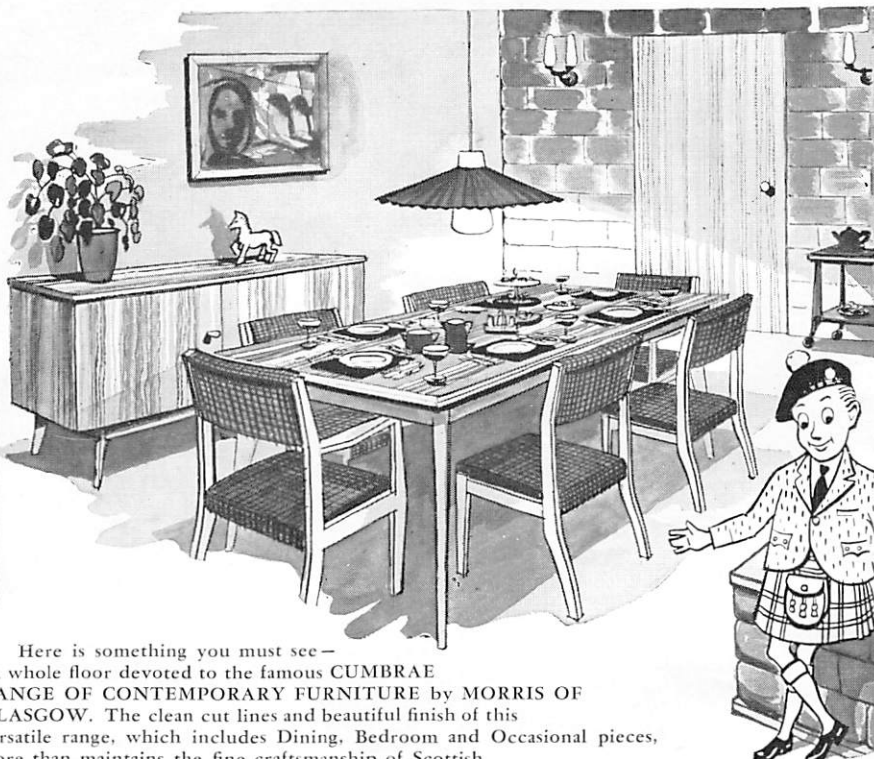
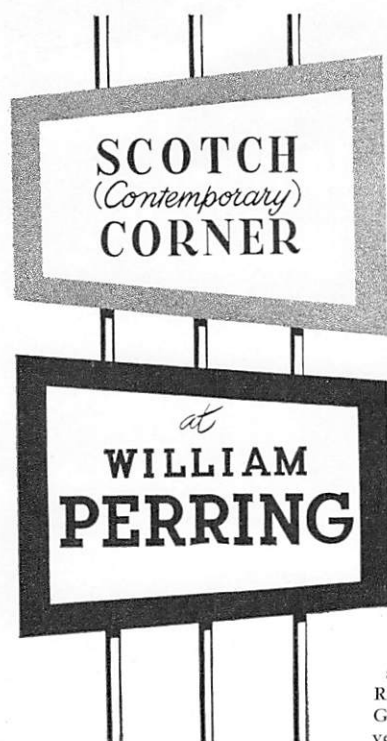
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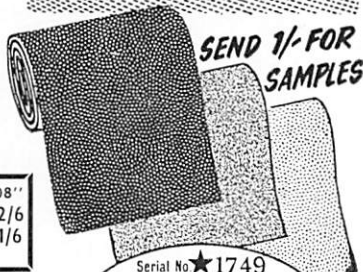
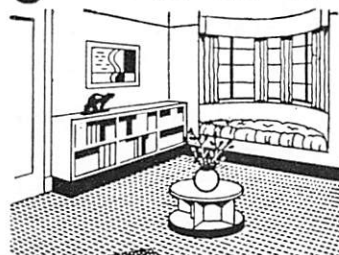
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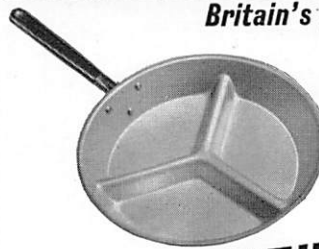
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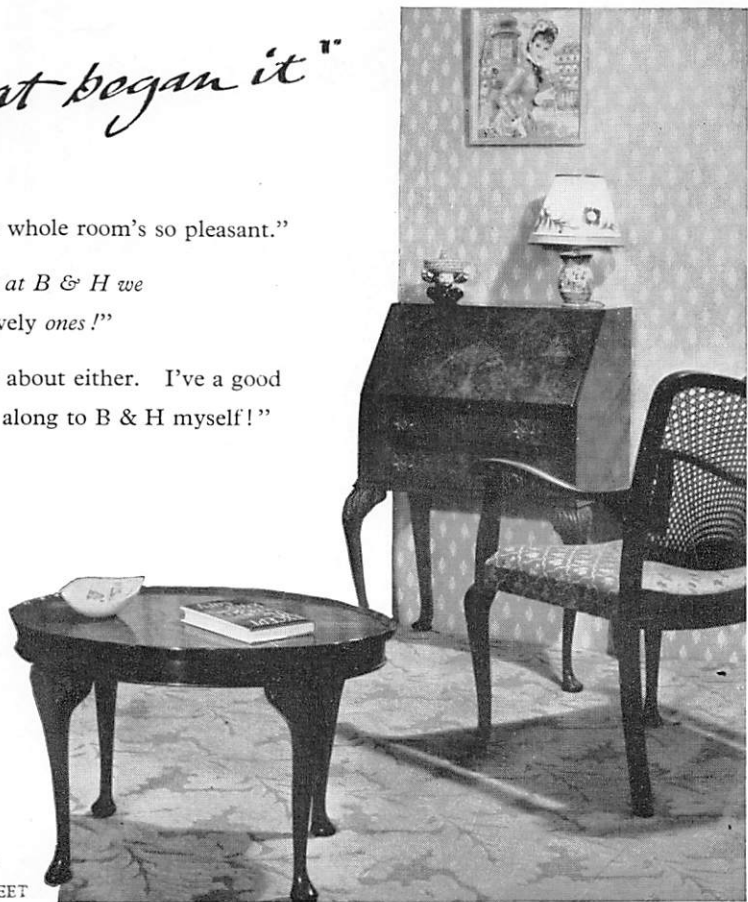
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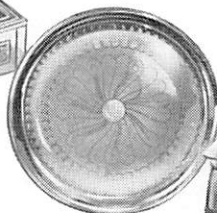
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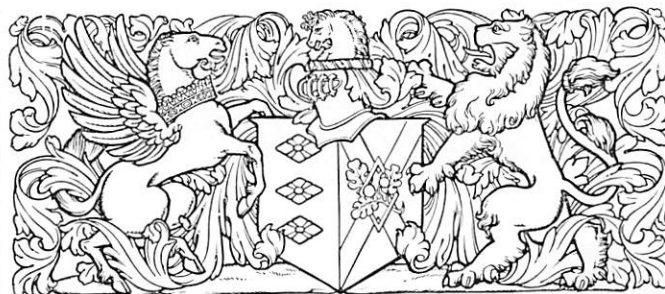
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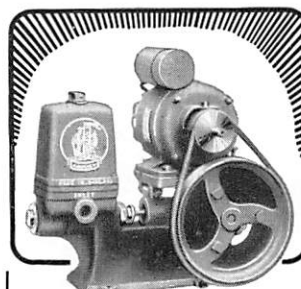
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PRIMER · UNDERCOAT  
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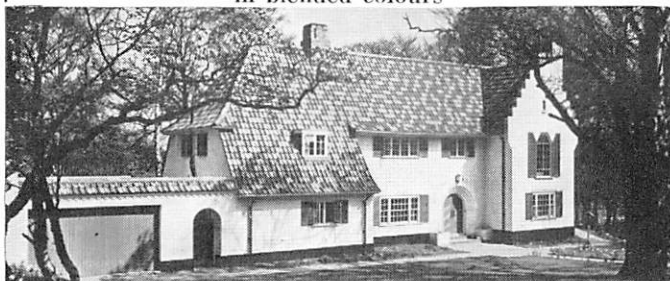
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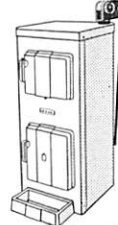
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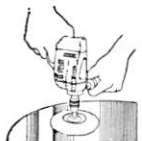
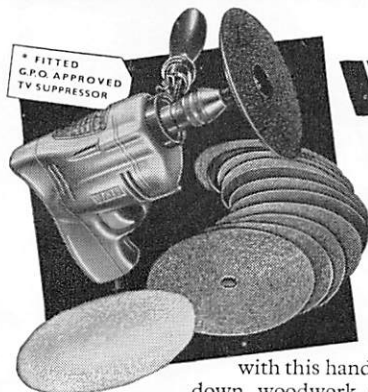
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BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE



## Father's in hot water!

There are times when Father's a nuisance—he's using the Swan Brand electric kettle for shaving just when Mother wants to make tea. Father! When will you get another Swan Brand kettle?



*It's a happy family with a*

**SWAN BRAND**  
ELECTRIC KETTLE

*— and all the happier for an extra one*

From Leading Stores and Electrical Dealers

In the home for a **LIFETIME**

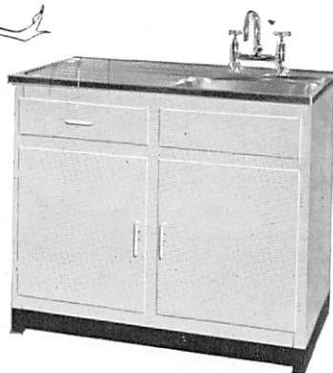
Write for illustrated literature to: Bulpitt & Sons Ltd., Dept. I.H., Birmingham 18  
M-W.315

TAKE

**Sheer Pride**

Regd.

IN YOUR KITCHEN



The new Sheer Pride Sink Unit • modernises • glamorises means a more hygienic kitchen and less work for the housewife.

Heavy grade stainless steel sink and draining board on stove enamelled base, with drawer and cupboards. Choice of two models in all white, all cream, cream and green, or cream and blue. Prices from £25 8s. 6d.

Free brochure and name of nearest stockist sent, on request, to—

SHEER METALCRAFT LTD., WEYBRIDGE, SURREY



Incorporating unique basket strainer sink waste

*"I'm awfully glad we bought a REDFYRE"*

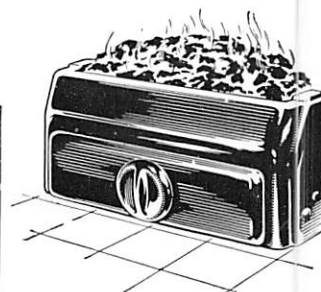


Until we bought our Redfyre we hadn't realised how much it would transform our lives. For years we'd struggled with poor coal at worryingly high prices, giving little enough warmth from an old-fashioned grate. Somehow it was all very discouraging. But how different things are now! Our Redfyre burns coal, coke, slack or anything that's going, gives wonderful warmth and keeps in all night if we want it to. And we're actually saving fuel! Yes, I'm awfully glad we bought a Redfyre.

The  
**REDFYRE**

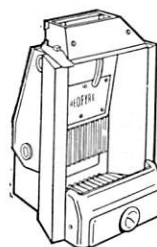
CONTINUOUS BURNING FIRE

Fitted with chrome steel bottom grate to avoid "burning out." Available in 12" to 18" sizes, to fit all standard fireplaces. Finished in lovely vitreous enamel with choice of colours.



there's also the

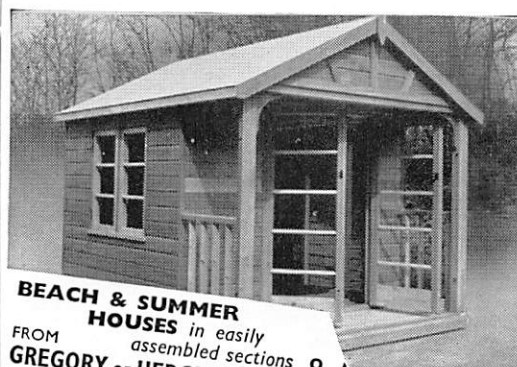
**REDFYRE  
BACBOILER**



A Redfyre for your living room with a high output boiler concealed behind it! Ensures abundant hot water and heats two radiators.



From your local distributor or Gas Board showroom



**BEACH & SUMMER  
HOUSES** in easily  
assembled sections  
FROM  
**GREGORY OF HEDGERLEY**



'tailored in wood' for all-weather protection

Shiplapped weatherboard or hard rustic elm. Roof in good quality felt or Ruberoid slates. As illustrated with 3 ft. wide verandah or with all-glass front as an alternative. Sizes from 9 ft. x 6 ft. x 8 ft. to ridge.

GREGORY (Hedgerley) LTD., HEDGERLEY, SLOUGH, BUCKS. Tel. Farnham Cmn. 666



In the winter  
you will need

**'COALITE'**  
REGISTERED TRADE MARK  
SMOKELESS COAL

order now  
at lower  
summer  
prices



ASK YOUR COAL MERCHANT

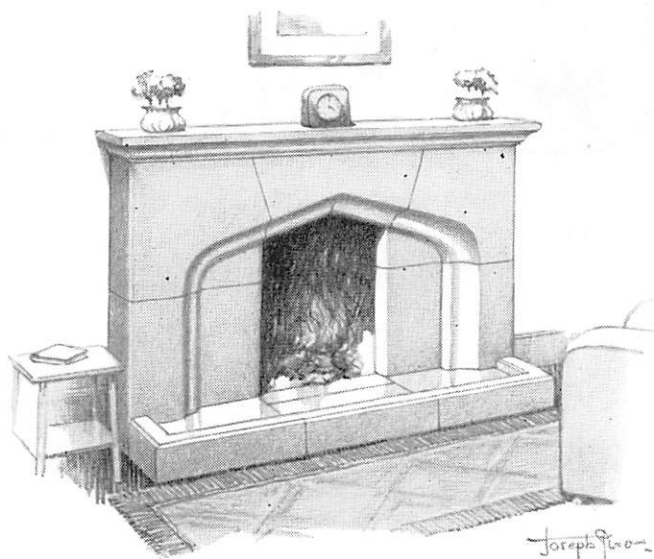
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royds 1/23/54

## For Lasting Beauty

Tiled roofs owe their charm and durability to the unique properties of burnt clay. When you build a house, make sure it is roofed with

**CLAY**  
Roofing Tiles



For years the name Claygate has been associated with the finest brick fireplaces. Now Claygate have introduced a very beautiful range of Stone Fireplaces, with a choice of Portland, Bath and Clipsham finish. Shelf and hearth are protectively polished, and surrounds specially treated to make cleaning easy.

## Claygate Stone Fireplaces

If any difficulty in obtaining,  
write for name of nearest stockist.

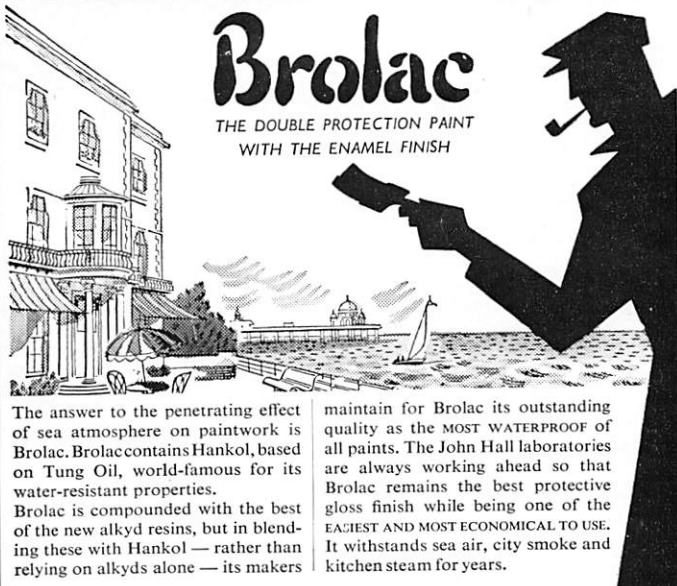
CLAYGATE FIREPLACES LTD. • 51 CLAYGATE • SURREY

## SEA AIR WRECKS PAINT

Science answers back with

**Brolac**

THE DOUBLE PROTECTION PAINT  
WITH THE ENAMEL FINISH



The answer to the penetrating effect of sea atmosphere on paintwork is Brolac. Brolac contains Hankol, based on Tung Oil, world-famous for its water-resistant properties. Brolac is compounded with the best of the new alkyl resins, but in blending these with Hankol — rather than relying on alkyds alone — its makers

maintain for Brolac its outstanding quality as the MOST WATERPROOF of all paints. The John Hall laboratories are always working ahead so that Brolac remains the best protective gloss finish while being one of the EASIEST AND MOST ECONOMICAL TO USE. It withstands sea air, city smoke and kitchen steam for years.

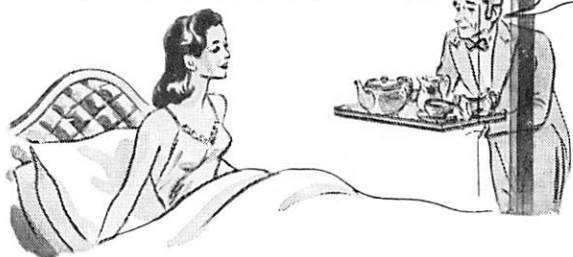
Free book of  
colour schemes  
in FULL  
COLOUR

TO JOHN HALL & SONS (BRISTOL & LONDON) LTD • DEPT. C  
HENGROVE • BRISTOL 4. Please send me your new decorating book 'The Jacksons are having their home decorated.'

Name.....  
(USE BLOCK CAPITALS)  
Address.....  
Nearest Town..... I.H.4



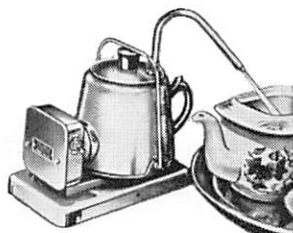
# At home with Hawkins

YOUR SERVANT  
MADAM!

Have you enough help at home? If not (and who has) do you know about the wonderful Hawkins range of "invisible servants"? Tea-making and cooking are only a few ways in which Hawkins Electric "Home Helps" make modern living easier, more comfortable and less costly!

## TIFFEE 79/6 ▶

Yes, tea every morning, right at your bedside! No more dressing gown trips to a cold kitchen. And the electric "Tiffie" works for you all day. Ideal for TV watchers—no need to interrupt your favourite programme. Well made—reliable—an invaluable acquisition. Approved by the Good Housekeeping Institute.



## ◀ OVENETTE 89/6

The "Ovenette" roasts, bakes and grills from any electric point for HALF the normal cost, while you watch the astounding results through the ever clear glass window! Large capacity—as example, TWO 4-lb chickens and potatoes at one time. No more dirty, greasy ovens to clean. Electric cooking at its easiest, cheapest and best! (700 watts consumption.)



## PRESSURE COOKER ▶

Six Models from 67/6

Safer than ordinary saucepans, for it cannot be spilt! Thoroughly tested and recommended by the Good Housekeeping Institute, the British Standards Institution and the British Pressure Cooker Manufacturers Association. Economical too—it saves more than its initial cost in fuel EVERY YEAR!



## ◀ HOSTESS £26-19-0

Complete and dignified service! You actually prepare your evening meal at lunch time and place it in the four Pyrex containers. Wheel the "Hawkins Hostess" into the dining room, plug in and switch on. In the evening, everything is piping hot, in perfect condition and ready to serve. Wonderful if you are entertaining! Late comers especially welcome! Sideboard Model 11 gns.



Electric heaters, Irons, Kettles, Hair Dryers etc.  
All described in our FREE brochure.

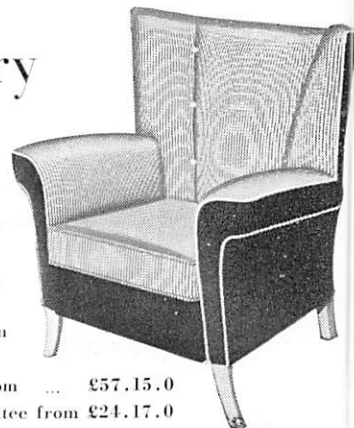
# L. G. HAWKINS & CO LTD

DRURY LANE LONDON WC2

## contemporary comfort

From our Welbeck suite, this chair has an eye-pleasing new line that lends itself to the intriguing use of contrasting materials. With a large range of fabrics\* from which to choose, prices are:

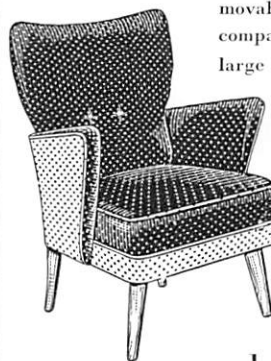
Suite (Settee and two Chairs) from ... £57.15.0  
Easy Chair from £16.9.0     Settee from £24.17.0



The Focus Major, justly popular as a light, easily movable Television and 'handy' chair. Now has a companion settee with the same advantages. In a large range of fabrics.\*

The Chair from £8.8.0  
The Settee from £12.12.0

\* Many of the fabrics are all wool, Mitin  
Moth-proofed and exclusive to us.



# oxer

## designed upholstery

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The BROMLEY, KENT Berner's Patent Loft Ladder as made by the first and original Inventors, Patentees and Manufacturers.



Why not make full use of the loft, which may represent 20% or more of your house space? Obtain quick—safe—easy access to the otherwise wasted loft with a Berner's patent LOFT LADDER. Spring balanced, strong, easily fitted, easily worked. Most types snugly housed in loft out of sight when not in use, yet ready for instant use. Aluminium alloy construction eliminates fire risk. Write for catalogue (L.H.) or representative to call to give free advice within 25 miles of our works.

Prices from £14.0.0

Our Loft Ladders are  
now Free of Purchase  
Tax.

## LOFT LADDERS LTD.

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# Out of this world!

Here comes the most delicious breakfast you *ever* tasted!

From out-of-this-world (perhaps from fairyland) . . . but in the shops *now*, for every loving mother to buy, for every really normal boy and girl and husband and house-guest and lodger and all to eat and enjoy . . . Kellogg's wonderful new breakfast! Something to make you sit up, and *eat*.

Crisp, crunchy, oven-toasted-with-sugar, heart-of-the-corn *flakes* . . . ready-to-serve, *asking* to be eaten, plateful after plateful after plateful.



**NOW!**

*Crisply delicious flakes  
oven-toasted with sugar!*





It's love  
at  
first  
bite!

**It's KRAFT'S supreme new margarine!**

And what a hit it's been all over Britain! Not surprising, either—for the same thing happened in America, where margarine made by Kraft is a favourite best-seller. Just one taste will convert you, too—for there *is* a real difference in margarine that's superbly fresh, made with pure *vegetable* oils. Quality counts, when it's Kraft quality—and it's worth the bit more that it costs!

**Double-wrapped for fresher freshness!**

(See the inner lined foil wrapping for extra protection!)

**Delicious natural flavour!**

**Spreads creamy-smooth even when cold!**

**Full food value for the money, too!**



★ Look for this gay blue-and-yellow packet at your grocery or dairy

**KRAFT**

KRAFT FOODS LIMITED, HAYES, MIDDLESEX

**experts in making fine foods**







arrive in style

"ESTELLE"—a fashion weathercoat delightfully styled to hang in trim graceful lines. An intriguing new collar style and adjustable fly away cuffs. Available in Mulberry, Old Gold, Holly Green, Slate Grey, Peacock Green, Denim Blue, and Black. About 8 gns. Including hat.



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arrive in *Valstar*

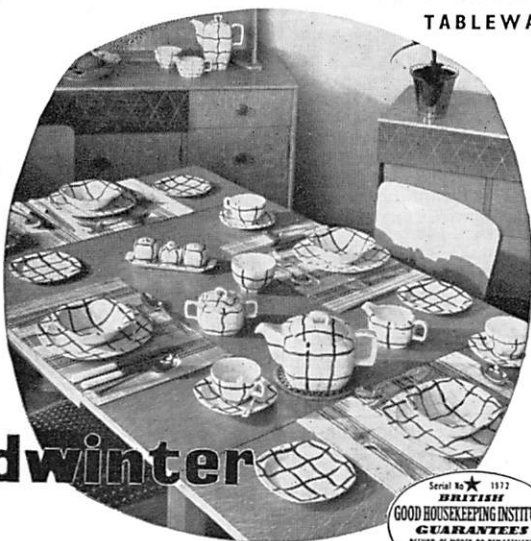
Stocked by most of the better shops and stores. If in difficulty write to VALSTAR LTD, Salford 6, Lancashire, or 314 Regent Street, London W.1.

stylecraft

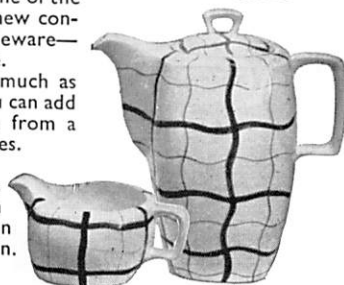
CONTEMPORARY  
TABLEWARE

by

midwinter



"Homeweave," illustrated, is one of the many attractive designs in the new contemporary shaped Stylecraft Tableware—to be seen in stores everywhere. You need buy initially only as much as you can afford and know that you can add or replace in the same pattern from a range of over fifty different pieces. A twenty-piece Starter Set in Homeweave costs only 39/6. It is a genuine hand-painted design in underglaze acid-proof colours on finest Staffordshire semi-porcelain.



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"When I'm warm I just take my inside out!"

In winter, with quilted Tropaline warmer buttoned inside, wear it as a luxurious top-coat; in summer, without warmer, as a smart raincoat. And, like all ROBERT HIRST raincoats (with or without warmers), it's generously cut from fine, hard-wearing gaberdine in a variety of shades.

Smaller sizes (excluding warmers) from about 84/- Stocked by good outfitters and stores everywhere. Write for full illustrated colour folder and name of nearest stockist to:

ROBERT HIRST & CO. LTD., for boys & girls of all ages HAMMERTON ST., BRADFORD 3 and at 205, Regent Street, London, W.1



raincoats



# CRITTALL

**RUSTLESS  
GREENHOUSES AND  
GARDEN FRAMES**



Made by the Metal Window Engineers with the International reputation for high quality of workmanship and materials. Extensible Greenhouses from £37. The "CADET" Galvanized Steel Greenhouse (Fixed Size) 25 guineas. Garden Frames from 5 guineas. Greenhouses available on deferred terms. ★ Free delivery: despatch within 14 days.

Send for full details to:—

**THE CRITTALL  
MANUFACTURING  
COMPANY LTD.**

Horticultural Department E,  
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YOU CAN SAY IT WITH CONFIDENCE

**"Farotex makes  
leaky roofs  
permanently waterproof"**



Farotex lasts a lifetime. An imperishable black plastic compound, made of the finest materials, it will never crack or run. And it can be applied to any surface. Ask your retailer for a tin today or send P.O. direct to manufacturer.

Equally efficient on Lead, Zinc, Slate, Asphalt, Concrete, Felt or any other Roofing Material.

Also available  
in liquid form  
as Flotex.



2lb. tin 2/6 (plus 1/2 postage)  
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the makers of NINE ELMS PAINTS  
**T & W FARMLOE LTD. • WESTMINSTER • LONDON S.W.1**

**Stephenson's  
FURNITURE CREAM**  
CURES "Blue Bloom"



Has your furniture that "fogged" look? Damp is the cause and only a damp-proof polish ends it. The special waxes in Stephenson's give a glass-like gloss that damp cannot penetrate. This is why the brilliance of Stephenson's lasts so long. Stephenson's keeps your furniture young.

## THE NEW Alborough PREFABRICATED CONCRETE GARAGE

**WITH  
COMPLETE  
ERECTION  
SERVICE**

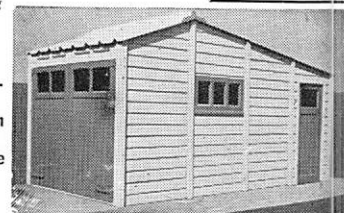
"The charm of the traditional timber building with ten times the life."

The "Alborough" Service means:

Free Plans and Site Survey;  
Free Service to cover all Statutory obligations as required by law;  
Complete erection service from foundation to finished job.

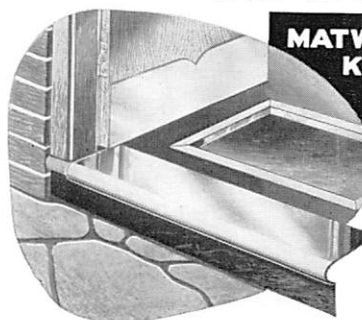
**THE RESULT:** The "Alborough" Garage—skilfully made, skilfully erected.

Note: Orders executed within 50 miles London only.



Comprehensive illustrated Brochure and Price List from  
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**MATWELL SURROUNDS  
KICKING PLATES  
STEP NOSINGS  
FINGER PLATES**

provide the finishing touch to your doorway. Available in all sizes and a wide range of shapes, in stainless steel, beaten antique copper, bronze B.M.A., polished brass and anodised aluminium.

From all good ironmongers and hardware dealers, or write for name of nearest stockists.

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**ALEX. J. CHEETHAM LTD.**  
DOB LANE MILL • MORTON ST. • FAILSWORTH  
MANCHESTER SM7



## always in 'hot water' *so never in trouble*

Hot-water babies grow up healthy . . . grow up to bless their wise mothers who saw to it they had a daily dip. For hot water spells cleanliness—and cleanliness spells health. So the child who is always in hot water will stay out of much of the trouble (where health is concerned, anyway). And thanks to Mr. Therm, this health-preserving hot water is always at hand, always plentiful and cheap enough for everybody.

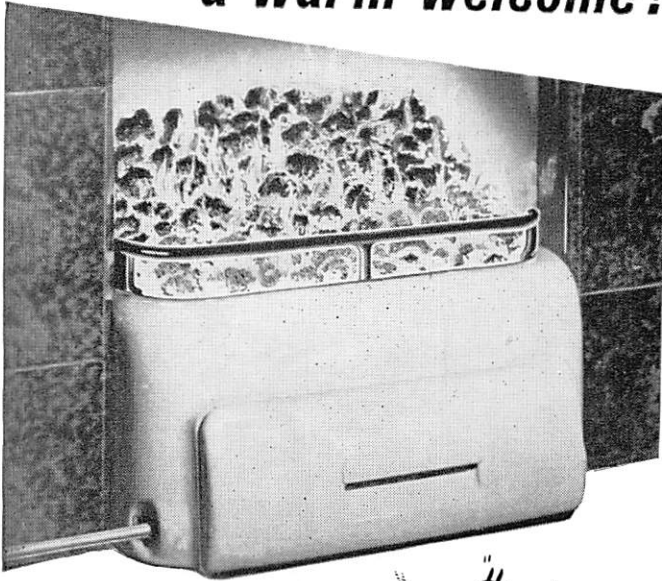
Most infants up to one year old are bathed daily. By four years of age only 4 out of 10 get a daily bath and after that age bathing becomes something of a spasmodic affair. Don't take chances with your child's health; teach him the value of hot water by persevering with regular baths. Mr. Therm's bath heaters, multipoint heaters and storage heaters will provide hot water for unlimited baths without waiting. Ask for advice at your gas showroom and enquire about easy terms.



# Good - it's GAS!



**Make your hearth give  
a warm welcome!**



"Beautiful  
in appearance!"



"Hearth level  
heat!"



"Such delightful  
colours to  
choose from!"



Enjoy a glowing fire by installing the Newbold. This modern grate will burn any type of solid fuel, but is particularly recommended for coke.

Note these special features.  
No costly replacement of firebricks necessary.

Available in a variety of vitreous enamel finishes.  
Gives safe all night burning.  
Easily cleaned.

**NEWBOLD**

by  
**FLAVELS**  
of LEAMINGTON



See it at your local Gas Show-rooms or Merchants. — Price £3.13.0. (Gas ignition 5/8d).

Approved by the Ministry of Fuel and Power.

Makers of fine cooking and heating appliances since 1777.

**Straight  
from the  
dust bin...**



on to food! Flies thrive on filth and contaminate everything they touch. Make sure foodstuffs like meat, fish and poultry are germ-free and safe to eat by using Milton. This is just one way in which Milton can be of use to you—there are many others. Ask your chemist for a copy of "Milton in the Home" to-day.

**Milton** is so safe—but so deadly to germs

Milton Antiseptic Ltd 345 Gray's Inn Rd London WCR



For details  
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colour  
booklet  
write to:

**When will your  
child be ill...?**

You can never be sure when illness will occur, but you can help to avoid it by increasing resistance with vitalising and health-giving ultra-violet rays.

Hanovia sunbaths can do this and more for you and your family, but it must be with a genuine Hanovia sunlamp.

Ask your doctor—he knows Hanovia lamps.

**HANOVIA LTD.**  
SLOUGH • BUCKS



Send free booklet "Sunshine Means Life"

Name .....

Address .....

(P.57/218).....





*Exquisite sheets pillowcases and towels by*  
**Horrockses** *the Greatest Name in Cotton*





RESTFUL SLUMBER  
Sleep deeply, soundly in  
undisturbed comfort—  
awake refreshed for the  
day ahead... enjoy the  
luxury of—



Spring Interior Mattresses & Divans

*The best in the world*

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**"Straight Jane"**  
SELF-WRINGING MOP

**NO SPLASH NO MESS**  
Banish rough, red hands—and give your floors an extra sparkle—by using a "Straight Jane" self-wringing mop. This ingenious labour-saver allows you to use the hottest water, the strongest detergent, in complete safety and comfort. Just a twist of the wrist and it's wrung!

A twist of the wrist and it's WRUNG

And ask to see  
"SUZY" the new self-squeezing sponge mop with a squeegee. Price 14/11  
"SUZETTE" self-squeezing sponge mop, complete with handle. Price 12/9  
From Stores and Ironmongers or carriage paid from  
**STRAIGHT JANE MOPS LTD.,**  
CHARLTON, LONDON, S.E.7



**Let DAVIES solve your pram problem**

**THE FIRM THAT IS FAMOUS FOR FINE BABY CARRIAGES**  
Choosing a pram is not an every-day affair. It is a real event in one's lifetime, especially if it's 'the first.' All the more reason why you should deal only with DAVIES. See the finest models in London and get the best advice on selection, safety and service! Leading London stockists of all the best makes.

**THE DAVIES "SAFETY"**  
Designed in response to public demand with special TWO-POSITION SAFETY AXLE and low centre of gravity. 42 in. coach-built body. 18 in. ball-bearing wheels. Fadeless Fabric Hood and Apron. Obtainable only from DAVIES. £23.7.6.

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(Opposite Derry & Toms)  
96-98 HIGH STREET, CROYDON, and Branches  
130 WESTERN ROAD, BRIGHTON  
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**Davies**  
THE BABY CARRIAGE SPECIALISTS

*Afford*  
**Lan-Air-Cel?**

no practical woman  
can afford  
anything else

It's a happy truism — that  
Lan-Air-Cel, loveliest of all blankets,  
are the most economical, too!  
They keep their downy  
softness throughout a  
lifetime of wash and wear. In cream, and  
a wide range of delicate pastel shades.

**A TOUCH WILL TELL**  
they're **LAN-AIR-CEL**

*Simple to wash*  
Made from Pure Scotch Wool  
and **GUARANTEED** for  
10 YEARS

Bed size blankets, and Baby blankets too, are  
obtainable from better shops everywhere and are very  
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FOR ILLUSTRATED LEAFLET  
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Glasgow, E.2. London Office: Rox-  
burghe House, 287, Regent Street, W.1





# Lavend-air

... the loveliest houses are garden fresh



New, wonderful LAVEND-AIR is here to keep your home garden-fresh. LAVEND-AIR, air conditioner destroys odours scientifically, making your home fresh as a spring day. Just lift the wick of the beautiful sea-green flask. You'll be delighted at the country-garden feeling LAVEND-AIR will give!

**3' - COMPLETE**

Lasts for ages. Refill Flask 2/6

I'm all for glass door cooking...



It's only common sense. Ask any housewife, and I know she'll agree with me. A glass oven door that I can be sure is unbreakable—that keeps the heat in properly—lets me see my cooking at a glance—and, most important, never steams over. That's what I want...

...so this is the cooker for me!

## Vulcan

**DOUBLE-CONTROL GAS COOKING**

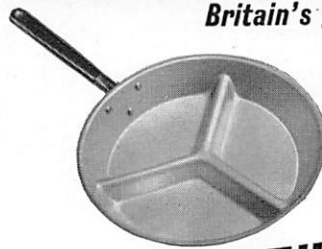
See a Vulcan at your local gas showrooms, and write for illustrated brochure.

THE VULCAN STOVE CO. LTD., EXETER. Associated Company of United Gas Industries Ltd.

- Automatic heat control
- Self-locating grill pan
- Roomy plinth drawer
- Fully-furnished oven
- Choice of attractive finishes

## MIRROWARE

Britain's greatest name in cookwares



**3-D FRY PAN 808**

Cooks 3 different foods at one time. Specially designed with high speed heat channels saving 50% fuel consumption. 12/11 each

...USE WITH PLEASURE...

**4-SQUARE FRY PAN 810**

Cooks complete meal at one time without mixing flavours. Fitted with side drainer which also keeps food hot. Indispensable to the housewife. 19/11 each



...OWN WITH PRIDE...



**THE TOP-O-PAN KETTLE 811**

Tiered to boil on top of any standard size saucepan thus saving fuel as well as valuable space on gas stove. May also be used direct on gas ring. 2 pint capacity. Individually boxed. 11/3 each

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Druggeting  
the **WOVEN** carpeting  
with the rubber backing



is ideal even for  
your best room

for as little as **13'10** per yd.

27 in., 36 in., 54 in., widths, any length cut. For samples, colour brochure and full particulars, fill in this coupon or write (enclosing 1/- refundable) to Ellis Mayman & Sons Ltd., Dept G.9, Albion Mill, Dewsbury.



Guaranteed by the  
Good Housekeeping  
Institute.

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Dept. G.9, Albion Mill, Dewsbury.

I enclose 1/- (refundable) for Mayman Druggeting samples.

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*On the left C.P.434, designed by Marian Mahler, available in 5 colour-combinations; on the right C.P.428, designed by Whitehead Studios, available in 4 colour combinations*

**DAVID**  
**WHITEHEAD**  
**FABRICS**

## Summer gaiety for winter days

These fresh, gay David Whitehead fabrics brighten winter days. And they're as reliable as they're charming — they're guaranteed. Designed by our most gifted young artists, in heavy spun rayon 48" wide, they're fast to sunlight and washing, yet they cost, in most cases, only 8/11d or 9/11d a yard. Ask to see them at your favourite store.

As well as these Contemporary Prints, David Whitehead lead the way in traditional fabrics with modern floral designs.





*"... and it's better than ever  
with the new carpet!"*

Home Sweet Home becomes twice as cosy, twice as comfortable with a wool carpet on the floor. Carpets cheat draughts, put an end to weary floor-polishing, and give a friendly welcome to every visitor. What's more, if you choose a British Carpet, a real carpet, carrying the label of the Federation of British Carpet Manufacturers, you will know you've made the best possible home investment.

**FREE** — Send a postcard today with your address for the booklet, "How to Choose and Care for Carpets", to: Carpet Information Dept., 4 Playhouse Yard, London, E.C.4.



*Buy a*

***British Carpet***

*that carries this label* →

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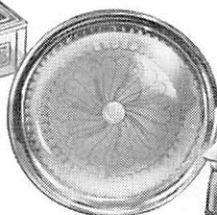
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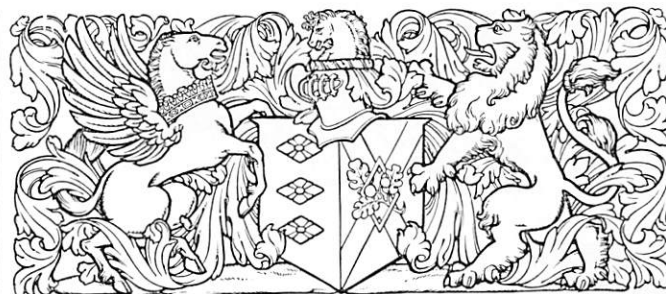
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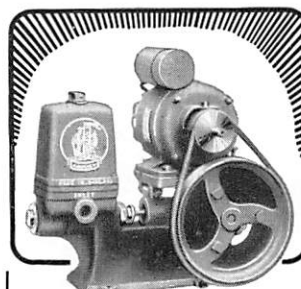
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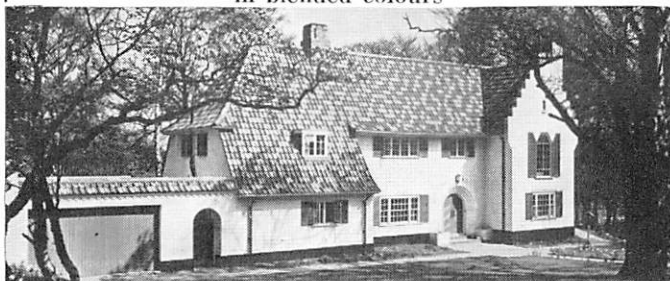
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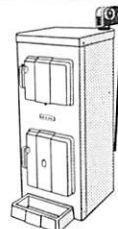
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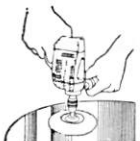
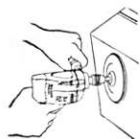
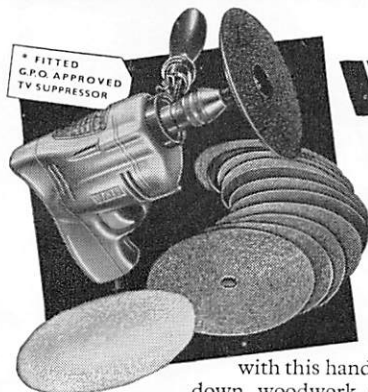
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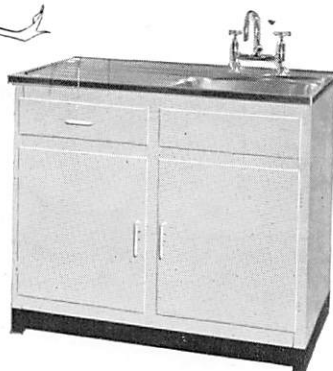
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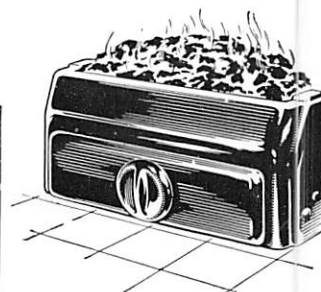


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*The*  
**REDFYRE**  
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**CONTINUOUS BURNING FIRE**

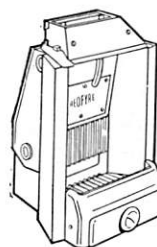
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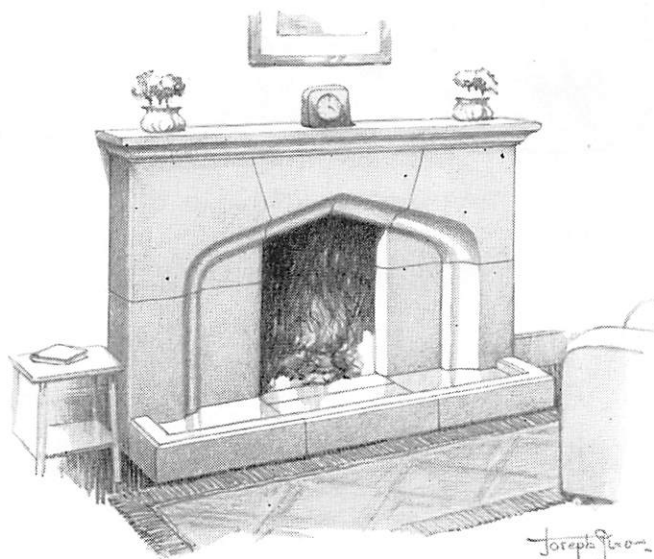
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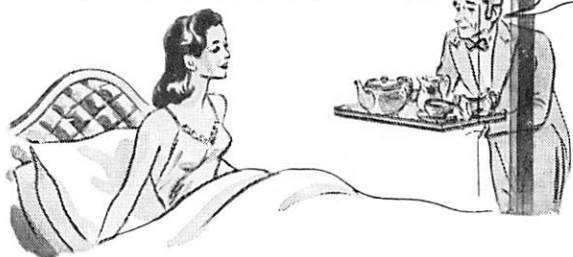
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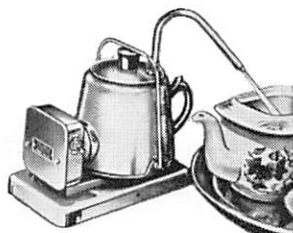
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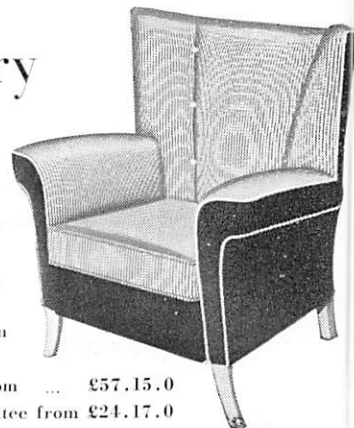
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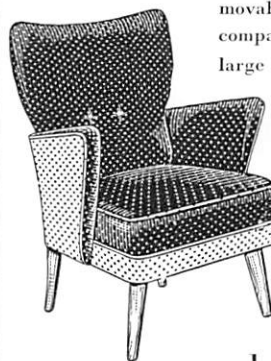
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oven-toasted with sugar!*





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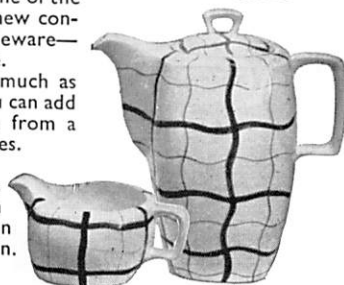
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TABLEWARE

by

midwinter



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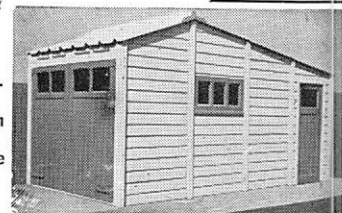
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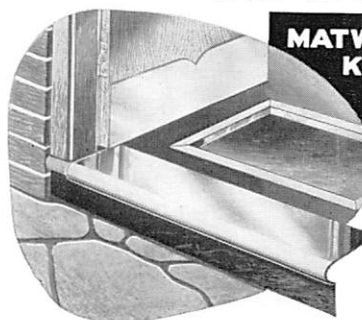
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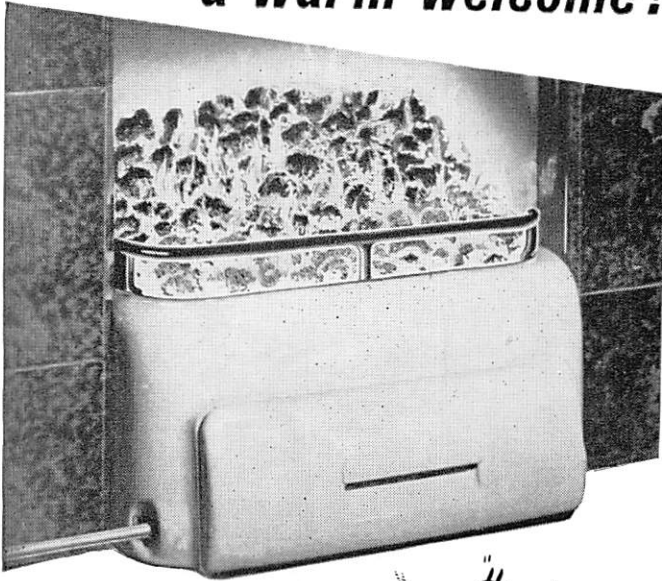
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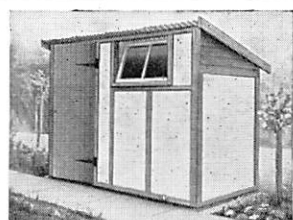
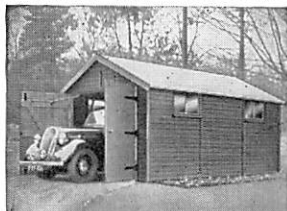
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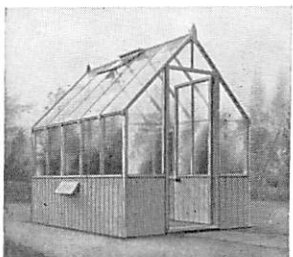
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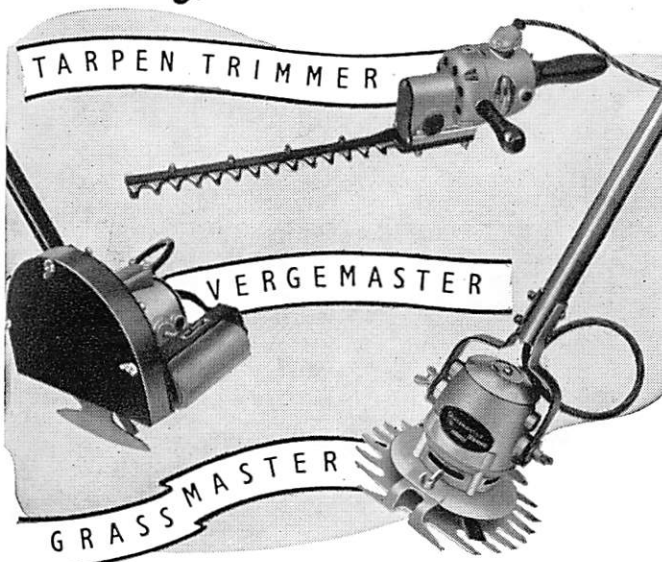
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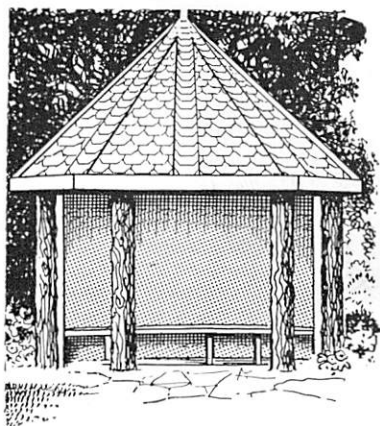


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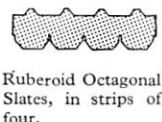
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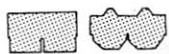
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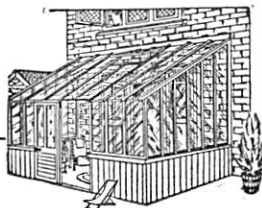
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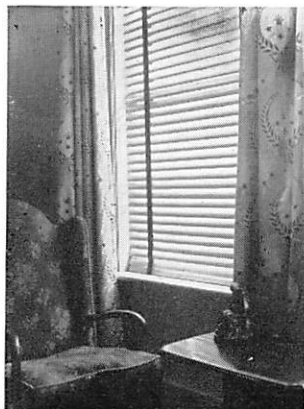
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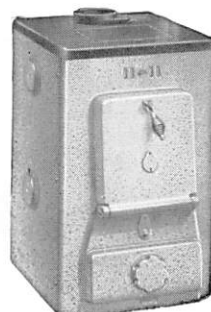
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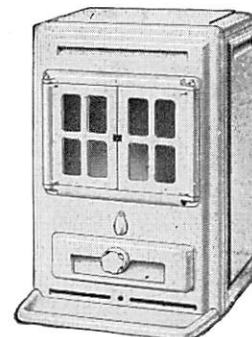
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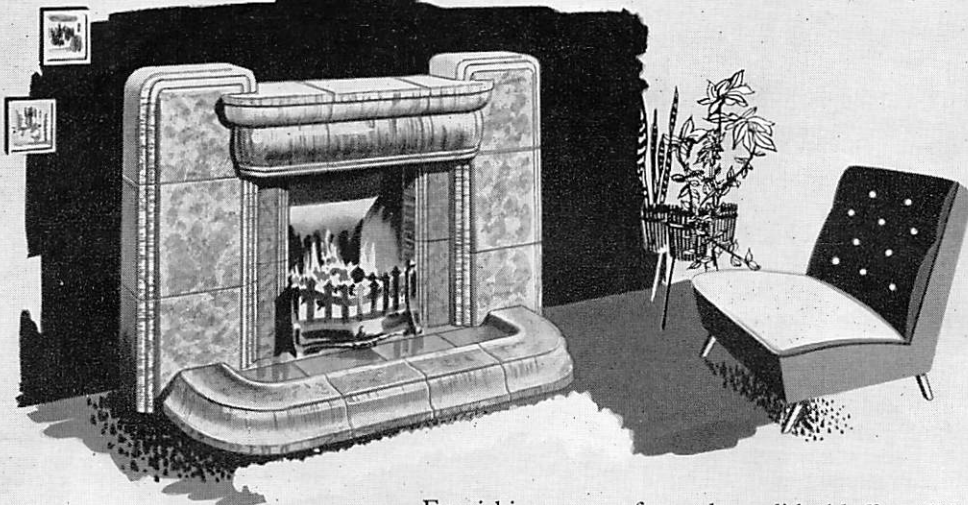
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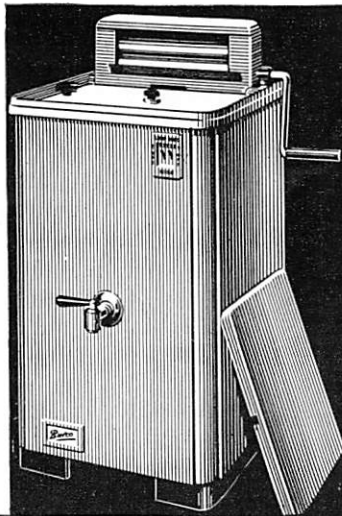
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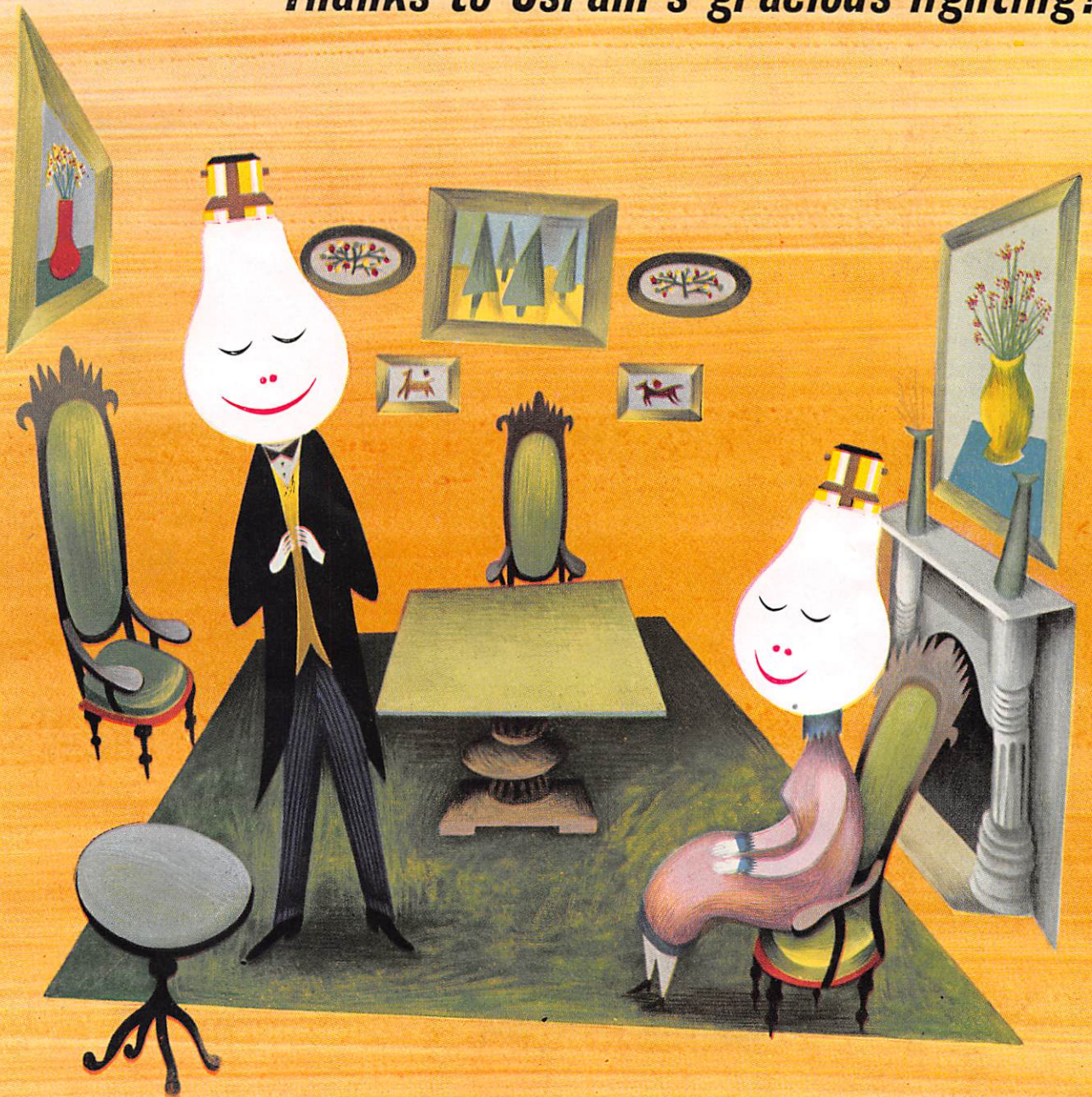
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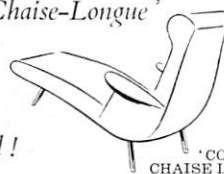


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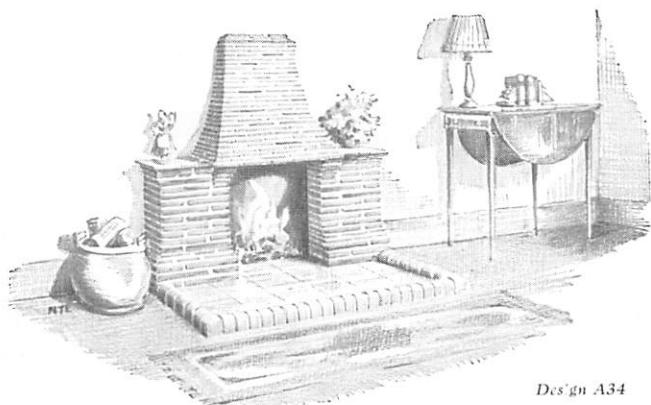
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With this new Thor washing machine you can get through a family-size wash in no time at all—and with simply no effort on your part.

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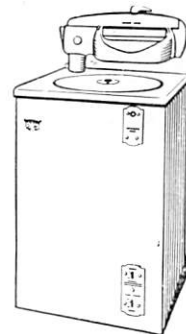
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WASHER BY

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THE GILLOTT

## Cotswold FAN HEATER



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New—Low in cost and economical to run—safe—it is ideal for any room in the house. Used either on the floor or as a wall fitting the "Cotswold" heater silently fans hot air in winter, or cold air in summer, to the farthest corners of the room.

Of distinguished appearance, with neutral coloured body, deep maroon heat-resisting handle and die-cast stand.

**£5.15.0**  
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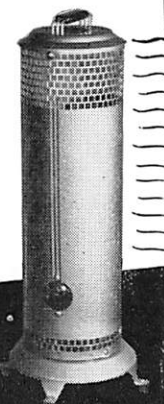
PROVED ECONOMICAL, unequalled value all-purpose Domestic Electric Space Heater gives you steady, even warmth, effectively protected to avoid waste or overheating. Safe — Portable — Heatproof — Stable. Fine appearance, attractively finished in bronze.

**1½ Kw. £3.15.0**  
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Switched 750 watts

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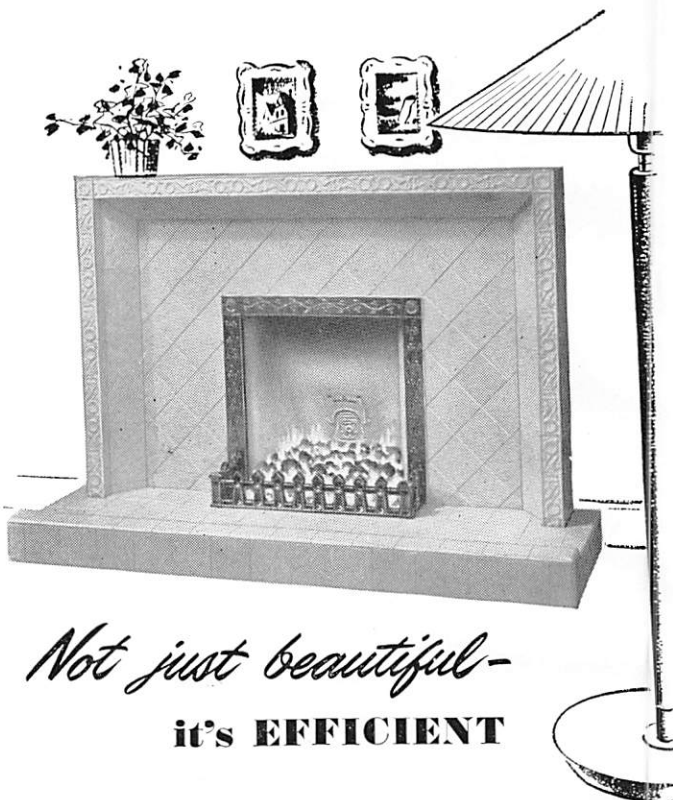
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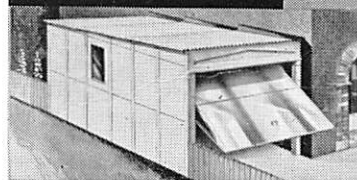
The Bell 'Supaheat' will burn overnight and you only have to empty the ash-can once a week. And it's also a tremendous help to know that by simply turning a knob you can have a glowing or blazing fire at your fingertips.

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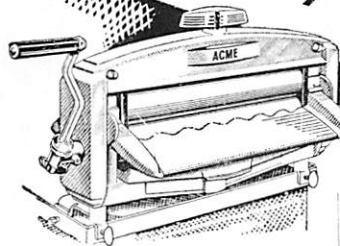
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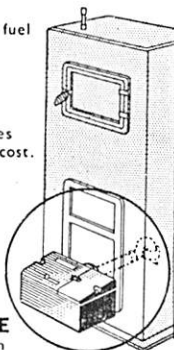
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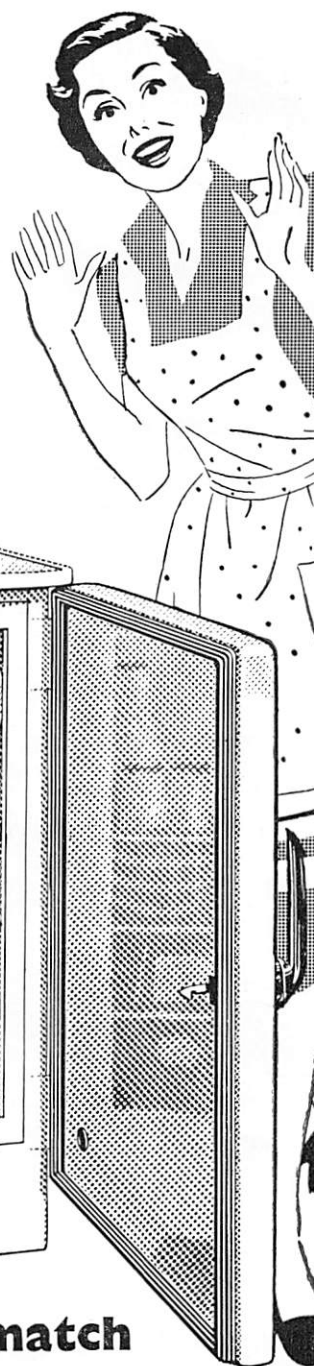
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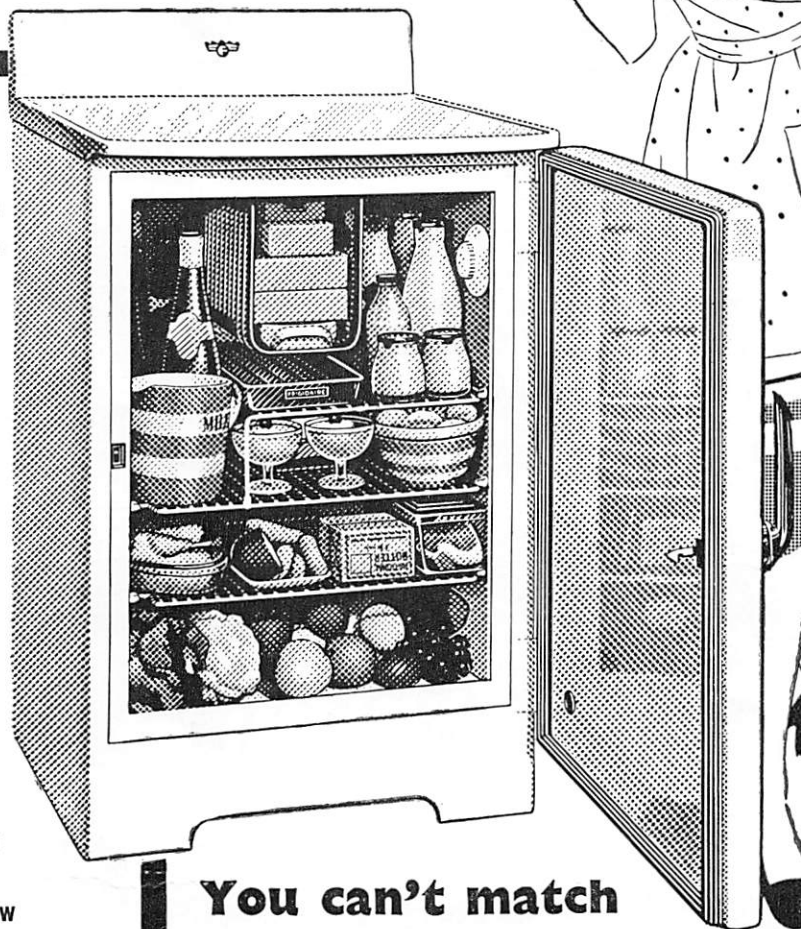
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**3 MINUTES A DAY**

*is all the attention my Trianco automatic boiler needs to provide the absolute luxury of a centrally heated home and ample hot water—and at very low running costs indeed.*

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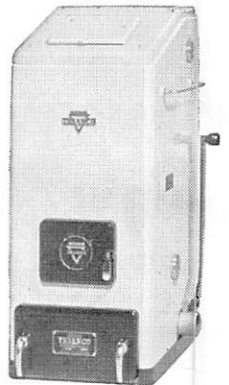
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**'HURDAPTA'**

CONVECTOR OPEN FIRE

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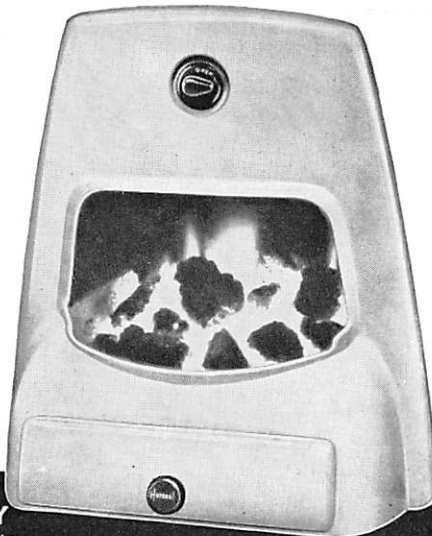
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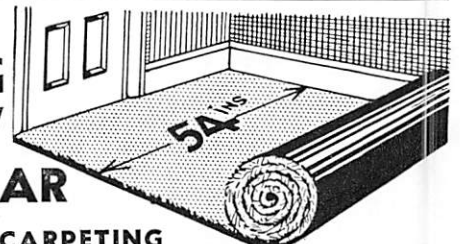
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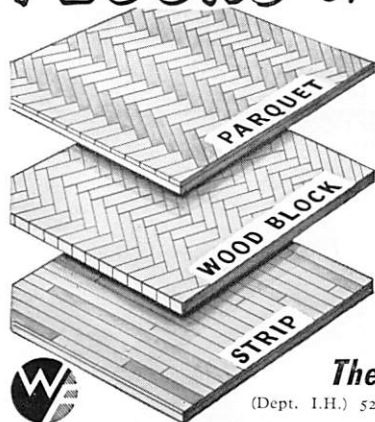
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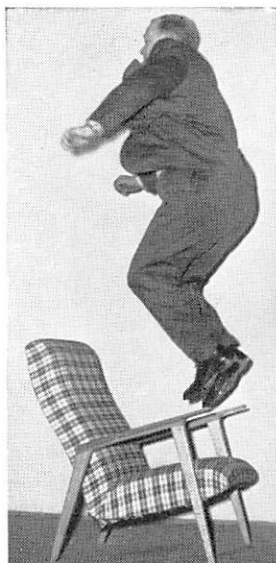


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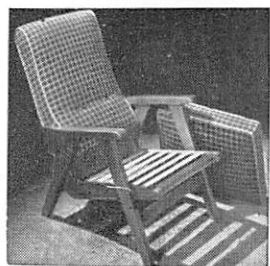


"Here's  
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said the housewife.



... with luxury comfort, too!

This un-retouched, high speed photograph of a 20 stone man jumping with his full weight on a Procanta fireside chair, was taken as an indication of the superb strength, springing and anchorage qualities of the new, rubber-based springing system produced by Pirelli and used throughout the furniture industry in beds, chairs, divans, settees, etc. For the sake of your comfort... and your pocket choose furniture sprung with



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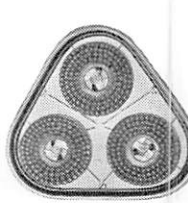
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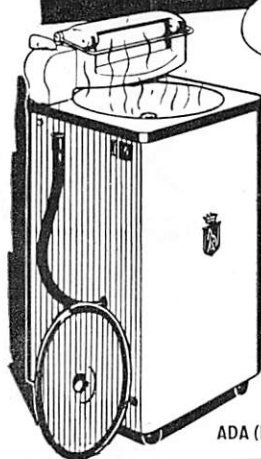
**PRICE** (including 1 set burnishing pads)  
**£16.17.6**  
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PIPING HOT  
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CORONATION STANDARD MODEL

**£35**

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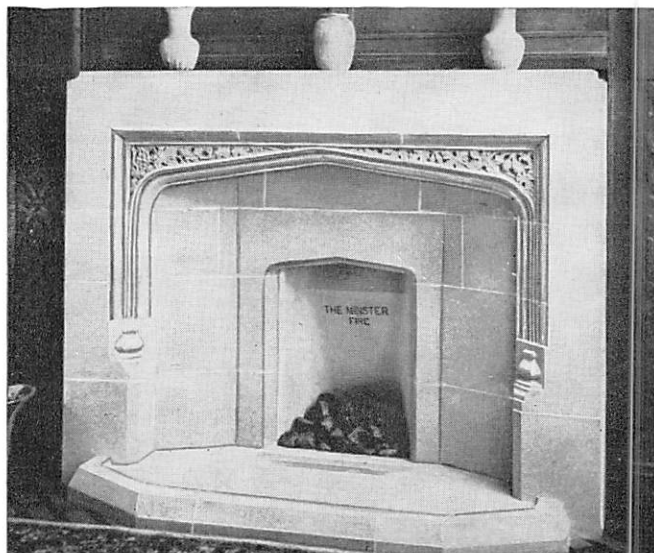
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# TRANSFORMATION SCENE



*Above: the dining room as we found it  
—a plain, pleasant, dullish room.*

*Right: the same view after redecoration.  
Mirror glass and concealed lighting  
have made a feature of the corner recess.*

*Brilliant-cut mirror over the fireplace  
gives the room a new sparkle.*

When we bought a late Victorian house we knew that we were in for decorating problems. There are thousands of houses like it—solid, roomy, dull, good-natured and wholly negative. But these old houses respond well to treatment. A lively scheme of furnishing and decoration brings colour, sparkle and character to their drab rooms. Consider our dining room, for example. There was nothing wrong with it and nothing particularly right. It was just the common-place room shown in the photograph above. On the right you see what we have made of it. Glass was the key to this transformation—mirror glass enriched with brilliant-cut lines for the panel above the fireplace: mirror glass for lining the decorative recess in the corner, and “ARMOURPLATE” glass for the display shelves warmly illuminated from lamps concealed above. There was nothing elaborate about this job—it was all home-done except for the professional help with the glass-fixing—but the result is enlivening out of all proportion to its cost.

**WHERE TO BUY GLASS.** You can order glass cut to the size and finish you require from your glass merchant, department or furnishing store, or from your local builders' merchant. The fixing of glass in your home presents no difficulty. Once installed it lasts for ever.

ISSUED BY PILKINGTON BROTHERS LTD., FOR THE GLASS ADVISORY COUNCIL  
“ARMOURPLATE” is a registered trade mark of Pilkington Brothers Ltd.

*Roger Smithells describes*

*the beauty treatment of*

*a dull room in his own home*



**A NEW BOOK.** The illustrations on this page are taken from a new book *Glass in Your Home* which Roger Smithells has written to help you in planning your own decorative schemes. Its 48 pages of home-making ideas are lavishly illustrated with photographs—many in colour. There is practical information on how to measure-up and order the glass you need. Send for a free copy by filling in the coupon.

To: THE GLASS ADVISORY COUNCIL,  
6 MOUNT ROW, LONDON, W.1.

Please send me, free of charge, a copy of  
*GLASS IN YOUR HOME* by Roger  
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NAME .....

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PLEASE USE BLOCK LETTERS III.4.



# Bring colour into your kitchen



**AND  
ALL THESE  
MOST-WANTED  
FEATURES**



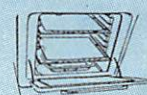
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### HEATING STOVE

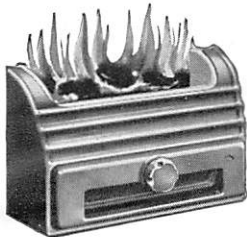
The TOR GEM is capable of burning continuously and economically on any solid fuel. It is supplied Fine Cast and Blacked or enamelled Silver Grey or Cream Mottle with Black Hobs.



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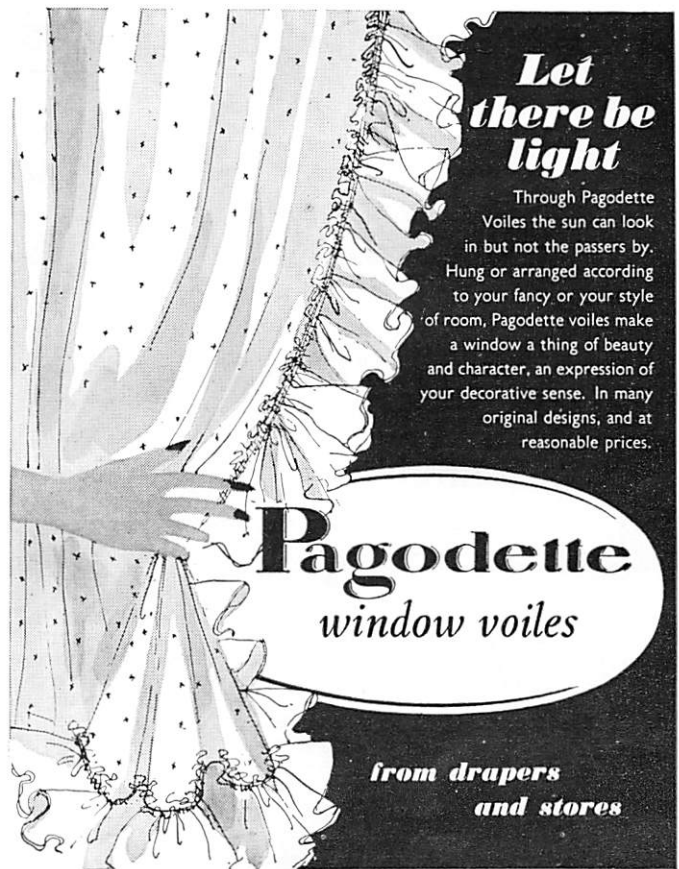
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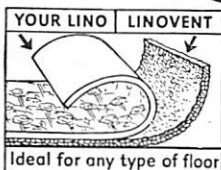
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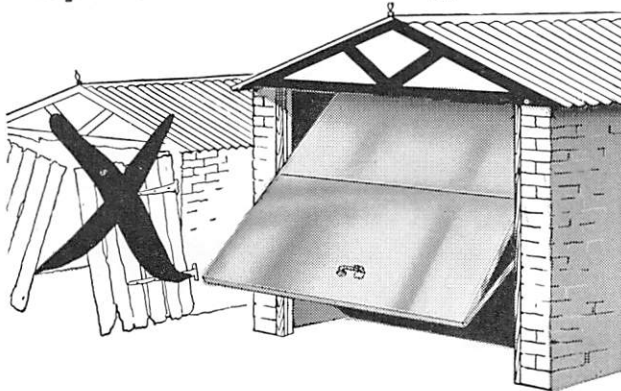
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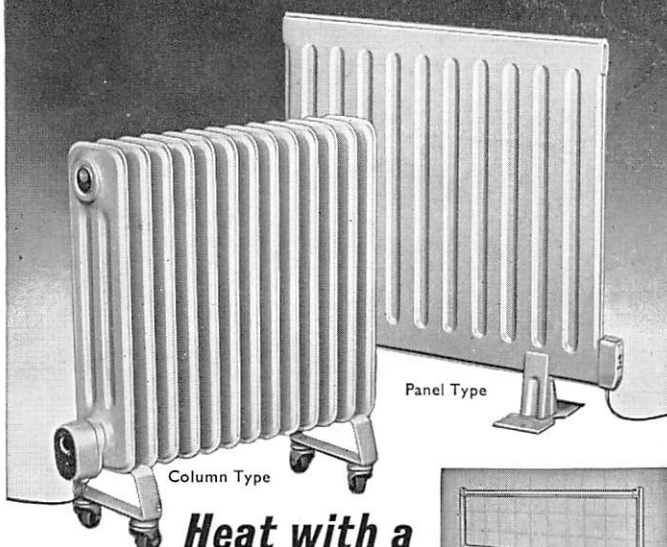
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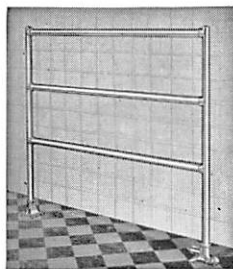
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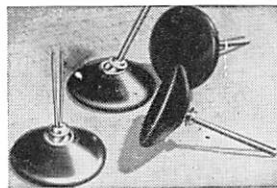
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Ideal for airing clothes as well  
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**Armstrong's furniture  
rests**

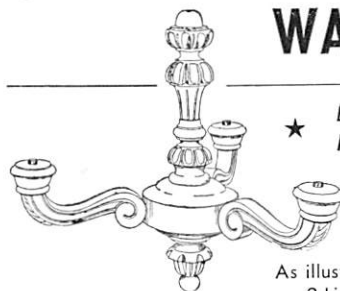


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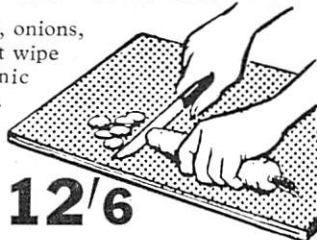
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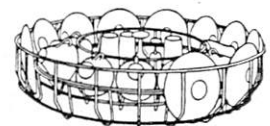
### HERE'S WHAT YOU DO

Just stack your dishes, pots, cutlery, glassware in DISHMASTER. Close the lid, turn a dial, and all your washing and drying-up—yes, drying too—is done . . . in three minutes . . . by DISHMASTER. In only two gallons of hot water, DISHMASTER will wash a complete service for six. Wash it gleamingly, hygienically clean. Tests have proved that germs can be passed on from tea cloths and sinks, however much care is taken. DISHMASTER, dispensing with all washing-up utensils, brings you your glassware and china fresher and cleaner than ever before.



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Jets of hot water injected into the washing compartment are churned by an impeller fan. Three minutes leaves everything sparklingly clean and dry. Here is the safety basket which keeps all your glass and china intact.



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DISHMASTER will not harm the most delicate glass or china. The wire baskets in which the dishes are packed are of plastic material which prevents breakage or chipping.

There are specially designed plastic-covered baskets for crockery and cutlery, and special baskets for glasses only.

From silver to saucepans—put them all in DISHMASTER and they'll come out fresh, clean, perfectly washed. And all these things are washed for you at a power cost of only a few pence a week.

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In Tapestry 'A': £14.14.0.  
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These and other chairs are shown in the Parker-Knoll catalogue—available from Parker-Knoll Ltd., The Courtyard, Frogmoor, High Wycombe, Bucks. Or you can meet them personally at Parker-Knoll's showrooms—13, Henrietta Place, Cavendish Square, London, W.1, 3, Barton Square, St. Anne's Square, Manchester, and 43 Temple Street, Birmingham.

CVS-147

# The Trivial Round

## A Domestic Diary

By MAUD MacCORMAC

*Each month Mrs. MacCormac will write on many of those things the wife of man, the mother of children and the mistress of a house has to remember; but her diary is not only the saving of knots in a handkerchief: we hope you will find it also a happy fund of ideas.*

I LIKED THE RATHER DREAMY WOMAN in the green-grocer's the other day who remarked sorrowfully to the world in general, "Choosing a cauliflower is *not* my vocation." Sometimes I feel that the running of a house and family isn't mine, but, however enjoyable a holiday has been, there is always that deep satisfaction in getting home: the one time in the year when I not only think up new resolutions, but have the energy to carry out a few of them.

I found it difficult to "come to" the first morning at home, such is the bliss of one's own bed, but as I did so I vowed, "I'll start with beds." Having just visited the Continent, I think they can teach us something about bedding: I do not intend to button the blankets between extra sheets (although I think many English hotel blankets would benefit from such camouflage), or air the bedding by hanging it out of the window, nor am I particularly anxious to sleep beneath a duvet like a giant soufflé, but I do like the way it or the eiderdown is encased in a spotless outside pillow-slip, and this idea I have copied for the children's beds.

Incidentally, prices for re-making and re-covering eiderdowns have dropped considerably, and now vary between £2 14s. and £5 5s. for a single bed, and £3 12s. and £7 7s. for a double bed, according to the choice of material (John Lewis's). I had already had our own re-made, and shall leave them in their dimpled splendour, but the children's are now in removable slips, the ends of which tuck in, as with ordinary pillow-cases. It is well to bear in mind that not only is washability the first requisite, but lightness is important. I chose a patterned seersucker, guaranteed to wash well, but nylon would of course be more elegant in an adult's room.

The small outlay of time and money was soon justified when Junior had to spend a few days in bed. How consoling when libations of marmalade, egg and paint are poured, not on to a freshly and expensively cleaned eiderdown, but an easily laundered cover. And if you have the sort of dog who likes to greet you at crack of dawn with dew-laden and muddy limbs pawing the bed, how nice for him that you should be tenderly touched, rather than irritated.

\* \* \*

AHEAD as we may think we are with school shopping, one child is sure to grow out of a garment that at the beginning of the holidays looked as if it might just last another term; so the harrowing expedition to the



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**just hug you dry!**

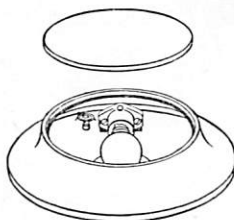
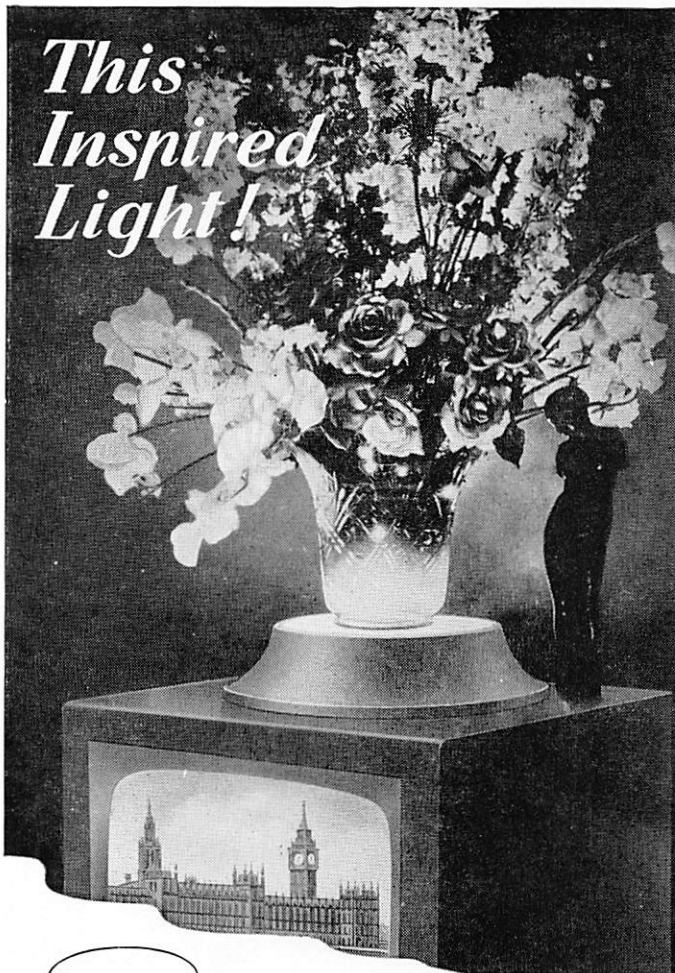
The rich, soft-rough texture of an Osman towel just hugs you dry and leaves you stimulated and glowing all over. Through years of wear and washing, Osman towels never lose their absorbent quality, their clear, clean colours. Osman, aristocrats of the towel world, add lasting beauty and pleasure to the everyday business of keeping clean!



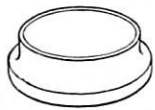
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Standard Plinth  
Diameter at Base 11½"  
Price **36/9** each



The R.E.A.L.  
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Most good electrical and radio stores can supply.

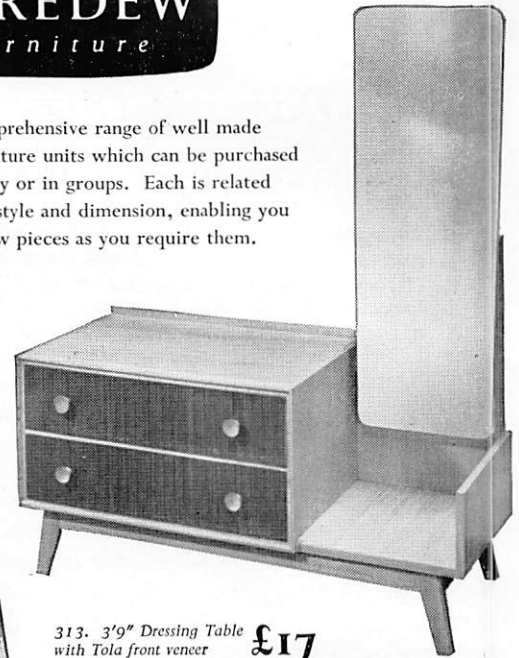
*The* **R.E.A.L.**  
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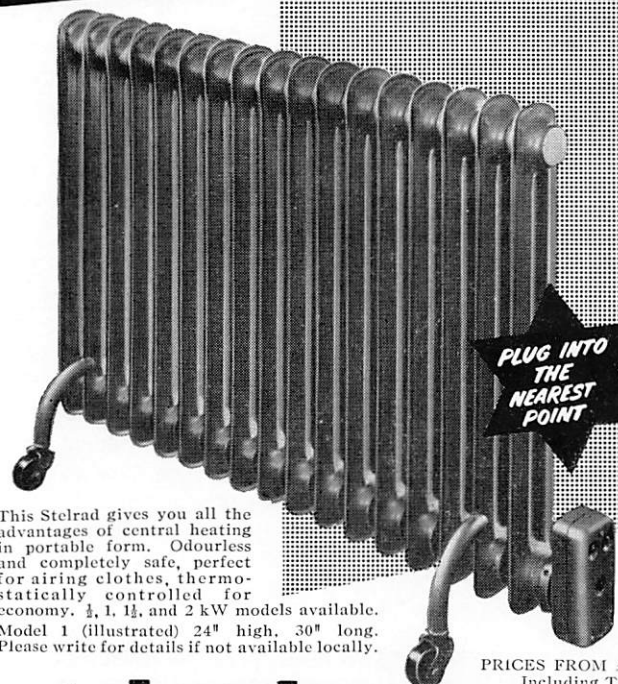


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## The Trivial Round

school outfitter has to be repeated, with bribes of an ultimate visit to the Pet Shop or a gargantuan ice. Why is it, incidentally, that a child, when trying on clothes, must either stand like a dejected and drooping carthorse, or with chest out-thrown like a bombardier, so that it is almost impossible to tell whether anything fits or not?

Bitter experience has taught me that even though children grow out of clothes so quickly, and even when there is no younger member of the family to pass things on to, quality is still worth while: a cheap coat or suit so soon loses its shape, and adolescent knees wear all too rapidly through inferior flannel trousers.

To the few who have not already discovered them, may I recommend nylon-and-wool socks and stockings. You can buy a pair of boy's stockings for 8s. 11d., and socks from 6s. 6d. Girl's stockings, with elastic tops, in fawn or grey, cost about 8s. (Harrods). I was hardened to seeing enormous holes in a new pair of socks within a week, and whole pairs of socks, laboriously mended by an unfortunate school matron and returned labelled "not worth further mending." The nylon-and-wool socks I bought have now lasted four terms without a hole, although they have been worn under "corps" boots and even Wellingtons.

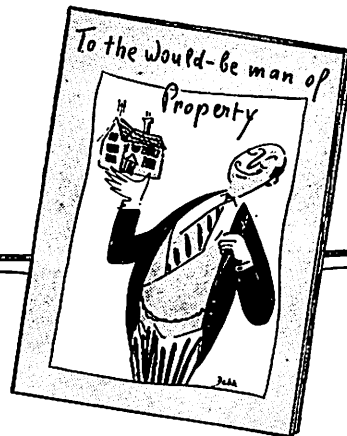
And do not forget to order the Cash's name tapes in good time! The fatal last-minute rush will soon be upon us. If the schools your children attend are gracious enough to allow marking in *ink*, there is a new "marking ink" ballpoint pen on the market, a wonderful convenience: no more upsetting of those horrid little bottles, finding at the eleventh hour that the contents have shrunk to a soggy pudding at the bottom, or that you did not wipe the nib as instructed.

\* \* \*

SEPTEMBER may still be summer, but the evenings are cool, and there is a special luxury about an early fire, with its implication of drawn curtains and winter cosiness. It is too soon to squander coal, but why not collect fir cones and wood to burn? What nicer to the nose than the smell of a wood fire, sweet or aromatic, or peat if your fuel merchant can supply it.

Modern homes so very often lack the scent we nostalgically associate with old houses we've loved. All too rarely do we meet about the house that memorable blend of beeswax and turpentine, old leather books, pot pourri, lavender and hyacinth. A well-known firm have recently introduced a new lavender-scented furniture polish; lavender itself is easy enough to come by—try keeping some flowers on their stems, holding them in the fire for a few minutes, and then waving them, smouldering, round the room for a lovely "incense" smell. Pot pourri is not difficult to make; if you wish to experiment, you will find a recipe in Constance Spry's "Come into the Garden, Cook."

But if you have not time, it can be bought in packets from Heal's, or Atkinson's in Bond Street, or loose by the lb. from Mary Chess, in Shepherd's Market. It is, of course, loveliest kept in open bowls, until the musty smell of dust sadly supersedes the scent. Lidded bowls are not easy to find, though you might be lucky



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## The Trivial Round

enough to come across one in an antique or junk shop. Heal's have little pierced jars which can be used as sugar sifters or for pot pourri (Hampstead Potteries, 12s. 6d.), and they sometimes stock flat pot pourri bowls in attractive coarse pottery, with perforated lids.

\* \* \*

IN ADDITION to coping with the family, there is still fruit to be bottled and jam to be made. I rely on the experts to advise on methods, but would stress the importance of care in the choice of jars and storage cupboard in the battle against mould. Jars should have smooth edges so as to eliminate any possibility of air seeping in, and it is really worth while investing in well-known makes. Preserves like an even temperature, not too warm and not too cold (about 55 deg. is ideal), and darkness, as jam loses its colour when stored in the light. Narrow shelves, too, are an advantage, so that the jars are used in turn, without risk of the remoter ones being overlooked.

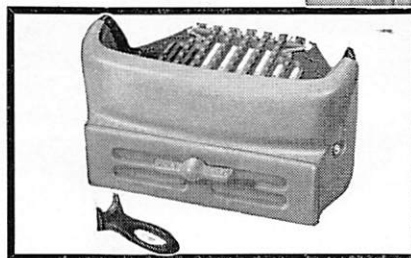
\* \* \*

CHRISTMAS seems so far ahead, but, for those who are considering a winter holiday, now is the time to plan and even to book. If you are saving your foreign currency for the summer, has it occurred to you to try Norway for winter sports? (With the princely allowance of £250, an independent assessment which does not affect the general travel allowance of £50.) It is possible to spend eleven days, including four days in transit, for £21-£31 per head at various centres providing scope for the expert and the novice: at Voss, for instance, surrounded by mountains, and the scene of regular international competitions, where there is a ski school and a floodlit skating rink. The young who feel inclined to join ski-ing parties, staying in youth hostels, can enjoy fifteen days inclusive for less than £25. Children under ten, in Norway, are usually charged half fares and half price in hotels.

If, however, you prefer to remain in England and are not bored by long quiet evenings, how about a riding holiday? Perhaps near Dulverton in Somerset, staying in a hotel near the ancient village associated with Lorna Doone, with a chance to hunt with the Dulverton or the Exmoor Foxhounds, riding back at dusk to an enormous tea, a hot bath and a thriller. A hunter would cost you 3-5 gns. a day. There are lovely moorland rides: horses or ponies to be hired from 6s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. a day, and riding lessons can be arranged with a resident groom.

Or you might stay in the Quantocks, in an old Mill House which has been in the occupation of the same family for 200 years, where for 6½ guineas per head a week (in January and February) you grow fat on real country food. (There is no reduction for children, as it has been found that their appetites are just as hearty as those of their parents.) Here, too, horses are available, and there is hunting with the West Somerset Foxhounds, or you could follow the Beagles, who meet at Nether Stowey once a month. If you enjoy walking, you will find yourself within easy distance of Alfoxden, that enchanting house where William and Dorothy Wordsworth once lived and walked through the woods

they saved £2  
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in 2 minutes

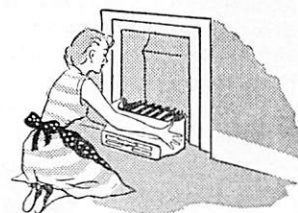


The man in the shop tried to sell us a 'fixed' continuous-burning fire for about £5—the sort you may have to cut and drill—or pay another £1 to have cemented... But we were determined to get one of these portable, adjustable ABM 'Allnites' for only 79/-



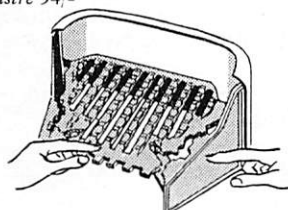
### Out of the Crate...

The ABM 'Allnite' is completely assembled and ready for immediate use—packed in a wooden crate. We chose a cream fire at 79/-. Black is also 79/-, marble 88/6, copper lustre 94/-



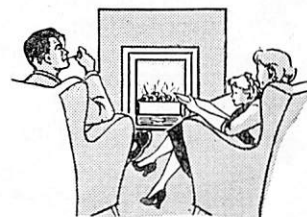
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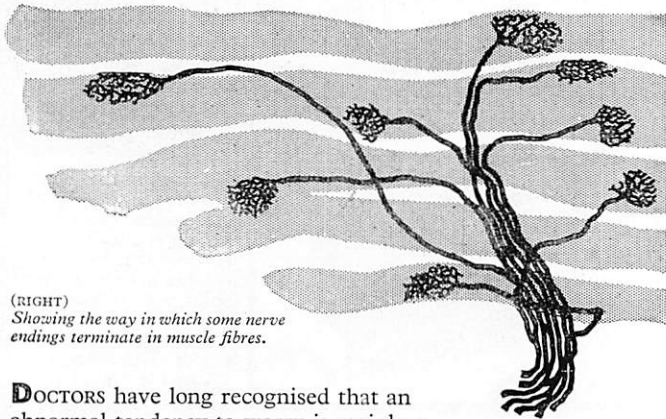
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# Worry and your Nerves



(RIGHT)  
Showing the way in which some nerve  
endings terminate in muscle fibres.

DOCTORS have long recognised that an abnormal tendency to worry is mainly a matter of "nerves". People, for instance, with a healthy, robust nervous system rarely become habitual worriers. So if, in spite of yourself, you cannot stop worrying over small, everyday things, it is more than likely that your nerves need attention.

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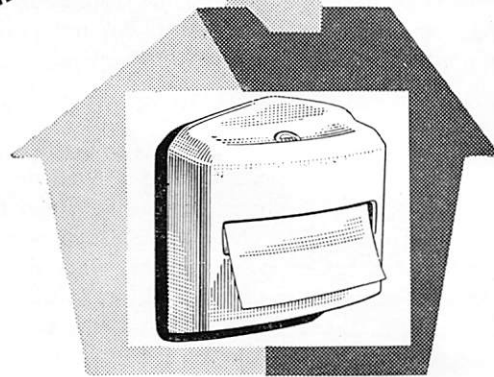
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## The Trivial Round

with Coleridge, gathering "fir apples"—"the ivy twisting round the oaks like bristled serpents"; where William was sometimes engaged in "wearisome composition"; where Dorothy wrote some of the loveliest lines of her Journal; where, on a bright night "Venus (is) almost like another moon—lost to us at Alfoxden long before she goes down the large white sea."

You might, it is true, be snowed up, in which case, I suppose, one just waits for life to develop along the lines of an Agatha Christie, "A Month in the Country," or "Waters of the Moon."

\* \* \*

THIS YEAR I have sworn that I will plant my indoor bulbs in good time so that some, with luck, will be flowering by Christmas, for presents and for the house. Last year I followed all the rules as conscientiously as usual, filling bowls with damp fibre, planting the bulbs and leaving them in the dark for about three weeks to allow the roots to make the necessary preliminary growth—but with poor results. I was comforted to find that a similar fate had overtaken my friends; it was apparently a bad year for bulbs. It is, however, important to avoid a common mistake, that of putting the bowls in an airless cupboard, for without air mildew soon appears and rots the bulbs. It is amusing to grow them in dark glass bowls, the gunmetal-coloured Swedish glass, for instance, through which the twisted roots form delicate and lovely patterns.

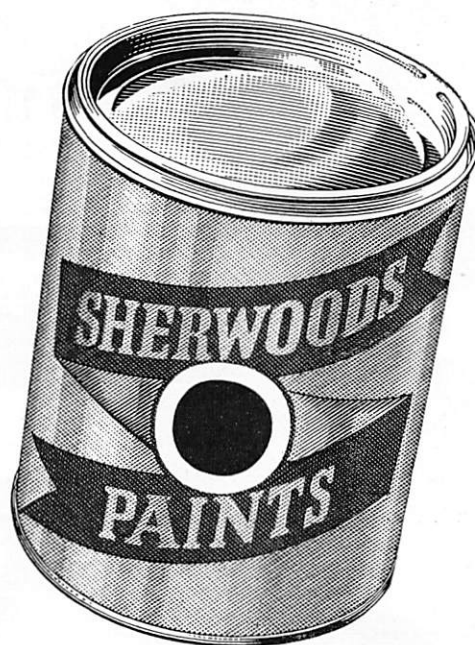
\* \* \*

A HOLIDAY is so soon over that it is good to have souvenirs dotted round the house, even in the kitchen, where for petty cash it would be amusing to have a little box that played "Eine kleine Reise" at the opening of the lid (not that I have ever seen one).

In France I did, however, invest in two useful gadgets, both of which are obtainable in an English store, a "basket" to shake washed lettuce leaves in, instead of soaking a clean tea-cloth, and a vegetable mill (*Moulin-légumes*). The lettuce "basket" costs 5s., and if you are, as I am, an inveterate "dropper," you will be glad to know that it is made in malleable plastic, which besides avoiding rust will bounce silently and not betray you. The mill (Harrods) is obtainable in two sizes, each fitted with three graded sieves, at 12s. 6d. and 21s., and is invaluable, for purées of vegetables and fruit, and to grind down "remnants" for soup.

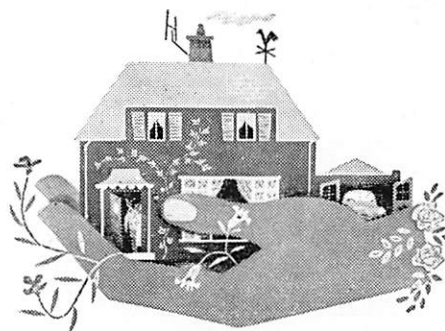
As a further reminder of the holidays, the Breton Onion Boy has called, leaving two immense plaits of those delicious onions, sweet rather than pungent, and the echo of his rough and rolling French, which after all is not his native tongue. I find it amusing to seek out Continental delicatessen shops where not only do you buy exotic sausages, *croissants* and *baguettes*, but where you can shyly produce the odd foreign words you may have added to your vocabulary.

I think my unknown friend would even have welcomed buying a cauliflower at my present green-grocer's, where my needs are attended to by a courteous young Frenchman, whose comments on vegetables are interlarded with references to contemporary belles-lettres. We have not yet broached existentialism!



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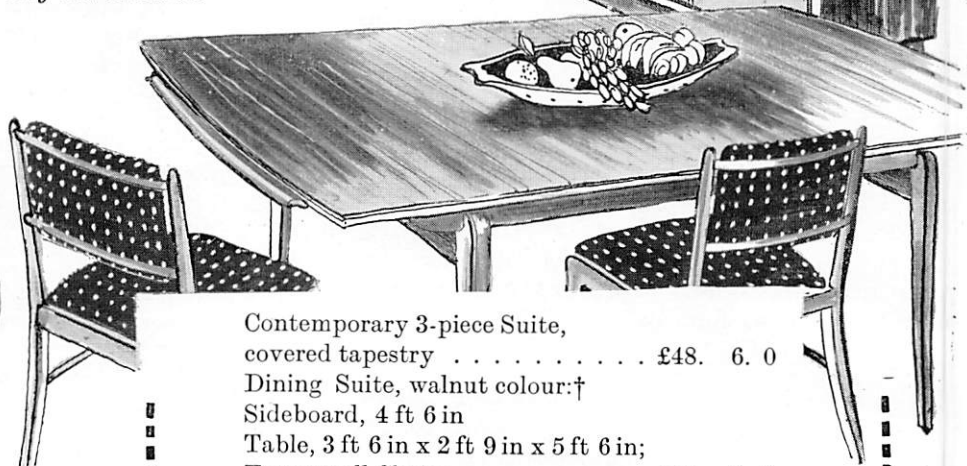
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# IDEAL HOME AND GARDENING

VOLUME 70 NUMBER 3

SEPTEMBER 1954

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the time of going to press.

## NEXT MONTH

### Heating and Lighting

The greatly enlarged October number of IDEAL HOME will be devoted mainly to *Heat, Light and Power in the Home*. Experts will write on good lighting for good health, new lamps and fittings, heating systems, fireplace design, and a comprehensive wiring plan.

Homes illustrated and described will include one with under-floor heating, another with original ideas on lighting, and a third which makes best use of both natural and artificial light.

New appliances for heating, hot-water supply, cooking, and power throughout the house will be reviewed. Heat and power in garden and garage will also be discussed.

Regular gardening, cookery, and other features will appear as usual.

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# Better Homes

EXTRA ENERGY must be expended to make good homes better. They don't just happen, and the three better homes illustrated in this issue are all the result of hard thought and work: homes achieved respectively by construction, reconstruction and reduction. First, a sunny, spacious little bungalow built anew. Sunny because its main room has wide windows on all three exposed sides, spacious since its dining-hall is divided from this room by a wall of glass allowing a fifty-foot vista from one end of the house to the other.

The second better home is twice the size of the bungalow and has risen on the same site as a bombed building in the country, so can accommodate five good bedrooms. Like the bungalow, it makes the most of an attractive aspect, actually having been re-sited from the original house. A home of such size today raises problems of care. This one has been planned to minimise maintenance and save labour in running it. Concrete gutters need no attention or redecoration; aluminium pipes keep free of rust. No plumbing pipes are visible externally. Unnecessary passages are abolished—as in the one-floor home—and sealed cavity walls mean warmth.

Better home number three is an exercise in reducing—from 6,000 to 2,000 sq. ft. Where the prospect and price justify it, an old house may be bought and turned into a home for today by doing away with a proportion of the original and improving the rest. In this instance, two-thirds of a Kensington-Italianate country mansion has been demolished. From the old drawing and dining-rooms have been made four rooms and a hall; and from two over-large bedrooms separated by a dressing-room, five bedrooms and a bathroom.

How can an existing home be improved? In a hundred ways. For winter comfort, an extra chair may help. At the flick of a foot, one of the new chairs is rotatable to face any part of the room. A "revolution" made possible by a circular frame for the casters. Or another, whose springing is adjustable to give any tension desired for occupants' weights of 8-16 stones.

In the bedroom, an old unwanted fireplace may be an eyesore. Block it in and use the re-painted mantelshelf as a bedhead. Headboards can now be bought padded to match the bedspread or chair. And talking of matching, a bathmat may bear exactly the same pattern as the towels.

In the kitchen, you may need a meals corner but not realise you have space for it. A snack bar can be fitted to any free wall, projecting only the diameter of a large plate, and chairs or stools will store beneath. Heat-proof table tops with patterned borders increase interest in decoration. Thermoplastic tiles, too, offer pattern on the floor—but they should be used discriminately and care must be taken not to overdo the design.

And out of doors, an up-and-over garage door saves the space of swings, and the effort of fixing two doors back. In the garden, remember autumn is not only harvest-time but also a season for planting and planning.



BLUE- GREY LIMESTONE for the chimney-stack and walls embracing the entrance. For more pictures see cover and overleaf.





**THREE SIDES GLAZED :** each exposed wall of the well-named sun-room has a wide window, to the north-west, south-west and south-east. The last of these is seen through the central picture window. The sun thus shines in all day. South Devon limestone acts as retaining wall. Foreground is planted with sweet cherries and bush peaches, replacing old cider-apple trees.

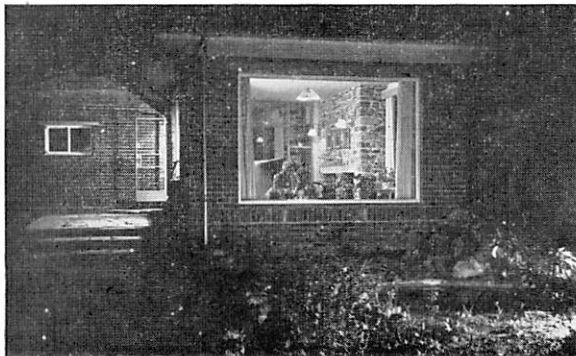
## SPACE,

A small new house, Clouds, near Totnes, the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. H. Stow.

*Planned by Edward Narracott, F.R.I.B.A.*



**STONE, WOOD AND BRICK :** the entrance front is characterised by a combination of the local limestone chimney-stack and wall, wavy elm gable boarding, and bricks. The tall stone feature (see also cover) helps to avoid any look of squatness. Cedar shingles form the roof. Tree by sun-room window at the far end of the house fell twenty years ago and has been left as a piece of natural sculpture.



**STAGE-LIKE SCENE** is presented by the 10-ft. picture window at night. The upright "soldier course" of bricks indicates floor level. The pond, fed from the roof, is in the position of a soakaway, and overflows to form a bog. Planting includes *Primula japonica* and *florindae*, and *Iris Kaempferi*. The gutters and downpipes are all aluminium, rustless and thus economical to maintain.

*Photos: Stanley Chapman, "Ideal Home"*

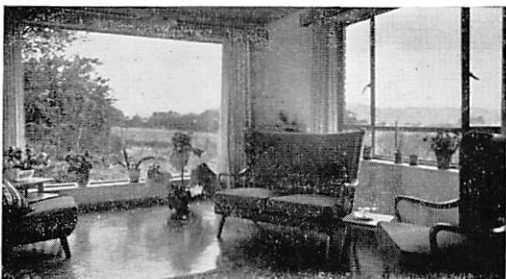


**STONE INSIDE AS OUT:** the same lovely limestone is continued right through for the fireplace wall of the sun-room. Framed picture niches give good scope for decoration: here is wild arum in one, with German hand-carved deer disporting on the right. Rush mat, beech block flooring.

## LIGHT, WARMTH



**GLASS GIVES SPACE-SENSE** between the sun-room and dining-hall, its staggered shelf-framework supporting various ornaments. Adjustable wall-light for reading.



**TWO-WINDOW VISTA** over the Dartmoor hills: deep end window brings the scene right into the room. Cherry suite, yellow corduroy curtains, cloud-grey paint.

**S**PACE-SENSE IS THE KEY QUALITY of this new one-floor home: space indoors, and a view of far vistas. Rooms are arranged for morning-to-evening sunshine—giving light and delight—and the plan is pivoted towards distant Devon moors.

Windows are wide and deep, but so successfully have materials been managed that, despite the expanse of glass, the initial impact is one of solid stone. For the front entrance is flanked by a thick-and-warm, right-angular wall feature in blue-grey local limestone, comprising also the chimney.

This projecting stack relieves any lack of height, particularly the flat roof of the sun-room, and is surrounded by a cedar shingle roof. Mingling with the limestone and shingles, bricks for the rest of the walls and elm boarding for gables create a well varied framework for a contemporary home in the country.

Just as large windows help to break down the barriers between outdoors and in, so is this sense of "one-ness" furthered by the limestone wall continued past the front door and into the hall, and also as the sun-room's fire wall.

Once inside the house, the impression is of space far greater than its 1,170 sq.ft. None of this is wasted. The hall is no mere entry area, forming a dining-room, too, conveniently close to the well fitted kitchen. The latter offers a second meals alcove in its L-shape.

So that the dining-hall shall be as light as can be, and to impart that precious space-sense in rooms that are necessarily restricted in size, this two-purpose area is separated



# SPACE, LIGHT, WARMTH *continued*

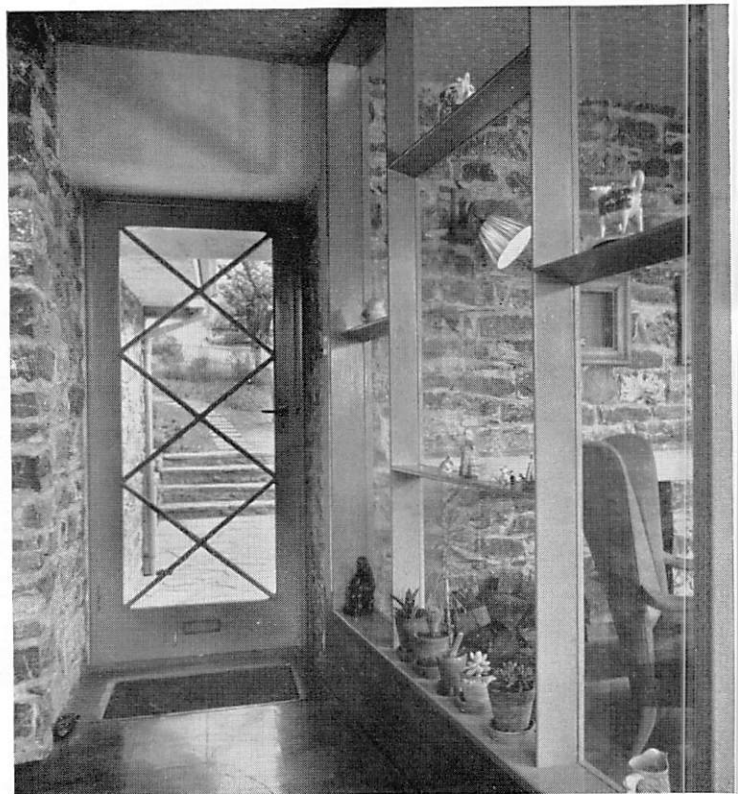
from the sun-room not by a wall but a floor-to-ceiling glass screen and door—presenting an uninterrupted vista of 34 ft. indoors and many miles beyond. The dining-hall is only about 7 ft. wide, but seems quite ample with minimum furnishings and the table against the wall.

So to the sun-room. Each of the three exposed walls has a wide window for all-the-day sun and space, the central south-westerly opening of 10 ft. being the focus. And as the sheet of glass forms the fourth wall, the room conveys an unusual sense of space, although measuring no more than 17½ ft. by 12½ ft.

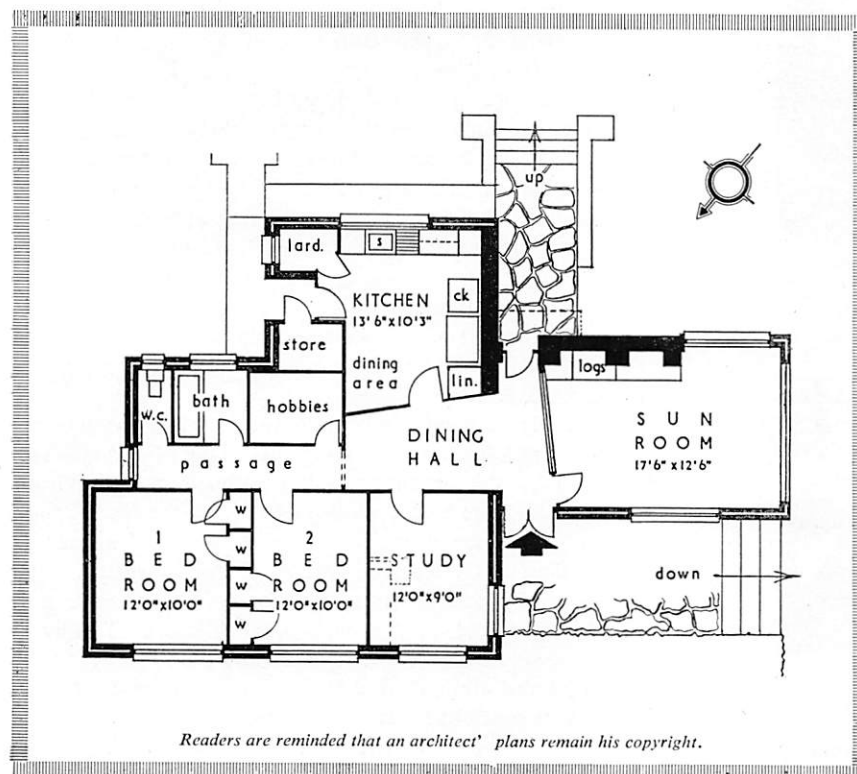
As well as the sun-room, kitchen and two meals areas, space has been found for a 12-ft. study, distinguished by a low-set built-in bookcase incorporating an automatic radiogram unit. A screen at one side of the desk displays prints of pictures which can easily be changed as the mood may fluctuate.

At the end of the dining-hall, an archway defines the open division between daytime and sleeping areas, and also extends the two-room vista still further—from one end of the house to the other, nearly 50 ft. At the end of the passage beyond the arch, pin-striped glass, as on the kitchen doors, gives lightness with privacy.

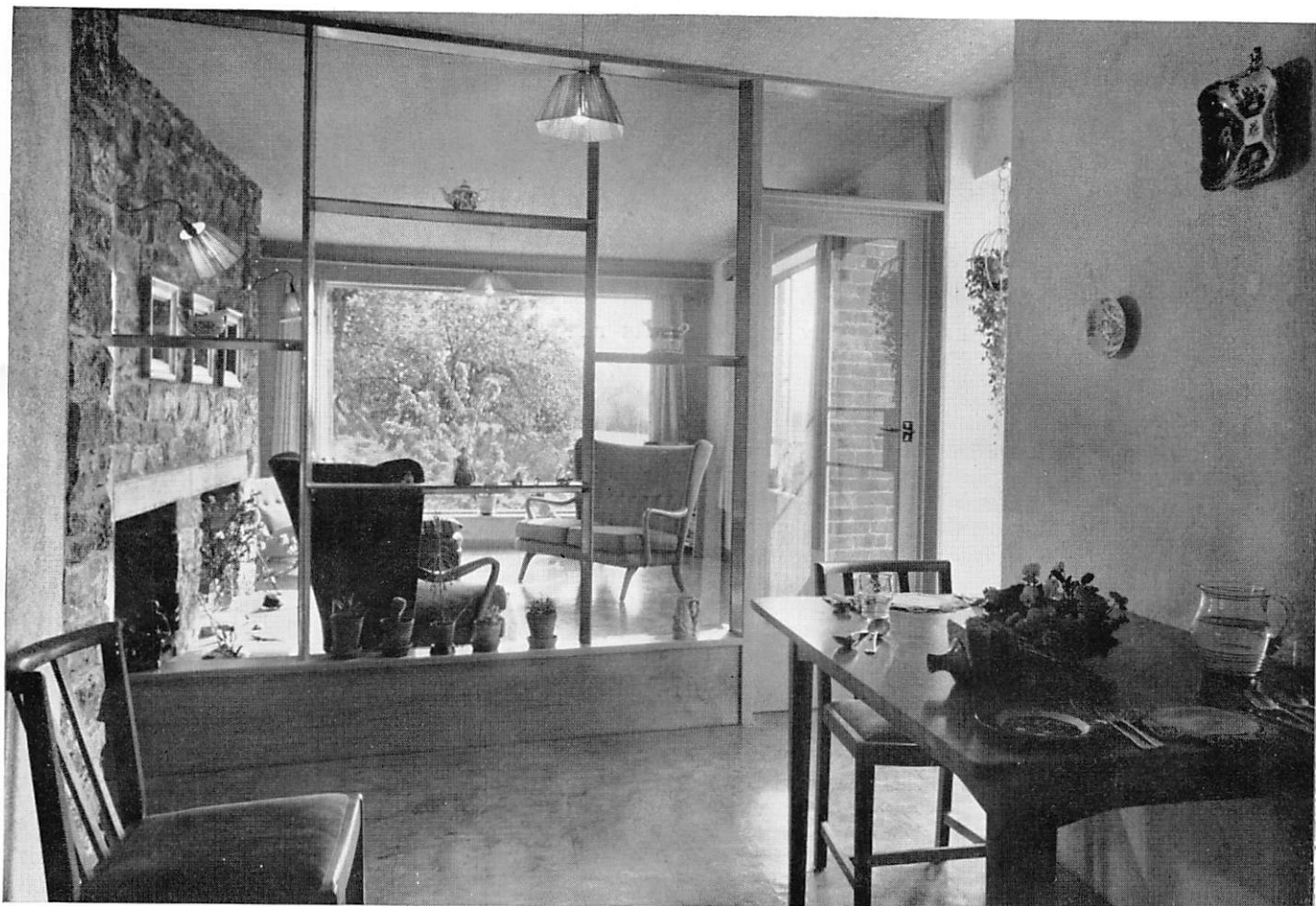
Two bedrooms lead off the left side of the passage, and the bathroom and w.c. to the right. Even this is not all: adjacent to the bathroom is arranged a 7 ft. by 5½ ft. hobbies room, at present filling the rôle of photographic dark room in a light house!



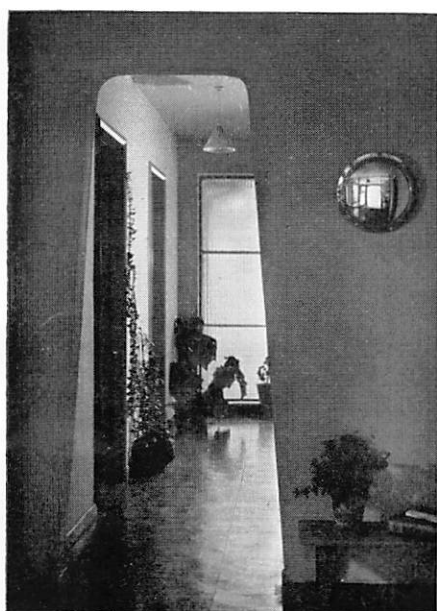
STONEMASONRY IS CONTINUED INTO HALL at left, conveying a sense of unity between outdoors and in, and becoming an effective natural decoration. Glazed front door is cross-banded with wood. Cacti are among the plants displayed on the shelves. The whole house features plants, the star specimen being the Zimmerlinden, or room lime, in the sun-room.



FLAT-TOPPED ARCHWAY marks a doorless division between daytime and sleeping areas. Semastick tiles are used throughout, except in sun-room. To brighten the passage: primrose walls, jubilee-blue ceiling, cloud-grey paint.



**THIRTY-FOUR-FOOT EXPANSE** is presented by virtue of the up-to-the-ceiling glass wall. The grey-and-white striped wallpaper on the ceiling enhances the effect of longitude. Originally conceived as only an entry area, the foreground room has materialised as a dining-hall. Table stands against wall as room is only 7 ft. wide. Mrs. Stow made the raffia lamps.

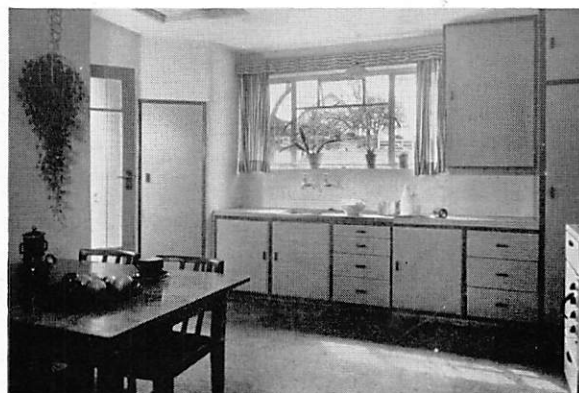


**PIN-STRIPED GLASS** by Pilkington is a pleasant way of obtaining lightness with privacy. The window at the end of the passage has a house immediately outside. The two doors to the kitchen—inner and outer—have similar glazing.

**BUILT-IN GALLERY' SCREEN** serves to enclose study desk and also to offer a mount for prints which can be changed periodically. Plant tray is copper. Wall before desk is plain paris grey for quiet. Other two walls in red-and-green 'edible' wallpaper. Green curtains and paint, tomato chair, sapele fitments.



**SECOND MEALS AREA** is offered in the kitchen. Walls of this alcove are eau de nil, other walls and ceiling primrose. All-in-a-line sink series has Formica cream Linette working tops. Fitments are painted eau de nil with pillar-box red surrounds; red-and-white striped curtains; primrose tiles. Note: tall china cupboard right of window.







# Questions before the

... such as are asked IDEAL HOME by many of its readers before they build—and with each

**Q** *I am about to commission an architect to plan a new house for us and would like to know a little more as to the merits of brick versus concrete, and flat roof against pitched roof. I've no doubt an architect could advise me, but as yet I have not engaged one, and he may have a prejudice—some of them seem to. Can you advise me briefly on these points?*

**C**ONSTRUCTIONALLY, there is little to choose between the house built with bricks and one built of concrete, when erected to the design, and under the supervision, of the architect.

The concrete house is the cheaper. Against that, however, the external appearance of the brick-built house with its facing bricks and arches neatly pointed may be considered to offer a more attractive picture. And the brick is often improved by weathering.

Both the flat and pitched roofs afford good protection when constructed to the design of the architect. The flat roof is the cheaper, whereas externally many people believe the pitched roof to be the more attractive, and space provided in the attic is useful for storage or as a future children's room.

The flat roof can be readily adapted to cover projecting wings of any shape, and set at any angle, and could, if desired, be made to take a roof-garden.



**Q** *In our new house there is to be no separate scullery or heating chamber. The Ideal boiler and the sink will all be in the one room with cooker, cupboards, etc. What flooring do you suggest?*

**W**HATEVER TYPE of material you choose for the centre of the floor (thermoplastic tiles, teak blocks, laminated wooden flooring, man-made timber blocks, rubber tiles are all suitable), I

would suggest glazed ceramic tiles surrounding sink, boiler, and cooker. Stray splashes of water and grease falling on these can be easily wiped up without having to clean the rest of the floor surface. Linoleum tiles are also excellent for kitchens; these could be laid over the entire surface, except perhaps round the boiler, where a tiled hearth would be more practical. All the floorings mentioned must, of course, be laid over a suitably prepared sub-floor incorporating a damp-proof membrane. Don't forget the advantages of a coved skirting or a flat skirting made of the same tiles as the floor; either makes cleaning so much easier.



**Q** *What is this open planning we hear so much about? So far as I can see, it reduces privacy and requires a lot of heating.*

**O**PEN PLANNING is a term generally associated with the sort of plan that provides a daytime living area as spacious as possible. This means that partition walls between rooms are cut out wherever possible so that, for instance, there is no separation, or very little, between hall and living-room; between living-room and dining-room; and sometimes only a partial separation between dining-room or dining area and kitchen, and between children's play-room and kitchen (so that children can be under the eye of a servantless mother at work in the kitchen). We have known it applied to the bedroom floor, too, where children's bedrooms are separated only by curtains so that this space can be re-adapted to a more permanent arrangement when the children grow up and one by one leave home, first of all for a matter of three terms a year and subsequently for good.

Perhaps the chief pleasure of an open-planned house is the feeling of space in it—even though it may be a small house. It looks larger and, of

course, in the important part of the house—the family living-room—it is larger. This freedom of space is also freedom of movement—which means easier working. It is essential, however, for the enjoyment of such a house that the heating is so planned as to keep all parts warm in cold weather. The installation for this depends on the size of house. Without appropriate heating the house will be draughty and cold.



**Q** *We plan to have two front doors—an inner one almost entirely of reinforced glass and outer one of the most solid wood construction. Where can we get the reinforced glass and which wood do you recommend for the outer door?*

**I** SUGGEST  $\frac{3}{4}$ -in. thick armourplate glass for the inner door. This has great mechanical strength and is resistant to impact and to fluctuating temperatures. I suggest you communicate with Pilkington Brothers Ltd.

Suitable woods for the external door are softwoods, as Douglas fir and European redwood, for painting; and lightweight hardwood—Central American mahogany—or the heavier hardwood, such as oak or teak, for oiling.



**Q** *Have you enough experience of uncarpeted stairs to advise us whether we should have them?*

**T**HE UNCARPETED stairs we like the most (for comfort and safety and silence) are rubber-covered. But we still prefer (for these reasons and also for its appearance) a good pile stair carpet.

# House . . .

question we give our answer.



**Q** At what point in the preparations for building our house should we think of the heating?

**WE** TAKE it you appreciate the difference between thinking of the heating and actually planning the heating. You should think of the heating as early as your first visit to a chosen site—perhaps even earlier. If you prefer to live on a height with marvellous views all round you should realise at the outset that a house on such a site (as compared with one that is more sheltered) will require not merely more warmth inside but (and this is really part of the question of successful heating) more protection from the external cold due to the exposed position, the wind and the rain: which will mean, amongst other things, that you may have to spend more money to ensure the desired warmth.

This warmth can be very costly if it is not planned at the proper time. If the plans are right for this purpose they should show not only good walls, but the fewest possible doors and windows on the more exposed side; the windows there smaller than those on the warmer and sunnier side; chimneys which do not waste heat by being built on the outside of the walls; thorough thermal insulation wherever needed (in the roof particularly); and double glazing for exposed or large windows. Avoid having bathrooms a long way from water tanks and source of heat, because the long pipe runs are wasteful and can be troublesome. The entrance door if it is to be on the north side (N.E. to N.W.), should be protected by porch or double door; it can sometimes be turned to face away from due north.

These factors in the make-up of the house itself being dealt with to the satisfaction of yourself and your architect, and the rooms planned to give you the convenience and comfort you

require, then you will have to make your choice from a variety of heating installations (and fuels). For guidance in this, see the coming October, "Heating and Lighting" Number of *IDEAL HOME*. A helpful piece of advice is this. Generally speaking, the artificial warming of your house is most successful if hall, stairs and landing are well warmed (for thus you warm the air coming into the rooms through the doors), and if in the rooms themselves your radiators (whatever the fuel) are so placed as to warm the air as it comes in from the windows. But the most careful planning of that source is wasted if all the heat is escaping through an uninsulated roof.



**Q** One of our rooms is to have its south wall almost entirely in glass from floor to ceiling. We feel this may mean "double glazing" for warmth. Is this correct? And, if so, where do we get it?

**YES.** Double glazing affords protection against heat loss, which is arrested by the air enclosed between the two panes of glass.

As you require double glazing from floor to ceiling you would need  $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. plate glass. This can be supplied in sizes up to 100 in. by 80 in. Full particulars and cost are obtainable from Clarke and Eaton Ltd.

For part of the wall, you may, of course, prefer glass blocks which are built-in to form a solid translucent wall. These give good light transmission with diffusion, are clean and decorative and have good insulation value. They are non-load-bearing, however, and must be built free from the main structure.

Particulars and cost can be obtained from Clarke and Eaton Ltd., and from Pilkington Brothers Ltd.



**Q** We have one infant (2 years) and we hope to have more. In our new home we want a playroom on the ground floor, but if we have sitting-room, dining-room and playroom (as well as hall, kitchen, etc.) each will be rather small. And no nannie. Have you any suggestions?

**YES.** Have two good-size living-rooms, instead of three smaller ones. Plan one as a playroom connecting

with the sitting-room and kitchen, so that in whichever room you are you can keep an eye on them. Your sitting-room should be large enough for a circular dining table in one corner for your two selves and two guests in the evening. Other meals during the day could be with the children in their room if you wish. When children have grown up their playroom is in a good position, between the sitting-room and the kitchen, to become a dining-room.



**Q** Before telling our architect what we want in our plan, we would like to be clear on sun-trapping. Should we choose a plain straight south front? Is that all we can do to use the sun? If not what else should we ask for?

**IF** THE SITE and the grouping of rooms in the plan permit, an angle of two wings can be a better external sun-trap than a plain rectangular square or oblong. A bay of three sides open to the south would be even better, but generally means a larger house. If there can be no such wings, you can build screens left and right on a straight south front to protect from east winds and west rain. Shade can be provided by balcony above or by awning. Balcony or eaves projection can be such that the hot sun in summer, when it is higher in the heavens, will be kept out of the windows underneath, while the winter sun (which is always lower) will be able to penetrate the living-rooms.



**Q** Please let me know in what ways a new house can be insulated?

**I** ASSUME that your query is in reference to thermal insulation.

Structural insulation of a normal type: external brick cavity wall can be improved by building the inner skin with cellular load-bearing blocks and/or lining the walls and ceiling throughout with fibreboard. In this respect plaster is not a good medium, as it is very slow to become warm.

**Roof.** Attic in pitched roof insulated by blankets of glass wool, glass silk or other fibrous material draped over and laid between the attic floor joists.

**Floor.** Wood blocks on solid concrete base have good thermal insulation value for the ground floor of the house.



# A better house rises from the crater

*Saving labour and maintenance; enjoying comfort and the view, at the home of Henry Tatham, A.R.I.B.A.*

**T**HROUGH AN ARCH of old oaks, sheaves of corn shimmer in the late-summer sun; and farther off the North Downs rise to a hazy horizon. Old Lane House has been sited especially for this vista.

It is built on the same site as a former house demolished by a bomb. The old building faced east and had no view at all. This new home has been re-sited south-east, and some 80 tons of earth were removed from the lawn and between the trees to open up the aspect. A hedge and bank were cut down and a broad terrace built, leading on to the lawn. And in turn, the lawn now narrows to a grass-banked path between the oaks, then merging into the clustered corn.

Over to the left, another grass path introduces a tennis court, and on the right-hand side an ornamental pond, rockery and bog

garden face the french doors of the sitting-room, and relieve the expanse of lawn.

Just as a lawn is the most economical cover for an acre of ground, as in this garden, so economy has been borne very much in mind for the house itself. For today, it is fairly large—nearly 2,300 sq. ft.—but upkeep is exceptionally small. Precast concrete gutters, sealing the top of the cavity walls, need neither attention nor redecoration. Concrete also supports the roof rafters.

These concrete eaves eliminate expensive repainting of rafter ends or eave soffits. External painting is confined to the narrow aluminium sash bars and frames of the windows, the doors, and the rainwater pipes, also aluminium—so cannot crack or rust.

Inside the windows, as out, maintenance is minimised, the sills all being buff quarry

tiles. Throughout the house, too, the cost of upkeep is cut, planning economical, and running made easy—no small achievement in accommodating three living-rooms and a kitchen on the ground floor, with five bedrooms and two bathrooms above.

No space is wasted in unnecessary passages, important with the current cost of building. Yet rooms are amply proportioned. The 23½-ft. sitting-room is the principal living area, but the whole plan centres on the dining-room, connected to it by folding doors. This lies at the heart of the symmetrical layout and it is from the double doors of this room that the vista unfolds. The sitting-room has sun all round the clock.

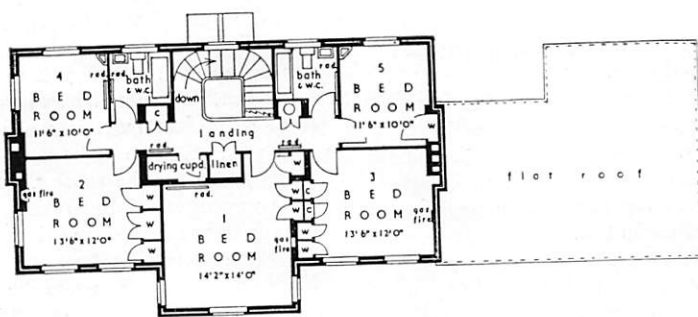
All three living-rooms have south-east windows, and the study leads through to the workshop and double garage, part of the wide low extension, which includes stores.

Upstairs the three main bedrooms receive morning sun. An abundance of built-in cupboards are apparent, as below. Two bathrooms serve these three rooms, and the remaining two bedrooms have fitted basins—four to the five bedrooms. Plumbing has been simplified by this concentration at the front. No pipes are visible externally. Domestic water is heated by electric thermal storage; a small Ideal boiler supplies radiators. All the radiators are arranged on the central wall of the house to save long pipe runs and to economise fuel. The sealed cavity walls give good insulation, important for winter comfort, and even the flat roof of the garage wing is insulating material.

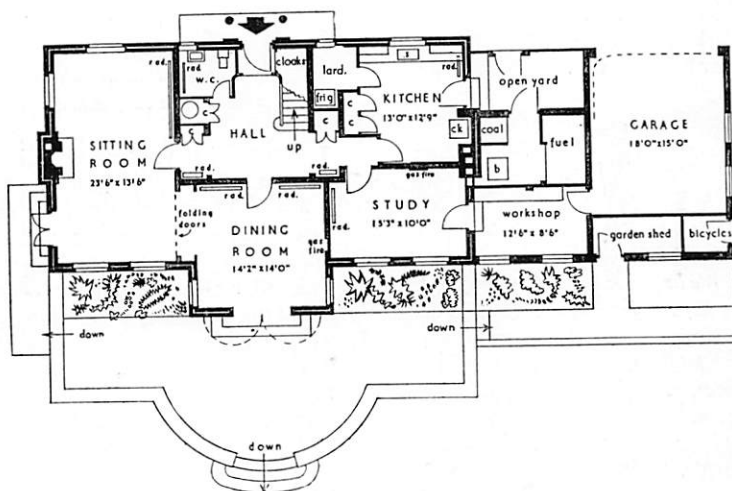
Last thoughts for ease of running: parquet flooring for the ground storey, quickly maintained with an electric polisher; doors flush, with no dust ledges; only one coal fire, gas fires augmenting the central heating.



**Sun on three sides:** sunshine reaches sitting-room a.m. and p.m. French doors open for a view of ornamental pond, rockery and bog garden.



FIRST FLOOR



GROUND FLOOR





**Maintenance minimised:** precast concrete eaves units give a good finish and obviate attention or redecoration. Rust-free painted aluminium pipes and sash windows also reduce repairs. No plumbing pipes visible.



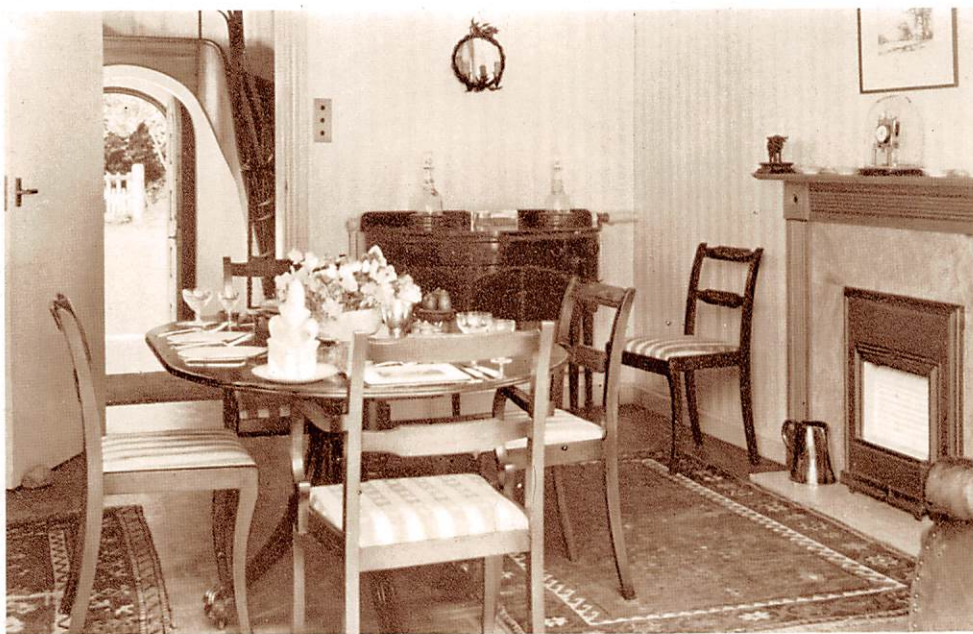
**76-foot facade** at ground level : to the right of the main house, a workshop, four stores, boiler house and double garage continue its line agreeably. There is direct access from study. Wide grass path for unity and upkeep economy.

**22 tons of earth** were moved from between the two oaks, and three times as much off the lawn, to form the vista over the grass. The focus of the symmetrical garden facade is the dining-room with its doors flung wide. Above it, an *oeil de boeuf* lights a large store in the attic.

*continued overleaf*

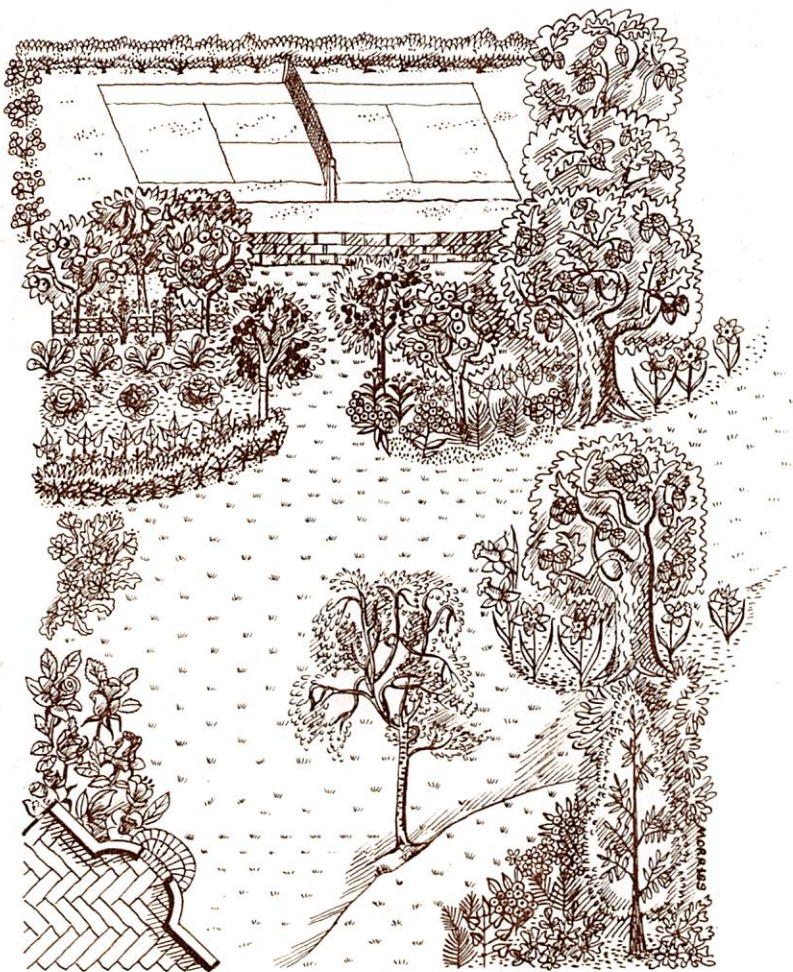


## A better house rises from the crater *continued*



**Front through to back:** the front entrance, dining-room door and opening to the terrace are all in a straight line in the centre of the plan, so that the south-east view can be seen as soon as the front door is opened. Furnishings are formal but comfortable. Radiator behind sideboard, which is insulated at the back; gas fire set in Ankester stone, with waxed pine surround.

**Wide grass path** leads due east to the tennis court. Grass is employed extensively for economy of upkeep and to convey a sense of unity between lawn, paths and cornfield. A young yew hedge will in time shut off the kitchen garden, on the left, from view.







***Cornfield framed by oaks:*** the whole axis of the house has been angled to offer a view through wide double doors of a cornfield Constable would have welcomed. A hedge and bank were cut down and a broad semi-circular terrace in herring-bone brick subsequently designed to face the field and rising ground of the North Downs.



***Cupboards over the door*** offer extra storage for kitchen utensils used only infrequently so that they do not occupy shelf space more valuable every day. Tins over draining board are close at hand. Refrigerator is in the nearby larder beyond the open door.

*continued overleaf*



## A better house rises from the crater *continued*

**Folding doors can connect** or separate the dining-room and sitting-room. Both the rooms share the same scheme of decoration for unity: blue-grey striped wallpaper (up to the ceiling for extra stature), pale gold and white curtains, green ground chair covers, ivory paint, oak parquet windsor floor. Notice recessed light between the rooms.



**Windows draught-proof** for greater winter comfort: the aluminium sash openings throughout the house keep it very warm, reducing the need for heating. Three of the five sitting-room windows are seen here. When the fire is wanted, air for combustion is supplied to it from outside the house to prevent draught in the room. Waxed pine fire-place; green marble inset.







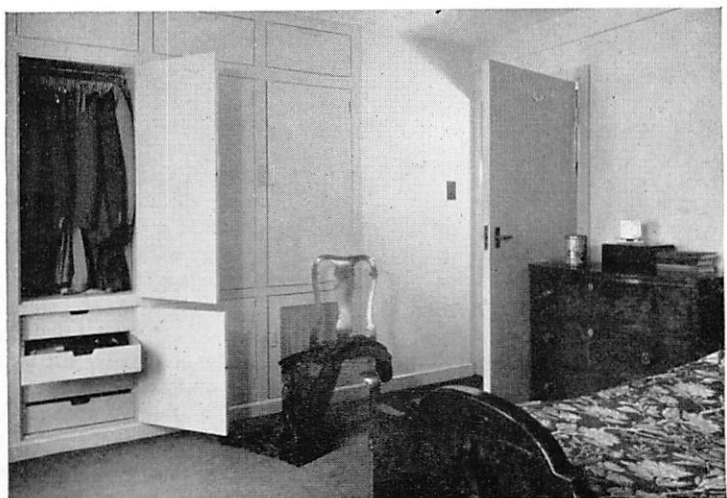
**String wrought iron-work** composes a black balustrade of openness and elegance. A cloak-room, separate w.c., and three cupboards are incorporated in the hall area. Doors lead off to the three reception rooms and kitchen.

**Brent geese flying :** a single painting can bring a room to life as can little else. Here, in the fifth bedroom, Peter Scott's dawn scene has an apt background of silver-grey and white wallpaper. Wilton-blue skirting and architraves, light Wilton door, and primrose lino for the floor.

**Radiator is fitted into cupboard** at the bottom right-hand side, with a grille on its door. This whole fitment was designed to the size of coats, suits, shoes and other apparel. The room can serve as bedroom or dressing-room to adjacent main bedroom. For the bedrooms without basins, two bathrooms are included.



**Six-foot-deep window** in the main bedroom, centrally situated on garden front, allows a view down the lawn from the beds. Tall-and-narrow dressing mirror on wall is ample and space-saving. Blue-and-silver striped paper; floral curtains and chair cover, bedspread and carpet are all biscuit; surround dark blue cork.



Photos : Stanley Chapman, "Ideal Home."

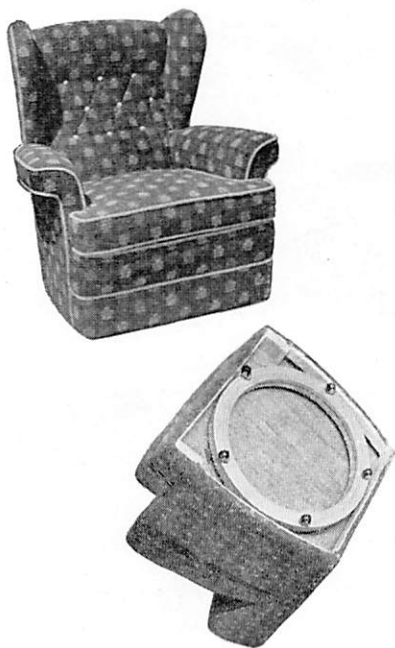




**Wool covering** in a number of exclusive fabrics adds to the comfort of the deeply-sprung Danish settee from Woollands; it has a generous breadth of seat and is convertible to a double bed.

## WINTER COMFORT—(1)

# The modern alternatives for Your cushioned ease



**Rotatable** to face the fire, to view television, or to avoid it! This new Pana-Forma chair is mounted on a circular laminated wood frame on which run four castors fitted to the underside of the chair. Pressure with the foot on the floor allows the chair to turn in any direction. In addition, five floor castors are provided.

**N**INETY-TWO PER CENT. of the chair manufacturers at the latest Earl's Court furniture exhibition showed models incorporating latex foam: a measure of the change taking place "beneath the surface." Hair fillings and coil springs continue to flourish, of course, but modern materials are challenging them more not only in occasional chairs but for down-to-the-ground suites.

Perhaps the shape of things to come is indicated best by the prize-winning design in a recent competition, just put into production by H.K. (shown on the opposite page). Both the seat and back comprise a covering built on to 2-in. cavity foam rubber, based on 1-in. foam sheet. This sheet is cemented to 2-mm. plywood which is press-studded to the shell of the chair, in  $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. ply. It has a wood frame.

Other winning designs which will be likely to influence future trends include an interesting combination of older and newer: latex foam used on 2-in. coil springs for the seat and on tension springs for the back, giving comfort with compactness.

Two other types are based on a steel frame for strength, resembling Ernest Race's steel-rod-frame suite. Race, incidentally, employs wood and latex foam on his Neptune chair,

but with the cushions loose, not fixed to the frame as in the H.K. model. On his resin-bonded laminated beech frame are Seatex cushions—latex foam and hair.

The other newest development is Pirelli resilient rubber webbing. This is being used as an alternative to the extensively favoured flat metal tension springs. Procanta have a chair whose seat is upholstered with nine strands of this webbing  $1\frac{1}{8}$  in. wide and covered with a 2-in. depth of latex foam. The back is similarly treated, but with a slightly shallower content of latex. To demonstrate its strength a 20-stone man has jumped on it with his full force. Airborne's Loungemaster chair has a foam rubber seat on this same webbing and a back covered with rubberised hair and felt. A new Hille chair, too, is based on Pirelli. The webbing can quite well be used alone, as on a wood-frame Holton chair.

A 16-stone man makes a much more considerable impression on a chair than a woman half his weight. To offer each an equal degree of comfort, therefore, Hemway's have just evolved a chair whose springs can be instantly adjusted to any tension for comfort.

The removable seat and back of the model, too, are latex foam. Why has this material



**Rubberised hair** fills the back cushions of the Roma three-piece suite from William Perring. Cushions are raised above the frames, and backs of chairs and settee exceptionally broad. Seat cushions and bases are deeply sprung. Covering here is tomato red fabric with white spot.

won such wide renown? It gives comfortable support, is hygienic and hard-wearing, is not affected by mould or damp, does not hold dust, cannot "go wrong" and allows a fine freedom in design.

A new chair by J. C. Lane's appreciates all these qualities, for its Dunlopillo seat and back are applied to scientifically shaped bases, the rubber being in varying depths and densities. Latex foam is available in soft, medium or hard densities, in thin sheet, solid, or cavities—the last for greatest comfort. Loose latex foam cushions can now be bought to be covered and added to existing chairs.

On this theme of latex foam, current chairs play a whole set of variations. Ardale models have rubber arms for firm comfort; Texlok (a material made by Hairlok) combines latex foam with rubberised hair; and Toothill chairs with loose latex foam seats have tailor-made covers removable for cleaning.

But latex is not the beginning and end of all new techniques: Elcon Hirsch's Cadet chair consists merely of nylon cording, a loose buttoned cushion, and mahogany-and-beech frame; a prototype by Hawley Products has been created from glass fibres bonded with Bakelite polyester resin, again needing only a loose cushion; Terence Conran's canvas-and-metal design is simplicity itself; and Recticel cushioning is made in solid sponge-rubber in honeycomb shapes or sheeting—not latex.

Lastly, look for the new Kite mark, indicating that the seating has passed performance tests of the British Standards Institution, such as having repeated loads lowered on it to simulate a use throughout the years. J.F.T.

**Draught exclusion :** four-fold plastic screen by Piero Fornasetti (from Peter Jones) would shut off the fire-side group in the over-large room. The amusing trompe l'œil decoration is reproduced by a photographic process, and is in black on the white plastic; it resembles a steel engraving.



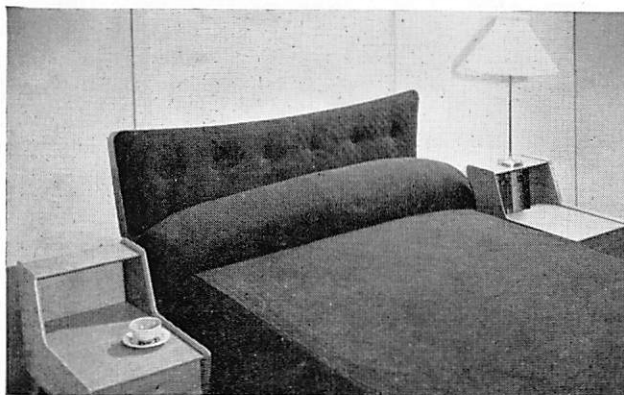
**Cushioning** of a new chair by H.K. Furniture is 2-in. cavity foam rubber based on 1-in. foam sheet, edged with a strip of foam rubber 1 in. thick to give a crisp finish. The whole is cemented to plywood, which is drilled for ventilation and press-studded to the frame.



## Contributing to Good Bedmaking



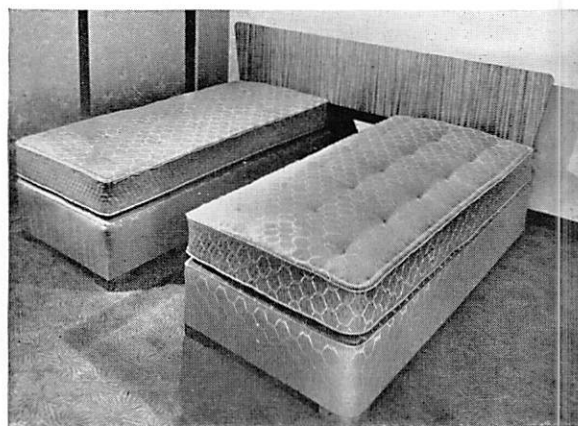
**Cotton and creaseless :** this new Vantona Consort bedcover is highly resistant to crushing, and it falls naturally into good folds. Made entirely of vat-dyed cotton yarn, pattern of this cover is woven into the cloth, and colours are fast to sun and laundering.



**Padded headboard** matches the bed cover, imparts a softer and warmer look to the bed, could be interchangeable with a wooden headboard for summer. This new and elegantly-curved bedhead by Gomme is made for single and double beds, and also for divans. Each of the bedside tables has a useful deep drawer.



**Double bed or twin divans** with connecting headboard ; a clever new idea from the London Bedding Centre consists of a pair of single divans with overlay mattresses ; the latter can be joined with a zip fastener to make a 5 ft. 6 in. double overlay. When the pair of divans is in use as a double bed, the hinged ends of the headboard fold round to form attractive wings. Fully extended, the headboard allows sufficient space between the two single beds for a small bedside table. This space also facilitates turning the mattresses.



**T**HE NUMBER OF HOURS we spend in sleep is in itself a fully sufficient reason for particular attention to the need for warmth in the bed and its coverings. And with adequate warmth goes a new awareness of colour and pattern in furnishing the bed.

Good ventilation is part of the secret of the overlay mattress that is as warm in winter as it is cool in summer; the body is cushioned on a honeycomb of aircells which insulate it against extremes of heat and cold. Spring-interior and latex foam overlays combine comfortable warmth in winter with correct support. Some spring-interior overlays have winter and summer sides, the winter one being the more warmly upholstered.

For winter, the bed should look, as well as feel, warm. When revising the bedroom scheme, serious consideration might be given to an upholstered headboard for a divan, covered with a material which suggests warmth. Headboards are usually detachable, and so the upholstered board can be exchanged for a cooler wooden one in summer.

Winter bedcovers can be made of heavier weaves than one would choose for the summer scheme. One of the chief virtues in a bedcover is resistance to crushing, and the all-cotton and rayon-and-cotton mixtures with woven patterns are very good from this point of view. In spite of their weight and warm appearance, they wash easily.

Beneath the top covering, blankets and sheets can be decorative. Colours look warmer than white. Candy-striped sheets can now be partnered by candy-striped blankets ; the latter are in pastels with white. Satin borders are a new idea for coloured cotton sheets. Some like the softer feel of cotton for winter, and those exceptionally susceptible to cold can choose the fleecy Blansheet.

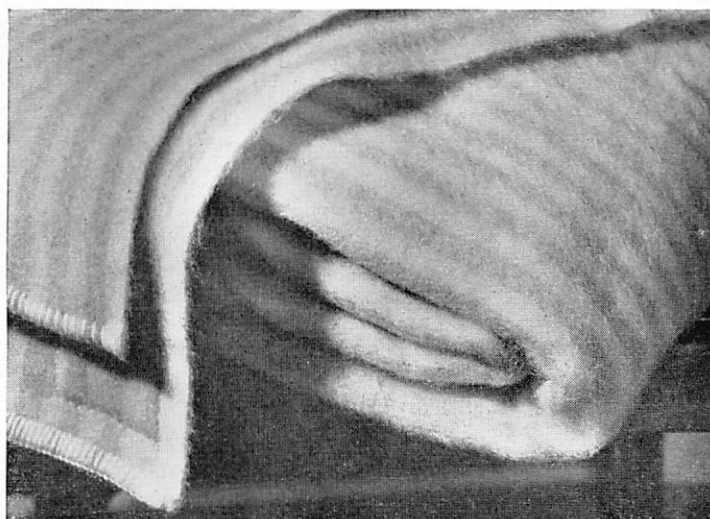
On the practical side, a new contribution to better wear is the Haworth Graduation reinforced sheet, in which the weave gradually increases in density towards the centre, where wear is greatest. This reinforcement will postpone indefinitely the necessity for "sides-to-middle" repairs.

Processed wool filling for quilts is equal to down for lightness and warmth ; these wool-filled quilts are somewhat flatter than feather down quilts, and they are quilted in intricate designs, many of which are traditional. M. W.

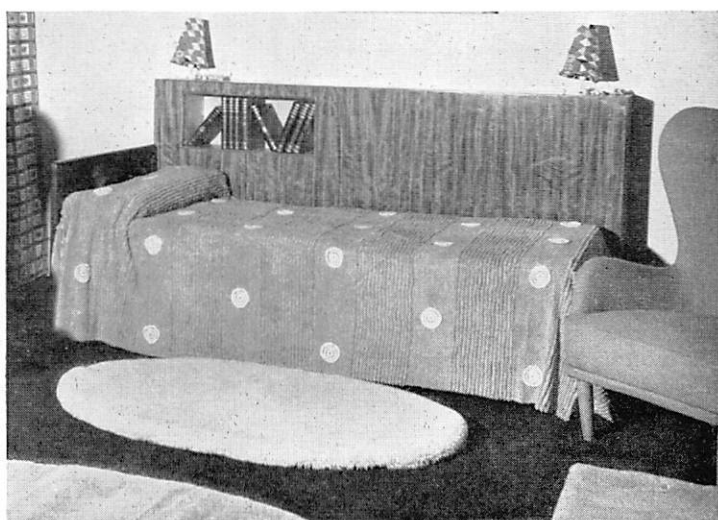


**Cotton sheets** feel soft and warm in winter. Wide satin borders on top sheet and pillowcase of pastel-coloured cotton bed set from Bourne and Hollingsworth provide a contrast in tone and texture which is unusual and most attractive. Both these items also have white appliqué embroidery. These sets are available for single or double beds; each set consists of bordered top sheet, plain bottom sheet, and one or a pair of pillowcases.

**Candy-striped blankets** from Wolfe and Hollander are all wool; their soft, fleecy texture can be seen in the photograph. Stripes are soft green, blue, rose or peach with white, so that the blankets will match plain pastel-coloured sheets. But they would also add a touch of delicate colour to an otherwise all-white bed. They are available in single and double sizes; the ends are whipped.

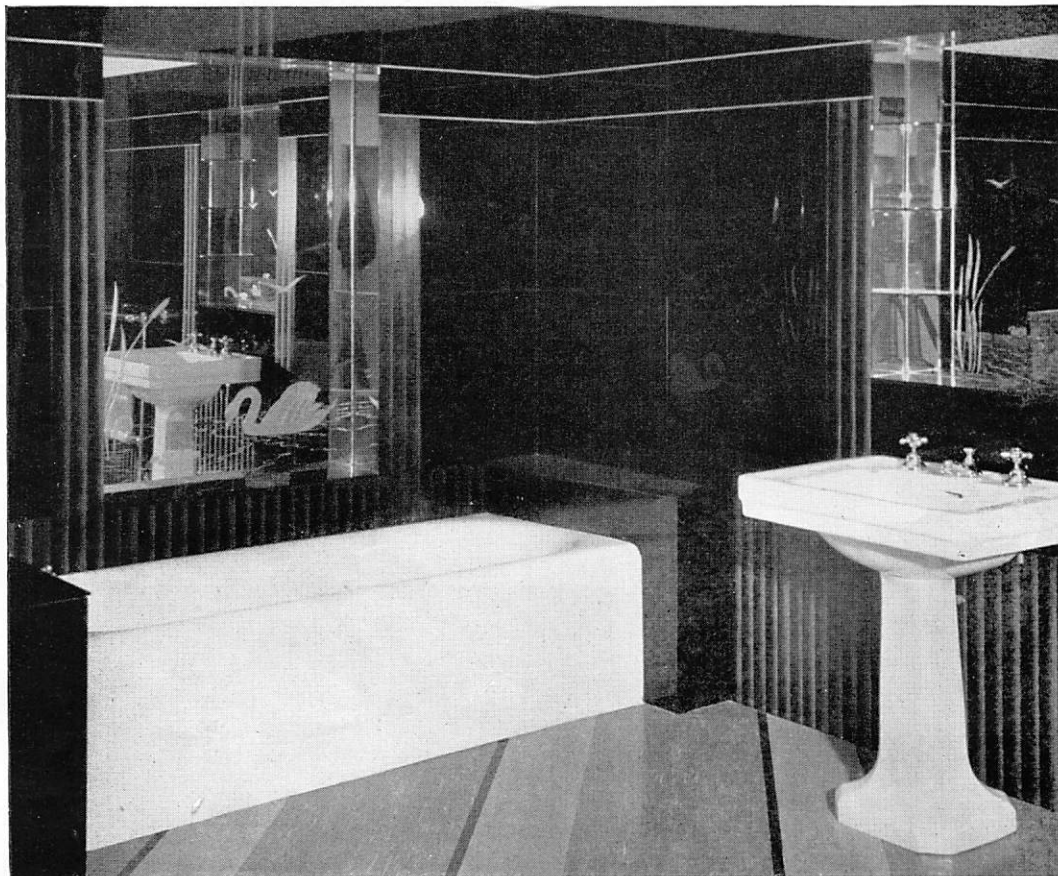


**Rugs for the bedside** and before the dressing-table should have the softest, deepest and therefore warmest pile. The bedroom is also the one room in which rugs in pale colours are practical, for they will not be walked on by outdoor shoes. A suggestion for bedside and dressing-table is the Lamtex rug, of wool processed to a silky softness, and guaranteed against wear for a full three years. In oblong, bow, and oval shapes, and in black, rust, old gold, apple green, beige, and off-white.

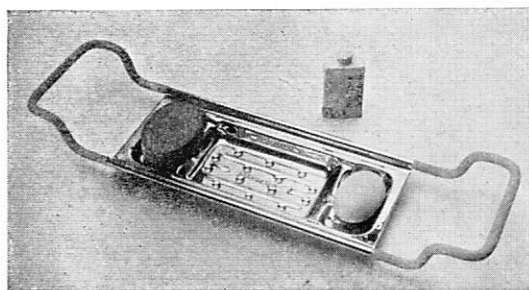




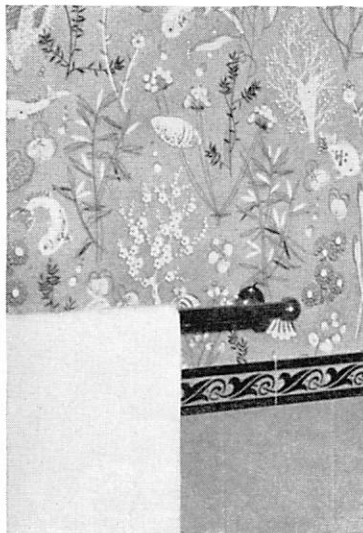
## Tone and Texture in your bathroom warmth



**Dark wall surfaces** can add a feeling of warmth to a bathroom. Here the glossy depths of black Vitrolite, relieved by peach-tinted mirrors with engraved decoration, are a background for Ideal-Standard fittings in Ivoire de Medici. Floor is thermoplastic tiles laid diagonally, with black strips for relief.



**Adjustable** in length to fit the width of the bath, the Hartington chromium-plated soap and sponge tray below is perforated for drainage. End pieces are sleeved with rubber to prevent damage to the surface of the bath.



**Patterned wall** is an idea for adding personality and warmth to the bathroom with tiled dado. This is a Crown wallpaper, specially treated to withstand condensation, and it has an appropriate under-water design in black, yellow, and tangerine on a green ground. Lemon yellow towels.

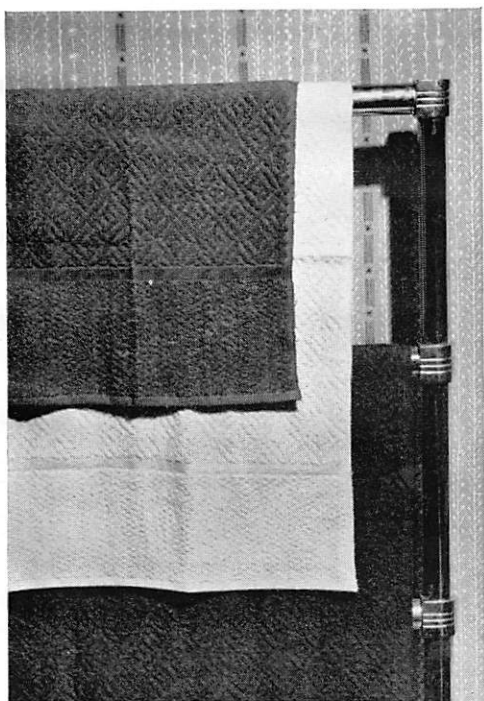


**Soft water on tap:** the Permutit Permo portable softener attaches to any tap and requires only periodical regeneration with a little common salt. Two sizes, to provide 90 or 180 gallons of softened water between regenerations in districts where water hardness is 16 deg., more in districts where water is less hard.

NOWHERE IN THE HOUSE are warmth and cheerful surroundings so much appreciated in winter as in the bathroom. It is the gentle bridge between the warm bed and the stern realities of daily life, and should brace at the start of the day, relax and soothe at bedtime. So comfort depends first on an ample and continuous supply of hot water, on adequate heating by means of a radiator or the safe electric fire, on a heated towel rail to offer warm as well as dry towels, and on good lighting of mirrors used for shaving and make-up.

Colour and pattern in decoration and equipment provide the visual feeling of comfort. Coloured wall surfaces, and some patterned ones, are as easily cleaned as white. Tinted and engraved mirrors are more decorative than plain and no less candid. All surfaces must be water-resistant, and yet provide maximum warmth and comfort.

Bathroom floor should be of a material which does not chill bare feet. Thermoplastic tiles, rubber, compressed cork tiles (well sealed against moisture) and linoleum, laid as a covering or as tiles, are all suitable. Deeply-tufted or waffle cotton rugs are warm for the bath-side and are easily washable; new darker colours in towels and bathmats help create an atmosphere of warmth. M. S.



**Chartreuse green, cadmium yellow, ultramarine blue, grass green, and crimson** are new colours for Vantona bath and hand towels, and they allow accessories to be matched to the contemporary room scheme. The pastels (blue, green, coral, gold) are still also obtainable. Stronger colours, however, look warm, and each member of the family may have the exclusive use of towels in one colour.



**Porcelain enamel** lavatory basin by Wallis of Long Eaton can be had with or without the pedestal to conceal plumbing; it is available in pink and in other pastel colours, and has built-in towel rails at the sides. Note warmth of the white rug taken under the pedestal, and the very decorative effect of the tall growing plant.



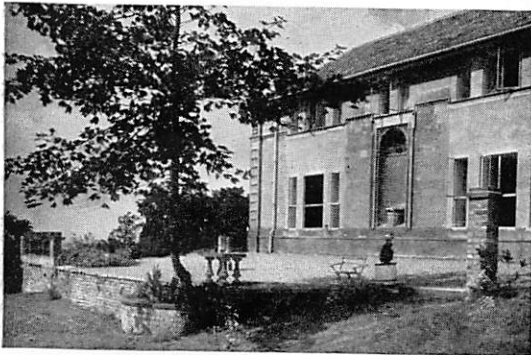
**Contemporary pattern** in matching towels and bathmat from Heal's; the towel is grey and white, and would look particularly well with sanitary ware in dark colours; bathmat is coral and white. Several alternative colours are available.



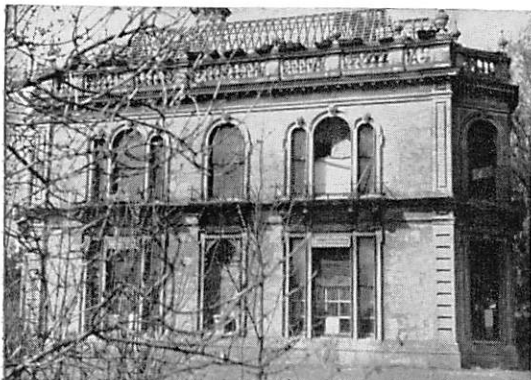
# Reducing Exercise

**B**OOTHBY GRAFFOE, Navenby, was a Victorian mansion in the ugly Kensington-Italianate style, requiring an army of servants and tons of money. But its settings were so delightful and the view from its windows so fine that Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Ruddock made enquiries and found that it could be bought for a figure low enough to make reduction and modernisation worth while. Our pictures tell the story.

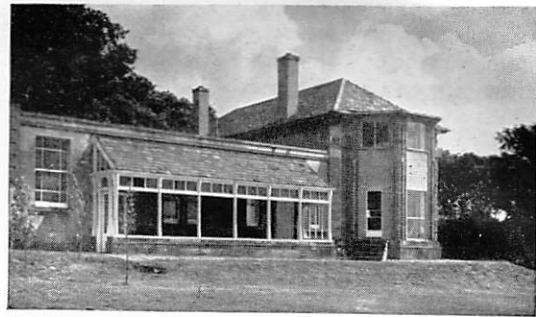
Photos: Stanley Chapman, "Ideal Home," and the owner



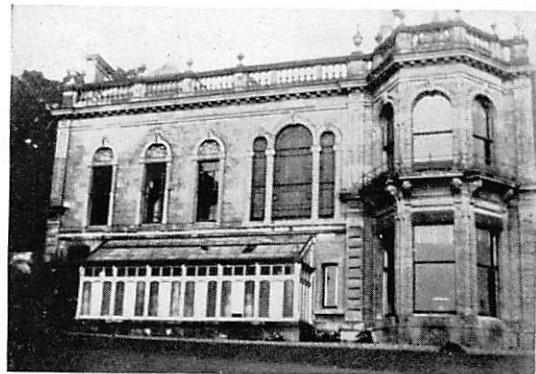
**Five bedrooms face south:** from two over-large bedrooms, separated by a dressing-room, five bedrooms and a bathroom have been made. The height of the house was reduced and the roof re-formed. Old roof timbers, slates and bricks have been used again.



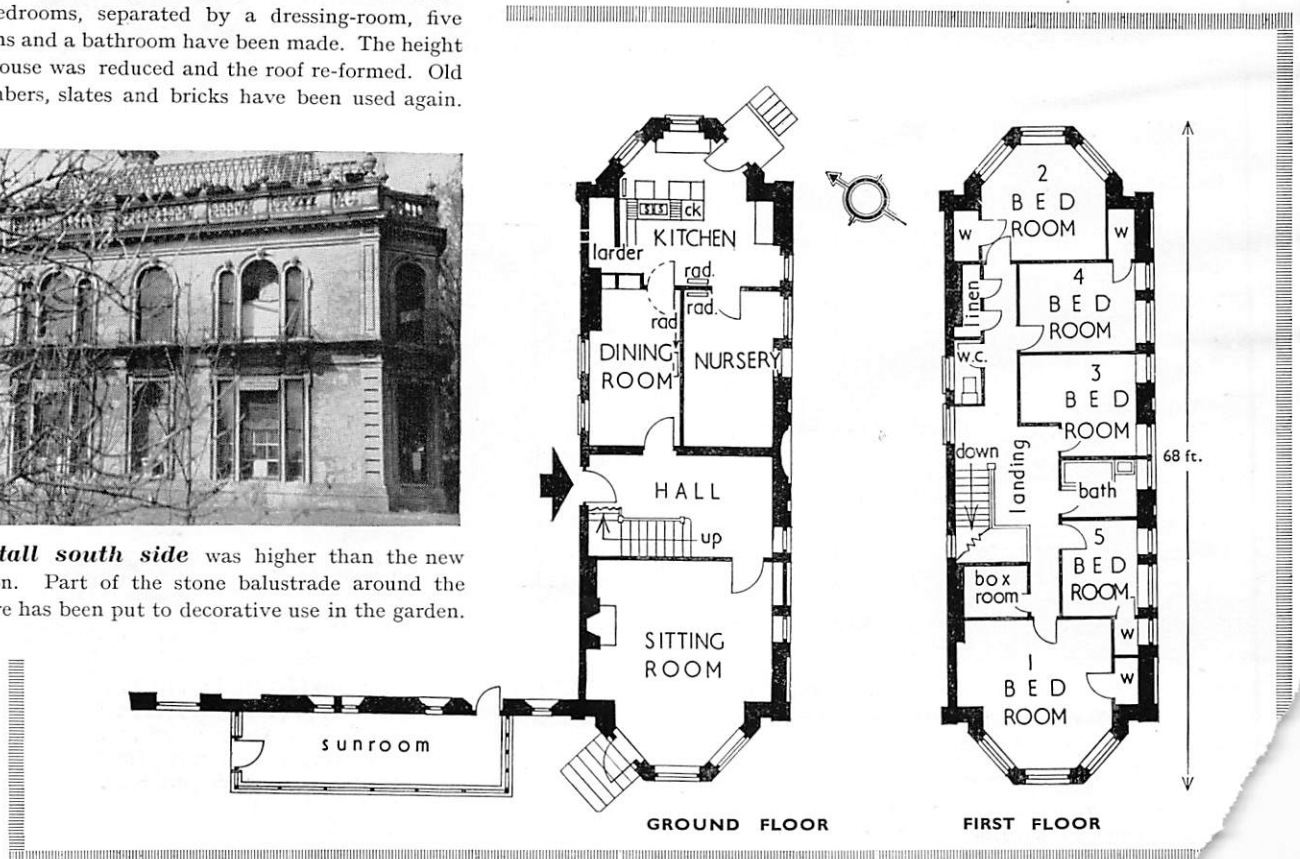
**Over-tall south side** was higher than the new elevation. Part of the stone balustrade around the roof here has been put to decorative use in the garden.



**Only one third** of its original area, and a quarter of the cubic capacity, the 2,000 sq. ft. house now comprises just the block on the right with the bay windows. Large new windows replace old panes in the sun room. No rooms now exist behind this.



**Ornate facade demolished:** the flat facade of the south-west wing was reduced down to first-floor level. Rooms accommodated behind went with it.



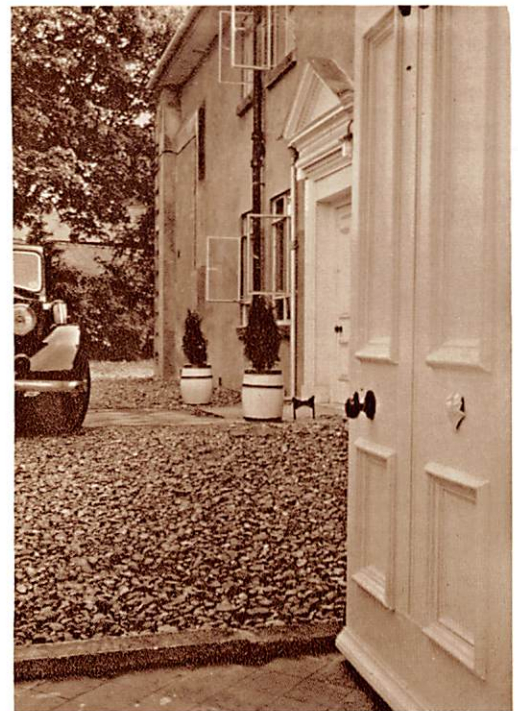




*Two shorter flights were made* from the original wide stairs. The handrail is the top portion only of its predecessor. The newel posts have been cut from old beams. Floors are all the original deal, sanded over and polished.



*Car in old hall* : on what is now the courtyard stood a large part of the house, with its entrance at the extreme left. Now a new front door has been made. The inner wall flanking the old hall and landing was converted into this main frontage. Wall supporting sun-room stands on right of house. Right : car halts on old hall floor tiling.





## Reducing Exercise *continued*

*Mouldings were retained* around the base of the landing balusters. All the balusters themselves—pleasantly simpler than the originals—came from the old back staircase. As original front stairs were almost a pre-fabricated construction, they could be conveniently utilised in this new position with 8 in. taken off their width. Hall is placed to take advantage of existing deep window.



*Two-way cupboards* and drawers between dining-room and kitchen save unnecessary footsteps when preparing or serving meals. The swing door, too, is a blessing when one is laden. From over-large old dining-room, this room, nursery and kitchen have been created.



*Convenient to the nursery:* work can proceed in the kitchen while mistress or maid keeps the children within earshot or sight through the open left-hand door. Other door is to dining-room. Kitchen has three distinct areas: for cooking and washing-up, laundry, and maid's meals.



*Window was filled in* where shelves now display ornaments. An opening here would have been too near the entrance of the new sitting-room. To preserve the symmetry externally, a false window proves successfully deceptive, so that there still seem to be three glazed features. Hall and sitting-room now occupy same area as drawing-room.



*Windows down to the floor* allow an appreciation of a fine aspect—from the lawn immediately outside, away to the horizon. Without these deep new windows, contact would be lost with the garden, as the house is on a "plinth."



*Contact with garden :* french door to right maintains contact practically—as well as visually. With adequate central heating, full-length windows need in no way impair comfort in the winter.



*Stained glass window* was cut down from one of the large sidepieces on the original half-landing. The owner is not keen on its design, but the colouring is good and its present position effective : in the old house there was too much stained glass, which can become very oppressive.



# Are you happy in your work?

*Happiness (somebody said) is like coke; it is a by-product; a by-product of your circumstances and your way of life. It depends on the answer to a lot of questions.*

For instance:

- 1 Does your heart sink at the thought of a day's work in the kitchen?.....
- 2 Is your meat tough now and then because you cannot cook it slowly through and through?.....  
(Go on, answer!)
- 3 Do you hate the late-comer to meals?.....
- 4 Do your vegetables look dull sometimes, because you cannot boil them fast enough?.....
- 5 When you run a really hot bath, are you afraid to turn the cold tap on *full* all the time it is filling?.....
- 6 Do you hanker after the old-fashioned Baker's brick oven, if only there weren't all the work attached to it?.....
- 7 Are you afraid that power cuts or falling gas pressure might interfere with your cooking?.....
- 8 Do you know very well you cannot do all your cooking and water heating for as little as 1/- or so a day? Work it out.....
- 9 Would you like to come down in the morning and find you had no kitchen fire to light, ever again?.....
- 10 Wouldn't you like to come down in the morning and find a cooked breakfast ready?.....

*If you answer Yes to more than half of the questions, you are probably missing one of the most important 'circumstances' of a happy life.*



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\* *Can you do all the cooking and heat all your water, all for (about) 1/- a day?*

However much you use it (even if you cook right through the night), the Aga cannot possibly use more than 3½ tons of fuel in a year. And the fuel is coke — easy to come by, all the year round.

\* *Can you boil a 4-pint kettle of cold water in 4 minutes?*

The Aga boiling plate is the fastest you can get. Fast heat is what gives jam its colour, keeps green vegetables green and fried food crisp.

\* *Can you make tough meat tender? Can you keep hot meals hot without spoiling? Can you cook ham, stock, porridge, through the night?*

The Aga can — with its simmering oven. This is the best-beloved thing about this best-beloved cooker of all.

\* *Can you cook an egg-thickened sauce without 'catching' it, ever?*

As gently as you like. Simmering heat is controlled, always: it cannot 'run away'.

\* *Can you bake cakes that are never 'sad', roast meat that is never unevenly done?*

The Aga oven is made of solid cast iron, which throws out really *penetrating* heat — as the old brick Baker's oven did; and it's steady heat, too.

\* *Can you boil fast (really fast)? Can you simmer gently (really gently)?*

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\* *Can your cooker keep the kitchen warm in winter without making it too hot in summer?*

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\* *Besides all this, the Aga offers you Hire Purchase over 5 years, and a cast-iron guarantee for ten. H.P. can cost as little as £2 a month. The Aga is not 'for Princes and rich men only' — no, indeed. It is for people who want to SAVE money.*

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# Comfort in the Kitchen

By MARY WHIRTER



**COMFORTABLE CHARACTER** of the meals bay in this gay kitchen by Wallis of Long Eaton is emphasised by the tartan which covers the fixed seat and the chairs, by the row of little framed prints on the wall behind the table, and by a profusion of growing plants for decoration. Leisure units in the working area beyond the meals bay are pastel blue, curtains striped black and white.

**DECORATION RETURNS** to the kitchen table, refuting any idea that a working surface need necessarily be plain. Border on this new Formica-topped table by Hussif is impregnated in the laminated plastic, is permanent and not affected by frequent cleaning of the table surface. These new decorated table tops are obtainable in many other designs, and in brilliant colours; they will also add a touch of gaiety to the living-room.

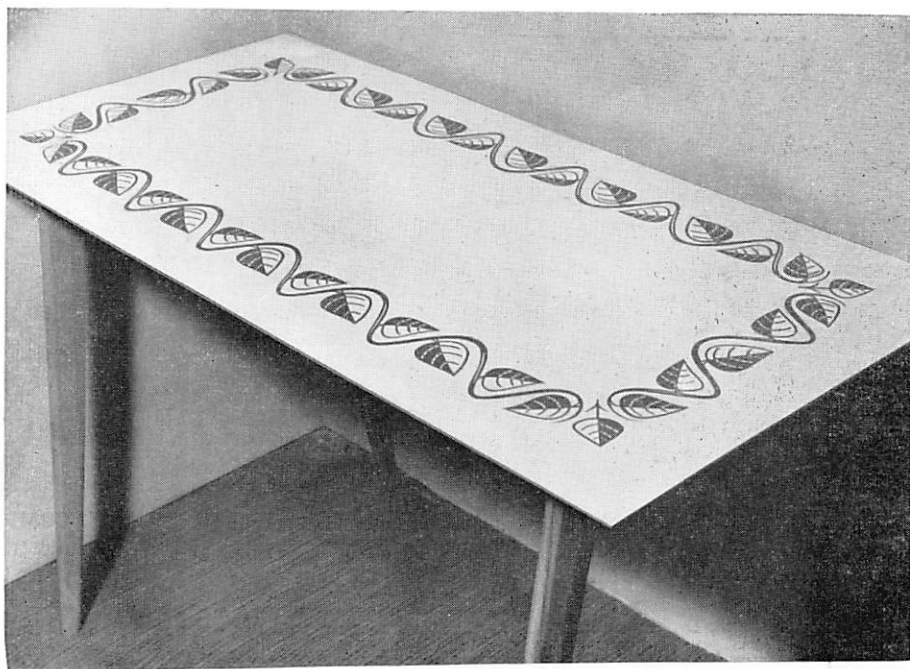
**W**HEN APPLIED TO THE KITCHEN, comfort is a term which may mean equipment and appliances planned for efficiency and for minimum fatigue in use; it may also mean the stimulating effect of working surroundings which are pleasant to the eye. The combination of these good qualities produces a kitchen individual in its decoration, labour-saving in its equipment. It also rings the death knell of what has come to be known as the clinical kitchen; colourless, cold, and impersonal.

Sheer physical comfort depends on a number of factors, such as table-tops and cupboards of the right height for the user, to eliminate both stooping and stretching; a cooker with an accessible oven; grouping of main work centres to reduce distance between one and the other to minimum. Good lighting at these work centres is also very important, and where daylight is deficient it should be supplemented by shadowless overhead fluorescent tubes.

Plentiful hot water immediately on tap for cooking and washing-up is important, too. A simple method of improving the hot water supply to the sink is by lagging all exposed pipes to reduce heat loss between boiler and tap; when this is done the water runs hot immediately.

The comfortable kitchen should not suffer from extremes of heat or cold, and it should be scientifically ventilated to reduce or eliminate condensation. It is difficult to be dogmatic on the subject of condensation because so many factors

*continued overleaf*





# Comfort in the Kitchen *continued*

are involved, but an electric extractor fan allows constant and draughtless air change and carries away steam and smell of cooking to the outside air. It can be fitted to a window, to an outside wall, or it can be installed in a canopy over the cooker.

Less warmth is required in the kitchen than in the living-room, but in winter the temperature should not be less than 60 deg. F. Heat-storage, insulated, and semi-insulated cookers and insulated solid-fuel boilers emit quite enough heat to provide a comfortable working temperature; heat from the oven

of a gas or electric cooker, when in use, will also take the chill off. Supplementary heating may be necessary if the kitchen is used extensively for meals, and particularly when it is on the cold side of the house.

A small electric convector, running at black heat, is excellent for kitchen warmth. A portable convector can be used in the meals corner or elsewhere as required; a panel heater can be fixed to the wall and decorated to match the surrounding surface. If the kitchen has no drying cabinet, a small heater to dry and air tea towels is a useful extra

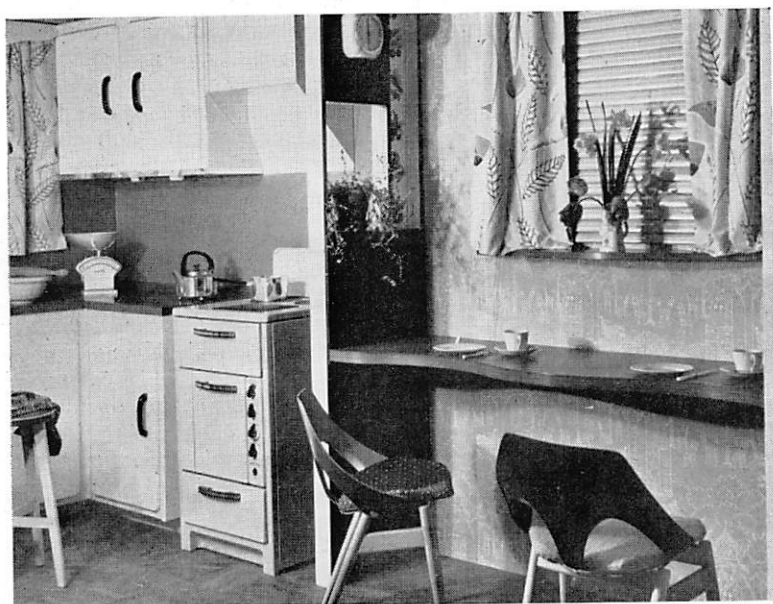
amenity. Portable gas and electric fires for local warmth should not be forgotten if the kitchen is exceptionally cold.

Floor surfaces are very important to comfort, for most kitchen work is done standing. The ideal is a non-absorbent surface which is easily cleaned, warm and resilient to reduce fatigue, and made in a good range of colours so that the floor will fit in with the rest of the kitchen scheme. PVC thermoplastic tiles and linoleum (laid in tiles or in sheet form) are among the floorings suitable for kitchens, and hardwood block flooring with a tiled surround is as warm and comfortable to the feet as it is practical in other ways. Provide rubber link mats to stand on when working at sink or table; they are great fatigue-savers.

Sit down to work, however, whenever practicable, using a high kitchen stool when working at sink or counter-top. A new and practical type of kitchen chair is one which reverses to become a pair of steps for effortless reaching of high cupboards.

Pattern and colour add warmth and comfort to any kitchen. Walls behind units and in the meals corner could be painted with scrubbable plastic emulsion, or they could be papered, using either a special varnished kitchen paper or an ordinary wallpaper invisibly proofed against grease and moisture by treatment with a new preparation which is simply brushed into the surface. Kitchen units are now in pastel colours as well as white, and the coloured porcelain-enamelled sink is an excellent alternative to stainless steel.

Natural wood is being used again in kitchens, as unit equipment, and also for work surfaces. The latter are faced with the new wood-effect laminated plastics, which look like natural timber but are resistant to moisture, mild acids, and heat, and are easily cleaned by wiping with a damp cloth.



**BREAKFAST BAR** and the work surfaces of the white units in the kitchen are a new matt walnut-veneered Formica. This kitchen (by Froy's) serves a family, and it is as inviting for meals as for work. Grey and yellow varnished wallpaper behind breakfast bar; projecting partition painted tomato red; beech chairs have red backs



**LIGHT OAK** is the material for new kitchen units by W. & G. Sissons, designed to fit closely together without filler pieces. Apron fronts give good knee room, doors are flush-fitting, hanging wall cupboards have doors of semi-opaque teardrop glass. The plastic work surfaces are tomato red; also obtainable in other colours.

**Do not miss**  
**DOMESTIC DIARY**—a new feature, page 41



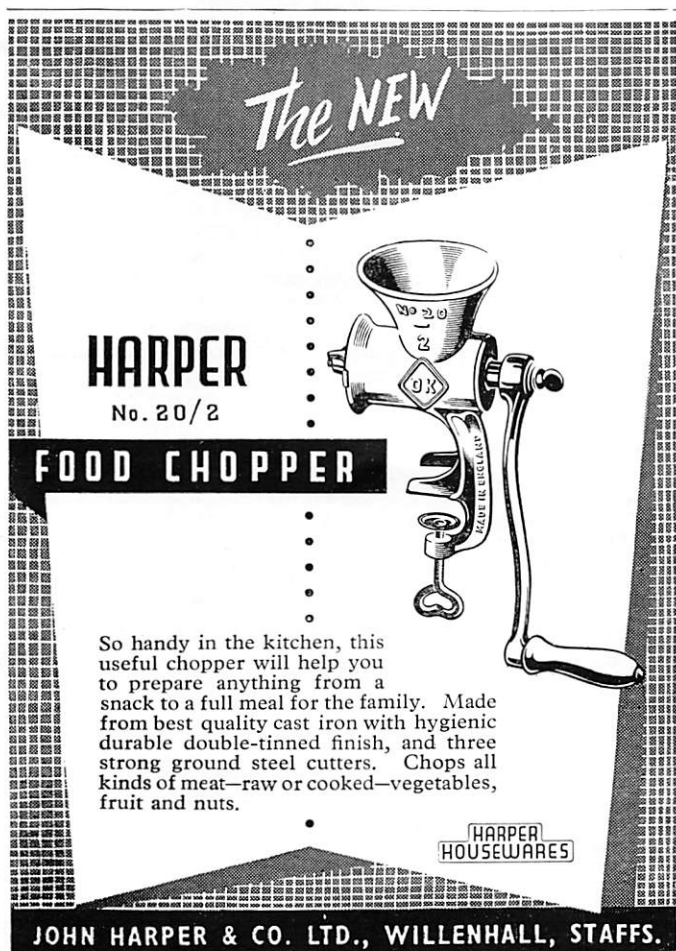
**COMFORT AND COLOUR** underfoot; the Marley tile floor in this kitchen is resilient and warm to the tread, and the scheme of creamy yellow tiles with inset coral pink tiles forming arrowhead motifs is effective for this large area. A smaller kitchen would take tiles in one colour.



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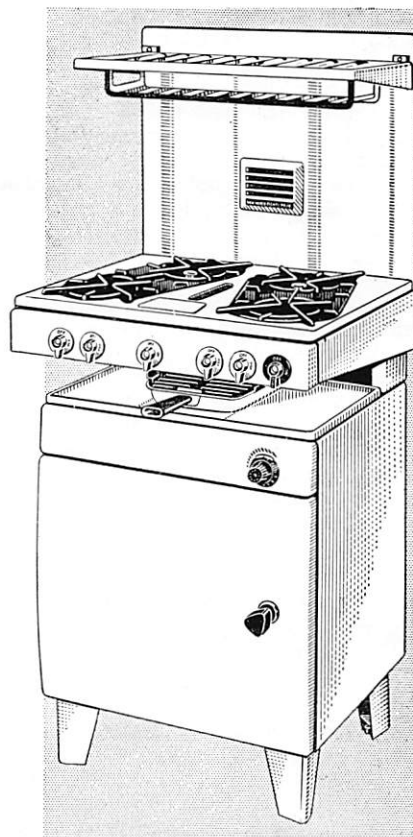
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# Hot hors d'oeuvre

**S**TRICTLY speaking a hot *hors d'oeuvre* is a contradiction in terms. The true purpose of the cold *hors d'oeuvre*, gastronomically, is as an appetiser, only permissible at luncheon when there is no soup, and as an introduction to the meal that follows. A hot *hors d'oeuvre*, on the other hand, is in reality a short first course, particularly useful in these days, when meals are shorter than they used to be and fish, for instance, appears more often as the main luncheon course.

André Simon, in his *Art of Good Living*, dismisses them rather curtly thus: "Another heresy, which, like all heresies, has nothing else to recommend it except the attraction of novelty, is to serve 'hot' *hors d'oeuvre*." Escoffier, however, is not quite so scathing, merely stating at the beginning of the chapter on this subject in his *Guide to Modern Cookery*: "I did not deem it necessary to touch upon the hot kind (of *hors d'oeuvre*), for, apart from the fact that these are very seldom served in England, at least under the head of *Hors d'oeuvres*, they are mostly to be found either among the hot *Entrées* or the *Savouries* proper."

So with this slight encouragement and bearing in mind that the first course may sometimes need to be rather more substantial than usual, I shall beg leave to be a little heretical in this article, confident that if the recipes are not used in the first course, they will be equally suitable for the last.

The hot *hors d'oeuvre* can assume two forms. It may be a dish such as stuffed tomatoes or small stuffed pancakes: it may be a selection of the small savoury toasts or *canapés* to which English people are more accustomed at the end of the meal. It must, however, be chosen with an eye to what is to follow; it must be unobtrusive rather than assertive; in fact its purpose in the modern meal is not as an appetiser but as a small extra dish which will lend it substance, really part of the luncheon itself, which the cold *hors d'oeuvre*, as its name implies, never was.

**Devilled Tomatoes.** Peel and slice the tomatoes and fry them gently in a little butter or margarine without browning them. Now mix two hard-boiled egg-yolks with 2 oz. of the same fat, add 2 tablespoonfuls vinegar,  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoonful made mustard, a good pinch of salt and sugar, and a little cayenne pepper. Heat this sauce in a saucepan and, meanwhile, arrange the sliced tomatoes on buttered toasts. Now add 2 beaten eggs to the sauce, stir until they thicken, and pour this over the tomato toasts to serve.

**Mushrooms en Brochette.** Cut some large peeled mushrooms across in pieces of the same thickness, and cut also some pieces of stale crumb of bread the same size. Impale these on skewers, one piece of bread, two pieces of mushroom and so on alternately, a skewerful for each person. Now season them well with salt and pepper, and grill them very carefully, basting with butter. Serve immediately they are ready, anointing each with a little melted butter mixed with a squeeze of lemon juice and dash of pepper.

**Stuffed Tomatoes.** There are, of course, innumerable ways of stuffing hot tomatoes, one of the simplest being to fill them with pilaff rice mixed with their own flesh, baking them and serving them on toasts or fried bread, sprinkled on the top with chopped parsley. But two rather more elaborate fillings are better.

**Stuffed Tomatoes Provençale** are made by cutting 6 tomatoes in halves across, and then cooking them, cut side down, in olive oil. When half-done, turn them over and cook a few minutes longer. Meanwhile fry, also in olive oil, a couple of tablespoonfuls of chopped onion, and, when it is golden, add 4 peeled and roughly chopped tomatoes, a pinch of chopped parsley and a tiny piece of crushed garlic, if you like it. Add 2 tablespoonfuls breadcrumbs soaked in stock and a spot of anchovy essence, then stuff the tomato-halves with this mixture, sprinkle them with grated cheese and breadcrumbs and a few drops of olive oil, and bake them in the oven for the top to brown.

**Stuffed Tomatoes Antibes** are filled with a mixture of tinned tuna fish, anchovies or anchovy essence, garlic and *finest herbes* (parsley, chives, chervil and tarragon), sprinkled with chopped thyme, parsley and fennel and a little olive oil, and then baked in the oven. A good tip, these, for the luckier people with a herb patch. Finally it must be remembered that scrambled egg, flavoured how you will, makes a very excellent stuffing for tomatoes, either first baked whole or fried or grilled in halves.

**Stuffed Pancakes.** For this purpose the pancakes should be very small and very thin. They should be served side by side in a long dish, either sprinkled with melted butter or coated lightly with a sauce.

There are many fillings which immediately spring to the mind: chopped cooked mushrooms bound with a suitable sauce; tiny pieces of cooked chicken mixed with cooked onion, mushroom and parsley and bound with a pleasant white sauce; small bits of cooked or tinned shellfish, also mixed perhaps with mushroom and bound with a well-flavoured sauce; thickish heads of cooked or tinned asparagus; thick stewed tomato; spinach purée; sardines; ham or tongue bound with an appropriate sauce; pieces of smoked salmon, and so on. If frying is to your taste, each little stuffed pancake should be allowed to get cold, the seam and ends stuck together with white of egg, and then the whole thing egg-and-breadcrumbed and fried in deep fat.

**Stuffed Eggs** are particularly attractive, I think, when served hot, which is unusual. A mushroom stuffing is easy to make. Cook a few mushrooms in butter, season them with salt, pepper and a squeeze of lemon juice, then chop them up with the yolks of the hard-boiled eggs, bind with a little cream or thick Béchamel sauce, stuff the eggs with this, set them on their toasts, and brown them lightly. Spinach purée is delicious for



*For light lunch, supper or buffet meal: eggs, tomatoes, and pancakes with a variety of fillings are attractive alternatives to the savoury toasts, savoury tartlets, and little stuffed bacon rolls also shown.*

stuffing eggs like this, especially if you enrich it with cream. Do not add the yolks to the stuffing in this case, but when the eggs have been filled, grate the yolk coarsely over the top and add a few very thin short strips of tongue or ham, and just heat the eggs through before serving on toasts.

And now a last glance through some of the smaller *hors d'oeuvres* of this kind. **Bombay Toasts** are spread with two egg-yolks cooked in a little anchovy paste mixed with butter, and are served immediately, sprinkled with paprika pepper. **Dutch Toasts** are spread with a creamy purée of cooked smoked haddock decorated with slices of hard-boiled egg. (If a little cream is dropped on the egg-slices, the toasts will brown very prettily.)

**Herring Roe Fingers** illustrates one of the uses of puff or other suitable pastry as a base instead of the more usual toast or fried bread: in this case the pastry strips are each surmounted by a poached or tinned herring's roe dusted with paprika pepper and served piping hot. Many versions of this kind of finger can easily be devised. **Anchovy Toasts** with a difference are made with strips of bread fried in butter which has been flavoured with a very little tomato purée or sauce. On each an anchovy fillet or two is laid, sprinkled with grated cheese and finely chopped olive and browned quickly in the oven or under the grill.

**Canapés Ritchie** bring back the smoked haddock purée, this time sprinkled with grated cheese and browned, and **Cheese Rolls** are made of Gruyère or processed cheese cut in very small pieces, bound with a little thick Béchamel sauce lightly seasoned with cayenne pepper and mustard. When this mixture is quite cold, it should be shaped into little rolls, wrapped in the thinnest of thin pastry, and fried in deep fat or oil until they are golden.

And lastly, **Croûtes Diane** are sliced chickens' livers fried in butter, wrapped in very thin rashers of streaky bacon, skewered two or three together, grilled and served hot and quickly on their *croûtes* of fried bread or buttered toast. Nothing so delicious. A.H





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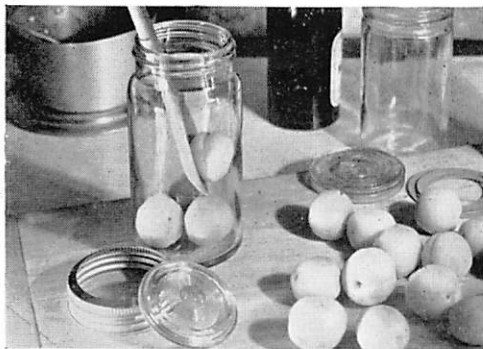


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## Making the Most of the Harvest

By CYRIL GRANGE

**B**OTTLING is one of the most important methods of preservation for the delicious autumn fruits: pears, apples, damsons, figs, blackcurrants, blackberries, mulberries, cherries and quinces. The best method is the use of an open water bath, or in other words sterilising in a vessel of hot water. But there are several details essential to success; some of these autumn fruits are not quite so easy to preserve as the early summer ones.

Apples, blackberries, damsons, loganberries, mulberries and late plums are heated to 165 deg. F. for 10 min. By the way, you will find it a good plan to purchase a cheap, floating, dairy thermometer rather than guess the temperature or sterilise by simmering.

When dealing with solid-pack apples or with 3-lb. or larger bottles, or with stoned and halved fruits, sterilisation should be continued for 20 min. at 165 deg. F. For mixed fruit, packed raw, the right temperature is 175 deg. F. for 10 min. Black and redcurrants require 180 deg. F. at 15 min., and late cherries 190 deg. F. at 10 min. Pears and quinces, because of the stiffness of the flesh, require 190 deg. F. at 20 min., while fresh figs should be boiled for 75 min. If you want to give a nice pink colour to white pears, use blackberry or damson juice.

Cooking pears will not soften sufficiently with the usual sterilisation, and therefore they should first be cooked in a syrup of 4 oz. sugar to 1 pint water until tender. Increase flavour by adding juice of 1 lemon and

1 oz. ginger root to 3 lb. pears.

To prevent apples turning brown, put the fruit immediately it is cut into a vessel containing a weak brine, made by dissolving 1 level dessertspoonful salt in 1 pint cold water.

Certain sugar syrup strengths have proved from experience to be most satisfactory, and they are these: apples, blackberries, sweet cherries, mulberries, sweet plums,  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb.; sour cherries, blackcurrants, damsons, fresh figs, loganberries, mixed fruits, pears, halves of plums, and quinces,  $\frac{3}{4}$  lb.; and sour red plums, 1 lb. In each case the sugar quantity is per 1 pint water.

Different fruits in season at the same time can be packed together, or fruits can be preserved when they are in season, and the bottles opened, repacked and re-sterilised later. At this time of the year, however, there are some really excellent mixtures, such as apples and blackberries, pears and damsons, mulberries and apples, cherries and pears, and apples and quinces.

Did you know that you can bottle whole tomatoes so that they can be fried with bacon? The fruit should be skinned to lessen the chance of serious bursting, packed carefully into the bottles, and then covered with a brine made by dissolving 1 heaped tablespoonful salt in 2 qt. water. Sterilisation is effected by heating in the water bath so that in  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hr. a temperature of 190 deg. F. is reached and held for 30 min.

You can make an excellent

*continued overleaf*

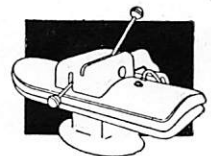


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## MAKING THE MOST OF THE HARVEST

*continued*

tomato purée in this way. First heat some good-quality tomatoes with just a little water in a saucepan until soft—with, of course, the necessary salt (and sugar) as desired. The tomatoes are then rubbed through a hair sieve to a pulp, which is returned to a saucepan and boiled for 10 min. Pour into hot bottles and seal at once. Sterilise the capped bottles in boiling water for 10 min.

Late summer is the ideal time for the bottling of vegetables, especially peas, both dwarf and runner beans, mushrooms, and macedoine. But a pressure cooker must be used, and the methods suitable for fruit definitely *not* used for vegetables.

Prepare vegetables as for the table. Then gather them up in a muslin bag, wire basket or strainer and lower into boiling water, drain quickly, cool by dipping into sterile cold water and then pack into warm bottles.

Peas should be held in the boiling water for 3 min., Brussels sprouts 5 min., diced turnips 5 min., broccoli 5 min., while beetroot should be steamed for 15 min. Mushrooms should be stewed in a casserole prior to packing, and sliced dwarf and runner beans should be simmered (180 deg. F. for 5 min.), not boiled.

After packing in the bottles, pour in the liquid in which the vegetables were blanched (plus  $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoonful salt to a 1-pint bottle) to cover to  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. of the top. The caps are fitted in the ordinary way to allow heated air to escape, and then the bottles are placed in the pressure cooker.

The next point is important. The temperature, (gained by adjusting the pressure cooker in the usual way) is 240 deg. F. or a pressure of 10 lb. For mushrooms the time is 30 min., for dwarf and runner beans, beetroot, broccoli, cauliflower, marrow and turnips, 35 min., for peas, sprouts and macedoine 40 min. Remove the pressure cooker from the heat and leave to cool gradually. Do not open the cooker until pressure has fallen to zero. Then remove the bottles and seal airtight at once.

### SWEET PICKLES

Suitable fruits, now in season, include apples, blackberries, cherries, crab-apples, damsons, pears and late plums.

Prepare the selected sound fruit that is firm-ripe. Then dissolve 2 lb. sugar in 1 pint vinegar, in which the spices

are suspended by being tied into a muslin bag. The whole lot is put into a covered saucepan with 4 lb. fruit, and simmered gently until tender but not overcooked.

The vinegar is then drained off (and kept) and the fruit is packed in the usual way in the jars to 1 in. of the top. The vinegar is boiled in an open pan to reduce it to the consistency of syrup. The syrup is poured hot on to the fruit in the jars to cover to  $\frac{1}{4}$  in., and the whole sealed airtight at once. The spice I recommend is  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. each cinnamon, pimento, cloves, ginger root, mace and coriander.

Of the chutneys, possibly green tomato is the most popular at this time of the year. The proportions are 4 lb. green tomatoes, 1 lb. each apples, sultanas and onions,  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. salt, 1 lb. sugar,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  pint vinegar, and, for spices, 1 tablespoonful each mustard seed and root ginger, and  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoonful cayenne. If you want a hotter chutney add 1 dessertspoonful curry powder.

### FRUIT WINE

Here are the basic principles for making fruit wines.

The dry, selected ripe fruit is prepared, weighed, placed in a vessel and 1 gal. boiling water poured over for each gallon (or 7 lb.) of fruit. When cool, crush the fruit preferably with the hands, and then cover the whole with a cloth, and allow to stand to extract the juices, for 4 to 7 days. Then strain off the juice, measure, and add 3 lb. sugar and  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. yeast to each gallon and stir well in. Fermentation then starts in a warm room with a temperature between 65 and 80 deg. F., and the bubbling should continue for 4 to 6 weeks.

When fermentation has ceased, the wine should be stirred round, left for 4 days to settle, then poured off carefully through a filter or flannel bag into bottles. These are loosely corked until all signs of fermentation have disappeared, when the corks are tightly fitted. The wine now matures and should be left in a dark, cool place for at least a year. After this it is decanted by being poured off carefully (so as not to disturb any of the sediment) into the final bottles, which are tightly corked and put away in a cool, dark place.

I shall be only too pleased to give any individual recipes of proved value if you will write through the Service Department.

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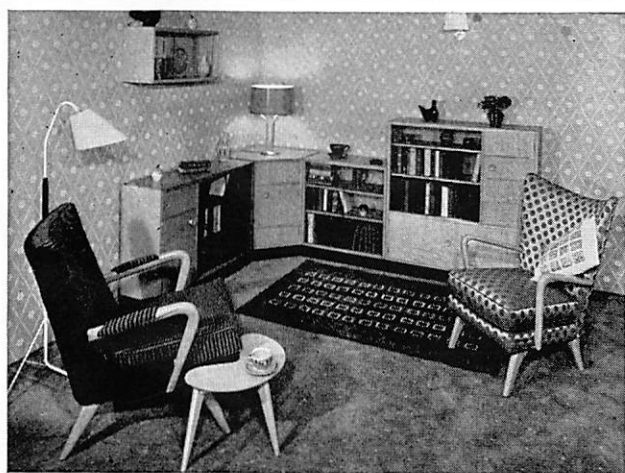
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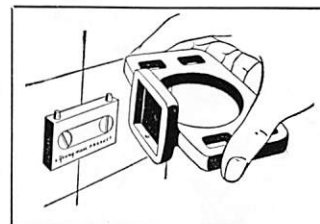
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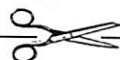
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# Wines of the Commonwealth

By AMBROSE HEATH



**E**VEN NOW it is a little difficult to write of the Australian and South African wines without danger of a faint prejudice, for (although it may sound incredibly snobbish to say so) wine-drinkers of my age, brought up in the European tradition, have always associated these wines with bottles or flagons everlastingly adorning the tables of what in those days used to be called boarding-houses, carefully corked and stowed away for the next meal, and as carefully uncorked and drunk in an unending succession. To the older among us this is a sempiternal fate from which they have with difficulty recovered, and, if we are to be fair, we must set ourselves resolutely against memories of this kind.

We have to remember, in the first place, that it is a different world to which these wines are now making their appeal, a world of much younger people, many of whom are coming to the drinking of wine for the first time. They know nothing or little of the finer wines of France and Germany on which their elders' preferences are based, but from holidays or service training abroad have gained a modest experience of what might be called the commoner wines of the countries that they have visited.

Not for them the great vintages of the past, nor the refinements of wine and food. What they require, once they have a taste for wine, is a clean, honest example of what the vineyard produces, wherever it may be—France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, South Africa or Australia. To recognise this is the first step to a proper appreciation of the wines which we are now to discuss.

These Commonwealth wines are clean and honest—and sturdy, too. The soils on which the vines have been grown are young soils, very different from the centuries-old vineyards of Europe. But the tradition of vine-growing and wine-making is the same as that of the countries from which it sprang, and although methods may be modernised, the result is the same, though the taste of the wines is obviously different.

## TASTES AND TYPES

In choosing an Australian or South African wine you can be guided only very generally by the generic type. You can buy, for example, so-called Sauternes which may very likely taste more like another type of sweetish wine in Europe, or a so-called Burgundy which is as round and deep as, say,

In recent months I have had the opportunity of tasting a good number of Australian and South African wines, and I venture to give readers a few notes on my reactions. I have felt for some time that the Commonwealth wines are the Cinderella of the wine-cellar and that the time has come to induce people to treat them with the respect they deserve.

a wine from Italy. And yet these generic names must, so far as I can see, be used; otherwise there is no other way of describing the *type* of wine that you are buying. In the ordinary way this should be disclosed by the shape of the bottle, as it is more or less in Europe. But here we meet with yet another difficulty so far as the experienced wine-drinker is concerned, for I have found that, although a wine may be described as this or that in European terminology, its taste has really been quite different from what one would expect from the label on the bottle.

It seems to me, then, that eventually, when the value of Commonwealth wines is realised and appreciated, the wine-drinking public of the future will buy them not so much for the sake of the generic description as for the actual name of the wine itself—and the name, let us say Wagga Wagga, will have as much meaning to the wine-lover as *Cheval blanc* has to his or her counterpart today. That these names seem by their nature to partake more of the trade-mark than of origin is one of the matters which only time and familiarity will settle.

The wines that I have drunk have all been interesting. There is a "flavour" inherent in all of them, whether Australian or South African, which is alien to the taste of European wines, more perhaps to the nose than to the palate, and less pronounced in the South African wines as a whole. They are, as I have said, young, sturdy wines, eminently suitable, I should say, for the kind of meals which the average Englishman enjoys, fuller and more generous than the bulk of wines from this continent.

The fullness and indeed the flavour to which I have referred are doubtless due to the youth and vigour of the soil on which their grapes are grown, and this results in their approxi-

mating (if I may say so without offence to their growers) to what I may call the lesser European wines and not to those ancient growths for which our vine-growing countries have long been famous.

This seems, indeed, to be all in their favour, for the young people to whom I have already referred, and to whom wine-drinking is a new pleasure, will have based their discoveries upon the wines of the country in which they have been staying, as distinct from the vintage bottles of the connoisseur and the expensive restaurant and hotel. Stand a bottle of Commonwealth wine against a bottle of a *vin du pays* of the better kind, and it will be heads or tails which is preferred. If any prejudice against the wines from the Dominions still lingers, it is time it was swept away.

## WITH DISTINCTION

I do not mean by this that all Commonwealth wines can be judged by a common denominator, though on the whole the standard is fairly level. Some Australian wines, for example, of a Burgundy, Hock or Moselle type are much heavier and spirituous than others, almost as though they had been slightly fortified.

Other wines, like a South African red Hermitage that I tasted (one of the cheapest of all), possessed an outstanding distinction, as did a Riesling from the same country, a claret type of wine, and a dry white Constantia—a present example of a wine that used to be a great favourite in a dessert form in the early part of the last century and indeed the only wine from the colonies which was at all comparable with the European dessert wines.

But the most pleasant discovery I made was an Australian sherry. My own taste in sherries is very dry indeed, and, although I have a great respect for the South African sherries, which have deservedly earned such popularity in recent years, I have not yet found that they have anything to offer as good as this.

This sherry, as dry as the driest popular Spanish sherry of today, was, as a matter of fact, served at the luncheon given at the Mansion House to Her Majesty the Queen on her return from her tour last May, although I did not know this at the time of tasting. It is really an excellent example of what can be done to produce a wine of this kind very nearly as good as its European





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## WINES OF THE COMMONWEALTH

*continued*

prototype, and it augurs remarkably well for the future.

I wish I could write more persuasively on this interesting subject. To write about wine without comparisons is extremely difficult; and to do so without mentioning proprietary names, which I feel in this case would be highly invidious, is more difficult still.

What I want to do is to suggest to my readers that they endeavour to approach the subject of Commonwealth wine-drinking with an open mind, and I have tried to indicate the sort of pleasure that they may expect from the experiment. And once more it is to the wine-merchant that I must point as their special mentor in these matters, as their best possible guide and friend.

A word about the dessert wines from these two countries. To compare a wine to port or sherry is a necessary evil, and here are wines which will compare favourably and unfavourably with both. But they can never, it seems to me, be more than pedestrian, and, of course, they have a slight advantage in price.

One South African wine, however, which was sent to me was called merely Dessert Wine, and this seemed to me to be an excellent idea, although it was rather spoiled by the trade name, for this wine was neither port, nor sherry, nor Madeira, though it was slightly reminiscent of the last; a pleasant after-dinner wine with no pretence about it and with no viciousness either, for it must be confessed, and mentioned perhaps as a caution, that all these wines, dessert or otherwise, are as a rule rather more potent than those to which we are accustomed over here—perhaps a point in their favour from the view of competition with spirits.

A last word to those who, for one reason or another, are inclined to look down their noses at these new breeds of wine. The well-known president of the Wine and Food Society was invited to dinner to taste an unknown wine. The wine, he wrote afterwards, was of brilliant ruby, beautiful in the glass, with no bouquet at all, a crisp sunny-warm welcome on the tongue, very nice indeed; but he found it impossible to identify it, being certain, however, that it was not claret.

It turned out to be a very old and very good Australian claret

which his host had bought unlabelled as a 1917 claret for five shillings a bottle. This was in October, 1953. There are two morals in this story, and a distinct hope for the next few generations.

It may not be out of place to end by expressing a hope that something might be done in the near future to reduce the import duties on wines from the Commonwealth. At the present time, except in the case of port types and sherry, the difference in price between them and their European counterparts is so small that it cuts no ice at all. A reduction in duty would no doubt lead to a wider and greater consumption, and contribute to an initiation into one of the great pleasures that a cultured civilisation offers. A.H.

For the convenience of those who would like to prove Ambrose Heath's contention, IDEAL HOME has prepared this classified list of recommended Commonwealth Wines.

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Sonstraal Rich Golden, 15s.  
Assegai Pale Dry, 12s. 6d.  
Beaufoy's No. 1, Pale Extra Dry, 15s.  
Beaufoy's No. 6 Superb Cream, 15s.

#### White Wine

Dry Dominion (sparkling), 18s. 6d.  
Bertram's Dry White Constantia, 8s.  
Pearl Amber Hock, 8s.  
Witzenberg Hock, 8s.  
Nederberg Riesling, 9s. 6d.

#### Red Wine

Red Hermitage, 6s. 9d.  
Vlakkenberg (dry), 8s.

#### Port Type

Assegai Dessert, 12s. 6d.

### AUSTRALIAN

#### Sherry

Extra Dry Solero, 17s. 3d.  
Golden Fleece, 15s.  
Dryad, 15s. 6d.  
Imperial Bond, 10s.  
Mildara Extra Dry, about 16s.

#### White Wine

Leonay Rinegolde, 7s.

#### Red Wine

Chalambar, 8s. 9d.  
Leonay, 7s.  
Keystone, 11s. 6d. (flagon).  
Lindeman's Big Tree, 10s. 6d. (flagon).

#### Port Type

Private Bin Vintage, 16s. 6d.  
Regnovin Rich Ruby, 10s.  
Merribee Rich, 12s. 6d.  
Glenloth Ruby, 14s.

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# Hints on home quick-freezing

By J. D. FRANCIS

**N**OW IS THE TIME for stocking up your freezer for the lean winter months, and to get the most benefit from it you should standardise the containers you use in order to save space.

Most vegetables will freeze very satisfactorily. All of them require blanching before freezing; this is necessary in order to retain their colour and their flavour. There are two methods of blanching: boiling the vegetables in water or steaming them.

I always use the boiling method, as I find this the more convenient. I have two saucepans of boiling water; I put the vegetables into a colander, and the colander and vegetables into boiling water. As soon as it returns to the boil I time them for the length of blanching required. Directly they are ready, the colander and the vegetables are placed in the sink under the cold-water tap—the vegetables must be cooled quickly. As soon as they are cold they are well drained, and then they are ready for packing. It saves time to have two colanders, so that while the first lot is cooling the second can be put on to blanch, and more water boiled for a third if necessary.

The approximate blanching times are:

Peas	...	...	1-2 min.
Beans (runner and broad)	...	...	2-3 min.
Carrots	...	...	3 min.
Brussels sprouts	...	...	4 min.
Cauliflower (or broccoli)	...	...	3-4 min.
Spinach	...	...	1-1½ min.

The most suitable containers for vegetables, I find, are the plastic refrigerator boxes or waxed-cartons. As the vegetables should be well drained before freezing, a watertight container is not necessary. But do remember to seal the package absolutely airtight.

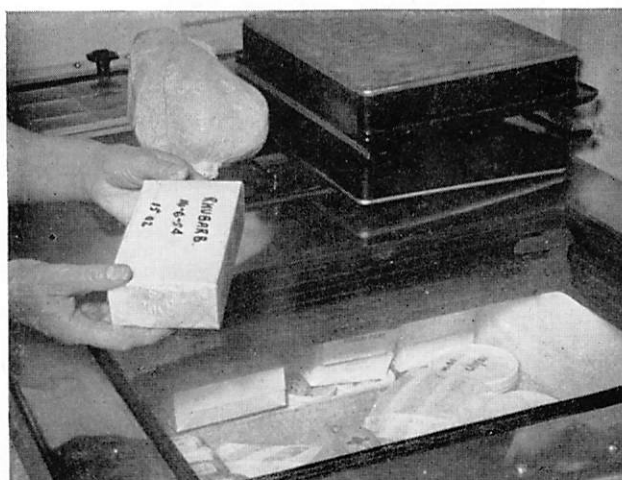
Peas, broad beans, runner beans and Brussels sprouts all freeze well. With regard to Brussels sprouts, freeze only small, tight buttons. Broccoli can also be frozen, and the curd should be cut into small sections before blanching. Young carrots are very good, but they do want to be really *young*. A late sowing of carrots can very profitably be used for freezing.

## FRUIT FOR WINTER

There are three methods of freezing fruits. They can be frozen plain, without any sugar at all, with sugar sprinkled over them, or in syrup. To freeze the fruit plain is by far the easiest way, and the sugar can be added afterwards. Also, if they are frozen plain there is more adaptability in using them when they are defrosted.

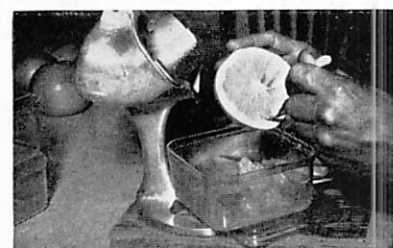
If you are freezing the fruit plain the same type of container as used for vegetables is the most suitable. If you are going to freeze them in syrup, then either a plastic refrigerator box or a waxed-tub must be used.

The fruit should be of the best quality and picked in prime condition. If possible, pick



*Labelling and dating is important: each package should be clearly marked as to contents and when it was put in the freezer.*

*Fruit juice to be frozen should always be squeezed from the fruit direct into the freezing container in order to avoid wastage.*



it in the morning so that it has not the heat of the day on it. If the fruit cannot be frozen immediately put it in a cool place.

Although I have said that the fruit should be of the best quality, inferior and damaged fruit can be frozen for use as purées and for cooking. For example, if the strawberries have been attacked by slugs, the damaged parts can be cut away and the remainder pressed into a waxed-tub or plastic refrigerator box. (By-the-by, when freezing liquids *never* fill the container to the top; always leave sufficient space for the liquid to expand in freezing.)

Victoria plums are another fruit valuable for use in the winter. They do not freeze so well whole; the way I do them is to cut the plums in half, take out the stones and put them straight into the plastic box or carton and freeze. For serving, the fruit is stewed in the normal way with sugar added.

Rhubarb, too, is a change for the family during the winter. Fresh tender stalks are the best. Wash thoroughly and cut into pieces about an inch long. The rhubarb is frozen dry. Cook in the normal way.

Frozen blackberries make a nice addition to the winter menu, and may be frozen dry, as other fruits. They need careful washing and drying before freezing. The cultivated varieties all freeze well, and so do the wild ones, provided the largest fruits are used.

## POULTRY AND GAME

The freezing of poultry and game is quite easy. For poultry prepare the bird as for cooking, but do not use skewers for trussing, as these will damage the covering; make sure that the legs are neatly tied to the car-

case so that the bones are not sticking out. The giblets should be wrapped separately in Cellophane or Pliofilm and placed inside the carcass.

If you are killing your own fowls, see that they are not fed for 16-24 hours before killing, but during this period provide the birds with plenty of drinking water. Good bleeding is essential for good freezing. The bird should be drawn promptly and then, if possible, left to chill for about 12 hours.

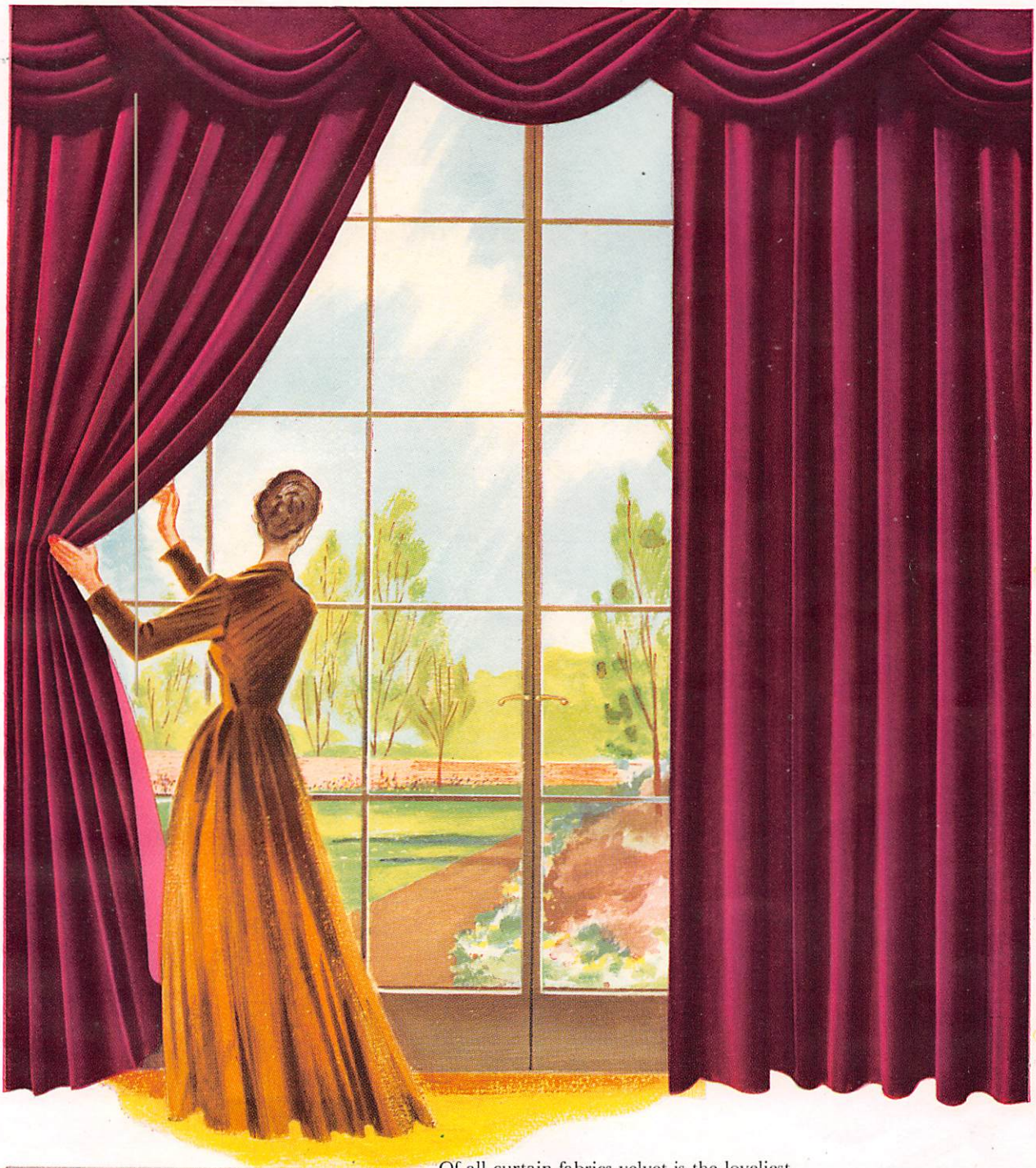
Game-birds should be treated in the same way as poultry, except that if you like your game "matured" they should be left to hang for the normal period, according to your taste, before preparing for freezing.

Poultry, game and meat should be wrapped in either Low-temperature Cellophane, Pliofilm or other low-temperature wrapping material. I usually put an extra covering of stockinette over the first wrapping as a protection.

Whatever you are freezing, make sure that the package is absolutely airtight. This prevents evaporation of the natural juices during freezing and also when thawing the produce. It also prevents the odour of one package contaminating another. I always seal waxed cartons and tubs with strips of Sellotape. If I am freezing Brussels sprouts, I wrap the waxed carton in Cellophane as an extra precaution against their odour affecting other produce in the freezer.

It is most essential that you should mark on the outside of each package the details of its contents and when it was frozen; otherwise you will never know what is in your freezer or be in a position to take out produce for consumption in the correct rotation.





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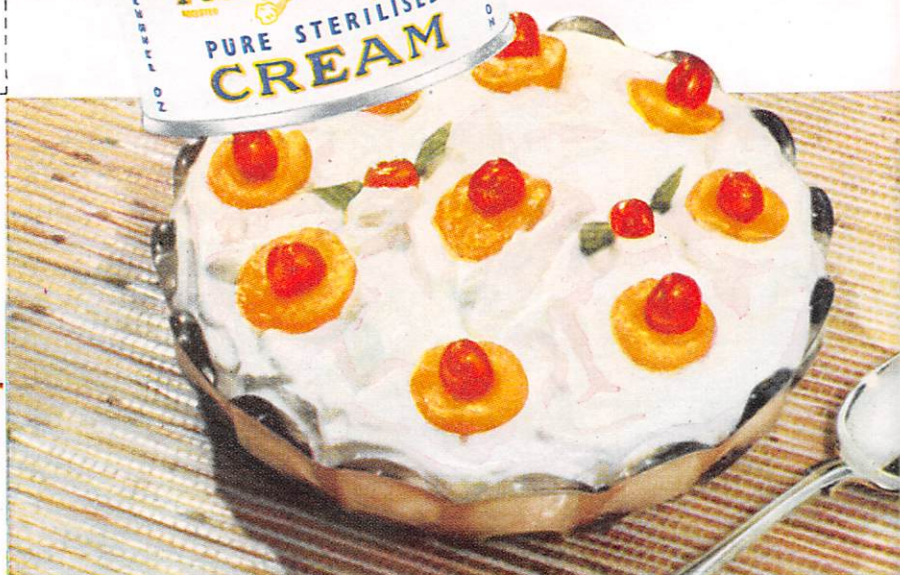


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Have you tried APRICOT TRIFLE...  
party excitement that's good for them too!

3 or 6 slices of Swiss jam roll, 1 tin or jar  
of firm apricots; or 1½ lb. of fresh  
apricots stewed in a syrup of 8 ozs. sugar  
and ½ pt. of water. 1 pt. custard.  
6 oz. tin of Nestlé's Pure Cream.  
1 or 2 macaroons if possible.  
1 oz. blanched almonds. 2-3 tablespoonfuls  
of sherry.

Cut the jam roll into small cubes and place  
with broken macaroons in the bottom of a fairly  
shallow glass dish. Pour the sherry with a little  
of the apricot juice over it to soak. Cut up  
some of the apricots in cubes and add to the  
dish. Pour over the custard. Allow to set.  
Pile the Nestlé's Cream roughly so that it is  
fairly high in the centre. Decorate with Apricots,  
glace cherries and angelica just before serving.  
This recipe is equally delicious with any other  
tinned or fresh fruit.





## Cookery for Beginners

# CHEESE

Varieties;  
how to store;  
basic recipes.

By C. ELIZABETH LEWIS

IT IS POSSIBLE to become a connoisseur of cheese as of wines, and the appearance on the table of an unusual cheese or an interesting cooked cheese dish gives the young hostess a certain *cachet*. Therefore the beginner in cookery should acquire some knowledge of the different types of cheese—British and Continental—know which of them are suitable for cooking and which are best served with biscuits and butter.

Continental cheeses are usually prepared from cow's, goat's, or sheep's milk, and usually bear the name of the place or district from which they first originated. Dutch Edam and Gouda are hardpressed varieties, with red polished skins; the flavour is mild. Gouda is a large round cheese, and creamier in colour than Edam.

Swiss Gruyere is another mild cheese made from whole milk. Italian Gorgonzola is a blue-veined, strongly-flavoured cheese, generally made from asses' milk. Danish blue cheese is another blue-veined cheese; with this variety, the more advanced the decomposition, the finer the cheese. French Roquefort is a blue-veined variety made with sheep's milk; it has a mellow flavour.

Ripe English Stilton is considered to be one of the finest cheeses. It is semi-hard and is made from rich-cream milk; when mature the flavour is strong, yet mellow.

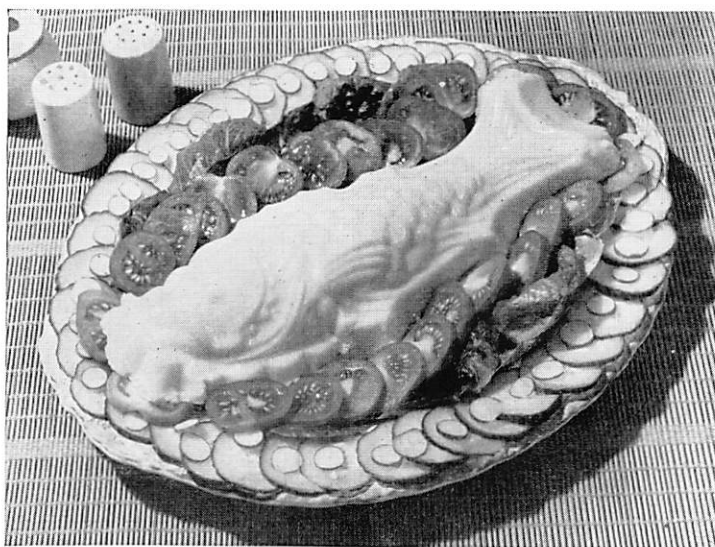
Of the soft varieties, French Camembert and Brie are particularly fine; they should be eaten ripe, when the centre is creamy and runny. English soft cheeses include Cheddar, Cheshire (similar to Cheddar but milder in flavour and with a flaky crumbly texture), Gloucester, and creamy-white Caerphilly.

Hard cheeses are usually employed for cooking because they will grate finely, and Italian Parmesan is one of the best for this purpose. It is to be bought whole or grated, and has a strong flavour, so a little goes a long way. Cheddar is widely used for cooking; so also, to a lesser degree, is Cheshire. For some dishes Gruyere, Gouda, and Edam can be used.

A supply of grated cheese can be kept ready for use in the larder; the cheese must be quite dry when it is grated, and must be kept in an airtight jar or canister.

Cheese should always be bought in small quantities. It should keep reasonably well if wrapped loosely in greased paper and then put into a ventilated cheese dish or hung in an airy place in an outer wrapping of muslin. Do not store cheese in the refrigerator, as it has a tendency to become dry.

The important point to remember when



*Cheese cream with salad is a nourishing main dish and has interesting contrasts in colour and texture. The mould should be served on a bed of crisp lettuce, garnished with other salad vegetables.*

using cheese in cookery is that it melts at a low temperature. If heated beyond this point, it hardens and becomes stringy. If cheese is grilled, it must be cooked quickly.

**Cheese Rarebits** are excellent supper dishes. This spread will keep in a screw-topped jar for several days:—Melt 4 oz. cheese in a pan with a thick base, together with 1 small teaspoonful made mustard, 1 tablespoonful milk, salt and pepper to taste. When the mixture is cool, stir in 1 lightly-beaten egg. Spread fingers of buttered toast with the mixture, and brown quickly under the grill.

**Cheese Flan.** Line a flan ring with short-crust pastry (using  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. fat to each 1 lb. flour) and bake blind in a hot oven for about 15 min. To prevent the pastry from rising, line the flan with paper and fill with crusts of bread. Remove these before the flan is quite cooked. When cold, fill with cold cooked carrots and peas (or other vegetables in season) suitably seasoned. Pour over a rich cheese sauce, made with  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. flour,  $\frac{1}{2}$  pt. milk, 3–4 oz. grated cheese; the latter is added when the sauce is cooked. Do not return the pan to the heat after adding the cheese, which will melt in the hot sauce. Sprinkle grated cheese over the filled flan, heat through in a moderate oven, and brown under the grill just before serving.

**Egg and Spaghetti Cheese.** Cook  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb. spaghetti in boiling salted water until tender. Make  $\frac{1}{2}$  pt. white sauce and season well. Grease a fireproof dish and fill with layers of spaghetti, 4 oz. grated cheese, slices of 2 hard-boiled eggs, and sauce. Keep back sufficient sauce to coat the top, cover with grated cheese, bake in a moderate oven for  $\frac{1}{2}$  hr.

**Cheese Cream** is a mould to serve with salads. To make it, you need  $\frac{3}{4}$  pt. milk,  $\frac{1}{4}$  pt. cream, 1 egg, 4 oz. grated cheese, 2 oz. powdered gelatine (or according to brand), salt, a dash of cayenne pepper,  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoonful made mustard, and 1 teaspoonful sugar. Heat the gelatine in the milk until dissolved; add cheese and other ingredients. Beat well together, then pour into a wet mould.

**Cheese Pudding.** Mix well together 6 oz. fine breadcrumbs, 5 oz. grated cheese, seasoned with salt and pepper, then add 2 beaten eggs and 1 pt. milk, warmed with

2 oz. butter. Place in a greased pie-dish, dot the top with pieces of butter or margarine, bake for about 30 min. Turn out on to a hot dish and garnish with peas and croutons.

**Cheese Soufflé.** Grease a soufflé dish and tie round it a band of greaseproof paper, wide enough to come at least 3 in. above the top of the dish. Separate the yolks and whites of 3 eggs. Melt 1 oz. butter or margarine in a saucepan, stir in  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. flour. Gradually beat in  $\frac{1}{4}$  pt. milk, and boil for 3 min., stirring constantly. Remove from the heat, let the mixture cool a little, then add 3 oz. grated cheese, the egg yolks one by one, and season with salt and pepper. Lastly, carefully fold in the stiffly-beaten egg whites. Pour gently into the prepared dish, and bake in a moderate oven for 30–45 min., until the soufflé is well risen and golden brown. Remove the paper and serve immediately.

Vegetables, particularly those with a good colour and distinctive flavour, play an important part in cheese cookery.

Peas (fresh, canned, or frozen) are excellent with hot cheese dishes, and so are carrots. Cooked red and green peppers, vegetable marrow, artichokes, and cauliflower are other possibilities. Grilled tomatoes and mushrooms are very good garnishes for macaroni cheese.

Remember, too, contrast in taste and texture. A crisp green salad of lettuce, chicory, endive, or raw shredded cabbage sets off a soft cheese mould, and it goes well with hot macaroni cheese or cheese soufflé.

A good cheese sauce can add flavour to a dish which lacks it. This particularly applies to vegetables such as vegetable marrow and cauliflower, which gain immeasurably in flavour by being served *au gratin*. Make the sauce as described in the recipe for Cheese-Flan, pour over the cooked vegetable, and toast for a few moments under the grill.

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CARMELLE: GREEN'S DESSERT SWEET. Simple and quick to make; sets to correct consistency to turn out, without long boiling. Texture of the mould is similar to a cornflour blancmange, but rather softer. Flavour is sweet. It should appeal to children. C.E.L.



# Menus for the Month

By AMBROSE HEATH



THE TIME has come to abandon the cold meals in which we have been pleasantly indulging in the last month or two, and begin to think of something warmer and more substantial.

**Oeufs Mimosa**  
**Pain de Jambon**  
**Salade de Pommes de terre**  
**Canapé Épicurienne**

*Red Burgundy :  
Moulin-à-Vent*

**OEUFS MIMOSA.** Cut some hard-boiled eggs in halves lengthwise, remove the yolks and fill the cavities with a little flaked cooked or tinned lobster or crab bound with some thick cream. Mask each egg-half with a thick mayonnaise, and scatter over all the hard-boiled egg-yolks forced through a colander in tiny, mimosa-like balls.

**PAIN DE JAMBON.** Mince up 1 lb. cooked ham or gammon, three-quarters lean and one-quarter fat, season it with pepper, salt, if necessary, and ground mace or nutmeg, and add some finely chopped parsley and 2 oz. breadcrumbs which have been soaked in  $\frac{1}{4}$  pint boiling milk. When the mixture has cooled, bind with a well-beaten egg, press down into a well-greased mould or pudding basin, tie on a greased paper cover, and bake in a moderate oven for about 45 min. Turn out, coat with a light, thick tomato sauce, and serve with a warm potato salad which has been dressed with oil and vinegar while the potatoes were hot.

**CANAPÉ ÉPICURIENNE.** A finger of buttered toast spread with a mixture of blue cheese, margarine and chopped dried walnuts.

\*\*\*

**Salade de pied de Veau Clarens**  
**Cabillaud Portugaise**  
**Beignets soufflés**

*South African Hock*

**SALADE DE PIED DE VEAU CLARENS.** The calf's foot is cooked, boned and cut in small pieces or strips, which, while still hot, are marinated in a little oil and vinegar. When quite cold, the marinade is drained away and the pieces are bound with a mayonnaise made with hard-boiled instead of raw egg-yolk and mixed with chopped mixed herbs. This hors d'oeuvre is served on a dish surrounded by halves of hard-boiled eggs.

**CABILLAUD PORTUGAISE.** Put some cod cutlets, or fillet cut in suitable pieces, in a buttered, shallow, fireproof dish, after first seasoning them with salt and pepper. Sprinkle

over them a chopped onion, roughly chopped parsley and a sprig of thyme, a little minced garlic if you like (or first rub the dish with it before buttering it), and some peeled, pressed and coarsely chopped tomatoes.

Moisten with a little dry white wine, bring to the boil on the top of the cooker, and then finish by baking in the oven for about 10 min. or so. Transfer the fish to the serving-dish, reduce the cooking liquor a little by rapid boiling, thicken it slightly and, after tasting the seasoning, pour it over the fish. This is the kind of dish that demands no more than plain boiled potatoes with it.

**BEIGNETS SOUFFLÉS.** The fritters are made with sweetened and lightly vanilla-flavoured choux paste, dropped in teaspoonfuls in deep hot fat and cooked for about 15 min., when their size will be doubled. Serve them sprinkled with sugar or garnished with cream, jam or jelly.

\*\*\*

**Poireaux à la Grecque**  
**Foie de Veau en brochette**  
**Pommes au beurre**  
**Biscuits fromagés**

*Australian Burgundy*

**POIREAUX À LA GRECQUE.** Prepare some small leeks, all the same size, and cook them gently in salted water so that they remain quite whole. Then drain them and lay them in a shallow fireproof dish with a seasoning of salt, pepper and powdered saffron. Add a chopped shallot or small onion, the flesh only of a skinned tomato cut up small, a bouquet of parsley, thyme and bay leaf, and enough olive oil to come level with the tops of the leeks. Bring to the boil, and cook for 3-4 min. only, then take out the bouquet immediately, and let the leeks get cold. Serve as they are.

**FOIE DE VEAU EN BROCHETTE.** The calf's liver is cut into thin small squares, which are impaled on skewers (each carrying a sufficient helping for a diner) alternating with pieces of thin streaky bacon rashers and slices of mushroom. The whole contents of the skewer are dipped in egg and then in breadcrumbs, and the skewers grilled gently, basted with butter or other suitable fat. Hand an appropriate sauce with them.

**POMMES AU BEURRE.** This is one of those dishes in which the flavour of butter and no other is essential. Peel, core and cut the apples in thin slices; put them in layers in a

fireproof dish, sprinkling each layer with sugar and dotting it with little dabs of butter, and bake in the oven until the top is lightly browned. Hand cream, preferably clotted.

**BISCUITS FROMAGÉS.** Small plain cheese biscuits are spread with a mixture of grated cheese, margarine and cayenne pepper, and placed in the oven for the cheese to melt and brown slightly. Serve hot.

\*\*\*

**Crème Champenoise**  
**Pigeon (ou Poulet) Bonne Femme**  
**Epinards à la crème**  
**Fromages de Saison**

*Red Bordeaux :  
Mouton Cadet*

**CRÈME CHAMPENOISE.** This extremely pleasant soup is made with half potato purée and half celeriac purée, the potatoes having been cooked with leek in the fashion of *Potage Parmentier*. The mixture is enriched with cream at the end, and served garnished with very small cubes of cooked carrot and cooked celeriac. If there are any readers who have not yet tasted celeriac, the turnip-rooted celery, they should lose no time in making this their first experiment.

**PIGEON (OU POULET) BONNE FEMME.** One of the simplest and most delicious ways of cooking a bird of this kind. Brown the bird all over in butter or other suitable fat, and put it into a casserole with a few small mushrooms, some strips of mild, streaky bacon, a dozen or so pieces of potato cut in the shape of large olives, and a dozen button onions first quickly browned in the frying-pan. Do not add any liquid, but put on the lid and bake in a moderate oven until the bird is done, which will take half an hour or so, according to its size. Young birds must be used; old ones are useless.

**EPINARDS À LA CRÈME.** This is to be served as a separate course, garnished with triangles of fried bread or *fleurons* of pastry. Cook the spinach in the usual way, and when it is done, squeeze as dry as possible, and chop it up or mash it well with a wooden spoon. Add a nice piece of butter or margarine, mix well together and then sprinkle with a little flour, blending this well in, too. Season with salt, pepper and grated nutmeg, and then stir in by degrees enough cream or creamy milk to thicken the mixture to the proper consistency. There is no better way of eating spinach than this, which well deserves to appear at the table as a separate course.

**FROMAGES DE SAISON.** A small selection of cheese in season will give an opportunity for enjoying to the full the very pleasant and modestly-priced claret that I have suggested.

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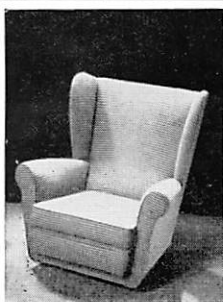
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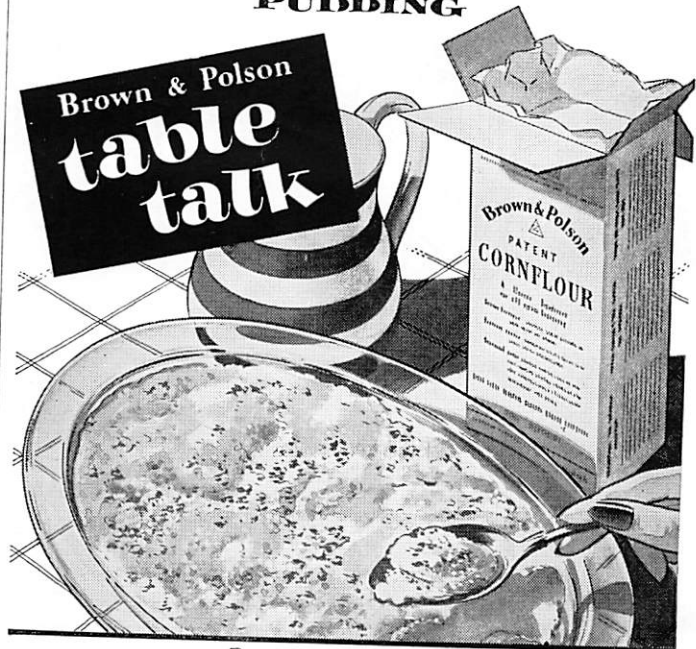
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Take 3 level tablespoons Brown & Polson 'Patent' Cornflour, pinch of salt and mix to a cream with a little milk taken from 1 pint. Heat rest of milk, add creamed cornflour stirring well and boil for three minutes. Melt 1 tablespoonful butter in another pan, add 2 tablespoonsful brown sugar and stir till sugar melts. Pour into cornflour pudding and blend well. If you wish, sprinkle desiccated coconut or a few chopped nuts on top of pudding.

from  
gay Paree  
**BANANA PARFAIT**

This delicious cold sweet is so simple to make! Use the Banana Cornflour in the new 5-flavour packet of Brown & Polson Flavoured Cornflour and make a blancmange as directed. Mash 3 or 4 bananas, add 2-3 tablespoonsful sugar and a little lemon juice. Whip into the cold blancmange and serve in individual glasses, decorated as liked.



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**FRUITIE**

Here's a wonderful new fruit dish that's both handy and delicious. For Fruitie can be made with any soft fruit you like. And you can eat Fruitie at any meal—breakfast, lunch or tea. To every 1 lb. of fruit, use 1 level tablespoon Brown & Polson 'Patent' Cornflour. Stew the fruit gently in 1 pint water till tender, then rub through sieve. Mix cornflour with a little of the fruit puree. Heat rest of puree with 3-4 tablespoonsful sugar, add cornflour and stir till boiling. Boil for 3 minutes stirring all the time. Pour into bowl and sprinkle with caster sugar to prevent skin forming.

**Is there a man in the house?**

You'll win his heart for ever with this tasty Welsh Rarebit! Melt 1 oz. butter in pan, stir in 1 teaspoonful Brown & Polson 'Patent' Cornflour and mix well. Now add ½ teacup milk, 2 tablespoonsful grated cheese, seasoning, and ½ teaspoon made mustard. Stir over gentle heat till smooth and thick. Serve hot on buttered toast.

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# Gardener's diary for September

By RICHARD SUDELL, F.I.L.A., F.R.H.S.

**S**EPTEMBER marks the gardener's new year. The month is ideal for making new borders and beds, for ordering and planting new hedges and shrubs, for planning a new orchard, for propagation, and for the construction of a new rock garden.

Weather must be watched: frosts often occur before the end of the month, though there may be more warm weather to follow. A little protection given for a short time may save late-flowering subjects in the open.

## FLOWER GARDEN

Propagation of many bedding plants, including ageratums, antirrhinums, fuchsias, geraniums, heliotropes, pentstemons, and petunias, can be carried out by means of cuttings taken now. Choose non-flowering side growths where obtainable, or pieces of half-matured wood. Insert them in sandy soil where the cuttings can be kept shaded and moist.

Cuttings of rambler roses can be inserted. For these use pieces of the stems that have flowered, about 15 in. long, stripping off the leaves from the lower half that will be pushed into the soil. A dressing of sharp sand where the line of cuttings is to go will help to ensure success.

It is still not too late to bud roses if briars are available. Ties on the stocks that were budded earlier can be loosened.

Seeds of hardy annuals can be sown where they are to flower next spring. These include pansies, poppies, calendula, candy-tuft, calliopsis, cornflowers, larkspurs, scabious, nemophila and love-in-a-mist.

Plant out peonies and delphiniums, and other perennials with tender or succulent root stocks.

Plant bulbs, such as anemones, crocus, narcissus, snowdrops, iris and hardy lilies.

Plant in permanent positions rooted cuttings and layers of carnations and pinks.

To increase stocks of primulas, take offsets from the old plants, where available, and put them into a reserve bed.

**On the Border.** Tie and disbud dahlias and similar plants. Protect them against insect pests. Trim back edging plants: take cuttings where desirable.

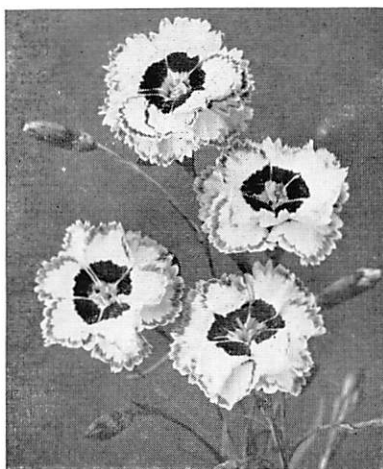
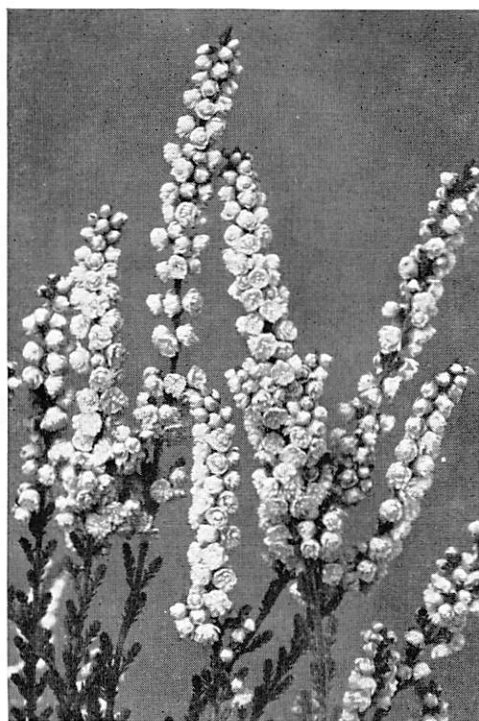
Keep the hoe going wherever possible to destroy weeds.

Protect chrysanthemums, etc., if frosts threaten, by covering them with netting or with some sheets of newspaper.

Remove all dead flowers unless seeds are

### Double erica

*"Calluna H. E. Beale" is an interesting and effective subject in the mixed shrub border; the fine purple flowers last longer than do the single form.*



**For edging:** *old-fashioned laced pinks are regaining their popularity. They make a pretty edge to the mixed flower border.*



**Tomatoes will ripen more quickly at this time of year if a few leaves are stripped to expose fruit and bunches laid on glass.**

to be gathered. Store seeds in paper bags.

**Sweet Peas.** Prepare a cold frame for raising sweet peas and sow the seeds immediately they come from the seedsman. Grow these on as cool as possible: drawn seedlings will be of little use next season.

Meanwhile, take the first opportunity to open a deep wide trench for the peas. In unkindly soil, as in a new garden, make the trench 2 ft. deep and leave it open, tossing into it all kinds of vegetable refuse during the next two months. Worked into the soil of the trench bottom, this will make a vast difference to the plants, by retaining moisture for the roots that penetrate deeply.

The lawn, grass verges and paths should receive attention this month. Sweep and roll, if earthworms have been at work.

Stab with a fork if the soil has caked and cracked during hot weather. Then top-dress with a sifted mixture of leafmould and soil in which a good lawn fertiliser has been mixed. Brush this well into the grass.

September is a good month for the sowing of grass seed. Make new lawns, or re-sow bare patches on old lawns, using 1 to 2 oz. of seed per square yard.

## VEGETABLE GARDEN

Continue to hoe between vegetable rows.

Harvest onions, but first bend over the tops to the North for a week to allow the bulbs to ripen well.

Harvest potatoes as soon as the tops decay: there is no advantage in leaving them undug, in fact they are likely to be attacked by soil





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## GARDENER'S DIARY

*continued*

pests if they are left too long.

Remove yellow leaves from tomato plants. If large leaves shade the fruits that are still ripening, cut about half the leaves away. Do not allow too many fruits to remain on outdoor plants at this season: they are less likely to mature properly if too many.

Earth up celery in three or

four stages. Remove side suckers first.

Plant out savoys and other winter greens. Also plant out lettuce and endive seedlings.

Sow spring kale, cauliflowers, onions and spinach.

Prepare for winter storage. Straw may be needed for clamps. Boxes, sacks and other containers should be got ready.

### FRUIT GARDENS

**Strawberries** can be planted this month. Use rooted runners from the old plants, or purchase new stock from a reliable firm. Plant 18 in. apart each way or, where space is very precious, in rows 18 in. apart, allowing 12 in. between the plants.

**Red Currants and Gooseberries.** Stop, thin and remove side shoots as necessary.

**Black Currants.** Cut out old wood, if this has not already been done. It generally pays to prune very hard every other year: alternate bushes or alternate rows can be so treated.

**Cherry Trees.** Clean out old wood, and cut out cleanly any branches that cross and crowd.

Grease bands can be applied to orchard trees now.

**Order new fruits.** Now is the time to order new bush and orchard fruits. Most of them will not be delivered until late October but sites should be prepared immediately.

Order carefully. Choose varieties that will succeed in your district, and make sure that you do not plant an isolated specimen that is not self-fertile. Nurserymen will gladly advise.

### UNDER GLASS

Sow cauliflowers, lettuce, and parsley under cloches or in frames.

Where tomatoes are grown in heated greenhouses for early spring, sow seed now.

Ventilate freely and water carefully where flowers are developing under glass.

Trim back flowering climbers that have finished blooming.

Bring under glass plants that have been standing outdoors to ripen during the summer. Lift and bring in bedding plants, or take cuttings from them to spend the winter under glass.

Pot up seedlings of such plants as stocks which were sown outdoors to be grown on under glass.

Lift violets and plant them near the glass in the cold frame. Ventilate freely.

Water tuberous begonias until the foliage fades, then dry off but keep the tubers in the soil and away from frosts.

Sow pansies, violas, clarkia and godetia in cold houses. Sow schizanthus where some heat can be used. All make effective pot plants for room and glasshouse decoration.

### WINDOW BOXES

As soon as summer flowers have passed their best take them out of the window boxes. Dress the soil with bonemeal—

up to ½ lb. per box can be used. Mix the soil, and plant the box with bulbs or winter primulas and dwarf shrubs.

### INDOOR PLANTS

Cease watering cacti, except the winter-flowering epiphyllums. Keep them fairly cool but never touched by frost for the next six months.

Give less water to most indoor plants when the weather is cold. Fuchsias need less water but must be kept in a

sunny position to ripen wood for next season's blooms.

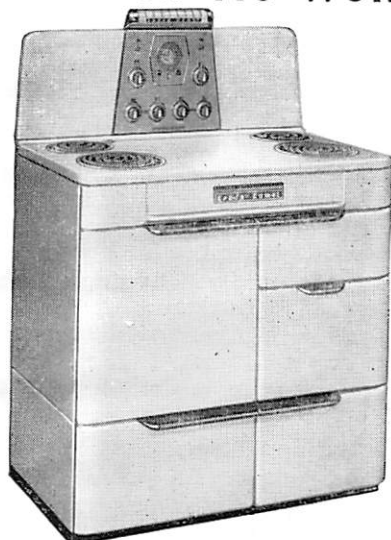
A sheet of newspaper between the window glass and the pot plants prevents many night fatalities.

Pot up bulbs for succession in ornamental bowls in fibre, or in pots of good soil.

**Do not miss DOMESTIC DIARY—a new feature, page 41**

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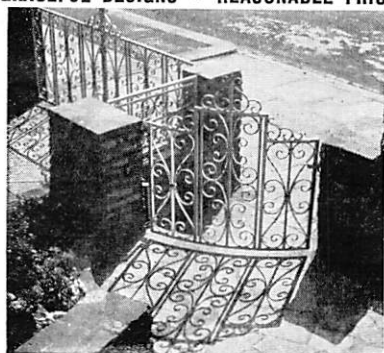
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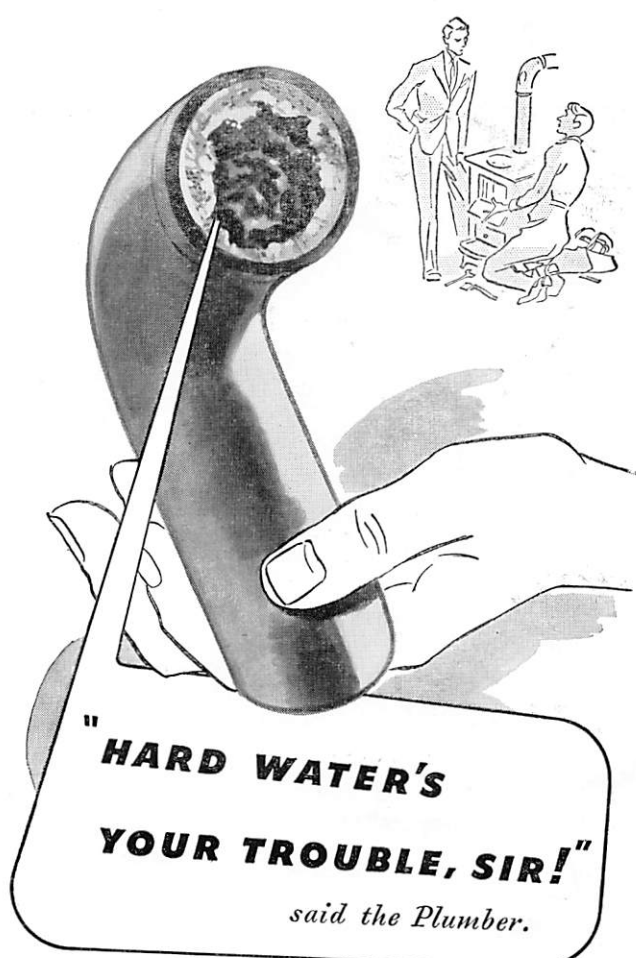
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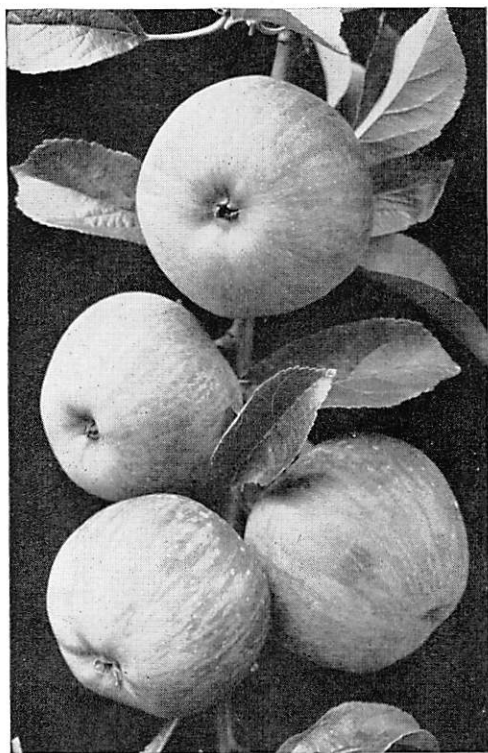
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# Fruit for the smaller garden

By THE IDEAL HOME GARDENER



*Early variety of apple, Lady Sudeley, is aromatic, yellow, and has a fine flavour. Before planting, dig deeply over an area that is large enough to allow the roots of the tree to be fully spread.*



*Yellow greengage that bottles well is Laxton's Goldfish, shown here. Stone fruits require lime, and it is advantageous to bury a large quantity of old mortar rubble below the top soil when planting.*

**T**oo little fruit is grown by amateur gardeners. Hundreds of little gardens produce a surplus of cabbages in soil that could easily be occupied by strawberries or raspberries, both of which are, as well we know, costly to buy from fruiterers. Moreover, soft fruits are never in quite the fresh condition when they come from a shop as when gathered from the home garden.

Tackled about this, the amateur gardener often answers: "What about the birds? They get the fruit if I grow it." The solution to this problem is in the erection of a fruit cage, and let me say at the outset that the cost of such a cage is amply justified in the amount of fruit that will be gathered in a couple of years.

The simplest and possibly best of all types of fruit cage for the small garden is easily home-made. It consists of a light wooden framework over which strawberry netting (fish netting such as used for tennis nets) is slung during the fruit-ripening season.

This method of protection is good because in the "off" season, the net is removed so that birds have access to the plants and can do their valuable work of fighting the caterpillars and greenflies!

September is a good month in which to begin strawberry culture. According to the amount of space at your disposal you can decide whether to plant only one variety of strawberry—Royal Sovereign is a good choice in this event—or whether to plant several varieties so as to have fruits over a longer period. If you plant several kinds, take the nurseryman into your confidence, as some strawberries are not self-fertile. Also buy the plants only from a reliable source, to be certain of getting them disease-free.

### Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries

Currants, both red and black, and gooseberries can all be planted in the autumn, and supplies of the best kinds are sometimes limited, so orders should be placed early. Bushes should be about 5 ft. apart each way for full development on good soil.

Before planting, a quantity of humus should be worked into the soil. In addition a dressing of 4 oz. to the square yard of a good general fertiliser will make all the difference to the rate of growth in the new plants.

"Laxton's No. 1" red currant, "Black-smith" black currant, "Careless" and "Leveller" gooseberries are all good varieties, but a reliable fruit nursery will be able to supply many more of merit.

### Black and Other Berries

Where a fruit cage is a permanent structure with wire-netting at the sides, it is possible to use it as a support for many of the hybrid berries and cultivated blackberries. Some of these will cover 15 to 20 ft. of fencing with canes from a single root, provided they are well fed and supplied with plenty of water in the summer. The amount of fruit that can be gathered from a cultivated plant needs to be seen to be believed.

Of all these hybrid berries, perhaps the one most worth while is the thornless loganberry for the absence of prickles makes it ideal for use on the cage boundary. The fruits are large and, as a rule, very prolific; what is more, they have a delicious flavour.

### Apples, Pears and Plums

Orchard trees take a fair amount of room. Where a small orchard can be established, however, it is not only an asset to the family larder but a form of insurance for years of retirement, since a mature orchard in full bearing is a real source of income.

In the little garden, however, the standard tree is possible only as an isolated specimen here and there, perhaps to give shade over a lawn. For the rest, the owner of a small garden is wise to grow just a few bush trees or pyramids, or, if even these are too much, to restrict his planting of apples, pears and plums to wall-trained or cordon trees that can be grown alongside paths or boundary fences and so occupy a minimum of space.

Before choosing these, as with the small fruits, the nurseryman should be consulted. Aspect must be considered where wall fruits are concerned and pollination in the case of almost all orchard fruits, particularly cherries, apples and pears.

Standard trees should not be set closer together than 15 ft. (30 ft. for some kinds), bushes 12 ft., trained trees on walls 15 ft. and cordons 2½ ft. apart. Preparation of the ground for orchard trees should include deep digging over a space large enough for the tree roots to be spread out to their fullest extent. A stake should be driven in to support the tree during and after planting. The soil should be returned to the hole a few spadefuls at a time during planting, and each layer well firmed by treading.

As a rule manure is not needed in planting apples and pears, but if the soil is very dry and poor, a layer of well-rotted compost mixed with the soil will help effectively to retain moisture during the first summer.



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# For Autumn Planting

## Less familiar but easily grown bulbs

By ROY GENDERS



Flowers of the dog's tooth violet (*Erythronium*) are purple and pink.

BY ALL MEANS plant the more popular bulbs in quantity both in pots and in garden, but if you neglect those which are not so well known you are missing an additional pleasure indoors and out.

One of the loveliest is the quaint little *Erythronium*, the dog's tooth violet, so named because of its violet-like blooms and the long pearly bulbs similar in shape to a dog's tooth. This is an ideal plant for the rockery, alpine house or for a cool room in the home. It will also be quite happy massed under trees or in the shrubbery, but it looks most charming when planted beneath the silver birch, its purple and pink blooms contrasting with the silvery bark to produce a most striking effect in early spring.

The blooms are carried on 6-in. stems and borne in great profusion if the bulbs are left undisturbed and a cool position is provided for them. The *Erythronium* is happiest when planted in a position facing due North, and, if this is not possible, it should be given some shade against the early spring sunshine.

And just as the blooms like shade, the tuberous bulbs, too, enjoy a moist soil; they will, in fact, grow profusely by the side of a pond or stream provided that the ground is not water-logged. Particularly is it necessary to work plenty of humus into the soil of most town gardens; peat, leaf mould, hop manure, even simply decayed leaves will all provide the essential humus and keep the soil moist and cool.

In such conditions the plants will continue to bloom for years, and they will be enhanced if a little moist peat or leaf mould is placed around the foliage when it appears in March. On the rockery, planted in groups of two or three bulbs 2 in. apart the effect is most charming, and especially attractive is the pure white variety, *dens canis album*.

To bring out the snow-whiteness of the bloom and the unusual mottled green colouring of the small glossy leaves, plant with it *Primula Juliae*, *Fruhlingzauber*, a new variety which bears a bloom of vivid deep purple and has attractive pale green leaves. Or in short grass under trees the almost red flowers of *Erythronium*, *Franz Hals*, borne on mahogany-coloured stems are enhanced if planted with *Primula Juliae*, *Snow Cushion*. The bulbs cost about 6s. per dozen and will bloom almost indefinitely.

For the connoisseur there is a striking species called *Erythronium tuolumense*, which bears its rich daffodil-yellow blooms on 12-in. stems and is extremely hardy.

All of them should be planted 3 in. deep, October being the best time. But as delightful as are the dog's tooth violets in the open, they are even lovelier in small pots indoors; if you would lift several of the bulbs from a sheltered border on an early February day, when the ground is not frozen, and transfer them as quickly as possible to small pots or bowls containing liberal quantities of peat, they will come into bloom about March 1.

They should be kept as cool as possible and should be watered only when absolutely necessary. The dainty pink and mauve blooms will hover like butterflies for at least a month.

For the alpine house, a lovely *Erythronium* is *Hendersonii*, a species found in its natural state in Oregon. It bears flowers of pure lavender which are almost identical to those of the outdoor cyclamen. It should be planted in pans in October and, besides liking peat, it appreciates some grit.

A plant rarely found in gardens to-day is the *Bulbocodium Vernalis*, the spring meadow saffron which produces its crocus-like blooms during February and before the leaves appear. It is so hardy that it will send up its purple tubular blooms through ice and snow.

It may be planted under trees and in a shrub border, where the bulbs may be left undisturbed for years. On the rockery, too, it is delightful, especially when planted with snowdrops, though there the rather coarse leaves that follow the blooms may tend to become untidy during early summer, and it is possibly at its best when planted in clumps towards the front of a shrubbery.

Ideal for planting along the banks of a stream or pond or for any moist, low-lying situation, are the *Leucojum Aestivum*, often called the "summer snowflake," for it produces its drooping bell-shaped blooms on 15-in. stems during early May, and *L. Vernalis*, which flowers early in March.

Found naturally on the banks of the River Loddon in Berkshire, *Leucojum Aestivum* is also known as the Loddon lily. Along the banks of the River Shannon it may also be found in profusion. It bears its blooms in clusters of about six to a stem, whilst the leaves are shaped like those of a daffodil, to which plant it is similar in habit, being happiest in a deep loam and with the bulbs shielded from the early summer sun by grass.

After flowering, the leaves should be allowed to die down before being removed,

and they will remain more tidy if tied together in knots as are daffodil leaves. The bulbs should be planted 3 in. deep in September to allow them plenty of time to settle down before winter.

*Leucojum Vernalis*, growing only to a height of 6 in. and in bloom during March and April, is an ideal subject for the window box, the rockery and for pot culture. Six bulbs to a pot should be planted in October, the pots being placed in a shaded frame for six weeks until the roots have formed. Like the *Erythronium*, it loves cool treatment and will in no way tolerate forcing conditions. The fragrant snowdrop-like blooms are attractively marked with a green spot on the petal tips.

Bulbs of this species planted outdoors may not bloom as profusely as expected during their first spring. This may cause disappointment, but they will make up for the delay in their second season by blooming more abundantly than almost all other spring flowers.

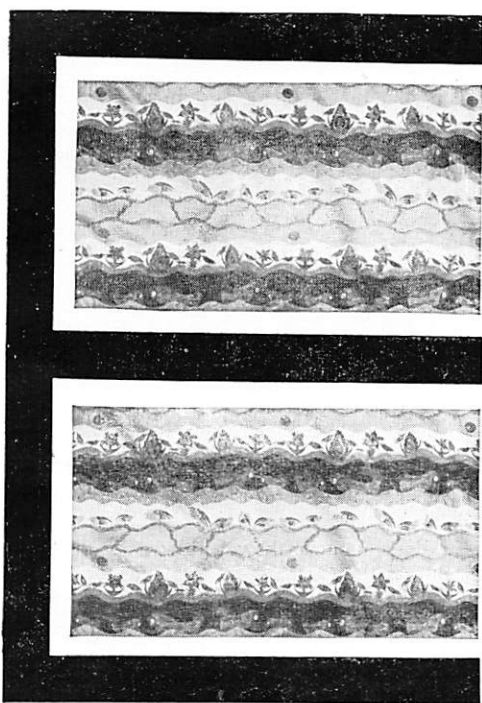
There are no more interesting flowers for the rockery or for planting under trees than the winter-and-spring-flowering hardy cyclamens, which will provide a succession of bloom from New Year until May. Like the *Erythronium*, their glossy mottled leaves give them added distinction. Planted in the open, the hardy cyclamens love the shelter of a hillock or low wall. They are perfectly hardy but are not too happy when worried by strong winds; and they must be given a soil containing plenty of lime rubble, whether in pots or in the open ground.

It is advisable to plant the corms just beneath the soil level, for several species form roots chiefly from the crowns. The best time to plant is early October, choosing a well-drained position because the corms will tend to rot away if winter moisture is not drained off. Indoors the plants should be given a light but cool position, when they will remain in bloom for long periods.

By planting three species, *Cyclamen Atkinsii*, *C. Coum* and *C. Repandum*, the blooms may be enjoyed from New Year until summer. *Cyclamen Atkinsii* cannot be truly classed as inexpensive even if the others may, but it is extremely beautiful, especially in the white form with its almost black, glossy green leaves, and will remain in bloom throughout the winter.

Both this species and *C. Coum* are lovely in pots, while the somewhat taller *C. Repandum* is probably at its best growing in short grass.





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## For Autumn Planting Bulbs—with care

By D. G. BAILEY

THE planting of spring-flowering bulbs is often called "foolproof gardening." The reason behind this is that all the major difficulties connected with bulb and flower production have been met and overcome long before the amateur gardener buys the bulbs. Inside each bulb there is the embryo flower and the food supply sufficient to meet the needs of the plant right up to the time it blooms. That, of course, is why these bulbs can be grown in water, sand, sterile peat and fibre.

The fact that bulbs have already their own lunchpacks does not mean, however, that the grower cannot go wrong with them. There are a few rules that *must* be obeyed.

The bulbs must be planted approximately at the correct depth, which in most cases means that twice the bulb's own depth must be allowed as a soil covering. The bulb should also rest on soil of a porous nature, for if it lies in over-wet soil it may decay instead of growing.

Lastly, the bulb should be planted at the right season. To delay planting means in practice that the top growth will begin before the roots are able to obtain sufficient moisture, with the result that the plant will be a little starved.

Mid-September to mid-November is the main planting season for bulbs in the garden. If we begin with narcissi, crocus, scillas, snowdrops, eranthi, and other small bulbs, and leave the tulips till the latest date, we shall not go far wrong.

Even later than mid-November bulbs can be planted, but for these late plantings the cheaper "bulbs for naturalising" are most appropriate, as these are not needed for formal beds and a little irregularity in flowering is immaterial.

Where strict uniformity is wanted, as in parterre beds, a good practice is to put a 2-in. layer of sharp sand all over the bed after it has been prepared for the bulbs. Lay out the bulbs evenly over the sandy surface, and then plant each with a trowel. In this way a little sand falls into each hole as it is opened so that the bulb base rests on it.

If carpeting or other herbaceous plants are to be used, the bulbs should be laid out with



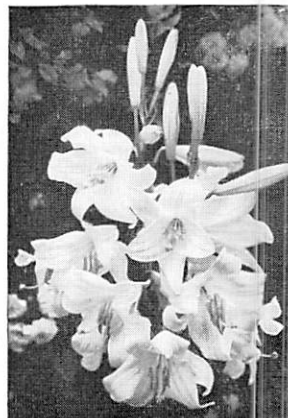
*Crown Imperials will make a bold group in flower border. When planting in heavy soil, place 6 in. of ashes at bottom of hole.*

more space between them, and the carpet plants set alternately with the bulbs. Since home-rooted cuttings, or seedlings are much cheaper than purchased bulbs, effective pictures can be made in this way with less cost. Forget-me-nots under dark red or light yellow tulips, red wall-flowers among daffodils, white arabis under late pink tulips, and polyanthus primulas with poet's narcissus are examples of effective double planting.

### MIXED BORDERS

There is little need to supply extra plant food for bulbs in formal beds, since the bulbs may not be needed there another

*continued on page 103*



*Madonna lilies should be planted not later than September, when they are dormant. They need lime.*

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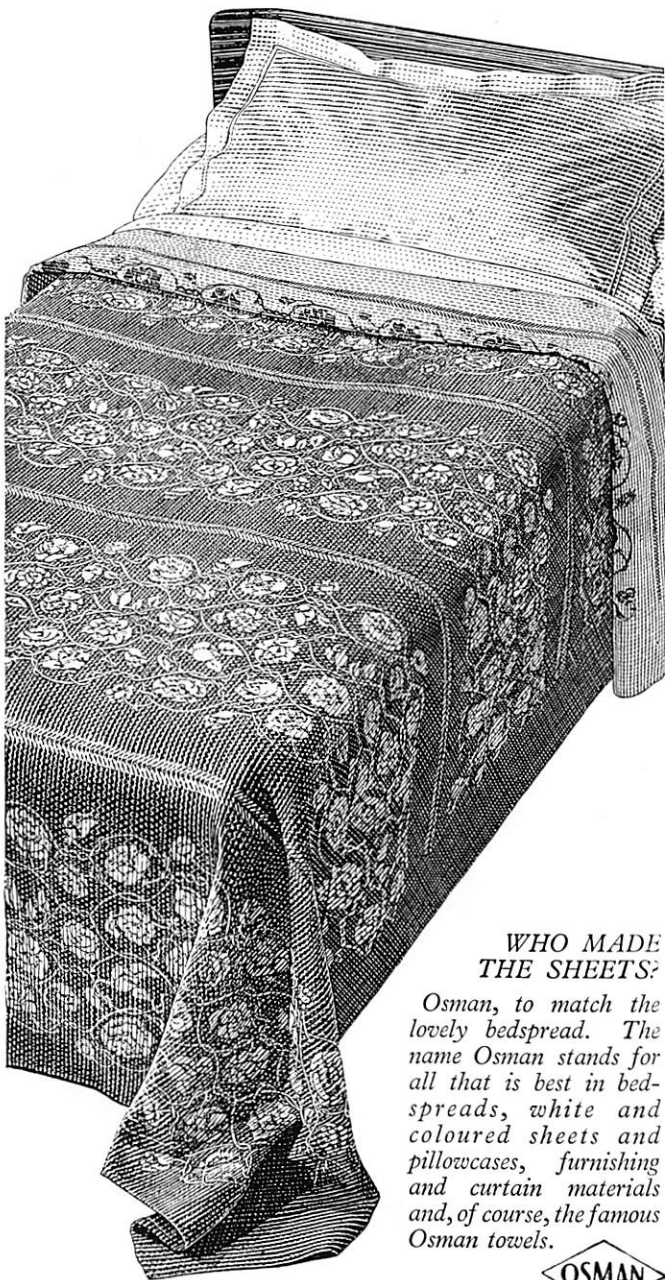
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## BULBS—WITH CARE

continued from page 100

season. Where small groups are used in a mixed border, and are normally allowed to remain unlifted through the summer, it pays to work into the soil a few handfuls of bonemeal before planting. Bulbs given this extra food supply often continue to grow and flower for many seasons. A label indicating where the bulbs have been planted is desirable.

### NATURALISING

All bulbs that have been grown in beds and lifted to make room for other plants, should now be taken from their storehouse and sorted over. These bulbs are usually not large enough for use in formal beds, and the best way to employ them is to naturalise them in grass or under trees.

Plant only firm, clean-looking bulbs: always burn any that are rotting.

Special bulb-planting tools are obtainable for use when planting large numbers of bulbs in grass, but a good method when there are not too many, is to lift squares of turf here and there. Lightly fork the soil, plant the bulbs in the ordinary way, replace the turf, and then roll well.

One word of warning: if you intend to plant a woodland with bulbs, choose those that will tolerate some shade. Do not use anemones of the St. Brigid type, or tulips. Instead, give preference to snowdrops, bluebells and daffodils, all of which will happily make their homes near the edge of the wood, increasing in beauty as the years pass by.

### BULBS INDOORS

These can be grown in water but no soil, in bowls filled with pebbles and water, in sand and water, or in fibre. They will do equally well in soil, in fact, the use of soil in ordinary flower-pots is recommended for expensive bulbs, as the plants will not only flower well, but are likely to do well in later years, if given the extra feeding that good soil provides.

In the majority of cases, however, the housewife asks for no more than one season of bloom from the bulbs grown in the living-room window, and the choice of material for potting is therefore governed only by the kind of container available.

In any container that has no drainage holes, potting soil from the garden is taboo. Fibre is the best medium for general use, as

it is clean to handle, and gives a firm anchorage to the bulb roots. You can buy it dry, or already moistened. If dry, damp it well overnight before use, and use it in such a condition that it will bind together if you squeeze it hard, but you must not be able to squeeze water from it.

The container, which can be a conventional bulb bowl, or an earthenware entrée dish, or a plant saucer (for tiny bulbs), or any other dish or bowl available, should be deep enough for the bulb to have at least its own depth of fibre under it.

If soil and fibre are moist at potting time, the bulbs may need no more water until they are ready to come into the living-room, but they must not be put away and forgotten. They should, however, stand in some dark, cool, frost-proof, airy place until they have made good roots. This will take, perhaps, six or eight weeks, after which time the tops will be beginning to run up. At this stage the bulbs should come gradually, in easy stages, into more warmth and more light, and they will also need increasing quantities of water.

An exception to the more-warmth rule should be made in the case of crocus: these do best if kept quite cold until the colour of the flowers is showing. Flat-dwellers would be wise to stand the container outside the window until this occurs. Frost will not harm the bulbs, but too much heat will make them flower unevenly, whereas the bulbs grown quite cool will flower *en masse*, even if they do not flower quite so soon.

Conditions vary so much in different houses that there are very often slight faults in the mature blooms. By watching carefully, some of these can be foreseen and avoided.

A plant that looks stunted and begins to show colour while the flower stem is still too short should be stood down below the window ledge, to encourage it to grow upwards to the light. On the other hand, a plant that throws up long leggy flowers and leaves of pale yellowish green has been starved of sunlight.

Leaves that turn brown at the tips generally mean that the plant has dried out too much at some time. A plant with sickly yellow tips to the leaves has probably been over-watered. When a bulb goes rotten, this, too, is due to over-watering.

Advertiser's Announcement

## New Treatment

'lifts' sagging  
facial contours  
by

HELENA RUBINSTEIN



Sooner or later it happens to every woman. A hint of bagginess under the eyes, a slight sagging about the jawline, a few crepey wrinkles appearing round the neck—and suddenly, the face in the mirror is no longer young. Until recently, there was little that could be done. Not now, however. Because, at last, with my new Contour-Lift Film, you can visibly 'lift' and firm sagging facial contours.

This amazing preparation is the only one of its kind that actually promises you a 24-hour 'beauty lift'. You use it at night before retiring, and by day under make-up. From the start your skin glows with new freshness. Flabbiness becomes firm. Expression lines begin to fade.



New Contour-Lift Film promises a 24-hour 'beauty lift'.

If sagging contours and wrinkled skin is your problem, here is the daily beauty routine you should follow. First cleanse with Pasteurized Face Cream Special (7/6). This is a rich penetrating cream that floats away all stale make-up and dirt and makes your skin softer. Now use Contour-Lift Film (30/-). Pat it on. Stroke it in. See how it firms relaxed skin tissue and moulds more youthful contours by night. Finally, nourish with Perfection Cream (8/3). Leave on overnight to allow the soothing oils and herbal extracts to feed parched skin areas while you sleep.

In the morning cleanse again and tone with Skin Toning Lotion (7/6). Gently this lotion refines and refreshes. Now, before making-up, apply Contour-Lift Film. Pouchiness and expression lines will disappear. Your skin will look softer and younger than it has for years.



# The Border Scheme

## THE HERBACEOUS BORDER

September is the month for planning next year's hardy plants. Herbaceous and shrub borders help to create the third dimension of a garden. Here and on page 106 are borders of simple form which would provide colour, interesting foliage texture and mass over a long period of the year in a garden soil of average clayey loam.

They are designed by  
**NORMAN H. J. CLARKE,**  
A.I.L.A., F.R.H.S.

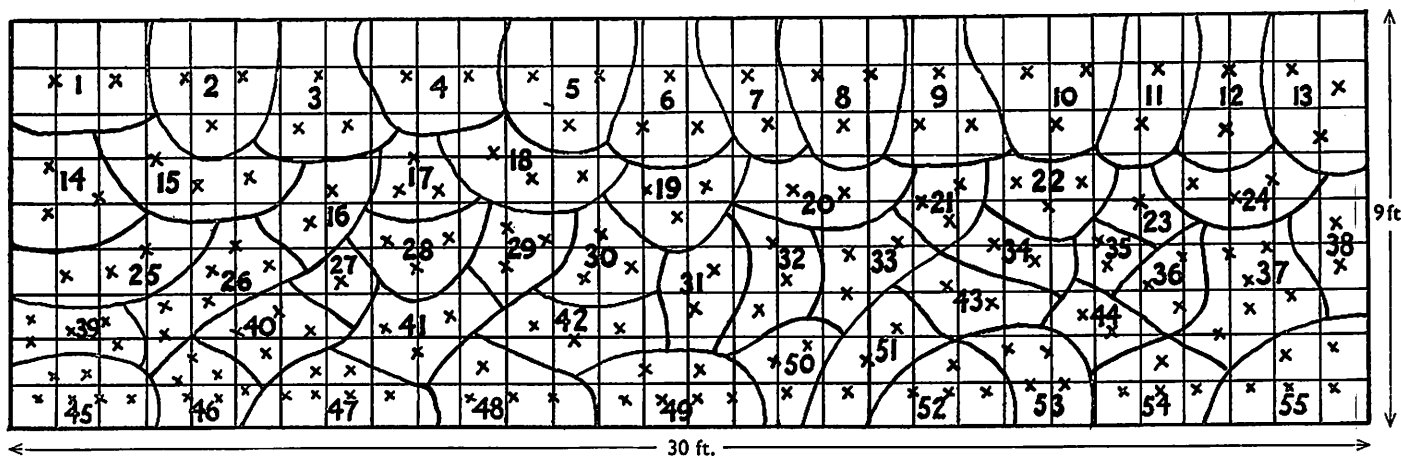
**T**HE site for the border should face due south for preference and receive protection from north and east winds, for which purpose a hedge of yew is ideal. The ground should be trenched or at least double-dug and thoroughly cleaned of weed roots; plenty of organic manure should be incorporated into the bottom spit. Care must, of course, be taken during digging not to bring any subsoil to the surface.

Planting is best carried out in the

autumn or early winter in the South of England, as the plants, especially the lupins and paeonies, then get away to a good start in spring. In the colder districts, spring planting is advisable.

On receiving the plants from the nursery, the roots should be kept protected from drying winds. Mark off portions of the border in accordance with the planting plan with lines of fertiliser or lime, and then lay out the plants for

*continued on page 106*



NO.	PLANTS	NAME	NO.	PLANTS	NAME	NO.	PLANTS	NAME
1	2	BOCCONIA CORDATA	20	2	ASTER, GAYBORDER BLUE	37	3	CHRYSANthemUM, ESTHER READ
2	3	DELPHINIUM, LADY ELEANOR	21	3	LILIUM TIGRINUM SPLENDENS	38	2	VERBASCUM, PINK DOMINO
3	3	VERBASCUM LIBANI	22	3	DELPHINIUM, PURPLE PRINCE	39	5	OENOTHERA, YOUNGII
4	2	LAVATERA OLbia ROSEA	23	1	ASTER, WILLIAM BOWMAN	40	4	HEUCHERA, PLUIE DE FEU
5	3	ANCHUSA, MORNING GLORY	24	3	LUPIN, MAGNIFICENT	41	3	GEUM, MRS. BRADSHAW
6	3	HOLLYHOCK, SINGLE PINK	25	3	IRIS, ATHENE	42	3	MONARDA, CROFTWAY PINK
7	2	RUDBECKIA, HERBSTONNE	26	3	POPPY, LORD LAMBORNE	43	2	PAEONY, M. M. CAHUZAC
8	3	DELPHINIUM, LORNA	26	3	CHRYSANthemUM, EVEREST	44	2	PHLOX, JULES SANDEAU
9	3	ASTER, CLIMAX	27	1	GYPsOPHILA PANICULATA	45	6	STACHYS LANATA
10	3	HOLLYHOCK, DEEP SULPHUR	28	3	PYRETHRUM, SALMON BEAUTY	46	6	VIOLA, ARKWRIGHT'S RUBY
11	2	THALICTRUM DIPTEROCARPUM	29	3	LUPIN, PATRICIA OF YORK	47	6	SANTOLINA INCANA
12	2	ARTEMISIA LACTIFLORA	30	3	IRIS, MRS. J. L. GIBSON	48	4	VERONICA SPICATA, ERIKA
13	3	CAMPANULA LATIFOLIA	31	2	PAEONY, SARAH BERNHARDT	49	6	NEPETA MUSSINI
14	3	PHLOX, BRIGADIER	32	3	PHLOX, FRAU A. BUCHNER	50	3	VERONICA SPICATA, TRUE BLUE
15	3	ASTER, RED SUNSET	33	3	LUPIN, CONSPICUOUS	51	3	GEUM, LADY STRATHEDEN
16	2	LUPIN, LADY D. ABDY	34	2	IRIS, PINK SATIN	52	4	SANTOLINA INCANA
17	3	LILIUM REGALE	35	2	HEMEROCALLIS LUTEOLA	53	4	ANCHUSA CAESPITOSA
18	3	ASTER, HARRINGTON'S PINK	36	3	SALVIA VIRGATA NEMOROSA	54	4	NEPETA MUSSINI
19	3	SIDALCEA, INTERLAKEN	37	3	POPPY, PERRY'S WHITE	55	5	BETONICA GRANDIFLORA



*How the border will look if each numbered section in the plan above is furnished with the plants given in the key.*



*Ford sets the fashion*

"Confidentially, I walk  
better in lovely clothes: and I drive  
better in my new Zephyr."



*Zephyr*

FORD 'FIVE-STAR' MOTORING



Coat and Dress by *Ronald Paterson*



# The Border Scheme *continued*

each portion where they are to be planted.

Prepare the positions for each plant, having regard to its method of growth: lupins, gypsophila and tap-rooted plants must have a deep hole which will not bend the tap root; irises should be planted so that the rhizome lays on the ground without being covered, whilst fibrous-rooted plants should have their roots spread out so that they may expand. Firm planting is essential.

After planting, some short sticks should be placed against subjects the foliage of which dies off to the ground, and finally the surface of the ground should be raked over. Winter frosts tend to lift the plants and they should be made firm again as soon as possible.

In spring, slug bait and the hoe should be used to keep slugs and weeds in check. Then, before the plants become large, those that need supporting should be "bushed" with pea sticks through which the foliage will grow. This method is more effective and less unsightly than the traditional tying of plants to canes.

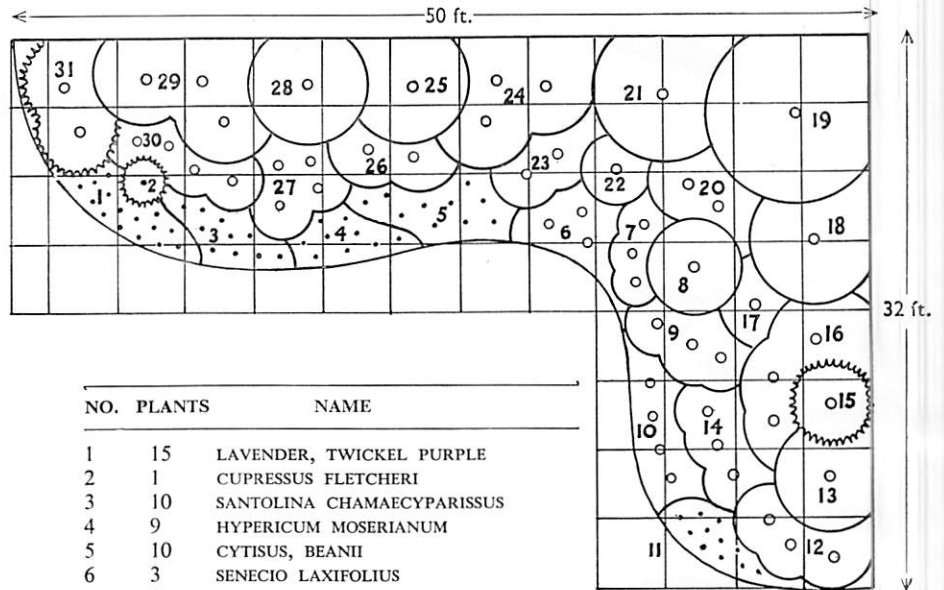
## THE SHRUB BORDER

**A**LTHOUGH this need not face due south, the site should be open and sunny for the best results, and, as for the flower border, the ground should be trenched or deeply dug and thoroughly cleaned.

Planting may be carried out from early November to the end of March in open weather. Shrubs should not be planted during frosty weather or when cold, drying winds are prevalent. If the plants are received at such times they should be loosened in the packages and stood in a dry, frost-proof shed until the weather breaks. Conifers and evergreens are best planted either in October or during early April, rather than during the winter.

Holes must be prepared for each shrub of a size large enough to take the outstretched roots comfortably, and they should be planted so that the soil stands at the mark on the collar of the root which indicates the depth at which it was planted in the nursery. The ground should be well firmed around the shrub and the larger specimens staked and tied securely to stout poles.

Shrubs need some attention in the spring—particularly in a dry spell, when they should be copiously watered—and conifers and evergreens should have their foliage sprayed. Mulching the ground with bracken or leaves will keep weeds in check besides providing valuable food for the plants themselves. N. H. J. C.



NO.	PLANTS	NAME
1	15	LAVENDER, TWICKEL PURPLE
2	1	CUPRESSUS FLETCHERI
3	10	SANTOLINA CHAMAECYPARISSUS
4	9	HYPERICUM MOSERIANUM
5	10	CYTISUS, BEANII
6	3	SENECIO LAXIFOLIUS
7	3	VERONICA TRAVERSII, WHITE GEM
8	1	RHUS COTINUS
9	3	CYTISUS PRAECOX
10	4	BERBERIS WILSONAE
11	12	LAVENDULA VERA NANA ALBA
12	3	DAPHNE CNEORUM
13	1	VIBURNUM TOMENTOSUM MARIESII
14	3	CARYOPTERIS CLANDONENSIS
15	1	CUPRESSUS ERECTA AUREA
16	3	CORNUS ALBA VARIEGATA
17	1	SPIRAEA ARGUTA
18	1	DEUTZIA PULCHRA
19	1	CORNUS KOUSA
20	2	BUDDLEIA, ROYAL RED
21	1	BERBERIS STENOPHYLLA
22	1	DAPHNE MEZEREON
23	2	CYDONIA, KNAPHILL SCARLET
24	3	DIERVILLA, ABEL CARRIERE
25	1	ESCALLONIA, SLIEVE DONARD
26	2	HYDRANGEA VILLOSA
27	4	BERBERIS THUNBERGII ATROPURPUREA
28	1	VIBURNUM TINUS
29	3	FORSYTHIA INTERMEDIA SPECTABILIS
30	4	ROSMARINUS, CORSICAN BLUE
31	2	JUNIPERUS SABINA TAMARISCIFOLIA

*Diagram above is of the planting suggested for a shrub border.*

*Key to numbered areas is given in the list on left.*

*Illustration below is the designer's impression of the matured shrub border when viewed from the left-hand end of the planting scheme above.*



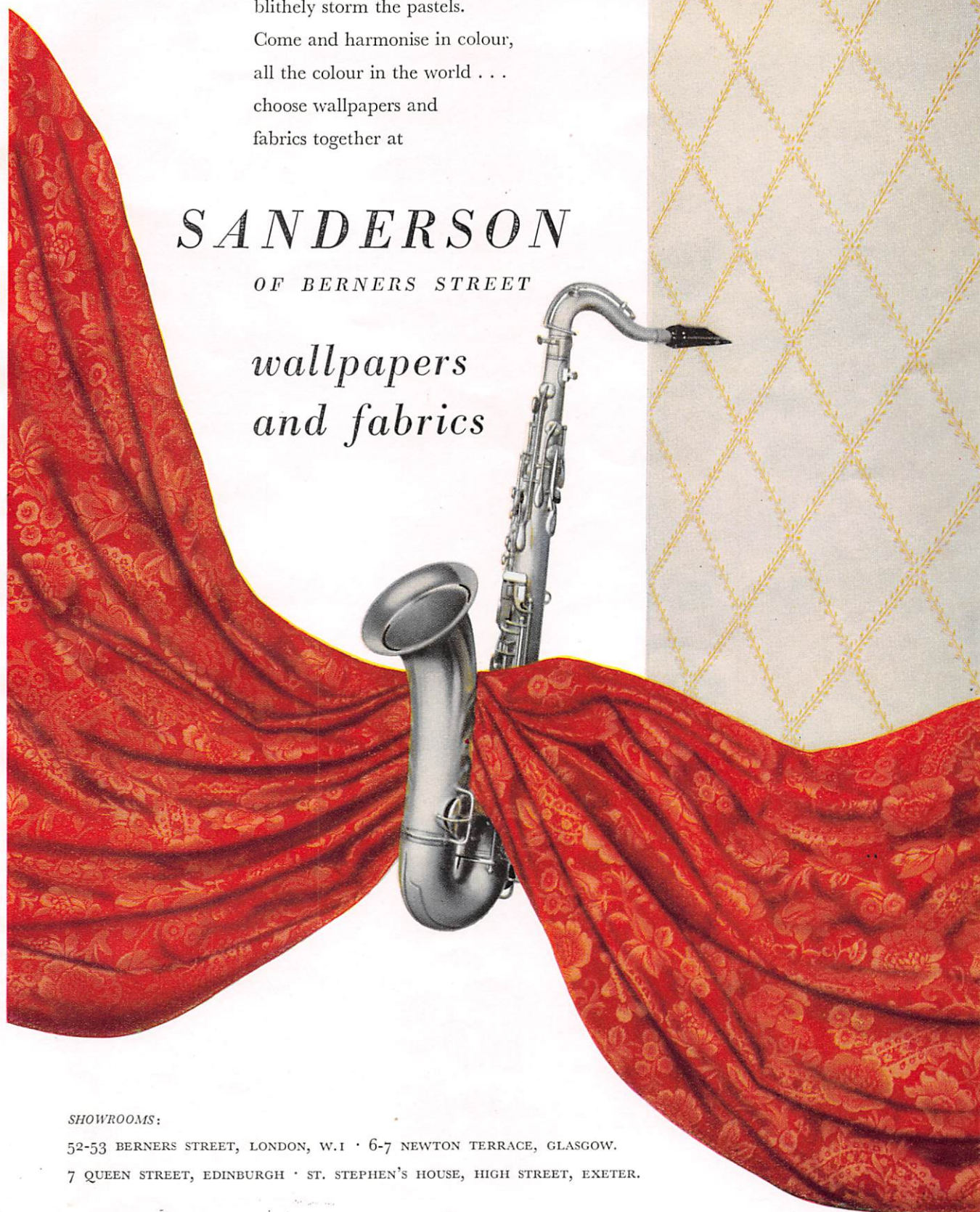


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blithely storm the pastels.  
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all the colour in the world . . .  
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fabrics together at

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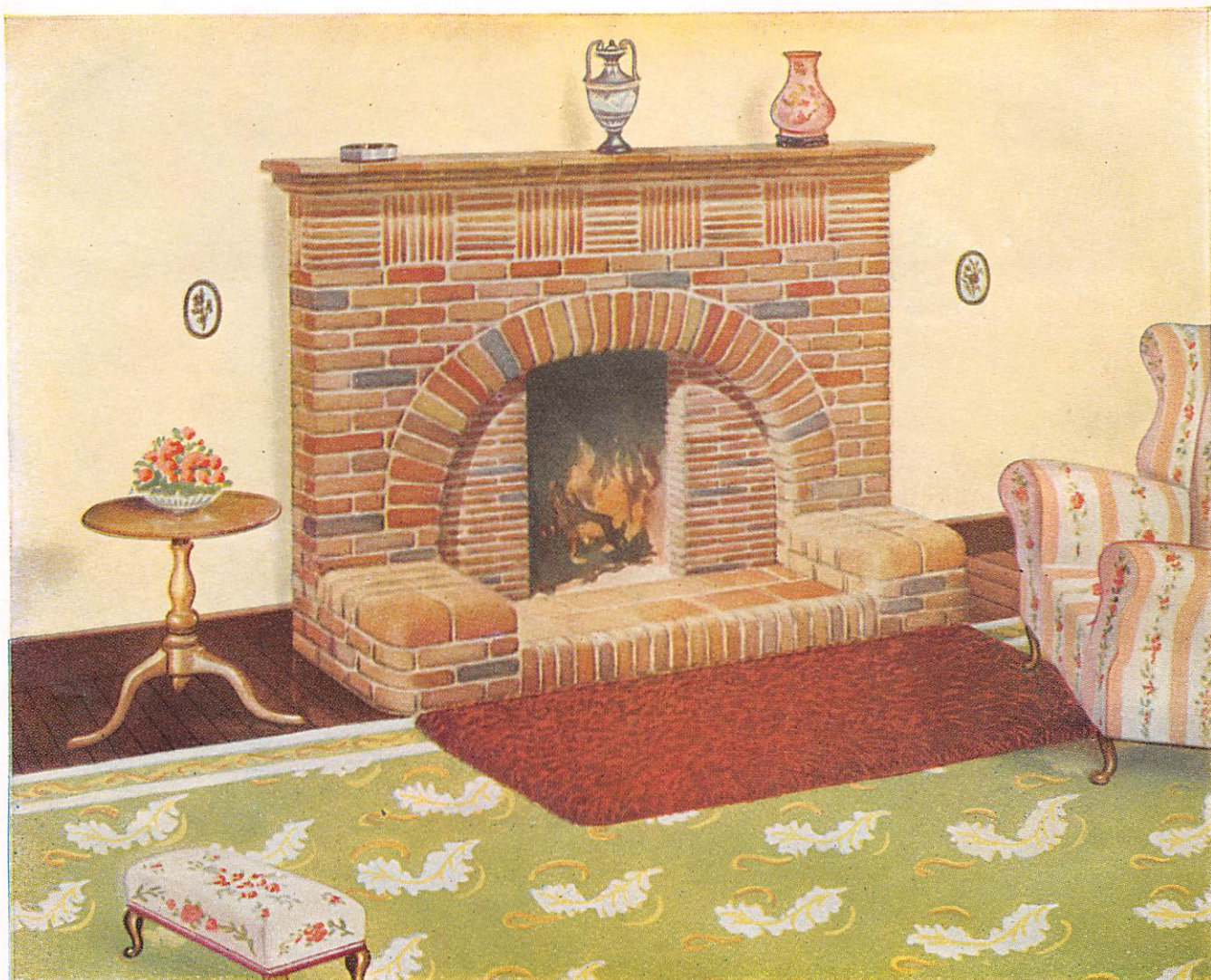
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Fireplace drawing by Joseph Pike

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glory of its golden evening! Yet will the Old English Fireplace  
recapture the spirit of past and passing seasons . . .  
the hues of autumn in its russet brickwork, the warmth  
of summer kindled in its heart.*

# Claygate

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*How the money gap between a normal building society advance and the total purchase price of a home can be reduced through*

## The Guaranteed Mortgage Scheme

Explained by GORDON CUMMINGS

**A** KEY FACTOR in the Government-sponsored mortgage guarantee scheme launched recently is that local councils can freely choose whether they adopt it or not. So, although they have been urged to do so by the Minister of Housing, there is no official power to make them provide facilities—local opinion is the only means whereby councils who stay out of the scheme may be persuaded to change their views.

The basis of the guarantee idea is, of course, to reduce that previously insuperable money gap between the normal building society advance and the cost of a home, which has barred many potential owners from building or buying. Normally, building societies will lend up to 85 per cent. if you are building, and up to about 75 or 80 per cent. if you are buying a reasonably modern home. This means that, including the legal and other incidental costs, you must have in hand something between 15 and 30 per cent. of the cost.

Now the deposit, excluding the legal and other costs, may be as little as 5 or 10 per cent. The extra sum you can borrow is guaranteed one-third each by the Government, the local council and the building society—actually the guarantee covers wider “gaps” amounting to 30 and 35 per cent. If, therefore, a borrower defaults before reducing his mortgage to a certain proportion of the cost or value of his house and there is any loss on selling, the three “partners” in the guarantee share it between them and thus reduce their individual risks.

Councils have actually had powers to provide similar guarantees for over five years, but very few have done so. The impetus now has been given to make the idea really effective by practical proposals worked out between the Ministry of Housing and the Building Societies Association.

### Two Standard Schemes

To prevent disappointment, you should note here that the arrangement applies almost solely to building society loans. The only exceptions are loans from other societies registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts such as Co-operatives. *It cannot be applied to advances from insurance companies, local councils or other type of mortgage.* At this stage there are two schemes.

*Scheme A* applies to all types of old or new dwellings where the purchase price or surveyor's valuation, whichever is the lower, is not more than £2,500. The building society can lend up to 90 per cent. here.

*Scheme B* is confined to dwellings built after 1918 and where the purchase price or valuation, whichever is the less, is not more than £2,000. Here the advance can be as much as 95 per cent.

While these schemes are what may be termed the standard ones, there is nothing

—except the wish not to help—to stop local councils extending, with Ministry of Housing approval, the guarantee to *houses valued at up to £5,000*. They have the powers, and the Ministry of Housing wants to see them used to the fullest practical extent. Provided that the building society is ready to co-operate, it is thus worth sounding-out your council, if it is operating the guarantee scheme and you want to borrow more than the normal amount on a house worth between £2,500 and £5,000.

Interest on *any* guaranteed advance will be the current rate normally charged by the building society. The maximum repayment period is 25 years, but you may arrange a shorter term if you wish.

The advance will not, however, include the legal charges and expenses on the purchase and the mortgage deed. This means, therefore, that you must budget for putting down more than the deposit. The exact extra sum will depend on the price and whether you are buying or building. But a safe estimate would be to allow 4–5 per cent. on the purchase price of the house if you are buying.

Then, as with any kind of mortgage, your income, prospects and normal commitments will have to be taken into account. It will be no good either to you or to anyone else if you take on bigger mortgage commitments than you can comfortably manage to keep up. The exact ratio will depend naturally on individual circumstances—if you have no children to educate and keep, you may be able to apply a larger share of your income to mortgage payments than if you have a growing family.

A good rough working average is, however, that the mortgage payments, rates and house insurance should come to not more than about one-quarter of your income. And to help you make your own estimate you can reckon that on a 25 years' repayment basis the yearly amount to cover these items may be in the region of £8 10s. or upwards for each £100 borrowed.

Once you have found out if the scheme operates in your local or county council area, the next approach is to a building society. In fact, it may save time to ask the building society first, for it will know the local conditions. As with a normal advance, the society will carry out all the work of negotiation, valuation and arrangement of the mortgage. Likewise, all payments will be made to the society. *All dealings will be with the building society*, but in these some clear rules have been suggested, as follows:—

The schemes outlined above can apply to old or new property. If it is leasehold, the lease must have a life of at least 20 years more than the length of the mortgage—on a 39 years' leasehold, for instance, the repayment period could not

be longer than 19 (*i.e.*, 39–20) years.

Advances can be made for conversion and improvement work as well as for building or buying.

Valuations made by the building society's surveyor should be realistic and related to current values.

Collateral security, such as life assurances with surrender values, may be given to the building society to cover part or all of the deposit.

It is worth noting that, as the normal type of guaranteed mortgage will be repayable out of regular instalments covering interest and capital, life insurance cover may be arranged quite cheaply by means of a mortgage protection or similar insurance. In this way the balance owing each year can be automatically covered so that the house is left free of debt if you should unfortunately die before completing repayments.

Finally, it may save time and disappointment to keep in mind these points:—

- (1) First find out, either through a building society or direct, if your local, or county, council is operating the guarantee scheme.
- (2) If it is, all arrangements will be made by the building society.
- (3) Do not commit yourself to any purchase or other contract until you are reasonably sure that your proposition will qualify for a guaranteed mortgage advance.
- (4) The details given above cover the scheme for England and Wales. A separate, though generally similar, one is however, available in Scotland.

### Local Council Loans

Although the guarantee scheme does not apply to home finance loans made by local and county councils under the Housing and Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, councils may lend up to 90 per cent. on houses worth not more than £5,000. Councils can choose whether they provide these facilities, but those who do not have been urged to do so.

In view of the recent reduction in interest rates, these loans are now particularly attractive. Interest on advances repayable over more than 15 years is only 4 per cent. And if repayment can be made in 15 years or less, the interest may be as little as 3½ per cent., a rate which could hardly be bettered. Once settled, the interest is fixed and cannot be increased while payments are kept up to date.

One possible snag is that council valuations can be on a very strict basis, entailing putting down more than the normal amount in cash. Here again, however, councils, have been asked to value properties on a more realistic basis, and to give prompt decisions on applications. The first approach in your borrowing operation if you can put down a fair proportion of the price yourself might thus be to the local or county council.



Technically speaking . . .  
but not too technically

## (21) External Painting is more than Decoration

By ERIC AMBROSE, B.A.(Arch.), F.R.I.B.A.



"PAINTING," said my neighbour over the fence, "is an old-fashioned, out-of-date method of decorating and preserving houses, and it takes four times longer than it should."

"Very soon none of us will be able to afford all this nonsense because it is paid for out of the 'luxury' part of our incomes—the very last part we earn—taxed at 9s. in the £ (or worse), and so we can add over 80 per cent. to the decorator's estimate in order to arrive at the sum which you and I must earn to pay for our crass stupidity! Unless the manufacturers very quickly invent new coverings and new techniques by which we laymen are able to *slap them on* with a reasonable hope of their sticking—like good old tar for instance—then so far as the middle-class domestic market is concerned, they aren't going to sell much paint in 1960!"

My neighbour is no fool, and, although his suggestions are entirely contrary to painting belief and approach, we must remember that the emulsion wall paints *have*, in fact, revolutionised technique for the amateur decorator, whilst the "little man" who has mastered the art of doing the odd room quickly, cleanly and efficiently is reaping a harvest from a grateful public too often unable to pay the craftsman's price.

I make no attempt to solve a problem of urgent economics—or moral ethics—but before we can hope to find my neighbour's new, Miracle One-coat External Paint, which will dry immediately as hard as nails and give perfect protection against corrosion and decay in 60 standard tints, we ought first to consider the methods and techniques at present in use. What are the difficulties and why do we have to use more than one coat of paint, necessitating the employment of skilled craftsmen instead of labourers?

We may accept the statement contained in the *British Standard Code of Practice for Painting* (1952) that "painting is an accepted method of protecting many materials against corrosion, wear, decay and other factors which affect durability. Painting can also provide finishes which are hygienic, in the sense that they are clean and readily cleanable . . . and produce decorative effects."

How, then, does the painter set about providing protection as well as decoration by the use of an efficient paint?

Firstly, the surface must be properly prepared so that it may readily accept the paint. Secondly, the right sort of paint for the particular job must be chosen; and

thirdly, it must be correctly applied. Let us consider each of these demands in detail.

### (1) PREPARING THE SURFACE

Whether the surface is "new" or "old" it must be thoroughly clean, smooth and reasonably static. That is to say, if the surface to be painted is always on the move, a great and possibly unfair strain will be placed upon the paint. On the other hand, if we know precisely what that strain will be, we may be able to cater for it, as in the case of hot-water radiators; and this may also be true of materials which become static only after they have had time to mature—such as concrete, or alkaline plasters.

A good surface for painting will be clean, dry and free from the tendency to crumble or break up. It ought to be smooth because a paint film is very thin, and it should not exude acids or alkalis. If old paint is being repainted, then the preparation of the surface must have a dual purpose: to remove the flaking, loose paint which has lost its adhesion, and to supply a moderately rough "key" for the next coat. Never forget that if the first coat fails, then all the labour exerted in applying the following coats will be entirely wasted.

### (2) THE RIGHT KIND OF PAINT

There are five main divisions into which paint may conveniently be grouped:—

- (i) Oil paints (external and internal use);
- (ii) Water paints and distempers (internal use);
- (iii) Mixtures of (i) and (ii) such as emulsions (external and internal);
- (iv) Bituminous paints (external);
- (v) Special, such as anti-condensation or fungicidal.

Until the "New Miracle Paint" is invented, painting practice will continue to involve the provision of (a) priming coats, (b) undercoats and (c) finishing coat, and each paint in these three classes must be related to the other two. That is to say, any old undercoating will not do for a first-class finishing coat, and vice versa. This is particularly true of the modern synthetic paints into which each manufacturer puts his own specialised materials. Thus, unless one is an analytical chemist, it is safer to use the primer, undercoat and finish recommended by the same manufacturer. Too soft an undercoat beneath a hard finish will cause cracking.

Remember above all that, although paint is not cheap, you will have to pay a great

deal more than £5 for the necessary labour to spread £5 worth of paint—and if your own time is involved, it is even more important not to waste it.

Each of the coats of paint must be able to cope with slight movements of the material on which they are laid and so must possess a reasonably high degree of elasticity, and it is in this connection that the inter-relationship between the coats is important. The durability of the paint, will, in the final count, be measured by the resistance put up by the finishing coat, which must be tough as well as elastic; but it may well fail in its protective object if the priming and undercoats have insufficient strength to resist either the natural tendency of the finishing coat to shrink, or small movements of the material to which it is applied.

### (3) APPLICATION OF THE PAINT

Whether we apply the paint by spraying, brushing, rolling, or dipping in the factory, we are merely assisting in building up the thickness of the paint body which is essential if protection is to be provided. As we do not know how to satisfy all the requirements made upon a paint by means of a single coat, because no known paint will do this, each coat we use must play a different part.

The priming coat is the first we apply to any new, unpainted surface, and in many cases this is done in the factory. Our first demand is that any primer we use shall *adhere* firmly to the surface and make a firm base for the next coat placed upon it. Failure to meet this requirement means failure of the entire painting operation.

Choice of a primer will depend upon the surface to which it will be applied. Thus, if it is to be used upon absorbent surfaces, such as wood, plaster or wallboard, we expect it to seal the absorptive "pores" of the material so that when the following coats are added they will not be sucked into the material.

If, on the other hand, we are painting metals, we must protect against corrosion and overcome the difficulty caused, in this case, by the lack of absorptive qualities!

When the paint has to withstand heat, as in the case of hot-water radiators (which

*continued on page 112*

September, 1954

Ideal Home



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Stannaway Drive, Crumlin, Dublin





# External Painting

continued from page 110

are mainly convectors with a small percentage of radiation), not only must adhesion be maintained, but there should be no discoloration and the paint must not reduce the radiant efficiency of the heater. From these few remarks it should be apparent why paint manufacturers spend a great deal of money on the upkeep of their research laboratories and staff!

As already mentioned, where materials which contain deleterious acids or alkalis are to be painted, the priming coat has a very special task to perform—that of providing the following coats with protection from attack by these chemicals. Thus an alkali-resisting primer applied to concrete will prevent a most common failure in such situations, namely saponification (the conversion of the oil in the paint to soap).

Applying priming coats with a brush or roller is probably better than spraying, since the stronger manual action tends to remove any air bubbles and so ensure that the primer covers every part of the surface.

So important is the priming coat, that when timber arrives on the site already primed, it should be carefully examined, and if the paint is in any way damaged, the surface must again be prepared and additional priming added before the next stage is commenced. Primed timber should never be left unprotected from the weather for any length of time, and the following coat, the undercoat, should be applied as soon as possible. This does *not* mean that an undercoat may be left unprotected for a long time.

The undercoats have three duties to perform: (a) to obscure the original colour of the material being painted; (b) to provide a proper base for the next coat and help to approach the final decorative colour, and (c) to add to the total thickness of the paint body in order to provide the necessary weather protection. The number of undercoats used will depend upon how well these three demands are met, but for good-class work at least two will be required.

In general, these middle layers of the paint "sandwich" are protected underneath by a primer and above by a tough finishing coat. They are therefore less likely to be attacked by acids, alkalis or the weather, unless the priming is poor, or the finishing coat fails and is not replaced.

Where a considerable difference exists between the original dark colour of the work before painting, and the light tint of the finished article, the rôle of the undercoats increases in importance. Thus, since there is always the danger of the top coat on skirtings and the bottom rails of doors being damaged by furniture, brooms, boots and so on, it is always ill-advised to attempt to

paint-out these dark coats, and so burning-off the original paint from these portions at least is really an essential.

One point to observe is that each coat of the paint body should be allowed to dry with a different degree of gloss in order to increase adhesion, and so it is normal practice to alternate flat and glossy paints. Flat paint differs from gloss in that its content consists of an increased amount of "thinning" material—that is to say solvents which make the paint easier to apply and to penetrate the material being painted. Turpentine, "turps substitute" and pure white spirit are typical thinners.

On the other hand, the "binder" content of the flat paint—that part which binds the particles of colour together so as to form a film—is decreased. Such a binder is linseed oil, and these two variations in content assist a flat paint to dry hard.

Some painting experts, instead of favouring alternate flat and gloss coats, recommend that the binder content should be increased with each coat, but in a world of ready-mixed proprietary paints you will be well-advised to keep to "flat-cum-glossy" according to the manufacturer's directions.

The finishing coat is the last act of the painting drama, providing a tough protective skin and the requisite decorative tint—either glossy or flat.

If the preparatory work underneath has not been done properly, the finishing coat is likely to fail. Where the primer has not sealed the pores of the absorbent material, dull patches may appear on the gloss finish; if the undercoats have not blotted out the unwanted colours of the old work, then the lack of obscuring properties inherent in a good finishing coat, which is sometimes highly translucent, will not make up for the deficient undercoats.

In external work, the finishing coat plays the all-important part of protecting the sum total of the work which has gone into preparing the way for its application, and so as soon as it shows signs of wear or failure it should obviously be renewed without delay.

For external work, use a gloss paint or an "enamel" because the additional binder content renders it more durable than a flat paint. There are still many people who like to use a flat coat with a hard varnish finish, but whereas a gloss paint may gradually fail by chalking or disintegration of the surface, varnishes tend to crack and peel. A gloss paint surface which has chalked, can be rubbed down and will then be ready for repainting, but varnished work usually requires burning off. So keep your flat paints for your *interior* surfaces, such as plastered walls, where they will

not reveal every irre-

The painting of external with colour washes or cement paints raises problems. Some of the emuls. paints are now made in "external quality" and these, when the surface has been properly prepared, can give excellent service, are easy to apply, inexpensive, and not appreciably damaged by the acids generally present in urban rain.

Nothing however is cheaper than a lime wash. It is customary to tar the base of limewashed cottages, but a bituminous or black oil paint is more suitable for better-class property.

For those who would like to mix lime wash and apply it themselves, here is an old recipe brought up to date:—

Material	Quantities 1 coat	2 coats
Flaked white chalk or quicklime	1 cu. ft.	2-3 cu. ft.
Clean chopped tallow or casein for binding	2 lb.	1½ lb.
Add alum or salt to prevent flaking		
Add Venetian red, litharge or lime green to tint before slacking.		
Add hot water to lime and retain steam in the barrel by placing a sack over the top	10 gall.	17 gall.
Time: 2 labourers mixing and brushing on	6 hours	10 hours

Gutter and down pipes may be finished with a full gloss enamel or bituminous paint. Where metal is exposed to a seaside atmosphere, as are metal windows, an aluminium barrier coat may be used, but in such situations it is advisable to ensure that all new metal windows are galvanised. Certain manufacturers make special paints with resistant qualities for such areas.

Walls which have suffered from damp over a long period, often show signs of mildew—which is, of course, a fungus or vegetable mould. The hard-gloss and enamel paints are not normally attacked in this way, but when decorations are carried out in situations where mould has already appeared, a *fungicidal paint* should be used. Do not employ it *inside* the house, in larders for example, unless you have checked that it will not contaminate food.

**MAINTENANCE.** The amateur is well advised to avoid the use of sugar soap, mild soap powders and very alkaline soaps, which are destructive to paint if they are not highly diluted and rinsed off immediately after cleaning. Ordinary curd soap in warm water will prove satisfactory, but the water should be changed frequently as the work of washing goes on.

The most important aspect of maintenance however is the essential need for repainting *before* the top surface breaks up, for there is too much labour wrapped up in the priming and undercoats to permit of its wasteful dissipation.

**WHEN TO PAINT.** Where an old paint on timber *appears* to be efficient, it may in fact be porous, although seemingly intact, so that moisture reaches the timber for eight or nine months of the year. Since in Britain we seldom get more than two really hot months annually in which to dry out this moisture, it may well be that for painting such *unprotected* timber *late summer* is a more suitable time than spring.

Finally, remember that a good quality paint lasts longer than one of inferior quality and £1 apparently saved on the price of a couple of gallons is no saving at all.

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# HOUSE TALK

By the Consultant Architect

A COLLEAGUE, writing in a technical contemporary, complains that more and more people are doing their own domestic repairs and decorations, and he sees a great danger in this "pushing aside" of the expert in order to allow the "amateur muddler" to do his worst.

I think his attitude is an over-simplification of a grave economic difficulty which faces many of us today. No ordinary amateur, "muddler" or true handyman would attempt electric wiring or plumbing, but we are often faced with a genuine desire to improve the condition of the house at a time when other demands are making themselves felt.

Make no mistake, this is a tendency which is spreading throughout all the trades concerned with "living"—even the hotels are beginning to notice that we find it difficult to spend £20 for a long week-end and so prefer to trail a caravan.

Maybe the hotels do not suffer because we tend to take more week-ends than we used to, and certainly the makers of building materials seem to be set upon helping us to do more of our own decorative chores, so that people who never were house-proud are encouraged to change their ways and so necessarily employ the skilled man sometimes where before he was entirely ignored.

The paint manufacturers as a body continue to pour more and more oil on the burning fire of argument by supplying more and more easy-to-apply emulsions with extended colour ranges and all-embracing application. Thus John Hall are making Murac P.E.P. (plastic emulsion paint) in 120 colours, which are obtained from 20 standard shades indicated on a large show card. It is a general-purpose paint, fully washable, and can be used inside or outside the house upon new plaster, concrete, brickwork or cement, once excess moisture has dried out.

**An Attractive Wall-covering.** A pleasant way of sheathing walls is to use cloth-backed wood veneers so that the finished effect is quite indistinguishable from thick panelling. Flexwood is a cloth-backed veneer said to be immune from warping, cracking, expanding or shrinking—a brave claim for a wood product. Supplied in about 18 different

varieties from ash, birch and cedar to zebrano, the sheets are 17½ in. or 26 in. wide; lengths vary according to the log, and for this reason the price varies not only according to the type of wood chosen but with respect to available stocks. The sheets are fitted by expert craftsmen and may contain 1 to 4 cuts through the tree, perfectly matched and invisibly joined. The cost, fitted, varies between 5s. 6d. and 9s. 6d. a square foot.

**Water for the Cottage.** Many city-dwellers are apt to forget that there is a large percentage of the population living in remote parts of the country where every gallon of water has to be lifted manually—forget, that is, until one day they consider the possibility of living in the country and discover a "perfect gem" which, alas, has only well water.

James Beresford and Sons, of Birmingham, make a self-priming, single-stage pump which will lift water 27 ft. and can be automatically controlled by a floating switch in an overhead tank. Presenting few installation difficulties, it costs £26 and gives reliable service.

**Damp Walls.** It is not always necessary to insert a damp-proof course into a building that has never had one and is damp, or to renew one which has failed. I know of two methods which are not mere palliatives—one of them has already been mentioned in these columns; the other is the system of British Knapen.

Small porous, atmospheric syphons are sunk into any wall, up to 6 ft. thick, to a depth of slightly more than half the thickness of the wall, 13 in. apart and at an angle of inclination determined by the technicians. The angle is not to allow water to run down because this is not the principle at all. Air movement within the syphon is encouraged; this air absorbs moisture from the porous tubes, and, still as air, falls to the underside and passes out of the tube before the dew-point is reached. Despite a relatively slow process of evaporation, the action of the syphon is adequate to prevent dampness rising by capillary action.

The great advantage of the system is that the tubes may be inserted without the necessity for underpinning—a costly item where the walls are very thick.



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# Motor Matters

## Family motoring— minimum cost

By J. N. BENNETT

RECENTLY I have had the opportunity of trying out the two lowest-priced models of the extensive Austin range—the A30 Seven two-door saloon, and the A40 Somerset saloon. The smaller of the two has, of late, undergone some detail alterations, a notable one being the change of rear axle ratio from 5.14-to-1 to 4.87-to-1.

Acceleration and the car's ability to tackle hills on top gear have not noticeably been affected by the raising of the gear. It has, however, had the effect of increasing the comfortable cruising speed to over 50 m.p.h., of decreasing petrol consumption by some 5 m.p.g., and also of cutting down engine speeds—all very worth while improvements, especially the cut in fuel, at its present high price. Consumption now stands at close on 44 m.p.g. even when the car is driven fast.

The A30 is a delightful little car from every angle, and, when expertly handled, the progress that can be made as contrasted with more powerful vehicles is quite amazing. Where it really comes into its own is on winding roads and in heavy traffic, for then it will leave most of the bigger cars astern. And, of course, when it is a matter of parking in a restricted space there is nothing that can beat this car for the ease with which it can be manoeuvred.

The two-door saloon, with its wide doors, permits easy entry and exit, and provides greater safety for the younger members of the family than is afforded by a four-door model. Nevertheless, there is comfortable accommodation for four adults, despite the somewhat narrow appearance of the attractive bodywork. Plenty of leg room is allowed in the front compartment for a tall driver, although, as in many larger cars, moving the separate front seats to a more forward position, naturally makes things better for the rear seat passengers.

Despite the compactness of the car there is quite good luggage-carrying capacity in the boot, which now has a conventional fixed handle that can be locked with the ignition key. The spare wheel is carried in a vertical position at the left side of the boot, where it is instantly accessible and interferes but slightly with luggage space. Beneath the fascia panel there is room for parcels and other impedimenta on a shelf that runs full width and which, incidentally, has been given a lip to prevent parcels from going adrift.

Instruments are grouped in a central panel

and include the speedometer, a fuel contents gauge, and warning lights for oil and for dynamo charge. The lighting switch for sidelamps and headlamps, together with the dipper switch are mounted in a convenient position just underneath the two-spoked steering wheel, and the starter and choke controls on the dash are also well placed.

Considering the small size of the A30, the road-holding and cornering is first-class with very little roll—thanks to the incorporation of an anti-roll torsion bar, which interconnects the rear springs. Front springing is independent. Steering is light and accurate, the Lockheed hydraulic brakes are well up to their job, and the four-speed gearbox, operated by a centrally placed lever, provides ease of changing and comes readily to hand.

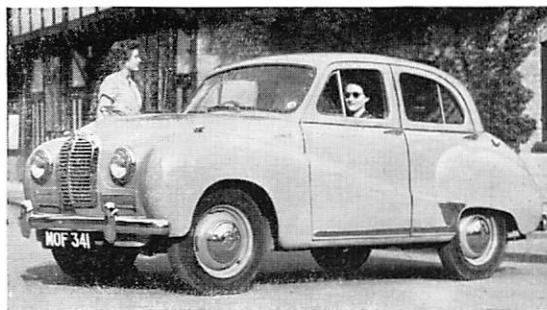
Another excellent point is the exceptionally good forward driving vision, due to the slightly sloping bonnet which permits a view of the front wings. The pillars, on the other hand, are apt to provide a blind spot. Hinged panels in the front doors provide for effective air circulation, and, when the optional extra of a heater is fitted, it draws fresh air from the front of the car.

The power unit is a four-cylinder engine with overhead valves and a cubic capacity of 803 c.c., developing 28 brake horse-power at 4,800 r.p.m. It is outstanding for its efficiency, smoothness of operation, and general accessibility of the components, such as the carburetter, plugs and battery. Maximum speed is slightly in excess of 65 m.p.h.

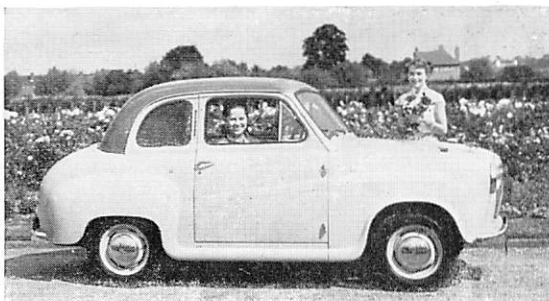
The price is £335, plus £140 14s. 2d. purchase tax, while the four-door model sells at £355, plus £149 0s. 10d. tax.

### THE LARGER SALOON

I drove an A40 four-door saloon for nearly 2,000 miles and found it a delightful medium-size, but very roomy, vehicle in every way. The finish, especially that of the interior, is good, and the seating comfort of a high order with leather upholstery over foam rubber. The adjustable front seats are close-mounted and the wide rear seat has side arm rests.



**Roomy**  
interior, seating  
comfort, large lug-  
gage boot, and lively  
engine are features  
of the Austin A40  
Somerset.



**Two-door**  
saloon, the Austin  
A30, is easy to  
park and will travel  
about 44 miles to  
the gallon of fuel.

Leg room, both front and rear, is excellent, and the driving position first-class.

A curved windscreen gives good forward visibility, door-windows are operated by winding regulators, ventilating louvres are fitted to the front doors, and the doors at the rear are provided with an additional safety-catch to protect child passengers. There is an air-conditioning system, and provision is made for the fitting of interior heating with windscreen de-misting.

The luggage boot is of large dimensions, and a feature open to adverse criticism in earlier models has been put right. Previously, the spare wheel was placed on the floor of the boot and was consequently subject to damage by luggage and vice versa; now the wheel is housed in a separate compartment.

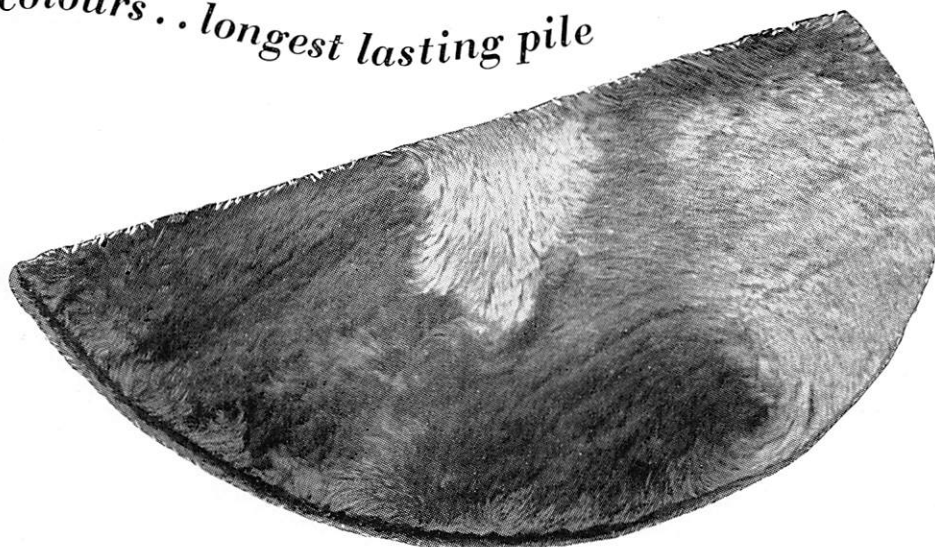
There is a full range of instruments mounted in a central panel. They comprise a speedometer, oil pressure, fuel and water temperature gauges and ignition and headlamp-beam warning lights. Enclosed glove boxes are fitted at each end of the fascia, although when a radio set is fitted it takes the place of the glove box on the driver's side.

The four-cylinder engine is of similar design to that of the A30, but it has a cubic capacity of 1,200 c.c. and develops 42 brake horse-power at 4,300 r.p.m., which provides an effortless cruising speed of 60 m.p.h. and a maximum of some 10 m.p.h. faster. It is smooth and silent in operation, flexible in top gear at low speeds, and capable of excellent acceleration. Fuel consumption is slightly over 30 m.p.g.

The four-speed gearbox has under-the-steering-wheel control, which is easy to manipulate, although, on occasion, there is some difficulty in getting into the lower gears when starting from rest. Suspension gives a comfortable ride when the car is lightly or heavily loaded, there is very little roll on corners, steering is light and accurate, and the Girling hydraulic brakes are smooth and powerful in operation and do not show a tendency to fade in hilly country. With a fixed head the Somerset saloon is priced at £449, plus £188 4s. 2d. purchase tax, or with a sliding head £454, plus £190 5s. 10d. tax.



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# Factors which make for The Better Garage

By THE IDEAL HOME STAFF ARCHITECT

**T**OO OFTEN a garage looks as though it were an after-thought—even when it has been built at the same time as the house it serves. In fact, a good garage should appear appropriate in the larger context of the character of the home, whether incorporated into the façade or set separately—and whether built originally or subsequently.

It should be sited according to the available frontage, level, and convenience of the runway; and planned particularly to be accessible under cover from the house.

As the external appearance is so important and the doors are usually the focus of the garage feature, these should be chosen with special care: whatever their style, plain or panelled. Doors are now available in designs ranging from the conventional pair of hinged outward-opening type to the sliding, folding-and-sliding, and up-and-over designs.

The up-and-over kind are increasingly popular, as they do not encroach on the space at front or sides of the garage, although they reduce the height of an existing opening by about 2 in. The new all-steel overhead door illustrated is, for instance, one of the best on the market. It is counterbalanced by powerful springs, which draw it up under the roof out of sight, thus avoiding the use of heavy weights. When unlocked, it automatically starts to rise, and a touch of the hand completes the operation. It can be closed with equal ease, and locks itself immediately contact is made with the sill.

In establishing the size of the

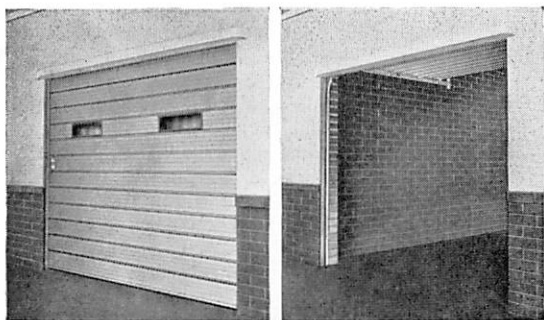
garage for a single car, it is advisable to allow sufficient depth to take the vehicle plus a work-bench at the far end, and width enough for a free clearance to open car doors. An ideal size is 18 ft. deep by 9–10½ ft. wide. To house a couple of cars side by side, the width should be 18 ft.; or in line, bumper to bumper, the depth should be 32 ft.

Windows for natural light and ventilation must be provided, and be placed to allow inspection of the engine and the bench, if possible. Lighting points are best placed over the bench and near the entrance. Where the up-and-over door is installed, wall lights will be necessary. The control switch should be situated by the main entrance. If a secondary door is used, two-way switches located by both doors will be useful. Other points needed are a wall plug for an inspection lamp, and two power points, one for a heater, the other for the bench.

For washing-down purposes, a stand-pipe just inside the external door is an asset, but it should be suitably lagged to prevent freezing. For the floor, a granolithic finish is recommended; this must be laid to a fall to ensure that water will not accumulate in the garage.

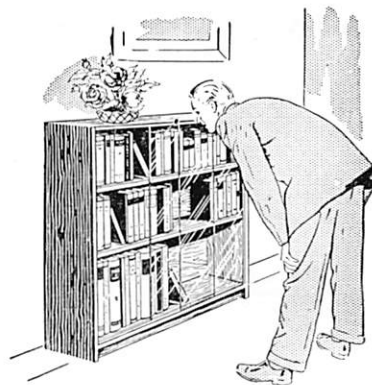
If you want to use the garage as a workshop, group your shelves and cupboards away from the car doors. For heavy work, a steel girder across the ceiling is handy.

Finally, whatever you do, don't forget to obtain permission to erect the garage, and also see that it is fireproofed in accordance with the requirements of the insurance company.



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# Annuals—usual and unusual

An important new gardening book reviewed by Richard Sudell

**M**ORE THAN FOURTEEN HUNDRED PLANTS can be used in this country as annuals. These are described in detail, and the whole subject of annuals is thoroughly explored and explained, by Angus C. Barber in *Annual Flowers* (Faber & Faber, 25s.). This delightful book promises to become a classic among flower gardeners. The author's interest and enthusiasm for these plants, collected throughout the world from warmer climates than our own, make a colourful and most readable book.

The first section describes the origins and characteristics of annuals, and deals fully with cultivation and the various ways in which they can be used. There is a chapter on pests and their control, and another on diseases—with a symptoms chart. The second section of the book is an encyclopaedia, describing in detail the fourteen hundred species and varieties. Besides true and half-hardy annuals, the author includes winter annuals and exotic perennials, which can be used in this country as annuals.

Many amateurs are confused by what appears to be the erratic behaviour of annuals. It is disconcerting, when you have carefully sown cornflower and love-in-the-mist in your border in April, to find these blooming in a neighbour's bed in May. And when you have known lobelia all your life as an annual, it is disturbing to discover that it is really a biennial, sometimes even a perennial.

The first chapter of the book clearly sets out the various groups of so-called annuals and shows how their characteristics in each case are the result of climatic conditions in their native countries. Mr. Barber calls the annual an opportunist. He points to the eschscholtzias, zinnias, dimorphothecas, all plants having brilliant blossoms. In the deserts of California, Mexico and the South African veldt, these plants manage to grow, flower, attract insects and set seed, all in a short favourable season before the drought.

Winter annuals, such as calendulas, larkspurs and cornflowers, can germinate at comparatively low temperatures, and in

their native habitat (in this case Southern Europe) they grow and flower in winter and spring before being scorched up by the summer heat. September is the time for sowing winter annuals, and those gardeners who have not yet acquired the habit of using them will find themselves well rewarded if they experiment with some seed this autumn. The cornflowers which I sowed last September have been magnificent this year; some of them were 4 ft. high and the flowers were large and profuse. These sturdy plants bridge the awkward gap between the bulbs and the summer flowers.

Chapter eight gives 23 classified lists of annuals for various purposes. One of these gives 34 annuals suitable for autumn sowing in the open ground; it begins with Adonis and ends with *Specularia perfoliata*, Venus's looking-glass! I looked up these two plants in the encyclopaedia section. Each species is clearly set out under its botanical, common and family names.

Adonis, also called pheasant's eye, apparently comes from the family *Ranunculaceae*. "According to Greek mythology this plant sprang from the blood of the wounded Adonis and, appropriately, we find that most of the species have deep red flowers. They are graceful hardy annuals with anemone-like flowers and finely divided fern-like foliage. Both the summer and autumn Adonis (*A. aestivalis* and *A. annua*) are easily grown from spring sowings made in warm and sunny positions. *A. aleppica*,

because of its slowness to germinate, should always be sown in the autumn where it is to flower, and for early summer flowering the other two species may be treated similarly."

The three varieties are then described in detail. *A. aleppica* is "a handsome Syrian species with glowing blood-red flowers up to 2 in. across. May to July. Height 1 ft. Culture: H.A. (August to September). Space 1 ft. apart."

Venus's looking-glass is described as a pretty, dwarf annual, closely allied to the campanulas, with bell-shaped flowers of deep violet-blue, about 1 in. in diameter. I shall certainly keep some room for Adonis and the pretty little specularia near the front of the herbaceous border this autumn.

I was pleased to see about 50 annuals quoted as suitable for rock gardens. There is also a list for balconies and window boxes. *Portulaca* appears in both these. This is the rose moss, or sun plant, a useful carpeter, about 6 in. high. It will thrive even on poor soil, provided the position is sunny and dry. Both single- and double-flowering strains can be obtained in bright scarlet, rose, yellow and white. One of this plant's attractions is that seeds can be sown in June; the plants will be in flower six weeks later and continue blooming profusely until September.

Angus Barber has himself selected a list of unusual annuals which should quickly become popular. This includes some delightful names, such as *Felicia Bergeriana*, the kingfisher daisy. "The plants are reputed," says the encyclopaedia, "to have been named after a German official named Felix." There is also *Sanvitalia procumbens*, the creeping zinnia. "The plant was named in honour of the Italian noble family Sanvitali of Parma." One plant in the list has the villainous name of *Thelesperma burridgeanum*. *Thelesperma*, Mr. Barber explains, is from two Greek words meaning "wart seed"; but the owner of this cumbersome title has dainty golden-yellow flowers, with chocolate centres, very similar to coreopsis flowers.

All the 55 illustrations are excellent. There is one of *lavatera* Loveliness, which reminds me to use this beautiful plant again next year.

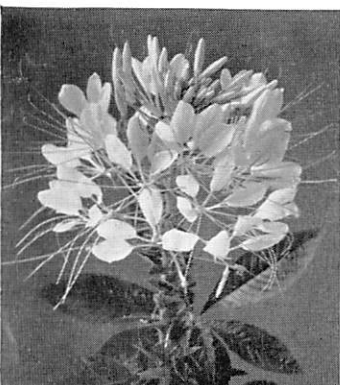
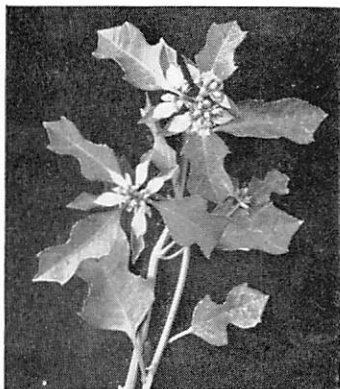
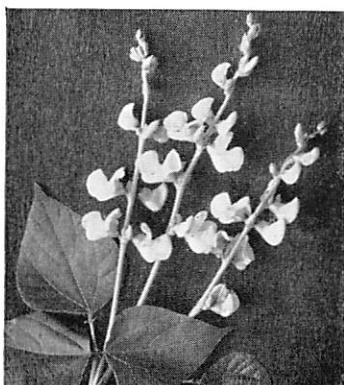
I shall also try *Collinsia*, for its popular names of innocence and Chinese houses. This pretty annual, Mr. Barber points out, does not object to partial shade. "The plant was named after Zacheus Collins, an American philanthropist, 1764-1831." It is these colourful allusions to a plant's past which make this book so readable. R.S.

"Technically Speaking..." Many readers have enjoyed the series of articles which Eric Ambrose has written for this magazine under the heading "Technically speaking, but not too technically."

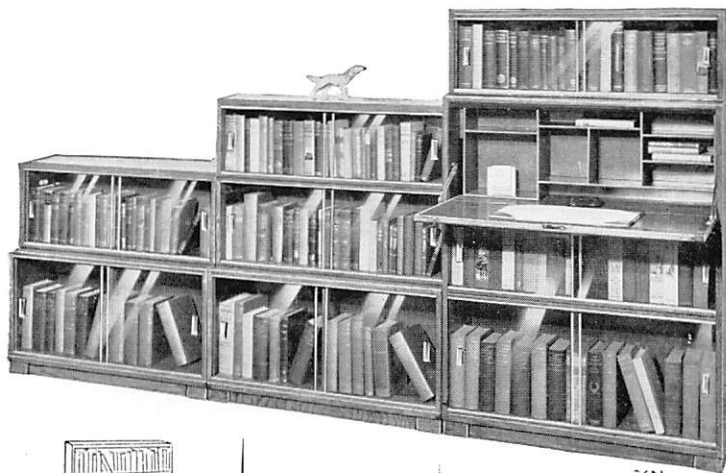
These articles are to be published in October by Thames & Hudson in book form with the title *Know Your House* (approx. 12s. 6d.). They have been, for the most part, revised and expanded, and more material and chapters have been added. The author's light, amusing and simple explanations of difficult technical matters which mystify the layman are decorated, as in the magazine, by Sheila Rusby's witty drawings.

*Know Your House* comprises three parts. In Part 1 are discussed building, buying and bettering; Part 2 deals with the services—plumbing, drains, heating, and wiring; Part 3 describes the ills which beset a house.

Three annuals illustrated in "Annual Flowers": the Hyacinth Bean (below), the Mexican Fire-plant (upper right), and the Spider Plant.



# Whodunit?

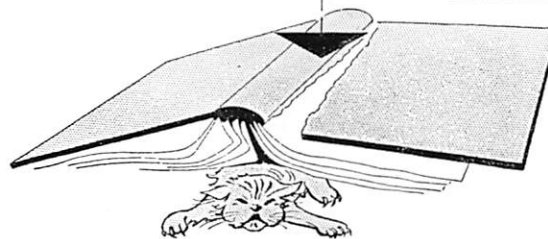


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36N

Who killed the Count of Monte Cristo?

The body was found on the lounge floor this morning, with its back broken. Circumstantial evidence points to Mehitabel (chasing sunbeams again). But that's the last time it can happen. In future, our favourite books are going to be protected by satin-sliding panels of heavy glass. Yes, it's a clear case for craftsman-made Minty Sectional Bookcases—all round.

Then, as we acquire new favourites, we can add new sections to accommodate them. That's the beauty of Minty. It can always be enlarged, yet is always complete.

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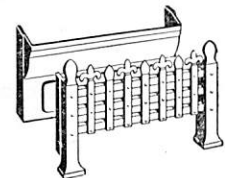
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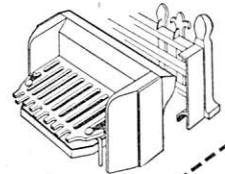
# A new kind of fire



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Rear part forms the continuous burning fire; front part a flush-fitting decorative grille. Fits standard 16" and 18" fireplaces. Sketch below shows assembly of firebricks in the Bilston 'Knight.'



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The 'Knight' will transform any fireplace into a sparkling centre of interest — and it saves fuel too. Behind its charming Elizabethan fleur-de-lys grille lies a modern continuous burning fire. Here's the way to warmer, lovelier rooms and trouble-free fires!

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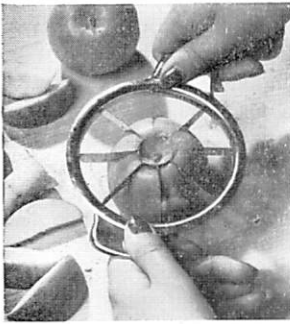
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# ITEMS

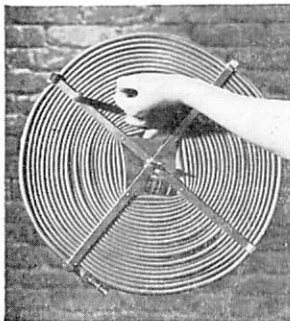
By JEAN GORDON



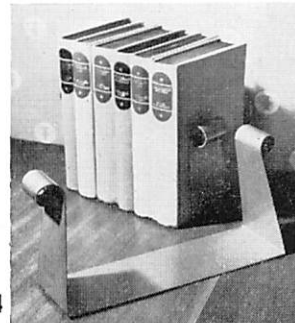
1



2



3



4



5



6

1 **SLICES AND CORES** in one operation : this neat new Tala kitchen tool cuts the apple into neat wedges of equal size at the same time as it removes the core. The frame is of steel, cast in one piece and nickel-plated ; handles are moulded. Price approximately 4s. 8d.

2 **BLACK INDELIBLE INK** {used in the new Scroll laundry marker ballpoint pen is permanent and water-proof, and the pen is suitable for writing on garden plant labels as well as for marking clothing, household linen, and other possessions. 5s. 6d., refills 2s. 1½d.

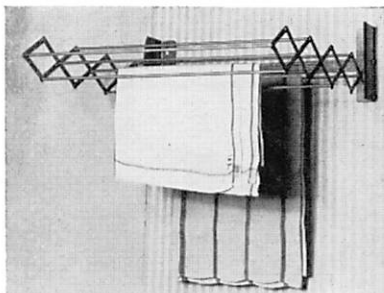
3 **SIXTY-FOOT COIL** of the new lightweight Plansel garden hose can be carried on the little finger, as shown here, but the synthetic compound of which the hose is made is so tough that a heavy weight can be placed on it without interrupting flow of water through its ½-in. bore. Complete with spray and jet nozzle, tap fittings, and metal spool with wall fitting for storage, £1 17s. 6d.

4 **REFERENCE BOOKS**, telephone directories, and odd volumes are kept together and easily accessible in a set of book stands by Beers Bros. They are strongly made in metal with dull gold finish, and the bases are sprayed with flock to prevent damage to tabletops. Set of three stands in graduated sizes, £1 2s. 9d.

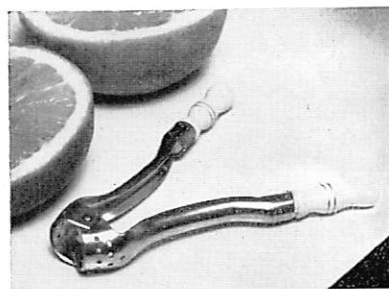
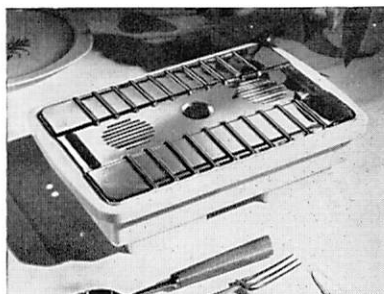
5 **WATERPROOF** rubber Cloggees for garden wear are strong, very comfortable, easily cleaned, resistant to oil. With the loose warm liners, size 3 to 5, 18s. 6d. per pair (postage 1s.) sizes 6 to 12, £1 per pair (postage 1s. 6d.). Half-sizes are not available.

6 **SEAT MOVES HORIZONTALLY** as the sitter changes position : adaptability of the New Parq stool reduces fatigue when one must sit for long periods. Rubber bearings fitted to the legs allow this movement of the seat in any direction ; the legs also adjust themselves to uneven floor surfaces, and the joints will not creak. Upholstery is good-quality leathercloth. Four sizes : 18 in. high, £3 5s. ; 20 in. high, £3 5s. 8d. ; 22 in. high, £3 6s. 4d. ; 24 in. high, £3 7s. Beales of Bournemouth.

**"TRELISCOPIC"**  
Myn clothes airer has 13½ ft. of airing space when open ; it telescopes to 18½ by 5¼ in., and when closed projects only 3¼ in. from the wall. Finished hammered silver-grey stoved enamel. The price is 19s. 11d.



**NIGHTLIGHT**  
Hotplate by Ekco consists of an ivory-coloured plastic base with detachable mild-steel cover, heavily chromed to resist rust and discoloration. Two glass containers beneath hold the nightlights. £1 7s. 6d.

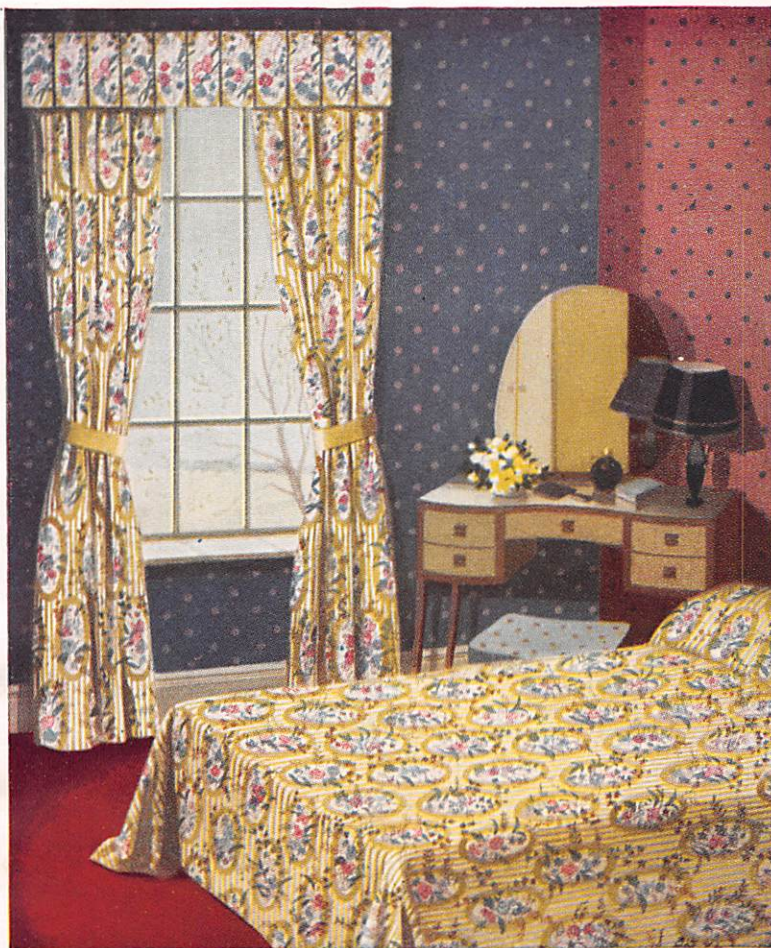


**GRAPEFRUIT**  
is quickly and neatly cored with this new Nut'rown corer, made of chromium-plated steel with sharp cutting edges and perforated so that juice can drain back into the fruit. The price of this useful tool is 4s. 6d.



**SPILL-PROOF**  
new Heinz baby tumbler teaches the small baby to drink from a cup ; the mouthpiece is perforated. In pink or blue plastic, price 1s. 11d. Also shown : Heinz strained creamed cereal, fortified with halibut liver oil.





## \* LET'S HAVE SOME NEW CURTAINS

The drab cold tones of winter call for a warming display of colours indoors, with the fresh cheering hues of Chalet fabrics giving a bright new character to every window in every room.

## \* LET'S MAKE THEM FROM

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**ASHFORD:** KNOWLES & CO. LTD., 105 High St.

**BIRMINGHAM:** BEEHIVE WAREHOUSE LTD., 27/45 Albert St. MAPLE & CO. LTD., 150 Corporation St.

**CARDIFF & SOUTH WALES:** SECCOMBES LTD., Queen St. DAVID MORGAN

LTD., The Hayes. KEMPS LTD., London House, Mumbles. Swansea. R. H. PAUL LTD., Holton Rd., Barry. DAVID EVANS & CO. LTD., The Strand, Swansea.

**GLASGOW:** THE HOUSEHOLD SUPPLY CO. LTD., London Rd. T. CONNELL, Allison Street, S.2.

**CORNWALL & DEVON:** W. J. COLERIDGE & SON, 5/6 Station Rd., Teignmouth. H. W. BRATT, 55 Church St., Falmouth.

**LEICESTER:** GRICE'S LTD., High St. KINGSTONES LTD., Belgrave Gate.

MORGAN SQUIRES LTD., Hotel St.

**LIVERPOOL:** F. B. BROWN LTD., Clayton Square. ROBINSON BROWN, 138 Queen's Drive.

**BIRKENHEAD & WALLASEY:** ROBERTS BROS., Liscard Road.

**MANCHESTER:** ELLWOODS (SILKS)

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**WOLVERHAMPTON:** JAMES BEATTIE LTD., Victoria St.

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**T**OUCHING the tip of a fan with a finger means in the language of the fan, "I wish to speak to you". This is a late 17th Century fan, hand-painted on chicken skin, depicting Acteon being turned into a deer by the goddess Diana. Colour photograph by courtesy of J. Duvelleroy, reproduced for your pleasure by the makers of

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## ITEMS Unillustrated

**Draughts.** Equinoctial gales are due this month, and many houses, particularly those in exposed positions, may need some extra protection against wind and driving rain. A useful draught-proofing outfit which can be used by the handyman consists of Atomic phosphor-bronze weatherstrip, which comes complete with pins for fixing. It is neat, non-corrosive, lasts indefinitely; after fixing, it is tooled to cause the untacked edge to buckle outwards, providing a draught-tight cushion between door and jamb or door and floor. The material, comes in 20-ft. rolls, price 15s. complete with the necessary fixing pins.

**Tested Paint Stripper.** Described as a lightning paint-remover, Tix (a new product by Devon Paints) has recently been tested in the Service Department, and does all the manufacturers claim for it. It softens paint so that it can be scraped or rubbed off, usually in about five minutes, although old and very hard paint may need up to 20 minutes, but then comes away cleanly. The surface is then rubbed with turpentine or turpentine substitute, and is ready for re-painting without any further preparation. Tix costs 7s. 9d. per pint (carriage 2s. 1d.), 14s. 9d. per quart (carriage, 2s. 5d.), £1 8s. 6d. per ½ gallon, or £2 15s. 6d. per gallon, both carriage paid.

**Self-service for Paints.** The Walpamur Co. has recently introduced a new set of counter display stands for four of their products, each with a rack for colour charts. The charts can be picked out and taken home by the purchaser, so that colours can be compared and matched at leisure. The four products, which cover most interior decorating jobs, are Marvosheen emulsion paint, Vesta oil varnish stain, Trojax enamel paint, and Marvo washable distemper. The display units (and the tins) were designed by Richard Lonsdale Hands Associates.

**Mothproof for Carpets.** A combined carpet shampoo and mothproof has been put on the market by Mayborn Products. It is Dylon Mothmaster, and consists of the amalgamation of a special detergent with DDT; the precise scientific balance ensures that each vital constituent functions with full efficiency and that one does not

impair the powers of the other. The detergent washes away the dirt, and at the same time the carpet is mothproofed for at least one season. This preparation can be used also for cleaning felt hats and similar articles, and for washing woolen clothing and blankets, which it also mothproofs effectively. It costs 3s. 6d.

**Washing Fine China.** Mr. Spencer Copeland, scientific director of the Spode Copeland works, said recently that after a series of tests he could recommend the use of household detergents for the washing of china. He advised the use of the smallest quantity of detergent, and recommended only moderately hot water, because damage to colours and delicate decoration became marked if water temperature exceeded 140 deg. F. Fine china can be scratched by harsh washing methods and by careless stacking; two pieces of equal hardness are always capable of scratching each other. The sheen of some colours can also be damaged by food acids, such as lemon, vinegar, or pineapple juice, if they are left in contact with the china for too long.

**A Brainwave.** The manufacturers of Sec toilet paper have now incorporated a rip device to open both the wrapper and the roll in one pull, a simple idea but an advance in this type of packaging. The paper is good quality, and the roll, fitted with this new Eezierip opening device, costs 9d.

**Cleaner for Perspex.** A new product by Douglas Holt removes cloudiness and discoloration from this material, and is non-abrasive so that it cannot scratch the surface. Useful in the house and in the garage, a long-lasting bottle of liquid cleaner costs 1s. 2d.

**Safeguards for food.** Fish, fresh meat and poultry are handled many times before they reach the kitchen, and it is wise to sterilise these commodities, to destroy germs which could cause rapid deterioration, before they are put away in larder or refrigerator. Milton is a chemical steriliser which can be used with complete safety on food, and some useful information on the subject is included in the new "Milton in the Home" book-

*continued overleaf*

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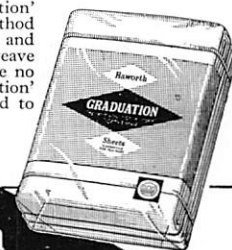
When you choose the new Haworth 'Graduation' sheets you are buying at least ten years' guaranteed wear. These are the only sheets made with a special graduated weave

which gives them exceptional strength yet leaves them as smooth and lovely as any other fine quality sheet. This strengthening process is carried out so skilfully and gradually that the difference between Haworth 'Graduation' and ordinary sheets cannot normally be seen. But the sectional diagrams of sheets illustrated below show just *why* every 'Graduation' sheet has an extra all-over strength. These specially long-lasting sheets are well worth buying! In best quality white cotton, they're in popular sizes, 70", 80" and 90" x 108" (actual size) at reasonable prices.

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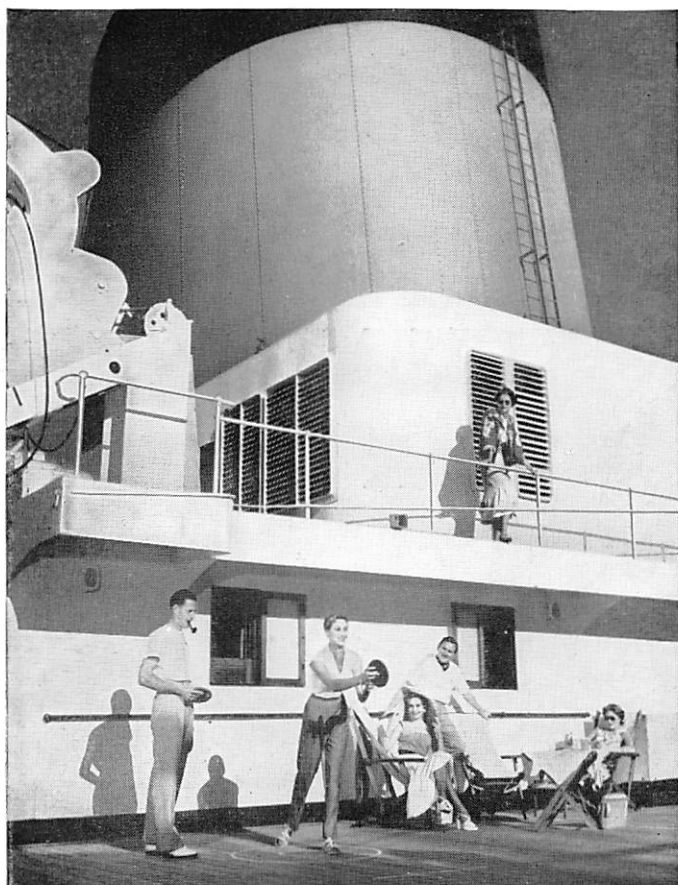
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## ITEMS *Unillustrated*

*continued*

let, available free. A rinse in Milton solution also prevents mould and fungi from spreading on fresh and dried fruit.

**Turkeys by Post.** This is a new enterprise by P. P. Poultry, Ltd., who are supplying young succulent turkeys, averaging 7 lb. untrussed, throughout the year. Birds are plucked immediately they are killed, and are trussed and placed in a transparent airtight bag. They are mailed within 48 hours of receipt of order, dressed and trussed ready for the oven, for £1 10s. Each turkey will provide eight full meals, with enough meat over for sandwiches or fricassee.

**Dietetic Products.** Highly satisfying to eat, a point which will be particularly appreciated by those on restricted diets, Energen rolls contain only one-eighth the amount of starch in ordinary bread, are low in carbohydrate, and virtually salt-free. Energen breakfast flakes have the same good qualities as the rolls, and provide a good and satisfying foundation for the first meal of the day.

People (not necessarily on diets) who appreciate the full flavour of the fruit will like the new Energen fruit preserves, which contain considerably less sugar than ordinary jams and are made to an improved formula.

**Canned Foods.** The Canned Foods Advisory Bureau, to promote wider interest in these foods and to advise by means of demonstrations, lectures, films, and leaflets how best to prepare and serve them, has been opened at 17, Wigmore Street, London, W.1. It contains a well-equipped experimental kitchen, where recipes are devised and tested. The Principal of the Bureau is Miss Christine MacNab.

**Curtain Making.** Every stage, from choice of fabric to the hanging of the finished curtain, is clearly explained in a new booklet issued by Thos. French & Sons, makers of Rufflette reversible curtain tape. This tape is now being produced with stronger reinforced pockets and drawcords of Egyptian cotton with great tensile strength. The two-way strengthening has been introduced to meet the requirements of the exceptionally long and heavy

curtain, and also to offset the effects of repeated laundering and hard wear and tear.

**Hand-made Pottery.** In the photograph of a loggia lunch table from the recent "Round the Table" Exhibition at the Tea Centre in London, reproduced on page 49 of our June issue, most of the appointments were hand-made studio pottery. The small jug and soup bowls are Ehlers pottery, the large jug and beakers Holkham Studio pottery from Norfolk, and the cruet is by Marie Seviens of Hampstead.

**Invisible Gloves.** Barrier creams are of great value in protecting the hands from damage caused by manual work in house or garden; Rozalex creams cover every possible chore. Barrier cream No. 1 is applied before starting any dry work; it prevents dust or grease from touching the skin, and is removed when the hands are washed. Barrier cream No. 8 is applied before putting the hands into water; one application lasts for approximately half a day.

**Regency Exhibition.** The revival of interest in the decoration and furnishings of the Regency period is making a more than temporary mark. The Regent's own tastes, which had so much influence on the style, are best to be seen at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton. It will be open daily until October 3 (10 a.m.—8 p.m., including Sundays). Among exhibits this year are important loans from the Royal collections, including Royal plate from Buckingham Palace.

**R.A.F. Benevolent Fund.** Battle of Britain Week falls this year from September 13 to 19, and we appeal to readers to help this organisation, which is doing so much for serving and ex-Service personnel of the R.A.F., W.R.A.F. and their dependants. An important part of its activities is help with the education of the children of officers and airmen who have lost their lives or have been disabled, and the Fund maintains two schools at Blackheath and Sevenoaks. Address for donations: The Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund, 67, Portland Place, London, W.1.

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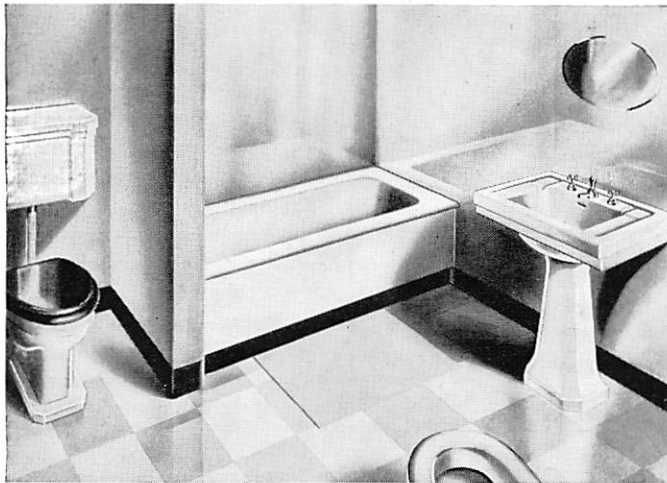
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one of six completely fitted bathrooms which we invite you to see in our showrooms together with three modern unit kitchens and numerous accessories from which you can make your choice.

You will find it well worth while to visit our showrooms at

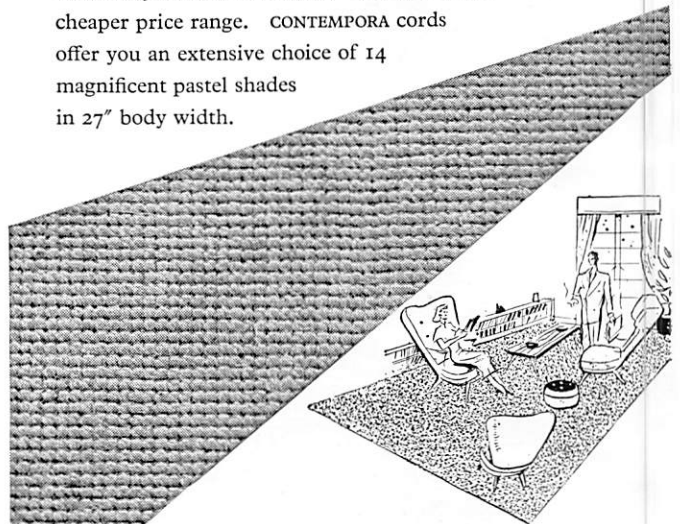
22 PRAED STREET, PADDINGTON, W.2

*Bathrooms by Broads*

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In contemporary carpeting with Humphries' hard wearing cords—the carpeting ideally suitable for all rooms, halls and stairways—yet within the cheaper price range. CONTEMPORA cords offer you an extensive choice of 14 magnificent pastel shades in 27" body width.



## CONTEMPORA

cords create harmony in pastel tones

★ See this new Humphries range at your local store. If any difficulty, write to us for the name of your nearest stockist.

A. V. HUMPHRIES LTD., 5, NEWGATE STREET, LONDON, E.C.1  
Specialists in fine furnishing fabrics and carpeting of every description

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Suede fabric finish

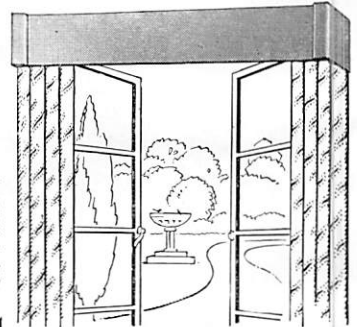
FOR STRAIGHT OR  
BAY WINDOWS

From **21/-** Complete

No Purchase Tax

The modern window fitting which is easily adapted to fit any straight or bay window. Fixed in a few minutes. Made of the finest selected Timber with the new suede fabric finish in lovely colours: IVORY, BISCUIT, OLD GOLD, BLUE, ROSE, GREEN, RUST, GOLDEN BROWN, NUT BROWN. Also Matt finish for home painting.

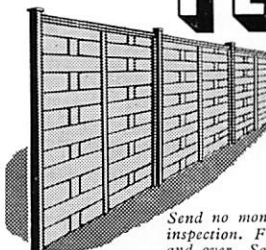
From Soft Furnishers and Stores everywhere, including:  
**JOHN BARKERS, GAMAGES, CATESBYS, Etc.**



For full details and a sample of the Suede Fabric Finish, please send stamped addressed envelope, stating colour preferred. **JAMES HEWETT** (Desk 32), 122 High St., Staines, Middlesex

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## WOVEN FENCING



Search the Dailies... Gardening Papers... or look around the corner. You'll find nothing compares in price with BETA Woven Fencing. Satisfaction assured. Prompt road delivery. C.O.D.

6' LONG PANELS Creosoted.  
3' high 14/- ea. 4' high 18/9 ea.  
5' high 23/6 ea. 6' high 28/- ea.  
POSTS (3" x 3").  
5' 4/2 each ... 6' 5/- each  
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Send no money — we deliver direct to enable inspection. Free delivery 25 miles on £5 orders and over. Sole BETA stockist in your area:—

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# Only **VITAFOAM** offer a **FULL DEPTH·FULL SIZE FOAM MATTRESS** for **£22/17/6**



Sheer luxury at the lowest-ever price! Sleeping on your latex foam mattress is just like drifting on a cloud. It never develops uncomfortable lumps or hollows and always gives you perfect support. Ideal for invalids, it's self-ventilating, full of tiny pocketed air bubbles keeping you cool in summer yet warm in winter. "Vitafoam" saves housework too, it *never* needs turning, and is dust-, damp- and moth-proof. Lasts a lifetime without cleaning or remaking!

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*up to 20% cheaper!*

For a relaxed, restful sleep . . . . "Vitafoam" pillows give your head perfect support, and stay cool and airy all night long. They are ideal for asthmatics because they're dust-proof and completely hygienic.

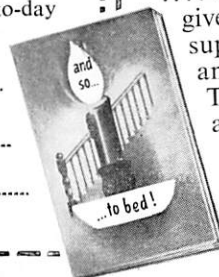
PILLOW	originally 49/6	now <b>39/6</b>
BOLSTER	originally 29/6	now <b>23/6</b>
BABY PILLOW	originally 24/9	now <b>23/6</b>

Free. Illustrated folder describing the "Vitafoam" mattress in detail. Why don't you learn its advantages, too? Post coupon, or write to-day to—Vitafoam Ltd., Glen Mill, Oldham.

**NAME** .....

**ADDRESS** .....

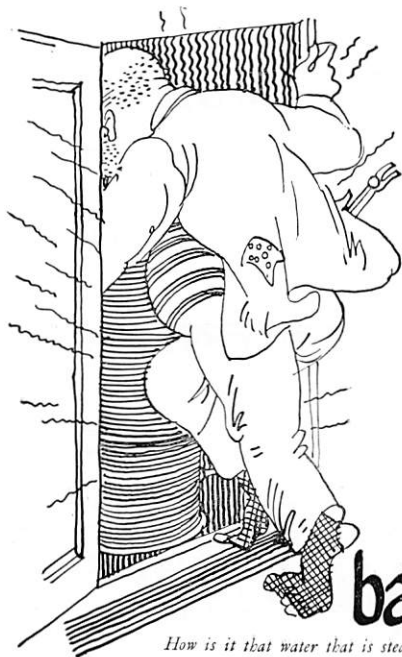
BLOCK CAPITALS



**VITAFOAM LIMITED    GLEN MILL · OLDHAM    LANCASHIRE**







Is  
there  
a  
thief  
in  
your  
bathroom?

How is it that water that is steaming hot in the tank when you go to bed is cold the next morning? Is a thief syphoning off your precious hot water and ruthlessly replacing it with cold?—THE ANSWER IS YES. The heat has been stolen and the thief is cold air. You can keep that thief away so surely and so easily by fitting "Insulatum" . . . it keeps the cylinder snug and warm and keeps the water it contains piping hot.

**INSULATUM**

## The amazing heat retaining bandage

QUICKLY PAYS FOR ITSELF BY THE FUEL IT SAVES

With "Insulatum" wrapped round your hot water tank, water that is hot at night is still hot next morning—even without the help of an all-night fire.

### THINK CAREFULLY WHAT THIS MEANS

It means that all the expensive fuel you have burned and the costs you have incurred by using the immersion heater are not wasted overnight and you are assured of the comfort and convenience of hot water even on the coldest morning.

### SAVE ON FUEL—SAVE ON IMMERSION HEATER COSTS—FIT "INSULATUM" NOW!

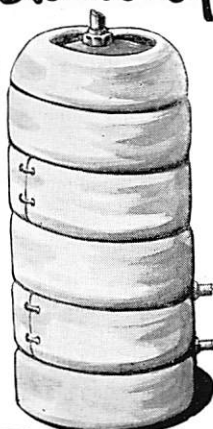
"Insulatum" is easy to wrap round any cylinder. Anyone can do it and no tools at all are required. No cutting or tailoring of the bandage is required—even though the cylinder's inlet and outlet pipes are in awkward places—even though an immersion heater is fitted in the top or side of the cylinder.

"Insulatum" Information—an interesting leaflet on the subject is available free on request.

ALL DIRECT ORDERS DESPATCHED BY RETURN POST  
Money back if unsatisfied

Lasts a lifetime without attention  
after the initial fitting

SIMPLY AND QUICKLY FITTED • CANNOT GO WRONG • HARMLESS  
THE "INSULATUM" COMPANY  
BARRACK ROAD LEEDS 7

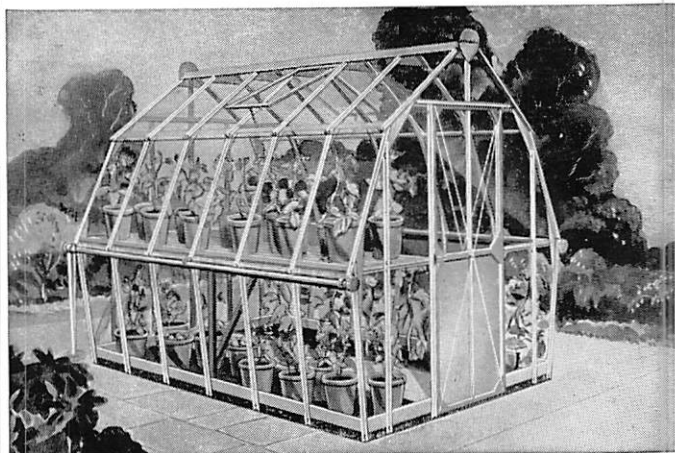


Supplied in 9 ft. lengths eyeletted for fitting together. An average size tank 36" x 17" diam. will need three lengths at 23/- each.

**69/- POST FREE**  
IS ALL IT COSTS TO WRAP THE AVERAGE-SIZE TANK  
Fully illustrated fixing leaflet sent with each purchase. Special quotations given on receipt of tank size.  
**NO EXTRAS**

**VISI-CHICK**  
The name you know

**MAXIMUM LIGHT GREENHOUSES**



- Scientifically designed to catch low rays of winter sun and withstand storms.
- Only a spanner and screwdriver needed to erect.
- Glass firmly secured without putty or nuts and bolts.
- Available in aluminium or galvanised steel.
- Maintenance reduced to minimum.
- From 6 ft. long extendible by 18 in. sections.
- Popular 9 ft. model.

STEEL ... .. £37. 0.0  
ALUMINIUM ... .. £45.15.0

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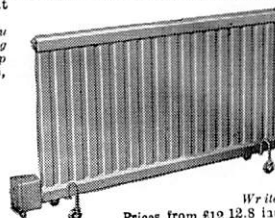
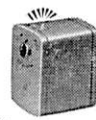
Please send for fully illustrated leaflet, showing the many advantages of the Visi-Chick Greenhouses.

**VISI-CHICK BROODER CO. LTD. • BRADFORD MILL • COLNE 7 • LANC'S**  
TELEPHONE: COLNE 974/5 TELEGRAMS: "VISICHICK," COLNE

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THERMOSTATICALLY CONTROLLED. Perfect heating with economy, easily transportable, no fumes. Ideal for the Hall and Nursery. Panel type as illustrated with the NEW easy-flow castors and "Sure Seal" safety design, 5 models, 1 to 2 kw. Clip-on Chromium Towel Rails from 26/6d. Column type 4 models also 1 to 2 kw. as illustrated with stylish wrought iron frame extra.  
Pilot light to tell you when current is being consumed. Finger-tip Thermostat High, Medium, Low.



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Prices from £12.12.8 inc. P.T.

G.B.M. ELECTRICAL (BIRMINGHAM) LTD., 439, MOSELEY RD., BIRMINGHAM, 12 • Calthorpe 2854

**HERE'S HEALTH!**  
with a heavenly smell

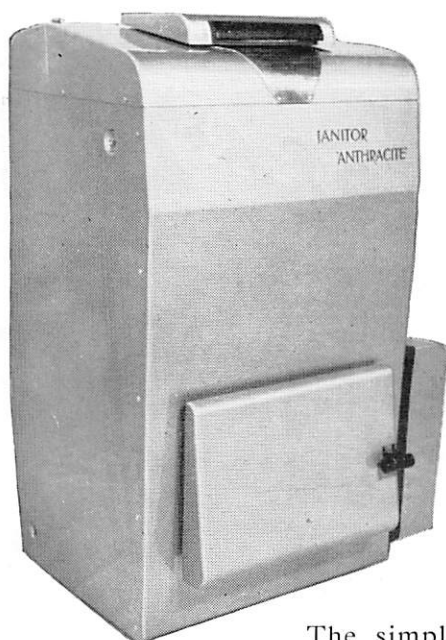
Fresh, fragrant pine-scented **EPIX** is a powerful yet gentle disinfectant and a little goes a long, long way. Use **EPIX** on every danger spot where bacteria can breed. It's safe, wonderfully economical and death to germs. Obtainable everywhere, large bottle 1/-.

**EPIX**

THE DELIGHTFUL DISINFECTANT

Made by PARKINSONS, Manufacturing Chemists, Burnley





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Automatic solid fuel boiler

The simplicity, cleanliness and economy of the Janitor Automatic Solid Fuel Boiler, make it the natural choice of housewives.

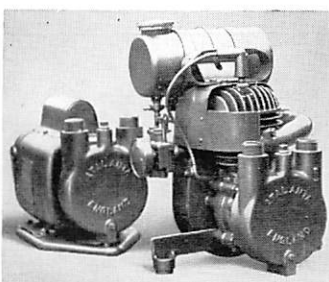
### JANITOR BOILERS LTD

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Why be bothered with the complications of V-belts, valves, springs, pistons, etc., when this latest PATENT DESIGN is simplicity itself, and will do all that one requires for spraying, washing, household and long distant pumping, etc.? Unaffected by oil or petrol.



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Manufacturers of Pumps in all sizes from 50,000 g.p.h. to 150 p.s.i.

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Performance of electric pump G.P.H.

50 P.S.I. or 120 HEAD	350
75 " " 170 "	270
100 " " 240 "	200

Price £22 (either with J.A.P. engine or Electric Motor)

Performance with J.A.P. engine G.P.H.

50 P.S.I. or 120 HEAD	400
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100 " " 240 "	325
125 " " 290 "	300
150 " " 360 "	200



### The "CROWN" Cup or Clothes Hook

Galvanised steel centre — moulded polythene exterior. Variety of colours. Ideal for hospitals, cloakrooms, household uses, etc. Extra strength.

Obtainable at your local stores or ironmongers. If any difficulty please write direct to manufacturers.

LITCHFIELD BROTHERS LTD BROADHOLME - BELPER DERBYSHIRE



## Beautifully polished and O, so easy!

WITH O-CEDAR POLISH it's amazingly easy to dust-clean-and-polish your furniture, panelling, paint and enamel work, glazed tiles, mirrors, windows, etc.

O-Cedar is no ordinary polish. It is the product of years of scientific study. Every drop is made to **DUST CLEAN · POLISH · PRESERVE · DISINFECT.**

As it dusts-cleans-and-polishes your furniture, O-Cedar Polish brings out all the beauty of the grain, and preserves the wood.

### O-CEDAR POLISH SAFEGUARDS HEALTH

O-Cedar Polish does not scatter the dust but collects and holds it thus safely removing dangerous dust-borne bacteria. It cleanses everything it polishes. Disinfects too. It has a clean sweet perfume. O-Cedar is used in hospitals, etc., as well as in hundreds of thousands of healthy homes.



The all-purpose and most economical polish

Prices: Bottle 1/6d. Large Economy size 2/10½d.

Don't forget to refresh the Impregnation of your O-Cedar Mop by periodically adding a little O-Cedar Polish. See instructions on Mop Can.

## O-Cedar POLISH

STOCKED BY IRONMONGERS, HARDWAREMEN, STORES, ETC.



LADIES! YOU **MUST** TRY...

# THE NEW TOPPS

## Silicone FURNITURE CREAM



which contains Silicones, the magic glass-like substance that gives furniture a gleaming, protective, lasting polish. Topps cannot fingermark, "bloom" or waterstain. Dust and dirt will not stick to it.

**JUST WIPE IT ON—JUST WIPE IT OFF**

Shake a small amount of TOPPS on to a clean cloth, smooth it over the surface to remove dust and grease, leave it a few moments, then wipe it away —THAT'S ALL!

**Cleans! Polishes!! PROTECTS!!!**  
**with Positively NO RUBBING.**

# TOPPS

**IS IN THE SHOPS!**

Buy a bottle today... Make your home gleam without the drudgery of hard rubbing.

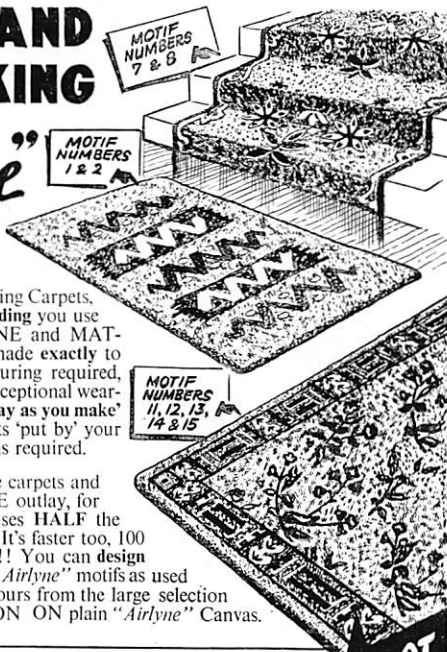
TOPPS is proudly introduced by E. R. Howard Ltd., Howard House, Ipswich, Suffolk

## CARPET AND RUG MAKING

THE NEW  
**"Airlyne"**  
 WAY

It's well worth while, making Carpets, Rugs and Runners, providing you use the "Airlyne" MACHINE and MATERIALS. They can be made exactly to the size, shape and colouring required, and are noted for their exceptional wearing qualities. You can "Pay as you make" - most "Airlyne" stockists 'put by' your wool and you purchase as required.

Make luxurious deep pile carpets and rugs at a REASONABLE outlay, for the "Airlyne" method uses HALF the wool required by others. It's faster too, 100 double loops per minute!! You can design your own with the new "Airlyne" motifs as used in these designs, choose yours from the large selection available and JUST IRON ON plain "Airlyne" Canvas.



PLEASE SEND FULL DETAILS OF THE NEW AIRLYNE MOTIFS, AIRLYNE MACHINE & MATERIALS & MY NEAREST STOCKIST

NAME .....

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TOWN .....

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**POST NOW**

Fill in the coupon without delay and send to "AIRLYNE" PRODUCTS, Dept. 3, Abergale, Denbighshire

FOR "IN AND AROUND" THE HOUSE USE

# Seelastik

**to fill and seal  
 gaps, cracks, seams or joints  
 permanently**

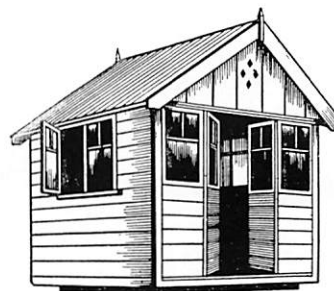
between any two clean, dry surfaces or combination of brick, cement, mortar, earthenware, glass, metal, stone, tile, wood, etc. It does every kind of job from stopping gutter leaks to re-pointing window and door frames. SEELASTIK provides a lasting weatherproof, air tight seal: it never becomes brittle-hard, but sets to a firm flexible consistency—and Seelastik takes all oil paints.



A Sealing Compound and Tool  
 all in one  
 price 3/- complete

Obtainable from: Ironmongers, Builders Merchants, Stores, Garages, etc.

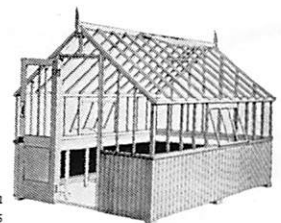
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## GREENHOUSES

Write for free Illustrated Catalogue of Garden Sheds, Garages, Loose Boxes and Buildings suitable for Staff Quarters.—Garden Furniture.



**FREDERICK PORTABLE BUILDINGS LTD. (H)**  
 BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.

Telephone: 851



Contemporary Lighting with  
**"MULTIRAY"**  
 and  
**"RIBBONRAY"**

at prices within the range of every pocket.

The double shade illustrated is the 17" CF.702 in washable silk-like nylon plastic, cherry red outside and snowdrop white inside. Also in daffodil and a large range of other colours. Price £1.15.5 inc. P.Tax. Packing and postage 3/- extra. Rise and fall fitting in several contemporary colours. £1.17.3 extra inc. P.Tax.

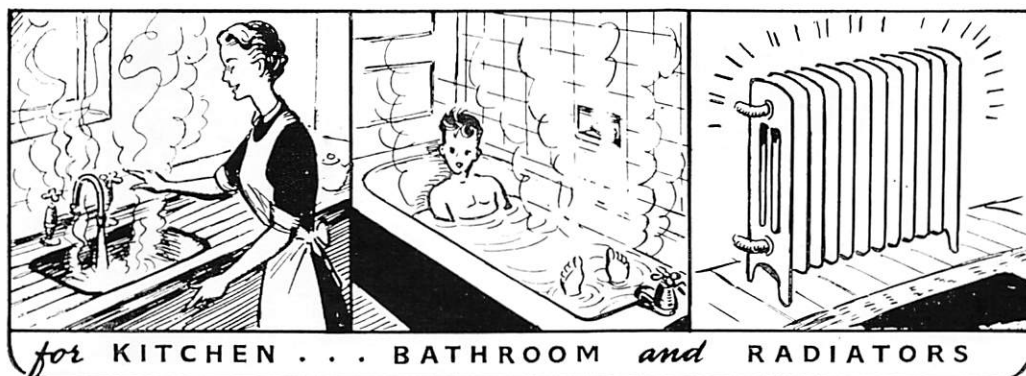
At all good shops, or write for literature to:

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 55 OLD CHURCH STREET,  
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Here's the **ECONOMICAL** way to get

# Instant Hot Water

AND PLENTY  
OF IT!



for KITCHEN . . . BATHROOM and RADIATORS

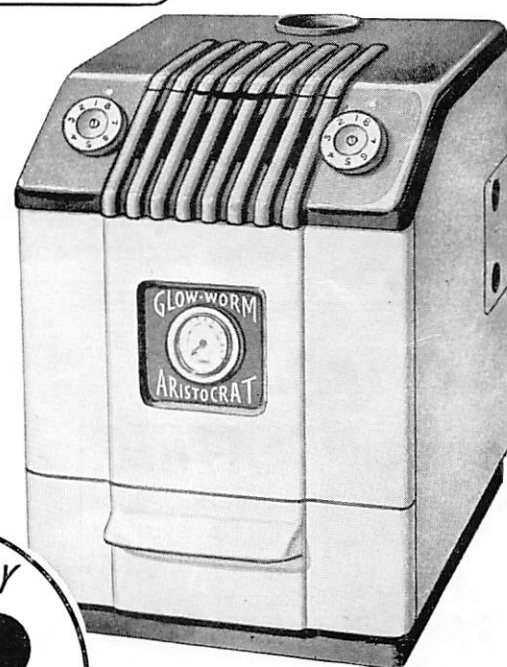
The NEW

**GLOW-WORM**

## ARISTOCRAT

THERMOSTATICALLY CONTROLLED BOILER

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PRICE ONLY

**£22**

5 YEARS'  
GUARANTEE

THIS IS THE GLOW-WORM

**A25**

THE ONLY  
FULLY AUTOMATIC  
BOILER

The Aristocrat's big  
brother — provides  
hot water and up to  
FOUR Radiators on

ONE FUELLING  
A DAY



Price  
**£32.10.0** 5 YEARS' GUARANTEE

Now is the time to instal your wonder  
GLOW-WORM Boiler. See your  
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# HARDURA

**Solves all Flooring Problems**

The modern Plastic Floor Covering complete with thick jute underfelt. Perfect where carpet is too expensive or unsuitable.


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Widths for stairs, passages and rooms in Fawn, Green, Red, Chocolate, Red/Brown, Blue, Grey.

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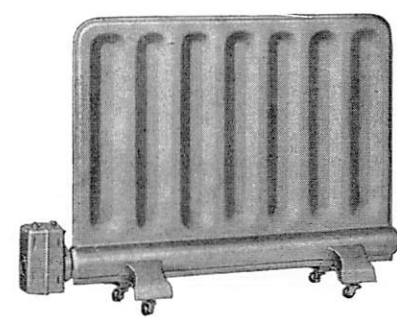
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World Renowned  
QUALITY PRODUCTS

AUTOMATIC  
*Thermostatically Controlled*  
"plug in"  
RADIATORS



RATING:  
500 watt  
750 watt  
1,000 watt  
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With Castors, "Silent Dome" Feet or for Wall Mounting

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without  
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**The ELECTROMATIC** brings every modern advantage to central heating and hot water systems. It is fully automatic, quiet in operation and trouble free. It is economical for it is thermostatically controlled and eliminates waste. It is an OIL-BURNER and therefore does away with much daily drudgery. It can be fitted to practically any existing type of boiler.

We shall be happy to give you the fullest details and our advice upon request. It will be helpful if you can state the type of your existing boiler and the number of radiators and hot water points.

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Sutton Common Road, Sutton, Surrey  
Telephone: FAIRLANDS 8844 (4 lines)  
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The Permanent Precut  
Solid Timber House  
as  
recently introduced  
to  
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NOW AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT U.K. FOR  
ERECTION ON YOUR OWN PLOT OF LAND

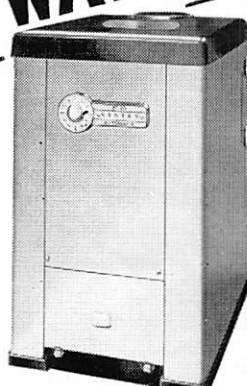
For further particulars of this compact, well-designed  
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Telephone: WHITEHALL 9351

# Controlled HOT WATER

Just a  
LITTLE  
or  
LOTS



For economical hot water supply. All the hot water you require up to two baths an hour if necessary. Fuel consumption automatically controlled by thermostat. Continuous burning fire requires refuelling twice a day only. Available in Cream, White, Apple Green and Powder Blue.

Price **£25.15.0**

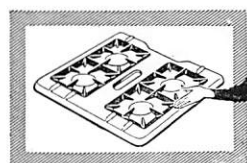
## No.30 SENTRY Automatic Boiler

Send for illus. folder No. 2 giving full particulars.

## THE SENTRY BOILER CO. LTD.

36 NEWMAN STREET • LONDON • W.1

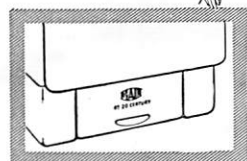
## More meals to the therm Less work to the week



**Identical Twins Burners** are ranged in interchangeable pairs. All four boil as fast or simmer as gently as you like.

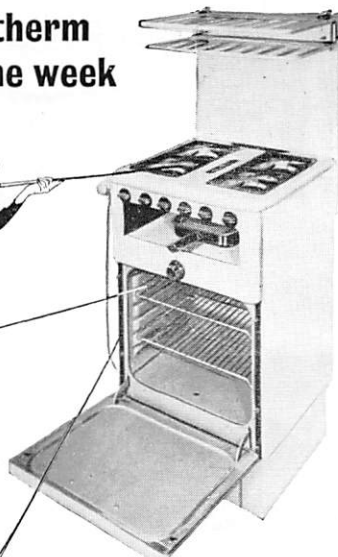


Inside Family-size oven (round-cornered for easy cleaning) is lit from front. Temperature controlled by Mainstat.



Outside Cream enamel, rounded corners. Plinth base to house baking tins. Gas pistol optional.

Note the name made by **MAIN**



Certainly the Main 'Century' saves effort, gas and time, and gives you wonderful cooking. But you can't pack all its advantages in a phrase or two because it's a mass of clever details. The only thing is to see it for yourself!

THE MAIN No. 20  
**CENTURY**  
GAS COOKER

See it at your gas showrooms. If you cook on gas you must have THE MAIN COOKERY BOOK. Over 750 recipes. Useful hints on gas cooking. 300 pages. 5/- post free from Dept. I.H. R & A Main Ltd, 48 Grosvenor Gardens, London, S.W.1



## takes your floors off your mind!

*You need never Scrub or Polish again!*

Floors treated with Bourne Seal have a soft sheen and a stain-proof non-slippery surface. Bourne Seal will also beautify and protect all woodwork both indoors and out. This protective penetrative dressing seals most porous surfaces so that wiping with a damp cloth easily removes any dirty marks. So durable that it has been used for years in thousands of schools, Bourne Seal is now available to you.

From Hardware shops or direct. Write for trial size 4/6 plus 1/- postage or free booklet to Dept. E.4.

**FLOOR TREATMENTS LTD.,**  
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Telephone No.: Tate Gallery 4060



## Hawkins 'HANDYMIX'

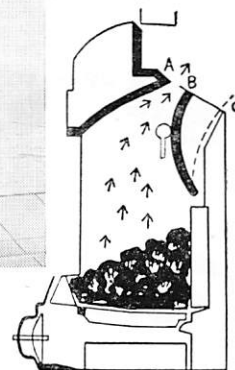
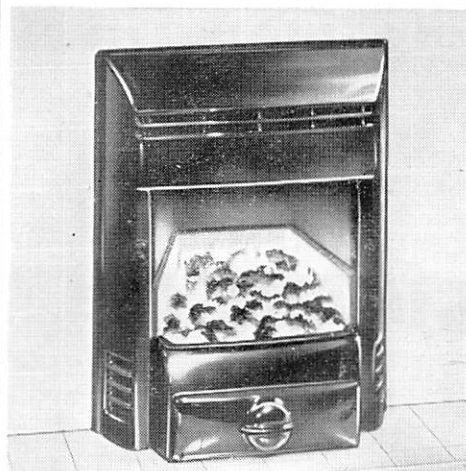
The Hawkins Handymix beats, mixes, whips to perfection, and in addition mashes potatoes and other vegetables right at the stove. It has two gears for fast and slow rotation and three easily interchangeable stainless steel heaters. Attractively finished in gleaming chromum and cream enamel—a wonderful time and labour saver.

PRICE COMPLETE £6.12.4

Please write for further details from:



**L. G. HAWKINS & CO. LTD., DRURY LANE, LONDON, W.C.2**



## Who ever heard of a fire with a restrictable throat?

This is new: and it's important. It's the latest fuel-saving device which Government Committees recommend. Every fire ought to have one—but few do.

What does it do? It gets more warmth out of less fuel. It means that the amount of heat you would normally lose up the chimney is reduced by half.

The way a fire burns depends on the draught it gets. And that depends on all kinds of things: the size and shape of the room; the wind; the chimney; the number and position and good fitting of your doors and windows; and so on.

As chimney draughts vary so much, you will not get the advantage of a restricted throat if its size is fixed: it could be either too large or too small.

The new AI Projector Fire. How the Restrictable Throat works. There is a plate across the chimney, hinged at the bottom, and a tool to adjust it with. Push this plate back, and the chimney-opening is wide, A-C. Pull the plate forward and you restrict the throat to A-B.

Suppose the throat were fixed? Fix it wide, and the chimney sucks up far too much hot air: cold air has to come in to replace it: down goes the temperature, up goes the fuel consumption, WHOOSH go the draughts! Fix the throat narrow, and the fire will smoke.

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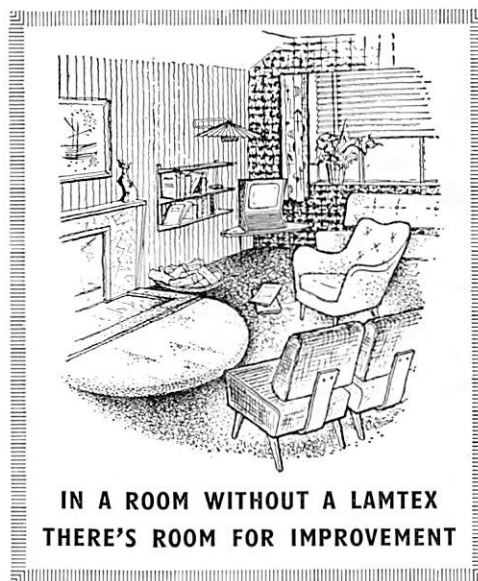
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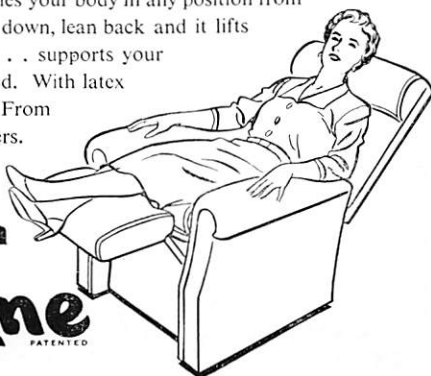
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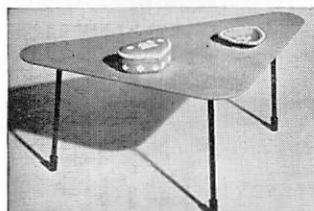
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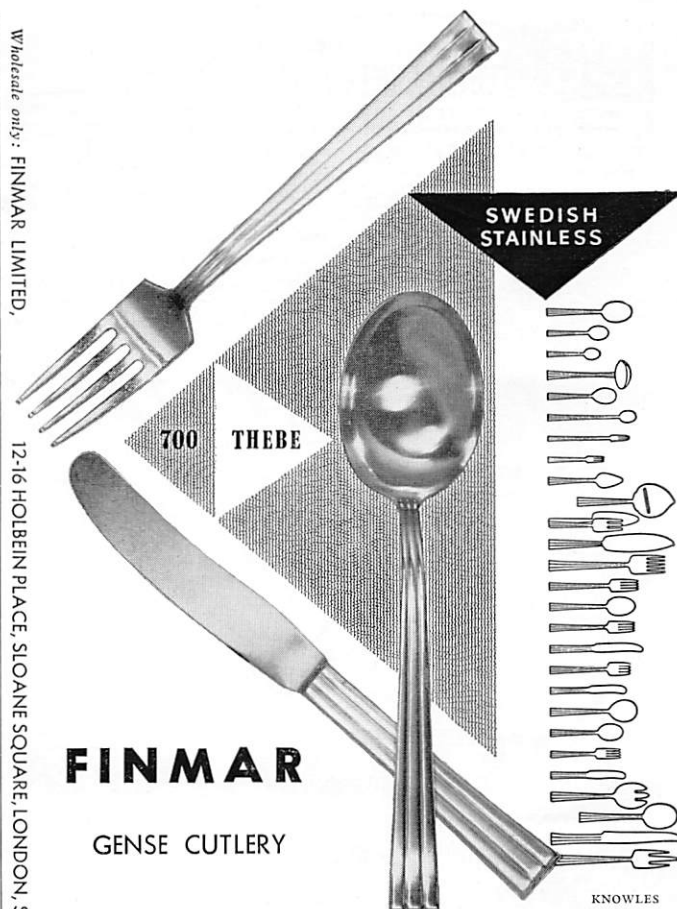
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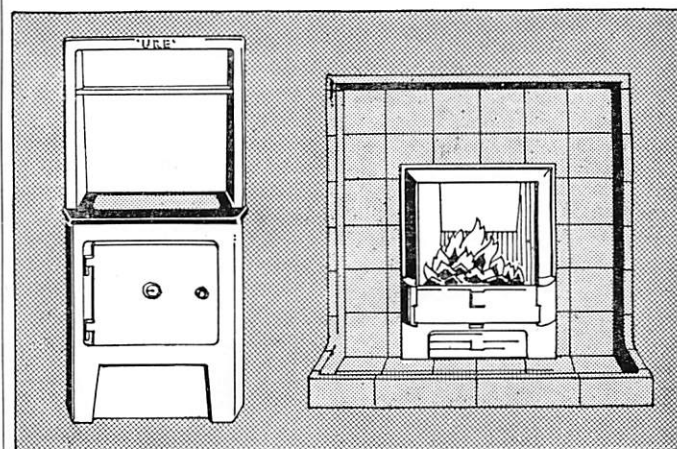
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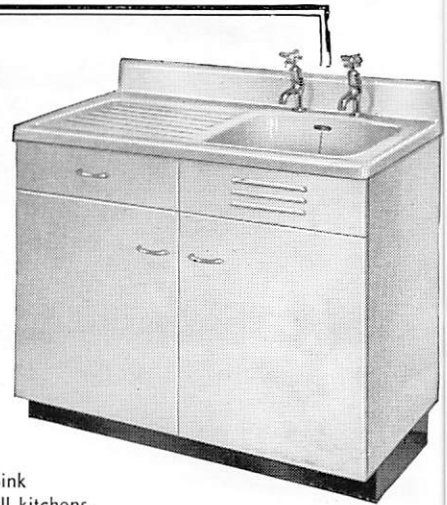
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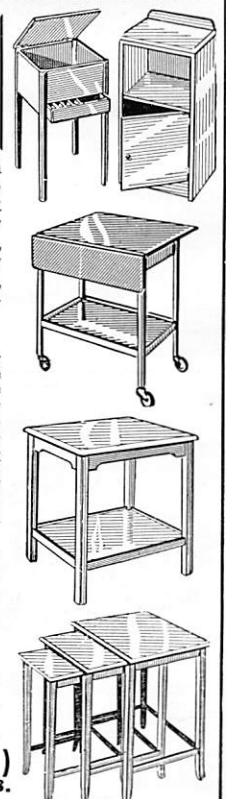
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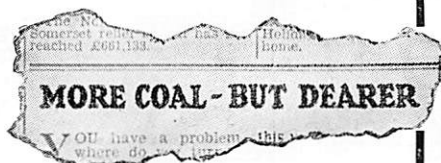
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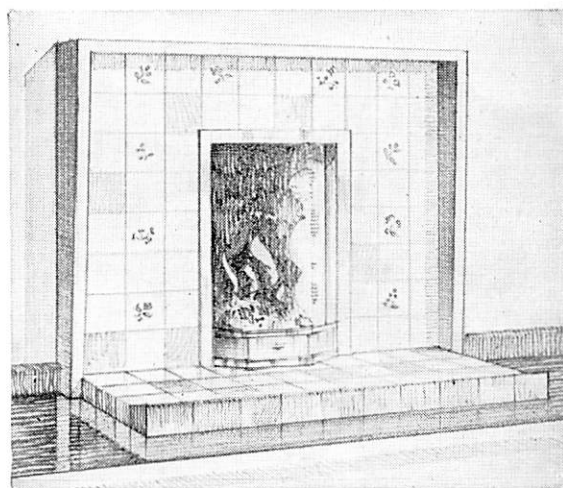
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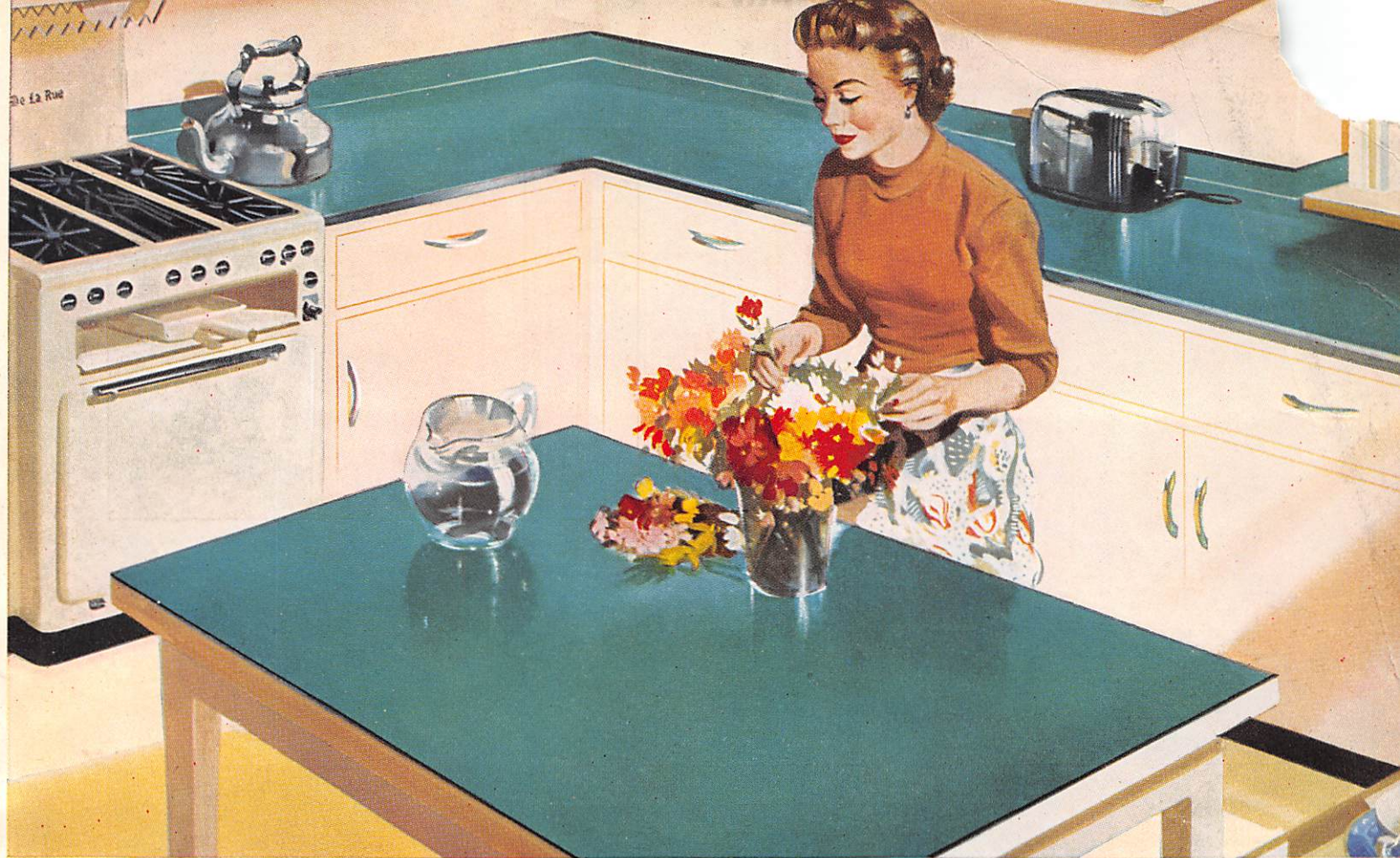
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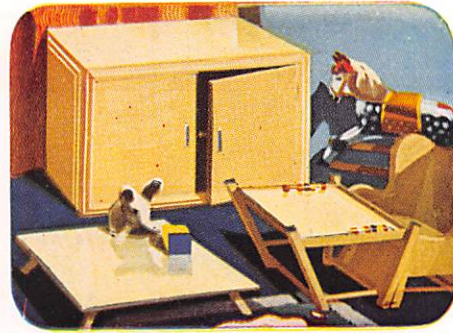
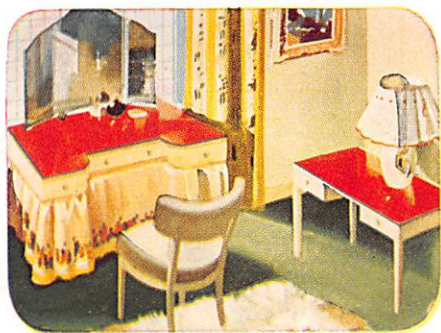
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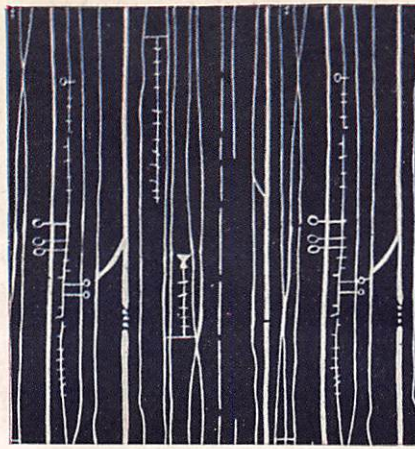


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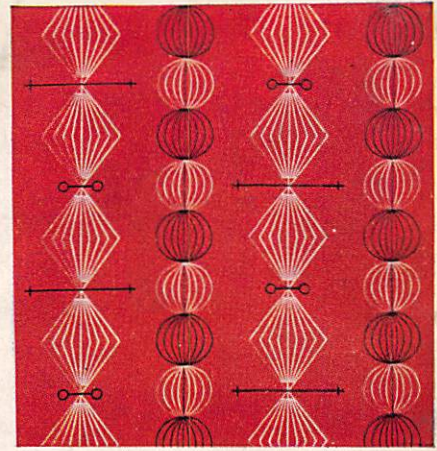
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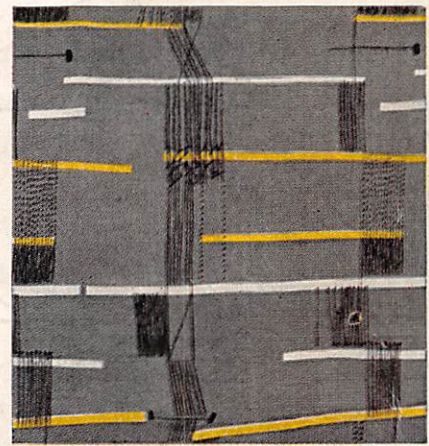
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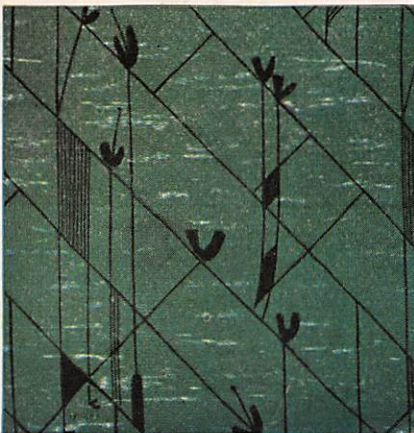
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