THE

AMERICAN FROM THE NOW 25 TO THE PARTY OF THE

FOR CHRISTMAS * 25





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G-E Automatic Coffee Maker. Makes 2 to 9 cups perfectly. No watching! No timing! Select strength...light signals you when ready, coffee stays hot. \$29.95*



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G-E Automatic Toaster has the most dependable toasting mechanism ever developed. Extra-high toast lift; 6-position control. Snap-out crumb tray. \$19.95*



G-E Automatic Grill and Waffle Baker...It grills sandwiches and fries bacon and eggs. Just flip reversible grids and it turns out perfect waffles. \$22.95* Let's face it. When it comes to Christmas presents, perfumes and negligees—thank goodness—are here to stay. Of course women love "frilly" gifts! But just you find us a girl who wouldn't be delighted to receive any of the handsome and practical gifts shown right here on this page! Why not browse around your local G-E dealer's? General Electric Company, Small Appliance Division, Bridgeport 2, Connecticut.

* Manufacturer's recommended retail or Fair Trade price.

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Kitchen life can be quieter without spoiling the youngsters' fun. A ceiling of Armstrong Cushiontone absorbs the sound of gun battles, shrill laughter, and slamming doors before it becomes racket. You'll like Cushiontone's good looks, too. Its Full Random styling adds new beauty to any room in the house.



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Quiet kitchen clatter for about \$25

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There's nothing like Drano . . . to keep drains free-running and sanitary.



IN THIS ISSUE...

The editors of the
American Home welcome
you into their own homes
this Christmas.
They open their doors
to share with you
their bavorite Holiday ideas

PLEASE TURN PAGE TO SEE WHAT'S IN THE BULGING CHRISTMAS PACK

THE AMERICAN HOME, December, 1955. Vol LV, No. 1. Published monthly by The American Home Magazine Corporation, 300 Park Ave., New York 22, N. Y. W. H. Eaton, Chairman of the Board-Treasurer; Jean Austin, President-Secretary; Warren C. Agry, Herman Bartel, Theodore F. Gloisten Marion M. Mayer, Arthur Sherrill, Foster Willett, Vice-Presidents, Executive, Editorial and Advertising headquarters, 300 Park Ave., New York 22. Subscription Department, American Home Building, Forest Hills, New York Copyright, 1955, by The American Home Magazine Corporation, All rights reserved. Title registered in U. S. Patent Office, Subscription price in United States, Canada, and Pan American countries \$3.00 a year; 2 years, \$5.00; 3 years, \$6.00. All other countries, add \$1.00 per year for extra postage. Entered as second-class matter December 31, 1935, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of Congress, March 3, 1879. POSTMASTER: Send notices by Form 3579 to American Home Bldg., Forest Hills 75, New York.



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Magic Westinghouse Automatic Control and signal light eliminate all guesswork in preparing meals deliciously and quickly. **BIG COOK** Of lovely, stain-proof seamless copper—big 41/2-qt. capacity for cooking, 4 to 6-pint for frying. With oven-glass cover, fry **BOOK FREE!** basket, cord, plug. 115V. AC.

delicately pierced open work and deeply embossed pattern. Hollywood Bride with 7-Outfit Troussequ

Hostess Gowr

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She's really 7 dolls in 7! She's dressed in an exquisite wedding gown of shimmering rayon satin - and has a complete trousseau suitable for any "dress-up" occasion. You can change her costume, wash and wave her hair in any style. She turns her head as she walks. Unbreakable, washable plastic body. Sparkling "go-to-sleep" eyes. She sits up and stands. Fully jointed, finely detailed, 19 in. high. You get all 7 outfits and this lovely doll at one unbelievable low brice.

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AMERICAN HOME



• It's true about girl and boy land—once you pass beyond it you can never return again. But you can catch glimpses of its splendors through the eyes of a small one. That's why this picture of Billy Lanyon, who's three this month, seems the perfect wrapping for this issue. Billy's dad, our associate art editor, planned the picture. F. M. Demarest photographed it.

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Even Lil abner hasn't a chance when the pillows are made of DACRON

What chance have the Sunday funnies? Dad (and even this little early bird) has drifted off ... on cloud-soft pillows of "Dacron".

You'll marvel at the way pillows and comforters filled with Du Pont "Dacron" polyester fiberfill ease you into restful slumber... and the way they keep their fluffy, inviting softness through years of use. Best of all, "Dacron" is non-allergenic, resists matting and lumping.

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ANN WILSON HALL

If you belong to a group that needs a lot of money for a worthwhile cause, you can profit by looking at the phenomenal success of a group of gals from Missouri. Christmas no longer means a social whirl

for members of Delta Gamma Sorority Alumnae in St. Louis—their pre-holiday season means days of hard work, often in the vilest weather, staffing a Christmas tree lot. All this, of course, is in addition to the countless chores everyone has to do during those three busy weeks before Christmas.

Last year, the net profit from the "Shop at One Stop Christmas Convenience" was \$14,707. The lot sold 6,500 trees; two miles of pine, balsam, and laurel rope; and close to 2,000 pounds of holly. Sales of thousands of wreaths, door pieces, light strands, bulbs, safety fuses, handmade candles, and elaborate ornaments helped swell the till. And customers certainly get their money's worth.

Record keeper of the hundred and one details involved in this mushrooming project, and its first general manager, is Elizabeth Kohl (shown, above left, with her Sales Chairman Pat Gilbert). Her husband, Bill, dreamed up the appealing idea of "The Shining Light Christmas Tree" back in 1951, when the Delta Gammas needed to raise a great deal of money in a hurry for the newly-established Pre-School Visually Handicapped Foundation in St. Louis which provides guidance for parents of blind children under the age of six. As a result of these successful Christmas sales, the Foundation is able to send trained workers into homes to help parents adjust to the terrible shock of realizing that their children cannot see.

Businessman Kohl not only decided on a feasible plan, but drew up an imaginary operating statement based on the sale of 1,000 trees, and thought up the slogan: "Buy a 'Shining Light Tree' to Make Your Christmas Brighter and Help Us to Help Blind Children."

Although experienced nurserymen warned the enthusiastic planning committee that, because of unpredictable weather, a Christmas tree lot is a risky business, they voted to take a chance for sweet charity. When one wary nurseryman, A. A. Gunther, donated a large lot, his two Delta Gamma daughters were pleased as punch!

Everyone joined in. Husbands, Mothers, Dads, boy friends, and local firms with the most far-fetched connections imaginable contributed everything from pot-bellied stoves to insurance—and of course, back-breaking labor.

Then Old Man Winter presented the gals with the worst December weather in 20 years. Freezing rain, sleet, hail, with temperatures down to zero, meant that the 3,400 perishable trees had to be covered and kept free of ice every night, and uncovered in the morning. Two hundred and twenty women, who a season before had only known the tree-trimming arts, became roustabouts,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 89



Look in, and dream a little ...

Dream you are sitting at this Hammond Organ, some lonely evening, some tense and wasted day. And suddenly, its music does a magic thing...

It lifts you when you're sad, it rests you when you're tired. It plays even your simplest tune with such power and joy, you feel like singing with it.

For the Hammond Organ has thousands of orchestral tones and tone combinations you can conjure with . . . far more than any organ that even remotely compares with it.

Now, too, you can add beautiful orchestral percussions like harp, chimes, guitar, and xylophone by means of Hammond's new "Touch-Response Percussion Controls."* This is an exclusive feature found in no other organ.

You're afraid you can't play it? Actually, a Hammond is the easiest of all keyboard instruments. The tones are rich and sustained, so that even a beginner's fingers can manage them smoothly. Even if you've never played before, you can create music you enjoy, in a month. Thousands have.

Why just dream? Step inside the door, and try the Hammond Organ. It doesn't cost much to have a Hammond this Christmas. Only \$135 down for the Spinet Model, with often three years to pay. Your Hammond dealer can tell you more about it. Or mail the coupon below.

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*The percussion tones are produced at the option of the player by playing any selected single note or full chord, in a detached manner, with a fingering pause of as little as 1/20th of a second.

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These light-reflective lawn decorations pick up headlight beams and radiate season's greetings through the night





ROBERT W. HOUSEMAN

Placed where they catch the beam of your guests' headlights or those of passing motorists, these sparkling Christmas motifs and greetings set the holiday mood at your house. You can make them from luminous tape and letters, use luminous-type paints that glow in the dark, or devise a happy combination of both kinds of materials to flash out your personal Merry Christmas greetings to visitors.

See "Where Credit Is Due," page 90



ere's a way to save on the electric bill and still spread Christmas cheer from your house: use outdoor decorations that glow in the night when caught in the beam of car headlights.

Toy soldier in the top picture stands guard in the dark until a car approaches, and then he reflects his welcome and directs guests to the chubby, beaming snowman beyond. Not difficult to make in time for Christmas, the figures are cut from plywood. Paint with luminous paint or decorate with light-reflective safety tape. Stars are held with fine wires from trees or shrubs, or fastened to stakes in the ground.

The "Merry Christmas" greeting (left), made

from strips of reflective tape, springs out of the dark in a holiday message for all who come to your house. A convenient fence or wall could serve as the background for your personal welcome note. Or attach the letters to small stakes in the ground. The sleepy man-in-the-moon rising over a chimney (at the right) is surrounded with Christmas symbols-candy canes, stars, and garlands. The decorations here were found at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bert S. Cross. They are an inspiration, we think, for your own lawns and driveways during the holidays. THE END



How Does Your Driveway Glow?



"Window test" proves blue Cheer washes so white you can see the difference!

because only Cheer has the Blue-Magic whitener!

Cheer's Blue-Magic whitener is not just a bluing ... it's more than a bluing ... it's a new, better whitener for all your wash.

Are you looking for really white washes—washes so white you can actually see a difference?

Well, try Cheer and see how blue Cheer brings new whiteness to your wash. And to prove it, here's all you do:

Just take some things you've washed in Cheer to a window. In that honest, natural light, you'll see the bright, new whiteness Cheer gives your wash. And on hardest-to-whiten nylon you'll see a real difference never possible before blue Cheer. That isn't all. You'll find Cheer does a bang-up job of washing grimy work and play clothes whistle-clean—keeping washable colors flashing bright.

But, more than anything else, wash after wash it's the difference in whiteness that will have you saying, "There just isn't anything quite like Cheer!"

TRY CHEER in your automatic washer. Remember that blue Cheer has the active, hard-working kind of suds recommended by leading makers of automatics and preferred by 8 out of 10 women who own agitator automatics.





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Your choice of 14 gay plaids — all fringed in the true Scottish tradition, \$4.98 to \$14.95. Slightly higher in far West. You'll find them in blanket departments, sporting goods and luggage stores, or write to us for name of nearest dealer.

FOR LITTLE GIRLS:	Red Plaid Doll Robe,
FOR LITTLE GIRLS: fringed just like mother's.	16" x 24", only \$1.00
(No carrying case). Send	
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TROY ROBES are treated with du Pont Water-Repellent



CHRISTMAS PUP

An education in canine characteristics helps the Parker family choose just the right puppy

DAVID BLAKE

It was Christmas Eve. Isobel and Frank were happy. They'd started their shopping early and were satisfied their judgment had been good. They'd started really early, in fact. For they realized that a mistake could be serious—a living, breathing mistake the family would have to live with for a long time.

The twins had been asking for a dog almost from the day they could say "dog." Knowing how they'd felt about it themselves as children, Isobel and Frank were aware that they could not put off the growing demand indefinitely. Nor did they want to. Now the twins were five, well behaved, and willing to listen to reason.

The Parkers knew that any ball of fluff that came into their house would become a permanent fixture. They had to be sure it would be the right ball of fluff, so they asked the opinions of friends who seemed to know dogs. The Parkers considered the opinions carefully and came up with some sound conclusions.

First, they decided to ignore the opinions expressed by friends who showed definite preference for one breed. These people might be prejudiced for one reason or another.

The next bit of advice that seemed pretty sound was that there are good, fair, and poor dogs in every breed. After determining the breed they wished, they must pick a good representative.

There seemed to be a consensus on the subject of what to look for in a pup—the friendly, forward fellow or gal that was not shy and had experienced no fear. Such a dog was less likely to react in self defense, which even the best-intentioned dog might do if taken by surprise, stepped on, or cornered.

"Start with a dog that has no psychoses," one friend said, "and do your best to see that he always has confidence in you and no reason to fear physical harm—pick a happy pup—one at peace with the world."

Size had been their next consideration. They learned this lesson fast when they wanted to buy one of the cute little toy poodles.

The breeder was very patient, but very clear. "Not for small children," he said. "Older children, perhaps, and adults, but toys of any breed are too delicate for the unthinking, unpredictable movements and moods of little children. Toy dogs can't be fallen upon, tumbled about, or hugged too tightly. Once hurt, it is only natural that they take a stand in self defense.

"Get a bigger dog," he advised, "one that can't be easily hurt by healthy, enthusiastic children. *Everyone* will be happier."

Coat was a subject that stimulated considerable discussion. Longer-coated dogs, such as the spaniel family and, especially,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

This Christmas...

give gifts of glass for lasting remembrance



HERE IS A GIFT of truly lasting remembrance. For a full-length door mirror is a practical necessity in every home—in the bedroom, bathroom, entrance hall. A full 68" high, Pittsburgh door mirrors are really full-length, and they are available in five different widths to fit any interior door.



pittsburgh plate glass furniture tops make wonderful Christmas gifts. And they are priced low enough to satisfy the most budget-wise shopper. With these glass tops, valuable finishes are protected against stains, cigarette burns, and spilled liquids.



YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS will be long remembered when you give this most appreciated of gifts—a wall mirror made from Pittsburgh Polished Plate Glass. For the brilliance, true reflections, and magical properties of a wall mirror can transform even the dullest room into an exciting, joyful place. The illustration here shows how

a wall mirror gives a room greater depth and sparkle . . . how it reflects all the room's color and movement for double enjoyment. Here, indeed, is a real inspiration for your Christmas gift list—whether for your own home or for another's. Decorations by Marie Stosskopf, A.I.D., Chicago; Furniture by Heywood-Wakefield.



DECORATIVE, READY-TO-HANG MIRRORS permit you to exhibit your feelings and good taste, without costing you a fortune. In any room, they create a luxury look, give it a happier and more spacious appearance. They are available in a variety of styles and sizes . . . are as easy to hang as a picture.



UNFRAMED, OR VENETIAN-TYPE, MIRRORS are always welcome, because they suit any décor or furniture—whether it be modern or traditional. You can be sure that such a gift will please the recipient. And you will be agreeably surprised at the modest price of these mirrors.

WHERE TO BUY. Wall mirrors of all types, full-length door mirrors, and plate glass furniture tops can be purchased from your department or furniture store . . . your building supply dealer or local glass dealer. See the listings in the Yellow Pages of your telephone directory under "Pittsburgh Plate Glass Products" in the "Glass" section.



THIS LABEL identifies products made from genuine Pittsburgh Plate Glass.

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IN CANADA: CANADIAN PITTSBURGH INDUSTRIES LIMITED

"Joy to the family"



Florists' Telegraph Delivery Association, Headquarters: Detroit, Michigan

Christmas Pup

(Begins on page 12)

double-coated dogs like the various sheep dogs, the Newfoundland, keeshond, Norwegian elkhound, and Labrador, can live indoors or outdoors with simple housing even in cold weather.

This could be an advantage, but on the other side of the ledger the longer hair presents a greater cleaning or grooming problem if the dog is to live with the family. Short-coated dogs shed just as much, but the shorter hair is less troublesome and carries less dirt. Then too, it is much easier to keep a short coat clean.

"How about the breeds that don't shed?" the Parkers asked. They were told that all dogs shed. Poodles, Bedlington terriers, Irish water spaniels, and some other woolly-coated dogs shed their dead hair into the living coat where it is held until the dog is combed, stripped, or clipped. This reduces housecleaning but increases the necessity for regular grooming of the dog.

Temperament, they learned, varies greatly from the placid



"He doesn't have any boots"

bulldog or basset hound to the highly active terriers.

The more active dogs require more exercise. Failing to get it, they bubble over in the house or feel inhibited in the kennel. A 65-pound basset or bulldog, therefore, fits more readily into a quiet existence than a 20-pound fox terrier. On the other hand, some folks like the rollicking terrier. They are willing to spend sufficient time with their dog to wear off the excess steam.

It is logical to select a dog that fits the temperament and the way of life of the people with whom the dog will live. Their tempo will be more compatible.

"What do you want a dog for?" was the first question most people asked. In the Parkers' case, the dog was to serve only as a companion. But it soon became clear that if they'd had any other purpose, such as rabbit or bird hunting or guard duty in mind, it should be given proper consideration so the dog could serve as many purposes as is logical.

"Buy from a reliable dealer," was an oft-repeated recommendation. "Buy from a man who can show you grown stock. See for yourself what the pup will become when mature."

They thought this good advice and followed it. It gave them confidence that, when the man said the pup had been fully immunized, they could depend on it. In fact, they had been given a card record of inoculations and dates to turn over to their veterinarian for the dog's medical history, and a feeding chart.

Yes, it was Christmas Eve, Isobel and Frank were happy. Tomorrow morning the twins too would be happy. It would be the very best Christmas of all!

WHEN YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS

Send this form with address label (or facsimile copy) from this issue directly to The AMERICAN HOME Subscription Department, Forest Hills (75) N.Y. Five weeks advance notice will avoid loss of an issue.



The look, the feel, the power of success: New '56 Dodge Custom Royal Lancer 4-Door

In all the world no car like this

The New Dodge Lancer goes Ho door!

Lancer by Dodge—what excitement the name inspires! What thoughts of high adventure! And as its crowning achievement in the car that has created a sensation all over America, Dodge introduces the 4-door Lancer.

Now a Lancer 4-door in all three Dodge series: Custom Royal, Royal and Coronet, matching hardtop flair with sedan comfort. The most exciting moments in all motoring await you in the daring new Dodge Lancers.







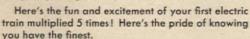
SHOPSM



the greatest thrill since your first electric train!

If you think the thrill of your first electric train was a once-in-a-lifetime experience, imagine yourself this Christmas morning!

Here's everything you've ever wanted for your workshop-the gleaming new SHOPSMITH! A 9" saw . . . 12" disc sander . . . 161/2" vertical drill press ... 34" lathe . . . versatile horizontal drill — all in one compact package.



But now's the time to let your favorite "Santa" in on your secret desire to own SHOPSMITH. The price? As little as \$3 per week on Magna's Tool-Time Plan.

See this magnificent machine at leading hardware and department stores or any Montgomery Ward store. Make sure that Santa gets SHOPSMITH® under your tree-even if you have to do-it-yourself.









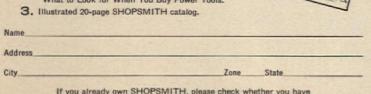


Mail coupon for 3 free books

MAGNA ENGINEERING CORPORATION Dept. 308-F, at factory nearest you: Waynedale, Fort Wayne, Ind., OR Menlo Park, Calif.

1. "Project Digest." 36 pages of modern woodworking projects.

2. The valuable home-shop guide, "What to Look for When You Buy Power Tools."



SHOPSMITH Mark 5 , or SHOPSMITH Model 10 ER



One of our nicest holiday customs is the town crèche, which all passersby may enjoy. This crèche in Wilton, Connecticut, was made by the Wilton Center School P.T.A.

TOWN CRÈCHE IS A BEAUTIFUL CUSTOM



Add tiny tree ornaments or a gold bell to this easy-toknit Christmas sock, and it's a lapel pin, gift package topping, or a clever "wrapping" for a holiday gift of money.

KNIT A SOCK OF

CHRISTMAS CHEER

· When Kay Travaini of Phoenix, Arizona, designed this tiny Christmas sock, it delighted her friends. Since it takes just about an hour to make the sock, she ended up knitting several.

Then came another good idea-Kay Travaini decided to share her Christmas sock pattern with A. H. readers. She suggests you knit the sock in pastel colors, too, and tuck in money to start a savings account for a new baby.

To make Christmas socks, you will need two balls of fine yarn, one white and one red, and a pair of size I knitting needles. This is the key: k (knit), p (purl), st (stitch).

Work the sock back and forth on two needles. Start at top of sock, and cast on 20 sts with white yarn. Work in garter st (k all rows) for six rows.

Break off white yarn and tie red yarn in first white st. You will use the stockinette st (k I row, p I row) for the rest of the sock. Work 16 rows. On 17th row, k 13, turn, p 6 (center of foot), turn, k across these 6 sts, leaving remaining sts on needles. Work 7 rows in this manner on the 6 sts.

Break off yarn and tie on where the sts were divided to start center of instep. Pick up 7 sts evenly on the side of vamp. K across the 6 center sts and pick up 7 sts on the other edge. K to end of row, and p back across all sts.

K two sts together at the beginning and the end of next row (heel), and k the two center sts together (to round off toe). Continue to decrease in this manner on k rows only. Work six rows. Bind off, leaving yarn enough to sew up sock.



Bring Gay Paree to your fun room

with MASONITE PRESDWOOD'S magic!

C'est magnifique, n'est-ce pas? You can create a dramatic, colorful and enjoyable fun spot like this in your own home with versatile Masonite Presdwood products.

You start with Masonite Shadowvent, the new pre-cut lap siding that goes on quickly, needs only one coat of paint. You add contrast with the combed surface texture of Masonite Ridgewood. And for flat, grainless surfaces, you rely on staunch Tempered Presdwood®.

Perhaps your inspiration will come from another romantic setting—a South Sea island, a Western ranch, a North Woods retreat, or even a ship's cabin. There is a great variety of types, textures and thicknesses of Presdwood to help you carry out your favorite theme.

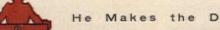
Large, easy-to-handle panels work like wood and take beautiful, permanent finishes. They're highly resistant to moisture and heat, to bumps and scrapes. And they're not expensive!

Before you plan *any* remodeling, see what magical things you can do with the Presdwood family of dense, durable panels. Sold by lumber dealers everywhere. The coupon will bring you a free plan of "Gay Paree" and how-to-do-it helps.



The siding that revolutionized an industry! Masonite Shadowvent, with exclusive vented aluminum strip. No nails are visible. Paint stays on longer, too. For old or new homes. Send coupon for details.

Look for This Man



MASONITE CORPORATION

MANUFACTURER OF PRESDWOOD PANEL PRODUCTS

•	MASONITE® CORPORATION
:	Dept. AH-12, Box 777, Chicago 90, Ill.
	Please send me:
:	☐ Free plan for "Gay Paree ☐ Information about Shadowvent Siding
:	□ Information about Shadowvent Siding
	☐ Booklet about working with Presdwood
:	Name
•	
:	TownZone
•	County State
:	County State In Canada: Masonite Corporation, Gatineau, Que.

EASY NEW "TOUCH-UP" WAY TO CLEAN AND WAX WOOD FLOORS!



you don't have to do the entire floor every time! Get the long-handled Beautiflor

Waxer—complete with snap-in clean-ing and polishing pads. Only \$2.89 with free pint of Beautiflor.

You know that just a few small areas on your wood floors get most of the wear. These are the "traffic areas" between rugs, around

And now you don't have to do the whole floor every time, as you must with ordinary floor polishes! Just a quick touch-up with Johnson's Beautiflor cleans and waxes these heavy traffic areas in application. And Beautiflor blends so perfectly with the rest of Johnson's Beautiflor cleans and waxes these neavy traffic areas in one application. And Beautiflor blends so perfectly with the rest of the property of the state of the property of the state of the property of the state of the your waxed floors that no patch marks show. Result: the whole floor gleams!

Beautiflor is genuine Johnson's Wax that cleans thoroughly as it waxes. Try it. It makes waxing wood floors easier than you think!

JOHNSON'S Beautiflor. LIQUID WAX Cleans

s it Waxes!

F(WOOD FLOORS

Just a quick touch-up with Beautiflor on these few traffic areas

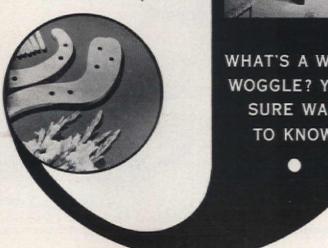
... keeps your wood floors looking just-waxed all over!

WHAT'S IN JANUARY

MILLION DOLLAR DREAM HOUSE FOR \$2,490-"I was convinced I was caught in a madman's dream," says Dottie Walker. She tells you, in January, how her husband, Dick, ordered a pre-cut vacation house. Stacks of lumber arrived, covered with mysterious code numbers, and the do-it-yourself project was on. No skeptic was more surprised than Mrs. Walker when the cabin proved a "delight, winter and summer."

A KITCHEN PLANNED WITH YOU IN MIND-We planned this glamorous room to give you lots of good ideas to use in your kitchen-a cutting board, laundry divider, handy eating counter, fireplace and barbecue, and many more. Some of these are just what you want. They prove small ideas pay big dividends.

DON'T BE A SNOB ABOUT modern!-Is there a clash between Traditional and Modern? Can you mix different furniture styles in your house? What will look best? What will fit in with your family's way of living? Here are all the answers you need.









WHAT'S A WIGGLE-WOGGLE? YOU'LL SURE WANT TO KNOW!



How we retired in 15 years with \$250 a month

HERE we are, living in California. We've a little house just a few minutes from the beach. For, you see, I've retired with \$250 a month as long as we live.

But if it weren't for that \$250, we'd still be living in Forest Hills and I'd still be working. Strangely, it's thanks to something that happened, by chance, in 1930. It was August 17, my fortieth birthday.

To celebrate, Peg and I were going out to a show. While she dressed, I picked up a magazine and leafed through it. Somehow my eyes rested on an ad. It said, "You don't have to be rich to retire."

We'd certainly never be rich. We spent money as fast as it came in. And here I was forty already. Half my working years were gone. Some-day I might not be able to work so hard. What then?

This ad told of a way that a man of 40 could get a guaranteed income of \$250 a month starting at 55 or 60. It was called the Phoenix Mutual Retirement Income Plan. The ad

offered more information. No harm in looking into it, I said. When Peg came down, I was tearing a corner off the page. I mailed it on our way out to the theatre.

The years slid by fast. Times changed . . . depression came . . . and war. I couldn't foresee them. But my Phoenix Mutual Plan was one thing I was always glad about!

1945 came . . . I got my first Phoenix Mutual check—and retired. We sold the house and drove west. We're living a new kind of life out here-with \$250 a month that will keep coming as long as we live.

Send for Free Booklet. This story is typical. Assuming you qualify at a young enough age, you can plan to have an income of \$10 to \$250 a month or more—beginning at age 55, 60, 65 or older. Send the coupon and receive, by mail, a free booklet which tells about Phoenix Mutual Plans. Similar plans are available for wom-

en—and for employee pension pro-grams. Don't delay. Don't put it off. Send for your copy now.

PHOENIX MUTUAL PLAN PLAN Retirement Income Plan FOR MEN GUARANTEES YOUR FUTURE OVER 100 YEARS OF LIFE INSURANCE PROTECTION PHOENIX MUTUAL
LIFE INSURANCE Co.
159 Elm Street, Hartford 15, Conn.
Please mail me, without cost or obligation, your illustrated booklet "Retirement Income Plans for Women." PHOENIX MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE Co. 159 Elm Street, Hartford 15, Conn. Please mail me, without cost or obligation, your illustrated booklet showing how to get a guaranteed income for life. Date of Birth Date of Birth Business Address_ Business Address Home Address Home Address

COPYRIGHT 1955, BY PHOENIX MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY







color de eck or i Send check order; or C.O.D. mediate shipment. S isfaction guarante Circular on request.

FLUORESCENT PLANT LAMP

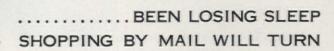
NO TIP

NO TILT



Dept. 9-D

THE AMERICAN HOME Market



WELL MATCHED. Colonial candleholders in rich brass with finger-tip handles hold penny boxes of matches for a pipe smoker and in reach for candlelit hours. \$1.50 pr. ppd. Helen Gallagher, 413A Fulton St., Peoria, Ill.

TEEN TIMES. Memory book has space for snapshots, autographs, big events in the life of your own girl-in-a-whirl or the children's favorite sitter. \$2.95 ppd. Elron, 227-A West Erie St., Chicago 10, Illinois.



BELLS GO WITH CHRISTMAS like Santa goes with children, snow with sledding, and gladness with this whole happy season. Tie these cute 1" porcelain ones onto your tree or packages. 24 for \$1.50 ppd. Zenith Gifts, 55-K Chadwick St., Boston 19, Massachusetts.



PROUD PERCH for any fisherman's shaving gear also has a rack for towels. Good catch-all, too, for a lady's toiletries in the bathroom or spices and dishtowels in the kitchen. Black wrought iron, 20" long. \$4.20 ppd. Laurie & Co., Dept. AM-4, 507 Fifth Ave., N.Y. 17, N.Y.





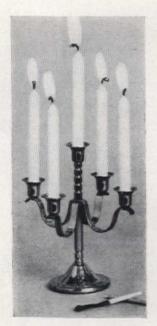
coing dutch. For a real country style breakfast, Delft-blue and white cow creamer is 6" long, \$2.50. Matching boy and girl salt and peppers are $3\frac{1}{2}$ " tall, \$1.95. Ppd. Ward Phillips, Carpentersville 5, Ill.

MUSICAL TURNTABLE keeps anything from your small Christmas tree to a plum pudding in a beautiful whirl to the tune of Silent Night, Adeste Fidelis, or Jingle Bells. About 6 inches across. \$5.20 ppd. Market Combers, Dept. A, P.O. Box 8115, Sta. "F", Atlanta, Ga.





OVER CHRISTMAS? DOING YOUR A NIGHTMARE INTO A DREAM!



SMALL TOKEN. Brass candelabrum is under 8" with candles, but it packs a lot of elegance. \$2 ppd. Huntercraft, 1314 Lockwood Ave., Racine, Wis.

DRAGGIN' A WAGON is a boy's joy. Trimmed with his name, this is 131/2" long, \$2.95 ppd. Meredith's, Evanston 3, Ill.



THREE LITTLE KITTENS with sparkling green jewel eyes will be pussyfooting into some lady's heart. White china with slight pink shadings, the standing one is 5". Set, \$3.95 ppd. from Seth & Jed. Dept. A. New Marlborough, Mass.





THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE is told by a bright brass alarm clock. Just 21/4" in diameter, this will fit into Christmas stockings, stay home or travel beautifully. Glows in the dark. \$4.38 (tax incl.) ppd. Niresk, Dept. L-5. Chicago 40, Ill.



fits any mailbox install in a minute



GEO. D. BAKER -

THE MCLAUGHLINS

ABAMS & PERRY-R.I

OAK HILL FARM

3051

ED MOSGROVE-R.2

3434 ALSACE PLACE

37423

THE CRANDALLS

with MARKERS

PERFECT FOR GIFTS-ANY WORDING YOU WANT*

Your name gleams in permanent reflector letters on your DAY-n-NIGHT Marker - shines brightly in headlights, softly in moonlight! It helps your friends find their way-helps the doctor, mailman and delivery men. Its graceful proportions and quiet good taste make your home more attractive.

The letters are treated with the same material that makes highway signs shine in your headlights, and they are permanent because they are embossed in the background plate.

- Shine bright at night
- Easy to read DAY-n-NIGHT

GUIDE YOUR FRIENDS-

BEAUTIFY YOUR HOME

- 2-sided; raised letters on both sides
- Rustproof lifetime aluminum throughout
- Permanent embossed lettering raised in solid plates
- Baked enamel finish black background white reflector letters
- Attractive size nameplates 2½" x 18", number plates 2½" x 7" · Any wording you want, up to 15 letters and numbers on no
- plates, up to 5 on number plates. Same on both sides.

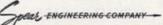
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED OR YOUR MONEY BACK! WE SHIP WITHIN 48 HOURS



smart vellum gift card, inscribed with your

MAKE \$60 EXTRA THIS MONTH!

Make money, bonus and prizes for your club, your church or yourself this pleasant, easy way! Take orders for nationally advertised DAY-n-NIGHT Markers, Name Medallions and Medalettes. Mrs. E. T. averages over \$170 a month the year around for part-time. As a beginner, you can make up to \$60-875-even \$100 in the next 30 days—and more later! Write today for complete information-we'll rush you every-thing you need to get started at once.



245 Spear Bldg., Colorado Springs, Colo. · ORDER FORM ·



BRACKET

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

245	Spear B	Idg., Colorado Springs, Colo. WE SHIP WITHIN 48 H	
*ANY	STYLE	WORDING—Any wording you want, up to 15 letters and numbers on large plate, 5 on small. Show punctuation but don't count it.	PRICE
WORDING			19.80
ON ANY			
STYLE		TOP	
MARKER			-

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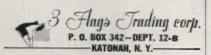


Majestie Spread Eagle

- ★ Place over door, mantel, fireplace
- ★ Hang decoratively on wall
- # Blends with period decor
- A splendid gift for your home or a cul-tured friend - an unusual lifetime or-nament. Authentic eagle motif repre-sentative of Early * sentative of Early * Americana is care-* fully hand cast in aluminum (6 lbs.)

Details of original antique faithfully preserved. State choice of finish. Golden, Silvered or Antique Black.

Only \$2950 ppd. Sorry, No. C.O.D.'s







Add a touch of

Victorian Charm

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

Only \$12.50 Postpaid in U. S.

No C.O.D.'s

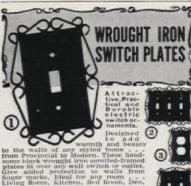
JACK DANIEL

CENTRALIA



Sturdy, Concealed Ball Bearing Swivel all Bearing Swivel
Now—a swivel stool
for your drink or food
bar, counter, work
table. Office, etc.
Large contoured seat,
wide form-fitting
back in thick knotty
plne. Legs and rungs
hardwood. Rungs just
right height for young
or old. Ideal child's
chair (leg turnings
easily silced off as child
grows). Finest bandcrafted quality. In
knotty pine or lovely
maple finish. Seat ht.
30 in. or 24 hi, 65 yee(fiy)

YIELD HOUSE Dept. A12-5 No. Conway, N.H.



Dept. AH-8, 507 5th Ave New York 17, N. Y.



CANDY CANE KIDS

A specialty of Mrs. Claus's Candy Kitchen ... and not candy at all! ... are these three charming Candy Cane Kids to hang on your Christmas tree, use on your mantel or table. Made of china, their white suits are gayly striped in holiday red and green. They're 4½' tall, standing, Can't you just see their gleeful, handpainted gamin faces peering out from the boughs of your Christmas tree? The set of three Kids is only (1992) ... \$1.98 Kids is only (8902) ...

SUSAN SMITH CO. Send for FREE



SANTA'S MAIL BASKET is lacquered bright red and decorated by hand with a sequined Christmas tree and snowman. Hang it under your regular mailbox to take all your cards and Christmas mail. So cheery, you'll use it year after year. It makes a jolly gift packed with your own homemade cookies. 9 x 51/2". \$1.95 ppd. Florida Gifts & Gadgets. 1356 Main Street, Sarasota, Florida.



HOUSE FOR SALE. Suitable for any location, this 5-room, 3-story house is ready to receive any little girl's collection of miniature furniture. Of sturdy fibre board, the printed interior features fireplace, paintings, tile bath. The outside is field stone and clapboard, even sports shrub-bery. Unfurnished. 16" high, 21" wide, 9" deep. \$2.98 ppd. Damar, 722 Damar Bldg., Newark 5, N. J.



CLASSIC DESIGN of Grecian "Dance of the Maidens" motif on a graceful cigarette set makes it a match for antique Wedgwood pieces. White bas-relief design is on green, pink, or blue bisque porcelain. The 3 urn will hold cigarettes, two 51/2" dishes can be used as coasters or ashtrays. Set, \$2.95 ppd. Jenifer House, Dept. A, New Marlboro Stage, Great Barrington, Mass.



COPPER MEASURING SCOOPS provide a measure of pleasure for your kitchen decor hanging from their own 61/2" black metal rack. Of bright burnished copper, they neatly scoop out 1/4, 1/2, and I teaspoons, and I tablespoon, making it simple for adding dry ingredients. Handles are bright brass. The set. \$1.05 postpaid, Foster House, Dept. AH, 430 South Jefferson, Peoria, Illinois.



BEAUTIFUL BRUSH OFF. A jewelled whisk for a glamor stocking gift or the bridge club grab bag. Perfect to keep on a dressing table for a final whisking after make-up and combing, and for traveling. 51/2" long. Colored plastic handles are studded with multi-color jewels, nylon bristles have magnetic quality. \$1.50 ppd. Crown Craft Prod., Dept. A, 246 5th Ave., N.Y.C. 1.



CHRISTMAS SPECIAL. Even sugar cubes get festive! Whether you're giving a big Christmas Tea, or just serving tea to a few friends who stop by to see your tree, it will be really special when the sugar cubes are decorated with wreaths, plump santas, candles, chubby snowmen, decorated Christmas stockings. 30 for \$1 ppd. Miles Kimball, 126 Bond Street, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.



CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EASY



THE THREE WISE MEN HERALD

CHRISTMAS FROM YOUR FRONT LAWN

A most fitting symbol of Christmas hospitality! The Three Wise Men form a stately procession to greet guests, of heavy, weather-proof mettyle in the hour being ground to greet guests, of heavy, weather-proof mettyle in the hour being ground to greet guests, of heavy, weather-proof mettyle in the hour being ground to greet guests, of heavy, weather-proof mettyle in the hour being ground to greet guests, of heavy, weather-proof mettyle in the hour being ground to greet guests, of heavy, weather-proof mettyle in the hour being ground to greet guests, of heavy, weather-proof mettyle in the hour being ground to greet guests, of heavy, weather-proof mettyle in the hour being ground to greet guests, of heavy, weather-proof mettyle in the hour being ground to greet guests, of heavy, weather-proof mettyle in the hour being ground to greet guests, of heavy, weather-proof mettyle in the hour being ground to greet guests, of heavy, weather-proof mettyle in the ground to greet guests, of heavy, weather-proof mettyle in the greet guests, of heavy, weather-proof mettyle guest guest



SANTA TALKS TO YOUR CHILD . . . AND CALLS HIM BY NAME!



"STAR LIGHT,



75 GAY BELLS



100 PERSONAL



















FIDO. THE NUT CRACKER

a camine pal to save om sore fingers, Just i nut in his mouth, down his tail and, delicious-to-ent nut come out whole. Fido gly cracks the shell, wer crushes the ker-rably constructed with bright gunmetal finish-truly CG 4969P, Each S3.75 bright gunmetal finish-truly CG 4969P, Each S3.75 grain CG 1370 Set of 4 S3.75





"LAZY SUSAN" DESK TRAY

Efficient as a private secretary! Desk Tray leads 7 very useful lives holding paper clips, rubber bands, staples, keys, crasers, stamps and what-not. A flip of dustrepelling lids and whatever you need is spun within easy reach, Gold-tooled, top-



PERSONALIZED WATERPROOF MITTENS

bets tray leads 7 useful lives holding relies, rubber bands, wet, soggy mittens or clips, rubber bands, what out at help relies coated, when the first wet, soggy mittens of the first wet, soggy mittens, and always stay when the first of the first seems of the first seems of the first palamas with YOUR works. Blased on the theory works, Blased on the theory that there's a little "woit" in every first each revue, base, bard on the theory that there's a little "woit" in every first each revue, base, bard on the theory that there's a little "woit" in every first each revue, base, bard on the theory that there's a little "woit" in every first each revue, base, bard on the first of the first seems and the first of the first of the first seems that the seems of the first of the first seems that the seems of the first of the first seems that the first seems that the first seems that the first seems that the first seems the first seems that the first seems t



PERSONALIZED PAJAMAS GLOW-IN-THE-DARK!



VIRGIN MERMAID FISH LURE



BABY'S FIRST 'MUSIC LESSON"

The enchanting lure of sweet, tinkling music and gay colors are combined in this brand new baby toy. These Swiss Musical Bells fit all play-pens, cribs and buggies—dangle invitingly within easy reach of baby's hands so be can make his own beau-



1-0-N-G HANDLED SNOW BRUSH

The extra arm's length you've needed. Extra long, 26" brush removes snow from any part of your car while you stand in one spot. No going from one side of car to the other. No quality 2" bristles, detachable scraper and rubber squeegee.

CG 6140 \$1,00



SKIM OVER SNOW ON REAL SNOW SKATES!

Healthful winter fun—and no lee needed! They're just like miniature skis made with steambent hardwood with grooved bottoms. Aluminum heel plates and sturdy amile straps let young-uns fairly fly straps let you for the fly straps let you fly straps let you for the fly straps let you for the fly straps let you fly straps let you for the fly straps let you fly strap



ALL-STEEL PERSONAL CHECK FILE



PERSONALIZED DENTURE DISH



STATELY 4-CANDLE CENTERPIECE



PERSONALIZED "MIDNIGHT COACH" SIGN-G-L-O-W-S IN THE DARK!

Banker's efficiency for cancelled checks! All steel Check Flie keeps important checks in place at all times—monthly separators permit quick reference for budget, business and tax data. Holds 5 year record, Sliding follower hakes fliet, when the place are selected as the state of the state o



Enjoy COLOR T.V.

COLOR FILTER

wait! Rapturous, pleas-der is yours . . NoW! ng new color filter drab black and white s soft, realistic colorsize. -\$1.25 -\$1.50 -\$1.75 20" . . 21" . . 24" . .



"OH! JOHNNY"
WHAT A PIPE!



AIR CONDITIONER COVER

WHAT A PIPE!

Aunt Anne may be a bit peeved when you order it but you're sure to be the life of the party when you smoke it? It's a matural same type, that is, the man and movable hinged life. Watch out for Aunt Anne—she'll want to use it. Anne—she ill want to use it. Anne—she



ADD-A-COUNT SCALE



PREVENT 'STEAMED-UP" WINDOWS



JINGLE BELL COME-BACK TOY



MAGIC



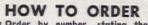
PERSONALIZED CIGARETTE DISPENSER

Cigarette smokers are filled with gice, when this dispenser they do see! We'll hand letter any name along with "Cigarie Bar". Holds 10 packs; dispenses one at a time. Attached poem says: "Take a look and you will know How many packs I've got to go." For wall or table. \$1.00



MINIATURE BRANDY GLASSES

For people with delicate tastes, imported miniature replicas of huge brandy glasses, with wide base. Just right for after dinner cordials, pony of brandy or serving of whiskey. With beautiful etched designs, they ill or on table. Set of 12.



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

Complete Satisfaction Guaranteed.

SEND ALL ORDERS TO: Bancroft's

1112 So. Wabash Ave. Dept. AH-656 Chicago 5, III.



"GROW" PERFECT NAILS—ANY LENGTH IN MINUTES!

ushes on like and ACTUALLY



CG 3754, 6 books 19c









gummed labels—
Sicely printed
with your full
name and address. Stick 'em
on Letters, Pkgs., Envelopes,
Etc. Put up in Handy Pad Form. Easily worth
\$1.00—Our price only 50c! Makes wonderful
gifts for all occasions. Your money back if not
pleased! Free Wholesale Selling Plan!
Tower Press, Inc., Box 591-AO, Lynn, Moss.





Constructed of same fine joinery as Heinley's custom shutters, of kiln dried, selected cedar, ready for trimming. Shipped unfinished com-plete with hardware. Fit doorways 6 ft. 8 in. high
—in two separate widths,
30 or 32 inches. Suitable
for kitchen. playroom.
den. boudoir, etc. Satisfaction guaranteed. Send door width with check or M.O.—or order C.O.D.

MOVABLE SHUTTERS

1614-7 Euclid St., Santa Monica, Calif.

Christmas Gift Special!



A once-in-a-lifetime value! A very special "lucky" purchase makes possible a phenomenal saving. You'll fall in love with these delightful china egg cups for a brighter, cheerier breakfast table—or brunch or luncheon. Serve eggs in these rare "show-offs"... fine white china delicately decorated with dainty moss rose floral. Clever as individual nut cups! Set of six, just \$1, postpaid.

Must be delighted or your money refunded.
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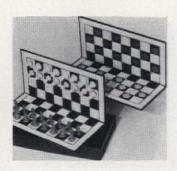
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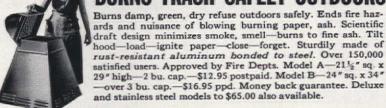
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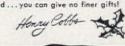
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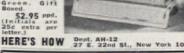
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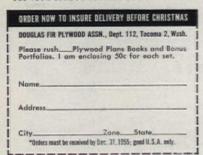
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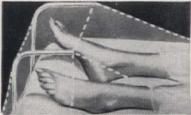


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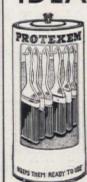


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ast year I promised myself: next Christmas will be different. I was tired of missing half the fun by being semi-conscious on the Big Day, on two hours' sleep after a hectic holiday week.

So I set up a schedule to do my shopping, wrapping, and baking ahead of time. With four of Santa's most enthusiastic fans underfoot, any goal, other than survival, has to be worked in with magical zeal.

In October I bought a little notebook and tritely labeled it, "Project Christmas."

Each time I could squeeze in a Christmas preparation, I entered the date and accomplishment. Here are the entries:

OCT. 7—Got all the baseball paraphernalia today. Chris and Mike have been so crazy about the game since they learned to play this summer. Can't wait to see their faces Christmas morning!

OCT. 12—"La Maison" had a sale this morning, so I rushed down. Bought six gay-looking floor pillows for Patt. Should relieve the seating problem for their larger parties.

OCT. 29—Haven't been able to do much. But with the mumps out of the way at last (Dr. Carley says it's too late for Ginger to get them—hope he's right). I started cakes.

Have been saving coffee cans for months. Left some unadorned for the

THIS

MARNE REED

baking and have already decorated some for the giving. Made 10 cakes today and felt downright smug until I saw the clothes to be ironed.

Nov. 3—Finally back on schedule after the fruitcake mess. Washed the clay off the cookie cutters—the children had to play with something while they were getting well.

Nov. 4—Aunt Middy dropped in . . . all the way from Tucson. We had tea and she enjoyed the fruitcake so much I gave her one to take home. That leaves eight. I'll have to serve one tonight after bridge, too. Had planned to bake today, but it was good to hear the news.

Nov. 8—Just left the mess and got a sitter. Had to exchange the baseball bats and gloves. Tom took the boys to a football game Saturday, and their loyalties certainly changed. (That toy department manager is on the stuffy side.)

Found two lovely life-sized dolls for the girls and am really excited about the unusual jewelled combs for Grandma I discovered in an out-ofthe-way store. They will set off that mass of gorgeous hair.

Afraid I'll have to use more fruitcakes, as the Sunday School teachers are meeting here tomorrow night. Hope I have enough left. It will be all I can do to clean up the house.

Nov. 10—Long, newsy letter from Grandma. Just can't believe she has cut her hair . . . after all these years. Wonder if I dare give the combs to Tom's mother.

Nov. 15—Still dragging around after catching the children's colds. Can't seem to get in the Christmas spirit, but did manage to wash the cookie cutters again. (Had to make more "clay" when they were all in with runny noses.)

Nov. 30-Am not keeping up to



CHRISTMAS WILL BE DIFFERENT!

my plan and feel rather panicky. Just left everything and everyone with a sitter. Mobs of people shopping already. At least I'm ahead of last year.

Returned the combs (terrible time finding the shop). Bought luscious bracelet. Trust Grandma won't cut off her *arms* before Christmas. Ordered printed stationery for Grandpa, and a book.

Oh, and I bought that LP album Tom has been hinting about for months. Feel as though I really accomplished a lot!

DEC. 2—Finally made Christmas cookies, and have them *hidden*. Next week the cakes. Things are rolling along. It certainly pays to plan ahead.

DEC. 6—Had a wrapping spree. Everything looks so festive and attractive. Glad I chose my wrappings before the rush.

DEC. 7—Children found the cookies.

package and a big grin tonight. It seems he has been saving lunch money to buy the album I bought him for Christmas.

If I want him to give up smoking, all I need do is buy him a pipe.

DEC. 10—Long letter from Patt. She sold her modern furniture and has gone on an antique craze. Oh, those pillows!

And, last straw after last straw, Grandma and Grandpa are trying to sell their house. Too big for them. Naturally, that address is on Grandpa's stationery.

Who started this: "Do your Christmas shopping early"? The early worm gets the Bird.

DEC. 12—Made more cookies. New hiding place.

DEC. 13—Bought Mike a Superman outfit—his new hero. If I'd bought it earlier, it would have been

a cowboy suit. Glad I waited.

Now the girls want "walking dolls"... seems nothing else will do. Hate to lug those tremendous dolls back to that disagreeable manager.

situation and am trying psychology on the girls . . . building up the glories of things I have for them. Am worried about the boys, though. Now they are talking basketball.

else I hid them too well). Bought a few fruitcakes. Can't seem to get time for more shopping, but everything I bought is nicely wrapped and hidden away.

DEC. 21—Can't dissuade this basketball talk. Children wrote letters to Santa Claus today and that headed the boys' list. No word about football, and Mike still wants a cowboy outfit! Not a word about Superman.

Arranging to get a sitter tomorrow and shop.

Just shoved my way through and took the first appropriate things I saw for everyone on the list. Just like last year. Will certainly change toy stores next year, though. That manager's an old grouch.

DEC. 23—Bought some Christmas cookies at the bakery. Nothing but brown paper parcels in the closet. Must have returned most of the things I gift-wrapped.

DEC. 24-Ugh!

DEC. 25—Up all night trimming tree, wrapping gifts and filling stockings. In an absolute daze today, but everyone seems pleased and happy with their wishes fulfilled.

pec. 26—I have a new and better plan now: to keep the housework up to date, shop Dec. 23, and bake Dec. 24. Believe me, next Christmas will be different!

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ON LEADING MAKES OF FAUCETS



"Once more the shepherds, as she sings,

Bend low, and angels touch their strings...."

(THE CHRISTMAS TREE, PETER CORNELIUS)

C. G. BURKE

f the two sublime holy days of Christians, that of the Nativity celebrates Jesus the Son of Man and that of the Resurrection worships Jesus the Son of God. Christmas is joyously human; Easter is joyously divine.

Since the first Christmas and the first Easter, composers have sung the humanity of the first and the divinity of the second. Humanity is easier for human composers to celebrate: man understands man better than he understands God.

And the hundred aspects of the Christmas Birth are wonderfully susceptible to musical treatment of the fundamental and decent conditions and

Adeste Fideles and Away in a Manger. But there are many others as good or better which have been neglected.

More than 100 are available on long-playing records, drawn from a dozen countries and sung in a dozen styles, with or without accompaniments. They offer a panoramic Christmas festival.

One of the most comprehensive of these records is Haydn Society 150. The First Christmas in Carols, sung in excellent English by the Societas Musica Choir of Copenhagen. The carols are drawn from the 14th through the 19th centuries. Half are not well known, and the earliest have a

> naive literalism of belief irresistibly touching.

Two records (RCA Victor LM-1112 and LM-1711) cover a very wide range of type, time, and folk in the polished discipline of the Robert Shaw Chorale, Two others (Westminster 5100 and 5200) offer 39 carols, nearly half of them rare, in the highly stylized singing of the Randolph Singers. This small group specializes in madrigals.

The harmonic and polyphonic worldliness of some of these arrangements may excite some prejudices at first hearing. But the skilled smoothness of the delivery here makes it possible that their intricacies may be more

captivating after many repetitions.

The simpler manner—the outright way church choirs usually offer such music-is demonstrated in lively fashion by lusty, well-trained voices in Beloved Christmas Hymns and Carols, 19 popular carols by Canterbury Choir, conducted by the late Macklin Marrow, on M-G-M E3061.

An extreme of lovable simplicity is reached in American Children Sing Christmas Carols (Westminster 5328). Five choirs of children pipe 24 carols, a third in English, the rest divided among Bohemian, German, Spanish, and French.

The dean among these singers is 14, the junior four. Every listener will enjoy the supreme musical effort of earnest sopranos not yet old enough to have learned how to give offense.

In the phalanx of other recordings of carols, two additional discs have persuasive value. One, by the St. Luke's Choristers on Capitol H-9012, is agreeably traditional in feeling. The other, called Christmas Around the World, is performed by soloists, chorus, and the orchestra of the Théâtre des Champs Elysées of Paris, conducted by Marc Honegger. A rich-sounding Westminster record (5372), it is sung in French.

Only two of the songs are of French origin, but printed translations are furnished to clarify the sentiments. The 14 songs are from as many

MUSIC THE YEAR'S BEST FOR GIVING AND GETTING

emotions: compassion, hope, love, faith, generosity, humility, tenderness, devotion, couragewhat is there in this Event that cannot move us?

The diversity of the participants-a carpenter and his wife, a newborn child, grooms, three kings, shepherds, travelers, an innkeeper, cameldrivers, legionaries-are these not symbolic of the universality, the classlessness of all within the true Christian faith? And what a background of characters, scenery, and sentiments for com-

People are inclined, when thinking of Christmas music, to think of carols. A carol was originally a round dance, then the music sung to the dance. finally a song, no more, but usually one intended for a specific occasion.

Christmas carols are songs for Christmas, and the ones we use have been in the process of creation during the last 600 years. Some of these have a great charm of simplicity and others are highly organized works of sophisticated art. A large number are as familiar in one Christian country as another.

Most of us have heard or sung many traditional songs like these: Joy to the World, O Little Town of Bethlehem, The First Nowel, God Rest Ve Merry, Gentlemen, Good King Wenceslas, In Dulci Jubilo, Hark! The Herald Angels Sing,

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You just know that such a setting would not be complete without a telephone. Especially if it's in color! It adds so much to the distinction of the room—and to the young lady who has been showing it off to her friends.

And it's so comforting and convenient to have the telephone close by!

BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Christmas Music

(Begins on page 34)

provinces in 11 nations, and the prevalent tone is enchanting simplicity. Few are well known to us in America.

Almost all of us can participate in carols, but there is a more formal Christmas music that contents us without our joining in. A Concerto for Christmas Night, by the 17th century Italian composer, Arcangelo Corelli, was written for string orchestra and harpsichord. In its abiding melodies and provocative, sensitive rhythms, it alternates joy and tenderness in a way delightfully appropriate to the season, with a pastorale as touching as the Pastoral Symphony in Messiah.

This music has a dryer title for official designation; Concerto Grosso in G Minor, Op. 6, No. 8. Of several recordings, the best for Christmas use is RCA Victor LM-1776, where it is played by the orchestra of the Società Corelli along with four other of the composer's Concerti Grossi.

The delight of this Christmas Concerto, as it is most frequently called, does not end with Christmas, but like Messiah goes on forever.

Handel's magical oratorio may not be ignored at Christmas or at Easter, It connects the two great days with a variable commentary of equal but dissimilar benignity. Records are rich with it, with eight versions complete or nearly complete. (Recorded excerpts are not recommended because it is impossible to say that one part is less worthy of inclusion than another.)

Three, all made in England, are particularly praiseworthy in different ways. That with orchestra, soloists, and chorus conducted by Sir Malcolm Sargent in Angel album 3510-C is a vigorous statement of the music in its most common concert-hall form. The orchestration is beyond that provided by Handel, and a number of items are omitted.

The London (LLA-19) edition conducted by Sir Adrian Boult is complete and the engineers have given it the best sound. The Westminster set (WAL-308) under the direction of the extraordinary Hermann Scherchen is at once the most imaginative and the most studious of all. It depends on the original instrumentation but reveals some daring tempos and phrases sure to shock traditionalists. The Angel and Westminster sets each contain three records, and the London set contains four.

The existing records of Bach's great Christmas Oratorio have enough faults to justify our waiting a year or two for a version on the level of the music.

The exuberantly fantastic Frenchman Hector Berlioz composed an oratorio, The Childhood of Christ (L'Enfance du Christ), suffused with melting passages of haunting, descriptive devotion. Berlioz in his daily life did not display a devotion like this, but the magic of the narration enthralled him to write a music nearly as commensurate as man can come.

The oratorio has two recordings which, in purely musical terms, I hestitate to commend entirely. But both give a pretty good semblance of the composer's temporary piety, so either is worth having, perhaps as an illumination of early Christian sentiment.

Both editions contain two records. That of Vox, PL-7122, conducted by the leading French conductor Andre Cluytens, is more penetrating. Columbia's, led by Thomas Scherman with the Little Orchestra Society of New York, has a more realistic and impressive sound (Columbia SL-199).

In the same exalted field we find the venerable Christmas Story of the 17th century Heinrich Schutz. In this cantata for soloists, chorus, and orchestra, joy is blended with solemnity with fascinating archaic skill.

There is more church than open air here, and the north-German sobriety is at curious but not entirely incompatible odds with more southern rejoicing. But the sturdy belief is more comforting than many of the more familiar carols. There is an excellent all-around projection, in German, by the choir of the well-named Dreikönigskirche in Frankfurt, with soloists and orchestra conducted by Kurt Thomas, on Oiseau-Lyre 50020. THE END



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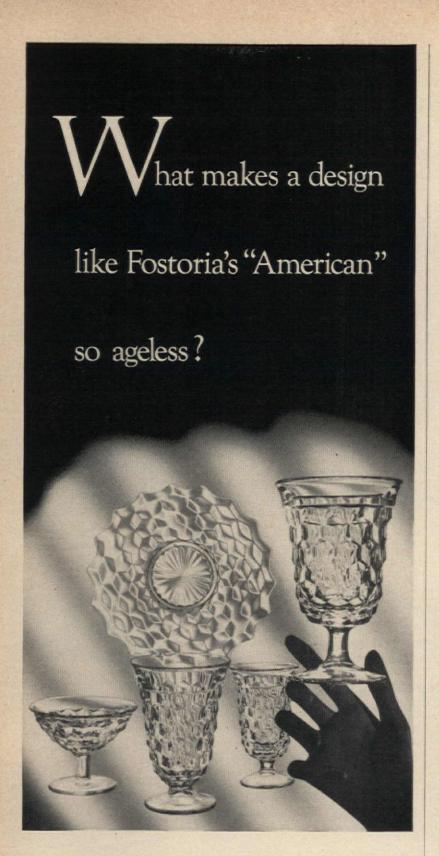




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good design doesn't go "out of style". You see patterns similar to American in collections of antique glassware; American, itself, is the pride of thousands of tables across the country. We've been making it for three generations now, and today the "line" has grown to 180 different

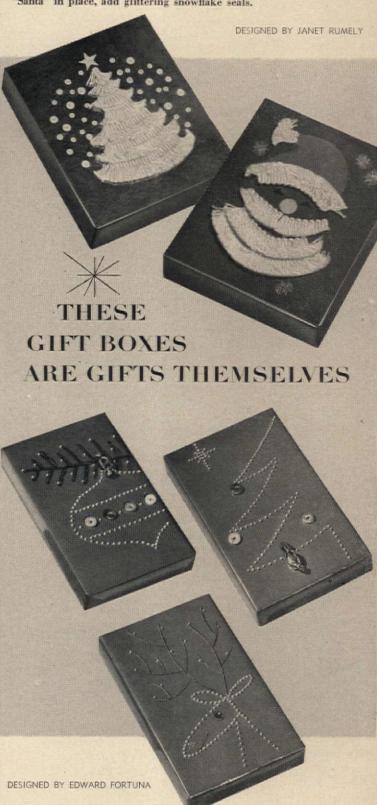
shapes — all crafted by hand. Yet American is surprisingly inexpensive. (The suggested place setting we show here is only \$4.95*.) You'll find it in better stores everywhere — for a charming gift, or for your own pleasure. In open stock because it's made by the Fostoria Glass Company in Moundsville, West Virginia.

*slightly higher in the West

FOSTORIA

Stick to decorating box covers, so your fancy Christmas wrappings won't be destroyed when gifts are opened. To make the snow-covered tree, cut gold paper same size as gift-box top. Attach with Sobo glue. Glue strips of white cotton fringe to foil to form tree. Top with a star seal and add white sequin "snowflakes."

Whimsical Santa box top is covered with green paper. Cut red paper hat and mouth, black paper eyes, and a pink paper nose. Hat tassle and trim, and beard are white cotton fringe. After you glue "Santa" in place, add glittering snowflake seals.



Here are three surprise boxes with "sweet stuff" decorations. For each box, measure and cut a piece of shiny, holiday-red paper big enough to cover top and sides of box cover—plus an inch or two to tuck inside so you can tape the paper in place.

Draw the Christmas ornament, tree, or reindeer (or design of your own) on the red paper. Glue large silver dragees (cake icing decorations) along the pencil lines of your drawing. Make tree bough of green wool, and reindeer's antlers of gray wool. Glue more silver candies on the wool for added sparkle. The colorful decorations on the tree and the Christmas ball? They're hard candies and foil-wrapped sweets, attached with Sobo glue. The END

The hot one's even hotter! '56 Chevrolet



THE BEL AIR SPORT SEDAN - one of two new 4-door hardtops

It's the new 1956 Chevrolet—with bold new Motoramic styling . . . frisky new models . . . and more of the dynamite action that's zoomed its way into America's heart!

They're here—and even hotter! That's the word on the new '56 Chevrolets.

They offer new higher horsepower—ranging up to a top of 205! This is the car, you know, that smashed the Pikes Peak record! That's proof of the kind of performance that puts more safety and fun in your driving.

And look at that sassy new Motoramic styling—the lower, longer hood, the bold new front-end and sweeping chrome. See the new flaired fender openings and high-fashion taillights. (The left-side taillight hides the gas cap!)

The fun's at your Chevrolet dealer's. So, why wait?... Chevrolet Division of General Motors, Detroit 2, Michigan.



The new "Two-Ten" 2-door Sedan



The new Bel Air Convertible



The new 9-passenger Bel Air Beauville



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Gives spotless results never before possible in your dishwasher!



NEVER BEFORE such spotless glasses!

Tired of finding unsightly spots on your freshly-washed glasses? Don't blame your dishwasher—just switch to new Cascade! Cascade's exclusive formula gives the cleanest glasses you've ever had—spotless and crystal clear, "close-up clean."



NEVER BEFORE such sparkling silver!

See how Cascade does away with annoying spots on silver! You'll find Cascade leaves your silver ready for the table—free of streaks . . . gleaming bright . . . "close-up clean"! And Cascade helps protect your nice aluminum ware, too.



PLUS new safety for fine china!

It's true! Cascade actually helps protect china! In fact, in your dishwasher Cascade is safer for delicate china patterns, including gold leaf, than any other product. And mmmm... how you'll love Cascade's pretty green color and fresh pine scent. So test Cascade yourself today!

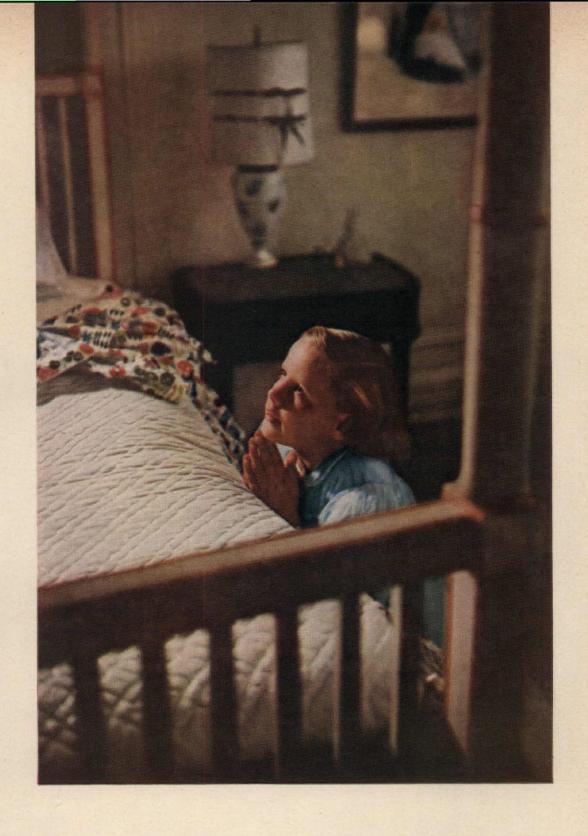
Miracle Cascade gets glasses, silver, china cleaner than any other dishwasher detergent!



> and every other leading dishwasher manufacturer!

Be sure to see the G-E "MOBILE-MAID" Automatic Dishwasher!

This G-E "Mobile-Maid" Automat Dishwasher is the ideal Christmas gi for Mom, Dad, and the whole family It means freedom from dishwash drudgery—more time for family fu Needs no installation . . . the only dishwasher with exclusive G-E Power Pr Rinsing. Giant capacity . . easy to loading. Ask your G-E Dealer for free demonstration! Remember, G-now packs a free box of Cascade inside



As One Unknown He Comes

He came to those men who knew Him not. He speaks to us the same word: "Follow thou me!" and sets us to the tasks which He has to fulfil for our time. He commands. And to those who obey Him, whether they be wise or simple, He will reveal Himself in the toils, the conflicts, the sufferings which they shall pass through in His fellowship, and as an ineffable mystery, they shall learn in their own experience Who He is.

-DR. ALBERT SCHWEITZER

Albert Schweitzer: An Anthology, Charles R. Joy, Editor, Beacon Press

WELCOME TO OUR HOUSE AT

Month after month you kindly open your house to the American Home and to the editors who bring you news, ideas, and special features. Your hospitality is appreciated. But just to say that we appreciate your hospitality is not enough. So may we, during this most festive time of the year, turn the tables and invite you into our house? Our house is actually many houses—as many as there are editors. In this special Christmas Section you will visit several of our editors' homes and see how they celebrate Christmas. Some of their ideas are plain and simple, some a bit more fancy. They've all been tried, and they all work. We hope our house gives you ideas for your own home.

-THE EDITORS





DOROTHY LAMBERT TRUMM, Pattern Editor, and daughter, Dorchen, live in a suburban community in a house that's a made-over barn. Here you're looking at how they decorate bay window in their living room. The window seat is a nice height for setting up small blue spruce, and the surrounding decorations. Except for the plastic snowflakes, all the tree's decorations are old-fashioned. They represent many foreign lands. The dove of peace at left of tree is from Sweden. Note the candy jars. The flavor of the whole room—the whole house, in fact—is a warm friendliness for family and friends.



• At dining end of the Trumms' big kitchen are more Christmas decorations. In addition to the tree itself, the other important decorating elements here are the Lucia crown on which candles are

set and apples hang, and the brass candlesticks and red candles. An unusual approach was used in decorating this tree, for it has entire carved wooden village hanging from its various branches.



- In punch bowl at the Trumms' is a warming beverage known as Farmer's Bishop. In the center you see clove-dotted oranges that've been baked in oven. Surrounding the punch bowl is a wreath of evergreen set off by bright kumquats. You'd probably not guess it to look at them, but the punch cups are really large size egg cups made in tones of brown and green. Look over what you have and seek out Christmas decorating novelties.
- Here's view of the mantelpiece in living room at the Trumms'. Those brilliantly burning candles look all the more impressive because they're set up on an oval steak board. A drop of melted wax on the board holds each candle in place. And the Madonna similarly gains stature by being placed on a small cheese board. In the background is a pewter trencher. And the finishing touch is the pewter bowl holding branches of holly, evergreen.



(THE CHRISTMAS TREE, PETER CORNELIUS)

"Let every house be ready tonight— The children gathered, the



• In daughter Dorchen's room is this small Christmas tree of plastic. The unique feature of the tree is that a single light at the base illuminates the lights on the rest of the tree. Decorations in this grouping include a train plus painted and unpainted wood figures from many foreign lands.

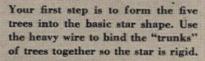


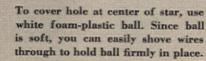
JEAN AUSTIN, The Editor, has no big tree in her home nowadays, for she's off to the grandchildren's of a Christmas morning. And there stands a tree big enough for all. In her own home, there's plenty of evidence that Christmas is in the air. Those miniature tin trees are from Mexico. The bases they stand on are made simply by wrapping kitchen bowls of varying heights with tinsel. When the trees are hung with Christmas fixin's, they enliven the piano and make it a right merry place for all to join in on the Christmas Eve caroling over at "Grandma's" home.

candles alight...."



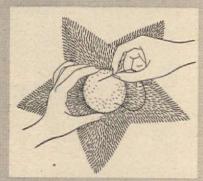
Beautiful star you see on right-hand page is made of these materials: 5 small imitation Christmas trees with bases removed, styrofoam ball, heavy wire, bit of "gold dust," 3 cans of snow, plastic spray, Sobo adhesive, tiny ornaments.





After wiring ball to center of star, spray entire setup with canned "snow." Be generous, but don't get too much in one place at one time.











Use Sobo adhesive to fasten miniature ornaments close together as possible over all foam-plastic ball. In small spaces between, go tinier ornaments.



Now dot each point of star a bit less heavily than center with the colorful miniature ornaments. Then spray everything lightly with the plastic.



Before plastic has a chance to dry completely, sprinkle the star lightly with "gold dust" for extra sparkle. To hang star, fasten wire back center.





A "STOPPER" DOORWAY YOU CAN MAKE FOR CHRISTMAS

This whimsical mouse catches your guests coming and going. As they arrive they see him and his cheery written welcome. Then as they go home they get the other view of him and see his farewell for the road. For illusion of the single mouse, use large sheet of wrapping or shelf paper on each side of the door. Paint on respective views and messages. Tape or tack the sheets in place. They roll up to store. Whiskers: broom straws. The tail is rope painted black.



"On the first day of Christmas my true love gave to me a partridge

in a pear tree."

(OLD ENGLISH CAROL)



To make leaves for the pear tree, you first get two sheets of metallic paper. Rubber cement them back to back. Trace leaves with pencil, cut out.



Make the pears themselves from modeling clay. Try to make all the pears about the same size, scaled considerably smaller than genuine pears.



Short pieces of fine wire bent as shown make a good way to hang pears. Straight wire end goes up through bottom. Spray pears with gold paint.



Clay fastens flower pin holder to container. Arrange white-painted branches as desired. Base and holder may be covered with glass beads.



Rubber cement leaves to twigs. Hook on pears by means of wires. Finally attach a bejeweled pink "partridge" with wire at strategic spot.

"People, look East. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, Trim the hearth, and set the table."

(CAROL OF THE ADVENT, ELEANOR FARJEON)



Jolly snowman you see, right-hand page, is made from flexible cardboard, rubber ball, wrapping paper, small boxes, tape, dowels, miniature ornaments, cork, wood base, paint, cotton, clear glue, some map pins.



Bowl of his pipe and most of hat are made from flexible cardboard. Staples fasten "stovepipe" crown; and the glue holds crown to brim. Burlap, tape, ribbon, trim hat. All is sprayed gold. Pipe stem: dowel.



Paint base black, then let it dry thoroughly. Make snowman's body by stapling cardboard into "volcano" shape. Dowel glues into hole in the base. Glue tabs at three spots inside cone. Fold tabs; glue to base.



Head is rubber ball painted white. Dowel passed through body forms the arms. "Sleeves" are cotton, "hands" go in slots. Nose is cork. Paint mouth. Glue on tie, hat, boxes, and ornaments as on snowman at right.



MARION MAYER, Executive Editor, has this friendly fireplace arrangement in her living room. Old-fashioned Christmas tree is seen through sunroom doorway. At center of mantel, greens are arranged around small angel, with a few jewel-tone balls for sparkle. Beer glasses on mantel ends hold holly. Colored balls surround base of glasses.

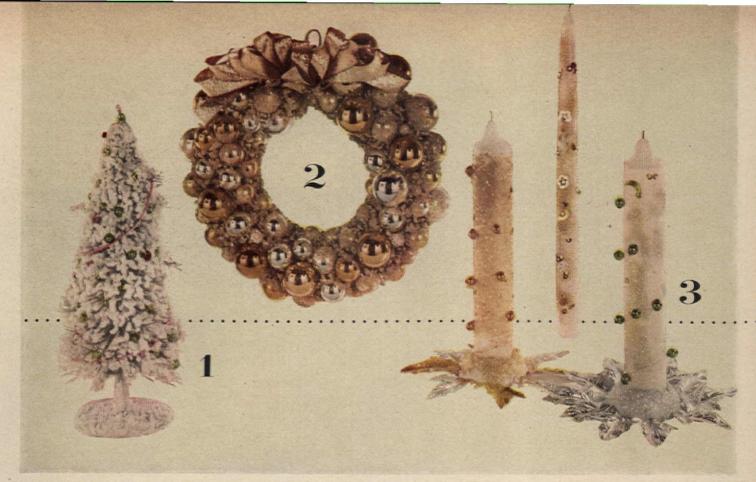


This is what the completed partridge in a pear tree looks like. Inspired by the familiar old carol, Marion Mayer created this charming effect for her holiday centerpiece.

The swag hanging below the mantelpiece is made of sprigs of variegated and English holly. The method that produces the best looking job is to start at the center with the largest sprigs and work out to smallest ones at the ends. Fine wire holds sprigs together; swag is tacked in place.



WILLIAM LANYON, Associate Art Editor, and family have a Christmas tree like this one (left) on their hall door. In the living room they have a lot of other decorations such as the snowman (far left) for which you're provided a full set of how-to instructions on the left-hand page. To make the Christmas tree, you cut the outline from shiny red cardboard. Across the center goes a strip of white, and heavy white yarn that's glued in place forms the lettering. Bells are the 10-cent-store kind that you normally open up fully, but here they are opened half way and glued onto the tree.



If you'd like to create your own Christmas decorations but have reservations about starting from scratch, one happy solution is to do as Pattern Editor Dorothy Trumm does here with inexpensive decorations, custom tailoring them. These expensive looking decorations were very economical to make; started off as 10-cent-store items. Page opposite shows how they got this way.



GERTRUDE BROOKS DIX-SON, our Home Furnishings Editor, has a tiny apartment she insists is barely big enough to turn around in. So there's not room enough for a big tree or lots of decorations. The result is that "Dixie" settles on a sort of compromise that takes little space but still has plenty of Christmas spirit. This window is the decorating focal point. Artificial poinsettias from the 10-cent-store were sprayed gold. Some "grow" on Christmas-green cellophane strands while others are "planted" in jardiniere of brass. Angel at left has shown up for many years. Italian box in the center holds Christmas cards. The Christmas cookies were a gift.









On the left-hand page you see a custom-tailored Christmas tree you can make for yourself from an inexpensive 10-cent-store artificial tree, and a few inexpensive materials. That's how this good looking tree was made, and you see (above and right) the simple steps that produce the end result. Materials you'll need are: artificial Christmas tree, "snow" spray, plastic spray, Sobo cement, garlands of tiny Christmas tree balls, inexpensive neck beads, and artificial flowers. "Gold dust," known either as "flitter" or "glitter," will add a nice touch but isn't absolutely necessary. You start by spraying tree thoroughly with canned "snow" so that you build up authentic looking white coating on all branches. Then, using Sobo cement, you fasten to tree the small balls from unstrung garlands, and the artificial flowers. At this point the tree looks like step shown top right. Use strings of tiny neck beads as garlands for tree. Spray all with plastic spray to set. Before spray dries, sprinkle on the "gold dust."









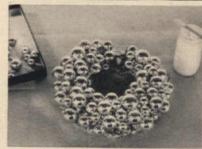




The beautiful Christmas candles you see at top of page opposite are made from plain candles and standard 10-cent-store wares. Directly above here are the simple steps that transform ordinary candles into beauties with a special look. In addition to candles, you need plastic spray, garland balls, sequins, thread, "gold dust," artificial gold or silver colored leaves, and half a plastic foam ball for each candle. Thread balls, spaced as shown, and wrap them around candle, fastening balls to candle with Sobo. Spray with plastic, sprinkle with "dust." Insert leaves in foam ball, make candle hole.



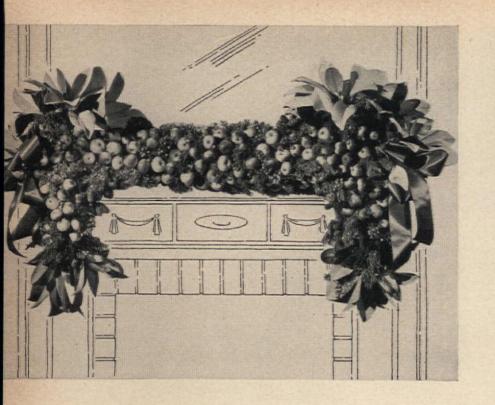


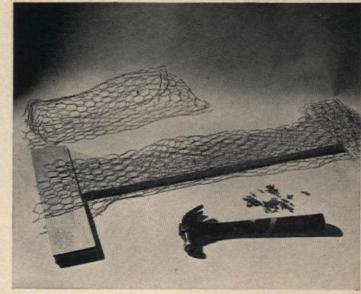






Luxurious looking wreath, at top center of opposite page, is made simply from a few inexpensive materials: a 10-centstore wreath of artificial type, three sizes of Christmas balls (a good source of two smaller sizes are the balls sold in "grape clusters," for their stems make them easy to glue into place), plastic spray, Sobo glue, metal foil ribbon, and "gold dust." At immediate left you can follow steps from top to bottom to see exactly how to do the job yourself. First step shows you materials you will need for the job. Start off by carefully fastening the three sizes of Christmas balls to the wreath, using Sobo cement to hold them in place firmly. Note the space left to tie ribbon on later. When wreath is covered full as you like with the balls, spray all thoroughly with a coating of plastic which will hold balls together solidly and, while still wet, acts as base to hold the "gold dust."





The lady-apple swag (left) and the wreath (below, left) are two beautiful decorations that you can make for your own home. Those shown were arranged for the American Home by Betty B. Merriam. For the swag, make simple wood frame (above). Size depends upon where you'll use it. Tack on 1-inch-mesh chicken wire, doubled.

"The holly's up, the house is all bright, The tree is ready, the candles alight:

Rejoice and be glad, all children tonight!"

(THE CHRISTMAS TREE, PETER CORNELIUS)



The "skeleton" of your wreath consists of two wire rings, one just a bit smaller than the other. You fasten one inside the other as shown, using fine wire. Other main materials: lots of evergreen, boxwood, lady apples, nuts, pears, juniper berries.





The next step in making the swag is to build up a background for what's to come later. You make this background by using fairly long pieces of cedar, Japanese yew, or balsam. Wind these pieces on, using florist's spool wire. The idea is to completely hide the chicken wire and the wood frame. Then when this background is complete, insert clumps of juniper, coned spruce.



With the greens all in place on the swag, you go ahead and add shellacked lady apples, crab apples, cones, or even clumps of gilded peanuts. Then at each of the four corners you add southern magnolia foliage that you've previously sprayed white and then sprayed lightly with gold. Add bows for glamor. Use swag over doorway, sofa, mantel, mirror, or a picture window.



Cut all greens equal length, and wire them in clumps, keeping each kind separate. Plan a sequence and repeat it around the wreath. Attach clumps with fine wire; continue around in one direction till skeleton's covered.



Stick florist's picks into fruits, then wire fruits into clumps. Pears only should be stuck on pick and handled individually. All fruits should get shellacking for added gloss, longer life. Wire fruits, nuts to wreath.

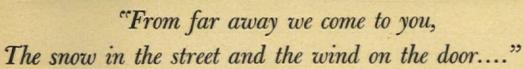


Now your handiwork's beginning to look like something. Your next step is to spiral red plastic weatherproof ribbon around the wreath as shown. You then fasten on a luscious bow of the same material. Even at this stage your wreath looks beautiful, but there's still one final, glamorous step.



Lay your wreath on some disposable material such as newspaper or wrapping paper, and make certain that the material extends well beyond the limits of the wreath. Then take a can of gold spray and put the finishing touch to wreath by spraying all outer edge. When paint dries, that's everything!

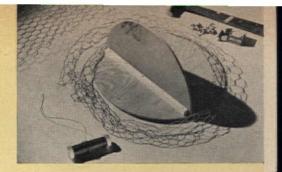




(SNOW IN THE STREET, R. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS)

o make this beautiful wreath-crèche, start with wood circle (top right). One third of way from bottom of this circle nail cleat, and above that nail a semi-circular wood shelf. Around edge of circle, tack crumpled 1-inchmesh chicken wire, and wire it crisscross to tacks in front and back of wood circle. Blue-

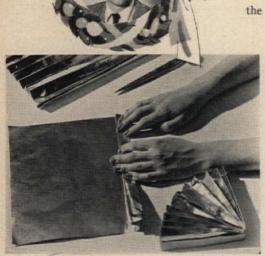
green metallic paper covers background. Half an orange juice can shades a single Christmas tree bulb. Gold spray can and right side of paper. Add greens, cones. Glue or tape figurines to face Infant. Add soft green satin bow. Wreath requires less material than a "regular" wreath. Arrangement is by Betty B. Merriam.







BOB HOUSEMAN, Merchandise Editor, gets a big effect at small expense. He performs fascinating sleight-of-hand tricks with inexpensive gold wrapping paper. Folded gold paper is a main ingredient of decorations, bottom half of the opposite page. The wreath, swags, snowflake stars, and the shining tree all owe their sparkle to gold paper. The three steps immediately below show you how to fold and mount the wreath and swags. To make the conical tree (far right, opposite page) take a piece of the gold paper shaped like a wedge of pie, then fold it into a cone and hold it with cellophane tape.



For the wreath, first cut 12 sheets gold paper (you can use silver or any other color) to size 101/2" x 13". Fold each sheet from narrowest side in 1" folds, accordion fashion, the full length of sheet. Bend folded sheets in half, form fans.



Join inside edges of fans with cellophane tape. You turn every other fan in length to get effect you see in finished job. Wreath takes 12 fans. Procedure's same for swags at sides of wreath. Two fans make the rosettes at the end of swags.



Make wreath by laying length of 12 fans joined together over foam-plastic ring. Expand fans evenly, attach with straight pins. And pin a cluster of ornaments tied with gold ribbon to five points. Big cluster, streamer at bottom.

"Welcome be ye
That are here,
Welcome all,
And make good cheer.."

(WELCOME YULE, SYDNEY H. NICHOLSON)

KNUTE HEINZ of the Art Department had the problem of wanting a Christmas tree and yet having practically no spot roomy enough to set a tree up. What did he do? He flattened his tree against a

wall. The way he got the results you see at right was to start by trimming off all branches of just an ordinary tree. Such a tree needn't be perfect. On top of a cabinet Knute set the base of the tree, then fastened the trunk to the wall with cellophane tape. Then he "built" a

flat tree by fastening branches up with tape. To left of tree is bird cage that's made of two cardboard circles and alternating red and green strings. Bottom of cage, lined with cotton, resembles nest.







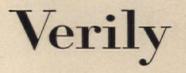




EDITH RAMSAY, Home Equipment Editor, spends her autumn week ends stashing goodies away in her freezer. This is in preparation for shipping off a plum pudding to many a faroff friend, and having many others at her festive board come Christmas Eve. For those who come for the Christmas Eve dining and carols, there's roast goose and all the trimmin's. And there's a wreath apiece, all saran wrapped and tied with a gold ribbon to the gilt chicken-wire "tree." Guests take the wreaths

See "Where Credit Is Due," page 90

with them when they go home.





Christmas spirit in his apartment. The ornate wreaths against the natural wood shutters are

in keeping with the season. And a pink felt

table cloth gives a shock of color against the

white walls. Gifts stack around candlestick.

• Two cherished gifts—beautiful Christmas tree service plates and a wonderfully gay old iron toy, a circus band wagon—are carefully put away each year and used only during the Christmas holidays in the home of Jean Austin. Perhaps you have treasured possessions you could use the same way in your home.

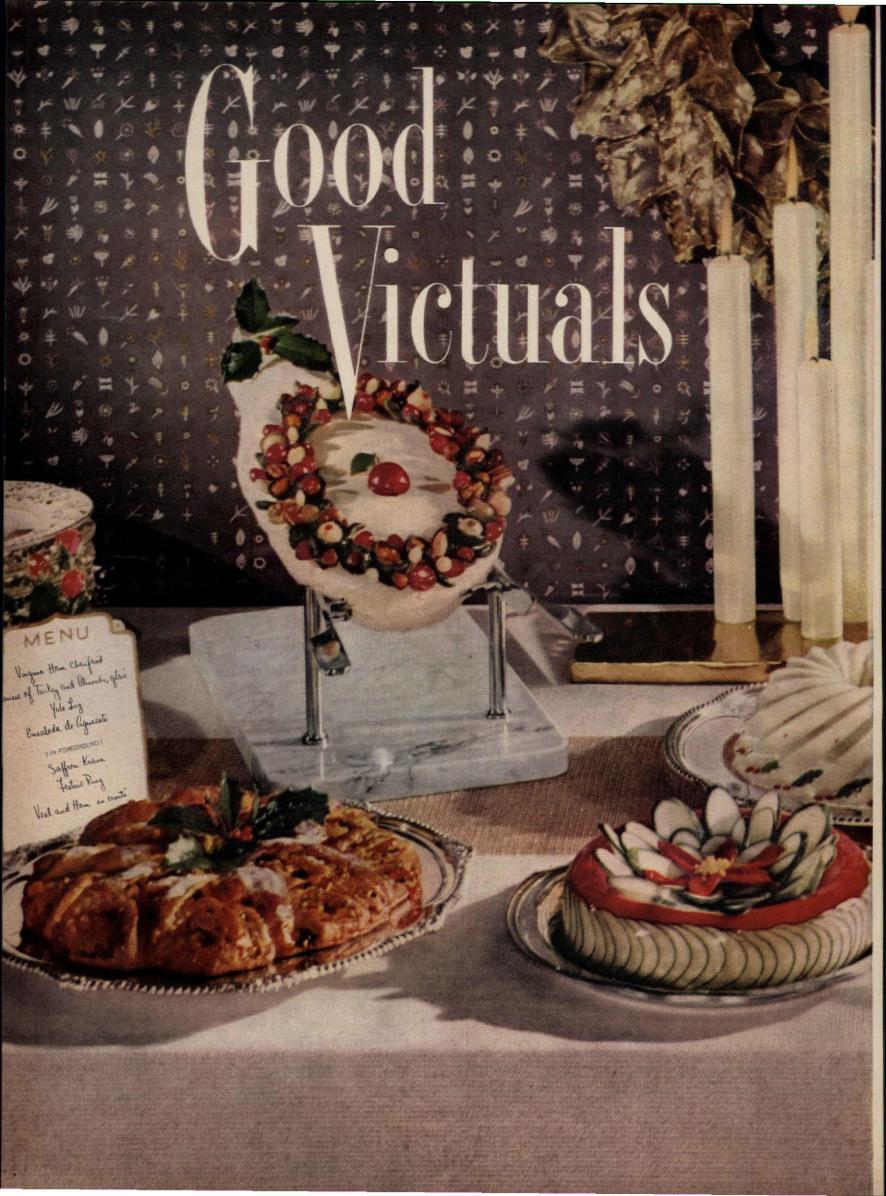


GERTRUDE BRASSARD, Table Merchandise Editor, likes to have Christmas with her daughter, son-in-law, and grandchildren Pamela and David. Gertrude's all in favor of Christmas spirit, but insists things don't have to get complicated. And she practices what she preaches. Wall decoration, plus candelabra at end of table, eliminates need for centerpiece, and leaves plenty of space for a big dinner on small, unexpandable table. The junior table, chairs take care of youngest generation. Edible igloo (how to make it, page 74) is an extra special treat for the grandchildren.

Merry, Our Christmas Tables

"Bring us out a table, and spread it with a cloth; Bring us out a mouldy cheese, and some of your Christmas loaf...."

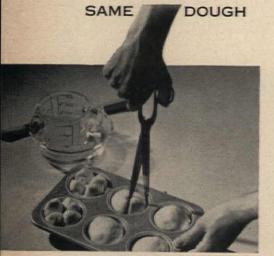
(WASSAIL SONG FROM HUSK'S "SONGS OF THE NATIVITY", 1868)





HOW TO BRAID A CHRISTMAS LOAF!

PLUS 2 EASY WAYS
TO WORK THE



LUCKY CLOVERS—Place dough balls in greased muffin pans. Cut balls in quarters, almost to bottom. Brush with butter,



CHRISTMAS BRAID LOAF—Here's how to braid a Christmas loaf that's easy to make—once you know the secret. Divide dough (see recipe, page 67) into three equal parts. Roll each piece in 18-inch strip.



Then braid these three strips just as shown in the step above. Brush top of the braided loaf lightly with melted margarine or butter. Top it with delicious (and pretty) pineapple filling (page 67).



BUNS—Roll dough into 12-inch square. Brush with melted butter. Put 3 tbs. of mixture of 1 cup sugar, 1 tbs. cinnamon on center. Fold, sprinkle again.



Fold remaining dough over. Cut in 1-inch strips, using a sharp knife. Hold each end of a strip and twist tightly in opposite direction. Seal ends.

ı lb. veal

I lb. ham

2 tbs. flour

1 tsp. grated lemon rind

1/4 cup beef stock or consommé

½ tsp. basil

1/2 tsp. savory

Salt, pepper, cayenne

I ths. chopped parsley

 Cut veal and ham in thin slices. Mix flour and seasonings well and roll each piece of veal in mixture.

• veal and ham en croûte

PASTRY FOR PÂTÉ FORM:

• Blend to a smooth paste 3 egg yolks, $\frac{3}{4}$ cup soft butter, and 1 tbs. olive oil. Combine with 3 cups flour, $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt, and $\frac{1}{2}$ cup cold water to make a firm dough. Cover and let dough rest for one hour.

Reserve ¼ of pastry dough for top crust. Roll the remaining pastry into large oval sheet. Fit the dough into 9½-inch-long pâté form, carefully pressing the pastry down against the bottom and into all the indentations of the form. Trim edge evenly, leaving a ½-inch overlap. Moisten the rim and fold pastry back under itself, pressing firmly against rim. Bake in hot oven 450°F. for 10 minutes to set the pastry. Cool. Fill form with alternate layers of veal and ham. Adjust pastry over the filling. Make a small hole in the center of top crust to allow steam to escape. Moisten top edge of lining and press cover firmly together with tines of fork.

Decorate the top with leaves cut from leftover pastry. Brush with beaten egg. Bake in 375°F. oven for 45 min. Add beef stock through the vent and bake 15 min. more. Serves 6.

RECIPE BY JEAN AUSTIN



How to serve soup to a group!

Is there a pitcher in the house? Fill it with hot oup! Pour the soup into cups. Could anything e more practical? Or more pleasant?

For soup fills a group with such warmth and heer-it can easily be the hit of the party.

Try a pitcher of hot soup when everybody's vatching television. Bring on soup in a pitcher t your next party. Make it a "custom of the ouse"-snacks and soup...beautiful soup!

pouring. So is any one of our cream soups-Cream of Chicken, Mushroom, Celery, Asparagus. There's Bouillon or Consommé, if you like light snacks. Fabulous Black Bean for the soup gourmet. Or set the party talking - make new soups by combining two soups!

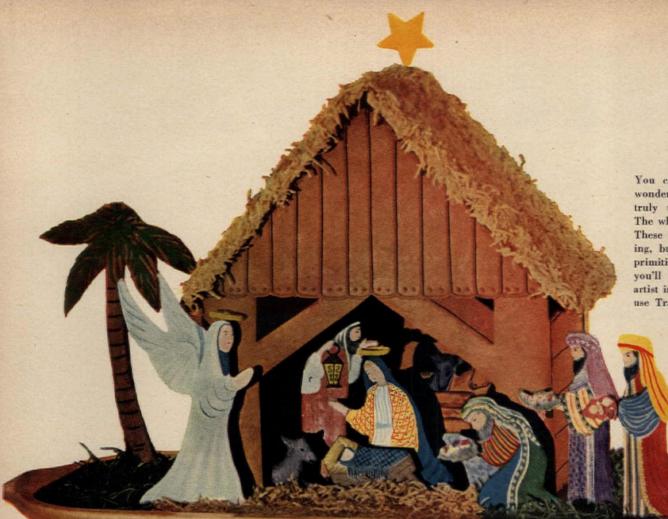
If there's a pitcher in the house-why not fill it up right now with good hot soup!



YOUR BODY NEEDS . . .

PROTEINS—for upkeep and growth VITAMINS and MINERALS—for vitality CARBOHYDRATES-for energy LIQUIDS-for your well-being

Tomato Soup and Green Pea are fine for Once a day... every day... SOUP!



You can cut out, bake, and ice these wonderful Nativity figures to make a truly unusual crèche for your home. The whole family will want to help you. These cookies are definitely not for eating, but they are a means of creating primitive beauty at little expense. And you'll find you don't have to have an artist in the family to make them, if you use Transfer Pattern 1578.

SEE PATTERN ORDER FORM, PAGE 90

IGLOO "HOW TO" PICTURES ON PAGE 74

BE IT IN JERUSALEM OR AT THE NORTH POLE...

Family Food for Christmas

JEANNIE WILLIS

is a very special and personal matter. Every family can have a food tradition that symbolizes the merry season. Perhaps yours is our lovely cookie crèche. My family had always wanted a crèche, but we could never find just the right one. I must confess the cookie figures were made

in peace and solitude, but then we all worked together on

the painting and decorating. Daddy got in on the act to fix the light inside the crèche.

Maybe you want something less elaborate and precious, like our igloo cake. It's a charmer, and the kids will want to gobble down this table centerpiece. Our Gertrude Brassard discovered this when she used the igloo for her grandchildren's Christmas dinner (page 57).

Or perhaps your family has handed down an heirloom recipe like the one for Sue Brooks' brown suet pudding contributed by our Gertrude Brooks Dixson. Christmas just isn't Christmas at her house without this dessert.

No matter what your taste, your family food for Christmas reflects your family life, with a great big plus. Be sure to give it extra meaning at Christmas time.



The pie crust you stir and roll

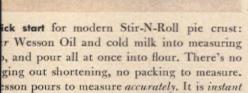
No cutting in shortening

Pour delicate Wesson Oil for flaky,

tender pie crust every time









No cutting in shortening—just stir to mix. Wesson blends in quickly and evenly. Even beginners find Stir-N-Roll pie dough easy to handle. Best of all, light, delicate Wesson Oil keeps its delicacy at high pie-baking temperatures. Your pie crust has home-baked flavor no mix can equal.



No mussy floured board. Roll your pie crust neatly between waxed papers. Even with moist, juicy fillings, your pastry keeps its tender crispness. And because Wesson Oil is lighter and more delicate than any other type of shortening, your pie crust is sure to be delicate, too.



STIR-N-ROLL HOLIDAY MINCE PIE

Wesson's easy, instant shortening method

2 cups sifted all-purpose flour, such as Gold Medal *1½ teaspoons salt ½ cup Wesson Oil ¼ cup cold whole milk

Heat oven to 425° (hot). Mix flour and salt. Pour Wesson Oil and milk into one measuring cup (but don't stir). Then pour all at once into flour. Stir until mixed. Press into smooth ball. Cut in halves; flatten halves slightly. Place one half between 2 sheets of waxed paper (12" square). Roll out gently to edge of paper. (Dampen table top to prevent slipping.) Peel off top paper. If dough tears, mend without moistening. Lift paper and pastry by top corners. Place paperside-up in 9" pie pan. Peel off paper. Fit pastry into pan. Flute edge. Add your favorite mincemeat or fruit filling. Roll top crust to form circle 9" across. Peel off top paper. Make leaf pattern, then cut 6 holly leaves from pastry with shears or sharp paring knife. Place leaves over filling paperside-up. Peel off paper. Bake 25 to 35 minutes. If desired, reroll remaining dough, sprinkle with cinnamon-sugar and cut into strips. Bake at 425° about 5 minutes or until done. Good snack.

*When using Gold Medal Self-Rising Flour, omit salt. Reduce baking temperature 50°.

Delicate salad oil makes the finest shortening

Wesson Oil

Take a Can of PINEAPPLE

JUNE TOWNE

ome gals, so we're told, get bored with trying to think up new ideas for Christmas giving and new ways to get a change of pace at meals after serving so much traditional holiday
fare. So for gifts that please and meals that vary, we say "take a can of pineapple." Use it for homemade gift sweets such as JAMS and MARMALADES. Serve the family ORIENTAL MEATBALLS along with
a CHRISTMAS BRAID LOAF. The bread, a pretty braid loaf, will also please the wide-awake breakfaster.
The recipe section contains full directions for these foods. Concoct one of them—PINEAPPLE-APPLE
CRISP, HOLIDAY PUDDING, or PINEAPPLE NOEL PIE—to add a surprise to Christmas fare.



PINEAPPLE JAMS

For details about table appointments, See "Where Credit Is Due," page 90



Cooking champions say: There never was anything like it before!"

Mrs. Merle E. Seaton, of Taylorville, Ill., top cooking champion in TWO states, has lost count of the blue ribbons she's won. She says, "Whether I'm cooking to exhibit or for my own folks, I love to use Fluffo. My Fluffo cookies, for example, always look so much better ... such a pleasing golden-brown!"



She adds, "I like the way Fluffo handles, gives a nice soft dough that's easy to work with ...

"This fluffy-rich, golden-yellow shortening gives you a heu ofcookie

... better in every way than you could possibly make before!



"And your cookies come out looking so pretty ... you just know that golden color means they have a nice flavor all through. And they do-Fluffo cookies taste even better than they look!"

YES, the cookies you get from golden Fluffo really are a new kind of cookies . . . better looking, better tasting, better in every way than any shortening ever gave you before!

That's because Fluffo is different! Even its color is different - golden-yellow. It's a wonderful new kind of shortening, blended by Procter & Gamble from better shortening ingredients, by an exclusive fluffing process. It's the finest shortening you can buy.

As cooking champion Mrs. Seaton says, "I like the wonderful taste and golden color Fluffo gives to everything. And-it's such fun to use! I wouldn't go back to white shortening!"

Use this fluffy-rich shortening with all your usual recipes-for a new kind of baking and frying. It costs no more than other leading shortenings. So digestible, too. The very best cooks are changing to Fluffo. Why not you?

MRS. SEATON'S PRIZE-WINNING COOKIES

This recipe won her another blue ribbon last August! Makes BOTH drop and roll cookies in just one mixing! NOTE: Use Fluffo in all your recipes that call for shortening.

1 cup FLUFFO 11/2 cups sugar 21/2 cups sifted all-purpose flour 1 tsp. baking powder 1 tsp. salt

Blend Fluffo and sugar; add eggs and beat. Combine flour, baking powder and salt; add to mixture, blending well. Divide dough in half.

Rolled Cookies: to one half dough, add 1 to 2 tsp. vanilla, orange, lemon or almond extract, wrap in waxed paper and chill thoroughly. Divide and roll, part at a time, on a well floured board to ¼" thickness. Cut and bake on greased baking sheet, 10-12 minutes at 375° F. Cool. Add icing if desired. Makes about 3 dozen cookies with average cutters.

Drop Cookies: to the other half of dough, add 1/4 cup milk, and your choice of:

- (1) 1 to 2 tsp. almond extract, ½ cup chopped shredded coconut or (2) 1 to 2 tsp. lemon extract, ½ cup each chopped dates and walnuts-or(3) 1 tsp. cinnamon, ½ tsp. nutmeg, ¼ tsp. cloves and ¾ cup seedless
- raisins or –

 (4) ½ tsp. peppermint flavoring, ½ cup chopped pecans and 3 tbsp. cocoa, stirred into 3 tbsp. warm water.

Drop by teaspoons on greased baking sheet, bake as above. Makes 3-3½ dozen cookies.

Procter & Gamble's new kind of shortening . . . GOLDEN ALL-PURPOSE SHORTENING, NOT A TABLE SPREAD (Yellow from pure carotene)

©1955, The Procter & Gamble Company

American Home Recipes

(Take a Can of Pineapple, pictured in color on page 64)

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

THE AMERICAN HOME, Dept. J-55 American Home Building, Forest Hills, N. Y.

Preparation time: 15 min. Proofing time: 1½ hrs. Baking time: 45 min. Christmas braid loaf

1/4 cup lukewarm water

14 cup butter or margarine 2 pkgs. yeast 1/2 cup sugar

gluta-

r tbs. monosodium

2 tsp. soy sauce

in

green pepper, cut

11/2 lb. ground beef or pork #21/2 can pineapple

wedges

½ tsp. pepper ½ tsp. ginger

Preparation time: 15 min. Cooking time: 30 min.

oriental meatballs

mate (optional) tsp. cornstarch tbs. cold water

Juice from pineapple r med. onion, sliced 1/2 cup vinegar

r cup sugar 1/2 tsp. salt

in

large tomato, cut

wedges

cucumber, sliced cup diced celery

chunks, drained

• Scald milk, pour over butter or margarine, sugar, and salt. Crumble and soften yeast in water. Cool milk mixture to lukewarm, add yeast and eggs. Beat in flour to make soft dough. Turn onto a floured board. Knead until smooth. Form dough into a ball and let rise until double in bulk in a greased bowl. Divide dough and braid into two loaves. (See page 60). Let loaves rise again. Place filling in folds of the braid and bake for 45 min. In a 375°F. oven. (Strips of dough may be brushed with melted butter or margarine and dusted with a sugar and cinnamon mixture 41/2 cups sifted flour 2 well beaten eggs

if desired.)

tbs. cornstarch

balls. Combine vinegar, sugar, ½ cup pineapple juice. and seasonings, add to meat-balls. Then add pineapple and vegetables. Continue cooking until meat is done. Dissolve

cornstarch in cold water and add to meatball mixture. Cook until sauce thickens and

is clear. Serve with steamed rice.

in 2 tbs. cooking oil and remove from pan. Then brown and partially cook meat-

Season ground meat with salt and pepper to taste and roll into balls. (This may be done in advance and refrigerated.) Lightly brown the pineapple and vegetables 1 #2 can crushed pineapple, drained 14 cup pineapple juice

1/2 cup chopped pecans 2 tbs. brown sugar

Dissolve cornstarch in the pineapple juice. Cook until clear, add remaining in-gredients. Continue cooking until thoroughly blended. Cool.

Source of Vitamins A, B, C

Tested in The American Home Kitchens 1,325 cal. per loaf

Yield: 2 loaves

Source of Vitamins A, B, C

610 cal, per serving

SUBMITTED BY MYRA KING

Serves: 6

Tested in The American Home Kitchens

Preparation time: 10 min. Baking time: 30 min.

pineapple-apple crisp

holiday pudding

2 cups leftover chocolate cake or 20 14 cup nuts, chopped

1 #2 can crushed pineapple, drained 1/4 cup glazed cherries, chopped

Preparation time: 10 min.

container heavy cream, whipped

Crumble cake or cookies into a bowl. Add remaining ingredients and toss lightly.
 Chill. Top with whipped cream and serve.

Serves: 4

880 cal. per serving SUBMITTED BY MRS. W. O. MEYER

Tested in The American Home Kitchens Source of Vitamins A, C

Source of Vitamins A, B, C

315 cal. per serving

Serves: 6

Tested in The American Home Kitchens

the pineapple, apples, and brown sugar mixture (ending with brown sugar mixture) in a greased baking dish. Pour milk over entire casserole. Bake in 350°F, oven for

min. covered, then for 15 min. longer, uncovered.

Combine flour, sugar, cinnamon, salt, and butter or margarine. Make layers

3 tbs. melted butter or margarine

½ tsp. cinnamon ½ tsp. salt

#2 cans crushed pineapple, drained #2 cans or jars sliced apples, drained

cup brown sugar

1/2 cup flour 3/3 cup brown

1/3 cup evaporated milk

pie pineapple noel

2 cups syrup from fruit cup cornstarch tbs. lemon juice 1/3 cup sugar 1/4 cup cornst

Preparation time: 15 min. Baking time: 30 min.

Dash of cinnamon

1 #2 can crushed pineapple, drained Unbaked pastry for 9-in. lattice pie 1 #21/2 can apricots, drained Green and red maraschino cherries for garnish

• Gradually add fruit syrup to sugar and cornstarch. Cook until thick; add lemon juice, cinnamon, and fruit. Cool, then fill cherry-decorated pie shell. Bake in 450°F. oven for 30 min.

pineapple jams

1/4 cup maraschino cherries, Preparation time: 10 min. Cooking time: 30 min. halved 1/2 lemon, sliced thin 4 cups sugar PINEAPPLE-APRICOT JAM 2 #2 cans crushed pine-11/2 cups dried apricots

• Wash apricots, cover with water, and soak overnight. Simmer until tender in water in which they were soaked. Pureé apricots; add pineapple, lemon slices, and sugar. Simmer, stirring frequently, until thick and clear. Add cherries and nuts. Pour 14 cup chopped walnuts

Source of Vitamins A, C 710 cal. per glass into sterilized jars and seal Yield: 6 med. glasses

1/2 cup almonds 31/2 cups sugar Preparation time: 15 min.

Preparation time: 15 min.

2 cups finely grated carrots 3 cups diced pineapple 3½ cups sugar 3 cups water 1 cup pineapple juice i tsp. ginger 2 lemons, rind and juice oranges, rind and pulp

Source of Vitamins A, C · Cook carrots, lemon rind, orange rind and pulp in the water until tender. Add pineapple and juice, ginger and sugar. Cook until thick and clear. Add lemon juice, cook min. longer. Add almonds. Pour into sterilized jars and seal. 700 cal. per glass Yield: 6 med. glasses

Recipes tested in The American Home Kitchens

67

Serves: 8

Source of Vitamins A, C

Tested in The American Home Kitchens

280 cal. per serving





MIRRO Electric Corn Popper 2½-qt., \$7.50



Electric Percolator 8-cup, \$7.95



MIRRO-MATIC Electric Pressure Pan 4-qt., \$29.95



Pressure Pan 4-qt., \$12.95



MIRRO-MATIC Chrome Electric Percolator 8-cup, \$19.95



MIRRO-MATIC Polished Electric Percolator 8-cup. \$12.95



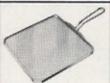
MIRRO Drip Coffee Maker 6-cup, \$3.95



MIRRO Whistling Tea Kettle 3-qt., \$4.95



MIRRO Warp-proof Fry Pan 9-in., \$2.95



MIRRO Square Griddle 10%"x10%", \$2.95



MIRRO Covered Mold 11/8-qt., \$1.65



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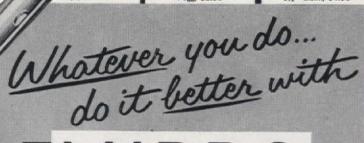


Square Egg Poacher 4-egg, \$2.50



...the handiest pan in the kitchen! You can always use one more





THE FINEST ALUMINUM

the good cook's best buy

the finest aluminum.

World's largest ...

MANUFACTURER OF ALUMINUM COOKING UTENSILS





Casserole 2½-qt., \$4.50



MIRRO



Guaranteed by

MIRRO Copper-Tone Canister Set 1½, 2, 3, 4-qt., \$9.95



Star Mold 1½-qt., 95 cents



MIRRO Copper-Tone Mold Set 5 molds, \$5.95



MIRRO Ice Cube Tray 11½ "x4¾"x2½", \$1.95



MIRRO Baking and Roasting Pan 14¼"x10"x2", \$1.95



MIRRO Omelet and Double Fry Pan 9%" diam., \$2.50



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Tubed Cake Pan 9¾"x41%", \$2.25



MIRRO Layer Cake Pan diam., 65 cents each



MIRRO Cook and Carry Pan 7" diam., \$1.75



MIRRO Covered Cake Pan 12¾"x9½"x2½", \$2.75



Covered Loaf Pan 101/4 "x31/8" x21/8", \$1.45



MIRRO Deep Pie Pan diam. 85 cents



MIRRO Seamless Muffin Pan 6 cups, 65 cents



Cooky Sheet 151/2"x12", \$1.15





Tea Kettle 5 qts., \$5.75



MIRRO Mixette 8-oz., 35 cents

MANY OF THESE ITEMS AVAILABLE IN A RANGE OF SIZES

All prices slightly higher in West.



What cookbook gives you a beautiful 3x5" actual photograph of every recipe in it? What cookbook lets you take out a single recipe, put the rest away, and concentrate on it without losing your place or having to thumb through page after page of cross references? What cookbook lets you rearrange and reclassify the contents according to your own particular method of filing? What cookbook lets you add to its pages your own favorite family recipes that you've treasured for years?

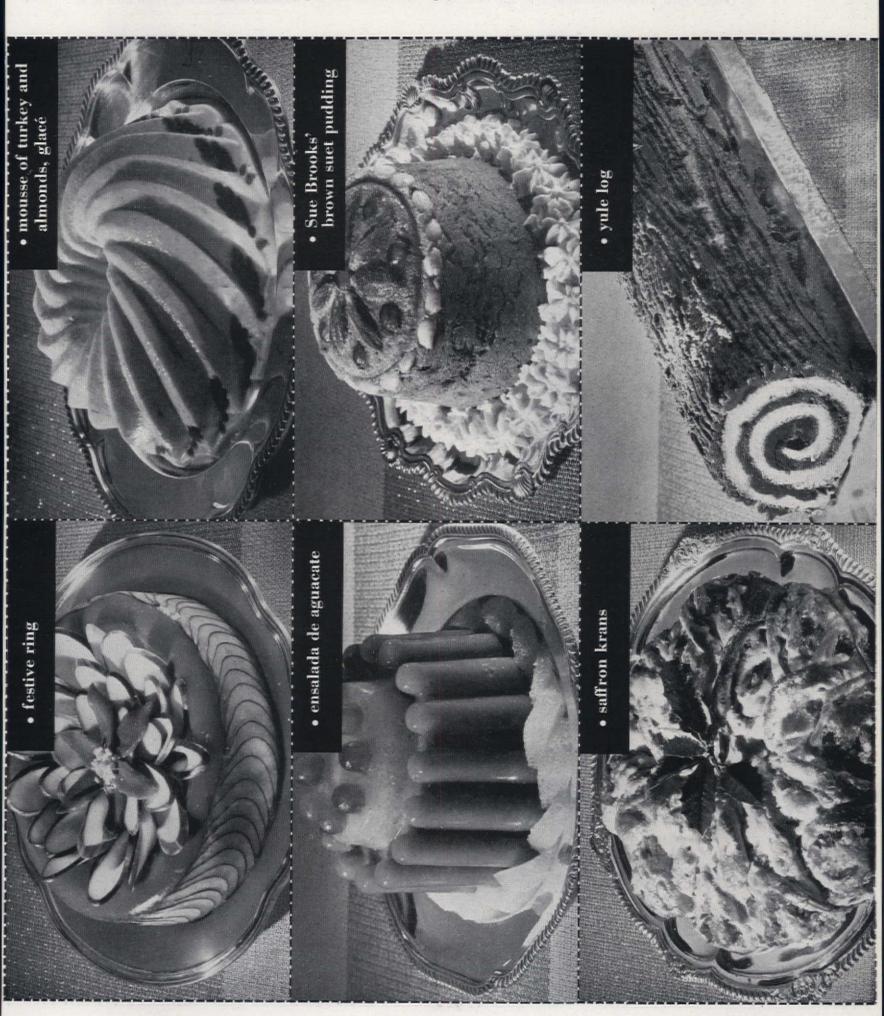
None does! But The American Home Menu Maker does! It's specially designed to hold two rows (over 1,000) of the 3x5" illustrated recipes you clip every month—we hope—from American Home's pages. Plus your own favorites neatly written on standard 3x5" cards. All steel, 6x11" in size, in red and white or black and white, it comes with 35 stiff, preprinted index cards for orderly filing. You can also order practical cellophane envelopes which exactly fit the recipe cards. Sticky fingerprints wipe right off, keep your recipes eternally fresh. Only \$1 a hundred; order several hundred while you're about it.

only \$250 postpaid

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American Home Recipes

(Good Victuals, pictured in color on page 58) (Family Food, pictured in color on page 62)



yule log

(Good Victuals, pictured in color on page 53) (Family Food, pictured in color on page 62)

RECIPE BY JEAN AUSTIN

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

THE AMERICAN HOME, Dept. J-55 American Home Building, Forest Hills, N. Y.

American Home Recipes

7.5 cup melted butter
7.5 cup sugar
7.4 tsp. salt
1 tsp. almond extract
2 cups candied mixed fruit, chopped fine r package dry yeast

4 cup lukewarm water

2 eggs, beaten

1 tsp. saffron 14 cup lukewarm milk saffron krans

beaten egg whites. Spread on well-buttered, lined baking sheet 12 x 15 inches, or jelly roll pan. Bake in a 375°F. oven about 5 minutes. Remove from oven and immediately turn out on a towel sprinkled with granulated sugar. Roll with towel and let cool.

souffle; add flour, brandy, baking powder. Fold in

· Beat yolks and sugar to a

6 eggs
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup flour

YULE LOG

brandy baking powder

tbs.

• Beat 1 cup butter until very creamy. Stir in 2 egg yolks, Beat in 4 cups sugar a little at a time. Melt 2 ounces unsweetened chocolate over hot water. Cool slightly

CHOCOLATE BUTTER FROSTING

• Dissolve yeast in water. Dry saffron in warm oven and grind to a fine powder in a mortar. Dissolve in a tablespoon of brandy or a little milk. Mix milk, saffron, sugar, salt, beaten eggs, butter, almond extract, and 1 cup of flour. Add yeast and remaining flour. Beat with wooden spoon until smooth and shiny. Sprinkle with flour, cover, and let rise in warm place until doubled in bulk (about 1½ hours).

Turn out on floured baking board and knead well. Shape with hands in long roll. Roll thin with rolling pin. Brush with melted butter and spread with 2 cups candied mixed fruit, chopped fine. Roll like jelly roll and join ends to form a ring on buttered baking sheet. Clip with scissors 1 inch apart and fold slices, alternating left and right as shown. Cover and let rise again. Brush with egg white; sprinkle with sugar. Bake in 375°F. oven for 30 minutes.

RECIPE BY VERA BJORCK

and beat it into frosting. Unroll cake, remove towel, and spread with part of the frosting. Roll up firmly. Cover top and sides with frosting. Draw design in frosting with a fork to resemble

I cup sweet milk cup sugar

brown suet pudding

Sue Brooks'

ensalada de aguacate

Peel 2 avocados, rub pulp through fine sieve. To 1/2 cup sieved avocado, add 2 tbs. lemon juice and a pinch of salt. Soften 1 envelope gelatine in 1/4 cup cold water,

dissolve over hot water, and add to avocado. Chill until it begins to thicken. Then line a 1% qt. oiled and chilled mold with avocado mixture. Lay mold on the side and fill in about % of the mold at the time. Chill between each addition. Soften 2 envelopes gelatine in ½ cup cold water. Dissolve over hot water. Add to 1½ cup juice. Chill. When it begins to set, fold in orange sections and pineapple chunks and fill the lined mold. Unmold and decorate with candied cherries. Serve

Peel and section 2 oranges. Drain 1 large can pineapple chunks. Reserve juice.

r tsp. vanilla 3 cups flour

21/2 tsp. baking powder 1/2 tsp. soda

& angelica to garnish

1/2 cup seedless raisins Cherries, almonds,

cup currants

r cup ground suet

tsp. cinnamon

r tsp. allspice 1/2 tsp. cloves

with string. Steam for 3 hours. Serve with whipped cream. This recipe will fill a 9 vanilla. Combine 2 mixtures. Decorate generously greased and floured mold with angelica, almonds, and cherries. Fill mold with batter, cover with wax paper, and tie blend well. Add raisins and currants. Beat sugar and eggs together, add milk and · Sift flour, baking powder, soda, salt, and spices together. Add ground suet cup mold.

Serves 10-12

390 cal. per serving

RECIPE BY SUE GRACE BROOKS

Source of Vitamins A, B

Serves 10-12

with tangy French dressing.

RECIPE BY JEAN AUSTIN

· festive ring

• Oil and chill a 11/2 qt. ring mold. Make a clear aspic as follows: Soften 1 envelope gelatine in 1/3 cup cold water. Place over hot water to dissolve. Add 2 tbs. white vinegar, 1 tsp. sugar, 1/8 tsp. salt, and cold water to make 1 cup. Cool. Swish gelatine one unpeeled cucumber in almost paper-thin slices. Dip slices in clear aspic and around side of chilled mold, repeat until coated with thin layer of aspic. Chill. Cut arrange in sequence around the mold, pressing cucumber close to the sides.

In a bowl combine 41/2 cups tomato juice, 1/4 cup lemon juice, 2 tsp. salt, and 1 Add to tomato juice mixture. Cool. Fill decorated ring mold and let set. Unmold and tbs. sugar. Soften 3 envelopes gelatine in 3/3 cup cold water. Dissolve over hot water.

Serves 12

RECIPE BY VERA BJORCK garnish center with cucumber sliced lengthwise and pimiento poinsettia.

mousse of turkey and almonds, glace

3 cups chicken stock. Dissolve over hot water in double boiler. In a large pot combine egg mixture and dissolved gelatine. Add 5 cups cooked and ground turkey, 1/3 cup finely chopped green pepper, 1/3 cup chopped pimiento, and 1/2 cup blanched slivered Beat 8 egg yolks and gradually add 4 cups cold milk. Cook in a double boiler over

Heat, but do not boil, stirring from the bottom of the pan. Salt to taste and let cool. When cold, fold in 2 cups heavy cream, whipped. Pour into oiled 3 qt. mold, decorated with green pepper and pimiento. Let set.

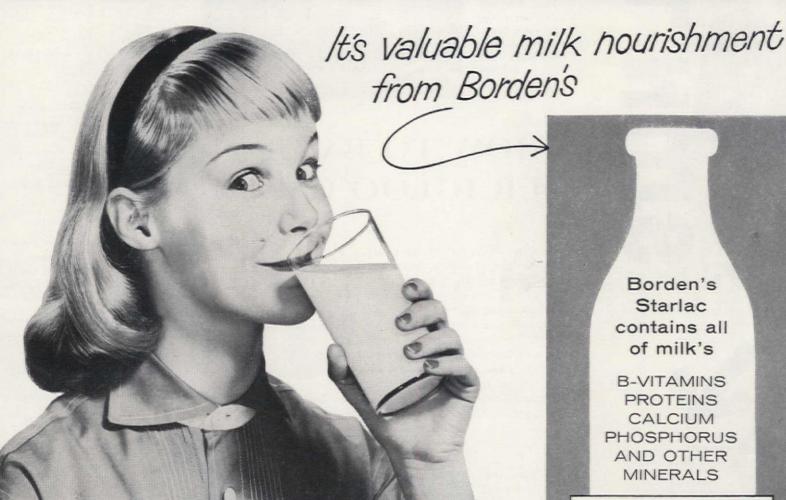
Serves 12-15

RECIPE BY JEAN AUSTIN

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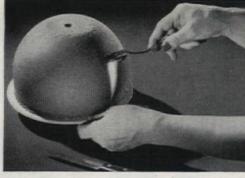


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1. When cake has cooled in round bowl, level the top. Then turn out on plate. With large spoon, make doorway about two inches deep. Make small hole in top of cake for "smoke." Brush loose crumbs away.

2. For frosting, beat two egg whites until frothy. Gradually add two cups confectioner's sugar. Beat until smooth. Pour frosting over cake. Spread with spatula. Frost door opening, then let it dry.



HOW TO BAKE OUR IGLOO CAKE

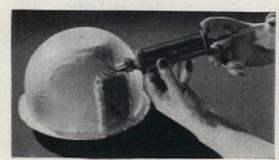
Here's the recipe for our igloo cake (page 57). It's easy to make. You will need: 1½ lbs. butter, 1½ lbs. sugar, 12 eggs, 1½ lbs. cake flour, 1½ tsp. double-acting baking powder, 1 tsp. vanilla, and 1 tsp. almond extract.

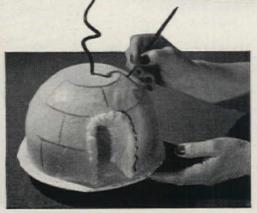
Cream butter and sugar in mixing bowl until light. Add eggs one at a time, beating one minute after each addition. Put in larger bowl. Sift flour

with baking powder. Add gradually to batter. Fold in extracts. Bake in greased, floured 4-quart stainless steel mixing bowl with round bottom. Bake 2½ hours in 325°F. oven.

THE END

3. You'll have some leftover frosting.
Add sugar to it—enough so frosting will hold its shape. Use a cake decorator to trim the doorway and around base of cake.





4. Thread a thin wire through a licorice stick (the kind that looks like a rope or shoe string). Shape licorice to resemble smoke, as shown. Insert at top. Paint "ice blocks" with blue food coloring and your igloo is ready to decorate the table. Good eating!



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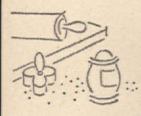


THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1955



2, LIKE EVERY-BODY SAYS, IT MEANS MORE WHEN YOU MAKE SOME-THING WITH YOUR OWN HANDS

WITH MY OWN HANDS



4. WHAT'S SO HARD ABOUT COOKING, I'D LIKE TO KNOW. THIS IS EASY AS ANYTHING, AND FUN





6. BETTER TAKE
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YOU DON'T SEE
MANY LIKE
THESE AROUND

THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1955

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GIVE A RECIPE-WITH THE FIXIN'S

JOHN LIPPERT



Most everyone loves a ham, so why not put all the fixin's of a ham dinner together and give it to a very special family. One that has far too many members to warrant individual gifts, but one that you want to say Merry Christmas to in a delightfully different way. Imagination is the only limit to the gourmet combinations you can gaily tie together.



Ist is accounted for—but what about those favorite neighbors of yours, or the family whose house you'll visit Christmas Day. We are suggesting a gift that any household would love to receive, and the variations are practically limitless. Wrap up all the ingredients of a very special dessert in colorful trimmings, or, if you want to be really elegant, give a canned ham or boned turkey. You'll know what will please a particular family, and with the added frosting of gay gift wrappings, these food bundles will be welcome under any tree.

Good Victuals (Begins on page 58)

affords—to give of time and heart and hand—to give a lovely light! But if our feast seems of too prodigious length and strength, choose only that* which will enrich your own traditional hospitality in this "glorious time of great Too-Much" that comes but once a year! To one and all, a Happy Christmas!

*We give you recipes for all you see, except the ham—a Smithfield ham cooked as per directions that come with it, glazed with a chaudfroid sauce already given in Good Victuals and decorated as fulsomely or fancifully as you wish with glacé fruits and nuts of the season.

THE END



Choice fudge—from a mix or your own recipe. Choicest addition—crunchy *Diamond* Walnuts.



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Betty Crocker

Here's the new, quick, easy way to give your family all the brownies they want—all the time! You get a big batch of 36 luscious brownies from each package of our new Betty Crocker Brownie Mix. And

you can make 'em fudgy and chewy or tender and soft like cake both easy, easy recipes are printed right on the Brownie Mix package!

Try your own toppings! After brownies are baked, top them in pan with 16 chocolate peppermint patties, return to oven to soften and spread with a spatula after they melt. Try the variations on the package. Bake some today, won't you? And be sure to bake plenty—a cooky jar full!

BUILD A PORTABLE "FREIGHT YARD"

When your boy outgrows his train, this becomes a hobby display case



You can avoid stumbling over
Christmas trains—make a
portable wall case. You need
8' of 1" x 4" fir, a 2' x 3' piece
of ½" perforated hardboard,
and a 1' x 2' piece of ½" plywood. Precut as shown, mitering
the corners of frame, Rip a ½"
strip off top frame for front
panel (or glass) finger lift.



DESIGN, PHOTOGRAPHS: WILLIAM EYMANN

Cut dados ¼" x ¼"—except for door slot, which is ¼" deep, 3/16" wide. Glue and nail frame, shelves, and dividers together. Then fit back and front (with glued-on finger lift) and attach drawer pull to top to make unit portable. Two finishing nails 16" apart (nailed through plaster into wall studs) will support case easily and keep it level. A 3/32" piece of glass cut same size as sliding panel will change case to a display shelf for a collection of figurines if desired later on. THE END



HARDWICK, the "CP" Gas range shown, not only lights automatically . . . it also turns off the Gas automatically if there isn't a flame.



Ever notice how real gourmet cooking always calls upon a flame? It might be the bright flame of a chafing dish, the charcoal glow of a barbecue pit—or it might be the deftly controlled blue flame of your new automatic Gas range. Instantaneously, it goes from a sauce-simmer whisper to a rolling-boil high; there's no waiting around with Gas. And once Gas is off, it is off! There's no lingering after-heat to mar your cooking reputation. From the deftness of its baking to the flame-kissed perfection of its broiling, a new Gas range shows off your cooking skill as no other range can...and is far easier to keep clean. Isn't it high time you put one in your kitchen? You'll find the new automatic Gas ranges cost less to buy, install and use. See them today at your Gas company or Gas appliance dealer's.

AMERICAN GAS ASSOCIATION



such matchless performance



You can make your very own Grandfather clock. This one, an exact reproduction of one in Lefferts Museum. Brooklyn, is a handsome addition to any home. Make it with instructions in Blueprint Pattern 2029. Price, 50¢.

Heirloom Patterns



Here is one of the finest bonnet tops we've seen. The original highboy is in a midwestern museum. Eleven drawers make it suitable to use in hall, dining, living, or bedroom. Complete instructions in Blueprint Pattern 2030. \$1.00.

SEE PATTERN ORDER FORM, PAGE 90



A simple Colonial sideboard that will prove useful in many ways because of its wonderful storage capacity—two large drawers over a base that has two doors for access to interior shelves. We suggest you build it of pine, maple, or cherry. Blueprint Pattern 1346. 50¢.



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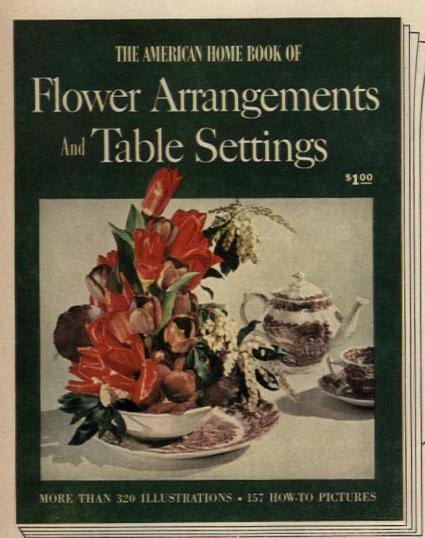
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Whether you go in for big-time competition in flower arranging and table setting, or just like to express yourself with beauty and taste in your own home, this brilliantly illustrated book will prove an invaluable guide to these two subjects. The flower arranging section, edited by an authority, Betty B. Merriam, gives a wealth of suggestions and imaginative ideas you can adapt to your own needs. The table setting section, edited by expert Gertrude Brassard, Table Merchandise Editor of the AMERICAN HOME Magazine, gives the "how and why" of table setting and is full of professional help you can use. If your newsstand dealer cannot supply you with your copy, you may order from The American Home, Dept. FA, American Home Bldg., Forest Hills, N. Y.



TO EACH HIS OWN CHRISTMAS TREE

Indeed you do want a sky-high tree. It gets top billing for the shimmery, caroling, gift-giving side of your family Christmas. Add to the fun: suggest that each member of your family decorate a small tree of his own this year. Your littlest one will get out his crayons and go to town. Big sister will garland a tree with frothy pink angel hair, and Dad will surprise you. You'll have a lot of trees—and no squabbles about how to trim the tree.

More trees on page 87

Tree designs: Mrs. Ruth Stevenson Sidell, Mrs. H. M. Moore, Mrs. Lowry Moore, and Garden Club of West University Place, Houston.



Anchor old umbrella frame in a bucket of sand. Secure slide with string. Spray gold, then trim with baubles.



v Cart: Top doubles as serving tray! 29½" high, 23½". Black enamel or chromium legs; five-ply wood-grain finish, four colors. 4-M Step Stool: "high. Rubber-treaded "swing-away" steps.-padded. Chromium or black enamel finish; washran upholstery, five colors. 8-K Utility Table: igh, 16" x 22". All-enamel finish, three colors. tric Utility Table: Double outlet, heavy-duty upply cord. 29¾" high, 16" x 22". Chromium amel finish, four colors. 8-F Utility Cart: 29½"

high, 16½" x 23½". Chromium legs; enamel finish, four colors. 82-A Folding Serving Cart: 27¾" high, 14" x 27". Folds 4¾" flat! Chromium or black enamel legs; enamel or five-ply Coscoat wood-grain finish; five colors. 8-T Drop Leaf Utility Cart: 29½" high. Top, leaves down, 16½" x 23½"; leaves up, 23½" x 40½". Chromium or black enamel legs; five-ply Coscoat wood-grain finish, four colors. 3-H Bar Stool: Revolving, comfort-padded seat, 30" high. Chromium finish; washable Duran upholstery, five colors. 2-D Kitchen Stool: Comfort-padded

seat, 24" high. Chromium legs; washable Duran up-holstery, four colors. 4-A Step Stool: 24" high. Rubber-treaded "swing-away" steps. Chromium legs; enamel finish, three colors. 4-C Step Stool: Seat, 24" high. Rubber-treaded "swing-away" steps. Chromium legs; enamel finish, three colors. 40-A Posture Step Stool: Back adjusts three ways for comfort! Rubber-treaded "swing-away" steps. Comfort-padded seat, 24" high. Black enamel or chromium legs; Duran upholstery, five colors.

*Slightly higher Colorado and west, and in Canada.



To Each His Own Christmas Tree

(Begins on page 84)

1. Your four-to-six-year-old will be thrilled when you invite him to trim a tree all his own. Show him how to cut his tree out of green construction paper. He can glue it to white cardboard to hang in his room. Decorations? He'll be happy to turn to seals, gummed looseleaf reinforcements, paper chains from school, paints, crayons. To him, this may be the most beautiful tree in the whole house!





2. Cut two or three trees from heavy cardboard, and slot them so they'll interlock. A youngster will like decorating this three-dimensional tree. Let him work out the trimmings—put his imagination to work. He'll surprise you.

Your older boy can saw this tree out of plywood. He'll paint it and keep it to trim again next year. Attach small ornaments with tacks or transparent tape.

3. Children will marvel at this tree, and it will remind grownups of delicious old-fashioned ribbon candy. To make tree, get several yards of 1-inch ribbon. (Two colors back-to-back make it smarter yet). Zigzag the ribbon back and forth on a big window or mirror to shape an impressionistic tree. Glue or tape in place, and decorate with gold or silver foil paper cutouts or tiny bells.





4. Does your teenager pride herself on her modern ideas? She'll be delighted to make this tree for the hall table, and it will turn out to be sugar-plum pretty. This is just a big white paper cone, rolled dunce-cap style. White tarlatan or lace cover gives it texture. Your daughter will probably spiral tree with narrow velvet ribbon and use treasured pins and earrings for the baubles.

5. Did you "deck the halls with boughs" or trim branches from your big tree? Then you have two or three small evergreen branches to make a clever miniature tree. Put them in a pin holder in a heavy bowl of water, then trim to suit your whim. One of the children may vote for this tree, and whisk it away to his room. When it turns up again, the tree will just glow with ideas.





6. Leave it up to the head of the family to add the whimsical touch with the most unusual tree of all. Like as not he'll pop up with a jaunty tree bedecked with bright seed packets and garden gloves, or decorate tree in high style with nuts, bolts, bits of copper wire, radio tubes.

Dad may get so wrapped up in this project that he paints the nuts and bolts gold, silver, or gala colors. It's always clever—and therefore fun—to make use of odd items around the house when you decorate an "extra tree."

THE END



Here are the solid, substantial (and handsome!) accessories you've always hoped to find! Cleverly designed to do a bigger job even in small closets. They're priced right, too—most items around 2.00! Look for the complete assortment of Fairfield matched accessories in sparkling lustre chrome. Your favorite store should have them!

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MAKE CHRISTMAS MERRY AND MAKE IT

SAFE

et's start by making the house just as safe from fire as possible. Begin with the Christmas tree, for unless properly cared for this festive item can become a real fire hazard.

The best policy is to allow your tree to remain outdoors until the last possible minute-this keeps tree from drying too rapidly. Then:

· Water the tree. Cut off the trunk at an angle a few inches from the original cut. Then stand it in a container holding sufficient water to cover the lower few inches of the trunk -and be sure water is added each day to keep end of trunk covered.

· Keep the tree far away from fireplace, radiator, or other heating device. If there's a fireplace, be sure the fire screen is always in place and in good condition, and don't use the fireplace as an incinerator for gift wrappings.

· Don't let the tree remain in the house too long. As soon as the holidays are over, take it outside. How about using a small living tree in a pot? Then plant it outdoors.

· Use only fire-resistant ornaments on tree and other decorations.

· Be extremely careful about the use of candles. Use only electric ones and don't let them touch needles.

· Check over all decorative electric lights and be sure the lights and their cords and sockets are in good working order. Be careful not to overload the house circuits. If you use lights outdoors be sure they are of the weatherproof variety.

When it comes to decorating a room-be sure to use a good sturdy ladder and have another person help you-don't risk a fall,

· Be sensible about toys. Be sure that trains and other electrical equipment carry the Underwriters' seal of approval, and don't let kids handle them with wet hands. THE END

CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOWS

You'll want to see the sixth annual Design for Christmas exhibition. It is a display of over 250 household objects-from toys to textileschosen for good design and especially suited to Christmas giving.

Sponsored by the Institute of Contemporary Art, the show will be held from November 21 until December 24. See Design for Christmas at:

- · The Institute's Boston Galleries
- · Richmond's Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
- Detroit Institute of Arts
- · Cincinnati Art Museum

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STATEMENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF
AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS
OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 (Title 39,
United States Code, Section 233) SHOWING THE
OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION OF THE AMERICAN HOME, published
monthly at New York, N. Y. for October 1, 1955.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher,
editor, managing editor, and business managers are:
Publisher, W. H. Eaton, 300 Park Ave., New York
22, N. Y.; Editor, Jean Austin, 300 Park Ave., New
York 22, N. Y.; Managing Editor, Jeannie Willis,
300 Park Ave., New York 22, N. Y.; Business Manager, W. H. Eaton, 300 Park Avo., New York 22,
N. Y.; Managing Editor, New York 22,
N. Y.; Managing Editor, New York 22,
N. Y.; Managing Editor, New York 22,
N. Y.; Managing R. Y. Y.; Business Manager, W. H. Eaton, 300 Park Avo., New York 22,
N. Y.

300 Park Ave.. New York 22, N.Y.; Business Manager, W. H. Eaton, 300 Park Ave., New York 22, N.Y.

2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual member, must be given.) W. H. Eaton, 300 Park Ave., New York 22, N.Y.; Jean Austin, 300 Park Ave., New York 22, N.Y.; Jean Austin, 300 Park Ave., and other

N.Y.: Jean Austin, 300 Park Ave., New York 22, N.Y.:
3. The known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding I percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) None.
4. Paravraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16th day of September, 1955.

Theodore F. Gloisten
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 30-6545700

Qualified in Nassau County
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THE AMERICAN HOME DECEMBER 1955

THE AMERICAN HOME, DECEMBER, 1955

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on copies of The American Home mailed to your old address. If you're moving, fill in new address below and send it with the address label (or facsimile) from this issue, direct to The AMERICAN HOME Subscription Dept., Forest Hills 75, N. Y., five weeks before moving-day.

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Xmas Tree Lot

(Begins on page 8)

saleswomen, electricians, veteran truck drivers, even pecan shell spreaders! Yes, four truck loads of pecan shells were delivered free by a local company, dumped in huge mounds, and spread over the lot to keep the ground dry.

To achieve the miraculous financial results, Mrs. Gilbert, Chairman of Sales that first year, had to organize a volunteer sales force to cover eleven selling hours each day. And to inform the public. Marilyn Pryor, Publicity Chairman, got the necessary free backing from local papers, radio and TV stations.



Now, with organizational problems licked, each committee functions smoothly. The twelve couples who make up the Property Committee begin their work in June when they order carloads of the finest balsam, fir, and pine available in Nova Scotia, Early in December, all available friends and relations help to prepare the lot. They build display racks, string lights from temporary poles, and see that the stock is kept healthy and fresh.

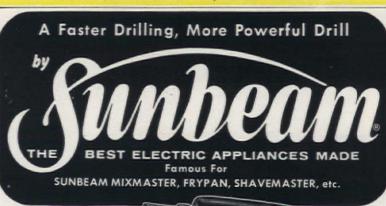
Another important factor towards success is Eloise Skilling's contribution. Members call her the "artistic brain"-and she's proved it. Early each fall she sets up workshops where eager though untrained members slave long hours making every Christmas decoration. of

This December, General Chairman Marjorie McFarland and her assistant, Alice Knibb, will devote at least 14 hours a day to the lot. Their sales staff is responsible for three-day work stints, and on weekends it takes as many as 45 people per day!

To man the lot on Christmas Eve looked like a big problem, for, other than a night watchman, there just didn't seem to be anyone to take charge. Who should volunteer but a Zeta Tau Alpha Alumna, Ann Stein, who had good friends among the Delta Gammas. "There were no small children at home waiting for Santa, and I just felt like helping a worthwhile cause," Ann said. This Christmas Eve, Ann plans to be at the lot with her new husband-along with Poiteaux Browne, a grandmother of seven, and anyone else who will sell "A 'Shining Light Tree' to make your Christmas brighter and help us to help blind children.'

THE END





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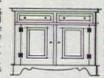
TRANSFER PATTERN 1578-30¢. This is the pattern for the unusual Christmas crèche we show on page 62. Your family will find this crèche easy to make—and fun. Just cut out cookie figures, then bake and frost them.

BLUEPRINT PAT-TERN 2029—50c. This pottern gives complete instructions for making our grandfather clock ipage 82), on exact reproduction of a precious heirloom.



BLUEPRINT
PATTERN 2030
—\$1.00. Lovely
bonnet top highboy (page 82)
copies an heirloom. You'll
treasure it, too!

BLUEPRINT
PATTERN 1346
50¢. Colonial
sideboard (page
82) has large
drawers at top.
Doors hide spacious shelves.
Pattern includes
all the details.



☐ TRANSFER PATTERN 1388-T-50¢. Jaunty rooster at top of this page will brighten your kitchen wall or outdoor chimney. Rooster is about 21 inches square. Cut from plywood or metal—or paint right on wall.

☐ For complete list of A.H. patterns, check here. This list costs 10g, includes brief description of each item.

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FREE BOOK

Where Credit Is Due

HOW DOES YOUR DRIVEWAY GLOW?

Page 10: Scotchlite reflective safety tape— Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Co.

VERILY MERRY, OUR CHRISTMAS TABLES

Pages 56, 57: China, "Arcadia Green"— Fran-ciscan China. Crystal, "Classic" Empire green bowl, crystal base—Fostoria. Silver, "Melon" coffee service, "Heirloom 700" candelabra, coffee service, "Heirloom 700" candelabra, "Reigning Beauty" flatware and mugs— Oneida, Ltd. "Holly" rayon and cotton cloths — Simtex. Toys, Campbell Kid doll and party ball, Educator Approved Prestige Toys, Lido Jr. table and chair set, Baby Big Eyes, Doll-E-Hi-chair—Toy Guidance Council. Large brocaded Angel, 20-light, steady-burning Star of Bethhem set, pine cones, gold snowflakes, crystal trees—Radiant Glass Fibers Co. Apron and Christmas ornaments—Sun Glo Studios.

GOOD VICTUALS

Pages 58, 59: Ham holder on marble base

Bazar Francais. "Mountain Spun" tablecloth—Tausend, loomed by Fieldcrest. Candles cloth—To —Emkay.

TAKE A CAN OF PINEAPPLE

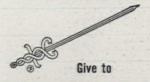
Pages 64, 65: Porcelain bowl and silver plate dish cross—The Fan Co. Tribal snack server, hand sculptured Teak—Hanslan Assoc. "Red Beaded Edge" milk glass sherbets and plates—Westmoreland Glass. Pyrex pie plate—Corning Glass Works. "Contour" creamer and sugar bowl, "Dawn" tumbler—Fostoria Glass Co. "Georgian" tumbler—Viking Glass Co. Frying pan—Griswald Manufacturing Co. Nobility plate teaspoons—Empire Crafts Corp.

PHOTOGRAPHS

F. M. Demarest: pages 16 (lower), 32, 38, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 51 (lower), 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 62, 64, 65, 74, 91, 92, 93. Stephen Fay: pages 16 (top), 50 (top), 51. Peter Gowland: page 82 (lower). Kranzten Studios Inc.: page 82 (top). **DRAW-INGS:** Margaret Fleming: pages 4, 20, 42, 45, 47, 49, 50, 54, 55, 56, 57, 84, 87. Dick Ott: pages 46, 48.



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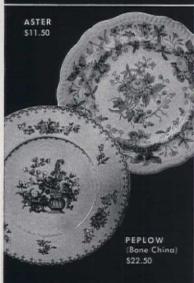
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MADE TO USE AND ENJOY



ROSEMARY THE CHRISTMAS HERB

GERTRUDE B. FOSTER

Rosemary, a fragrant, evergreen plant, makes a most appropriate Christmas gift. "That's for remembrance," as Shakespeare said.

Rosemary's a half-hardy European perennial herb. Its dark green, needle-like leaves resemble those of a fir. The plant has a rich scent. To perfume an entire room with it: just brush a branch with warm hand.

For a handsome table Christmas tree that needs no ornaments, paint a florist's wooden tub white and gold, and plant a two- or three-year-old rosemary specimen in it.

To keep this plant in good condition, be sure the soil is well drained and not allowed to dry out.

Rosemary is rarely bothered by pests, but the herb does need a light, cool shower once a week. Spray early on clear day so it dries by night.

After the holidays, return the plant to a sunny (south or southwest) window. Keep from artificial heat.

If the ground doesn't freeze in the winter in your part of the country, you can keep your rosemary plant in a tub outdoors when not using it as a decoration.

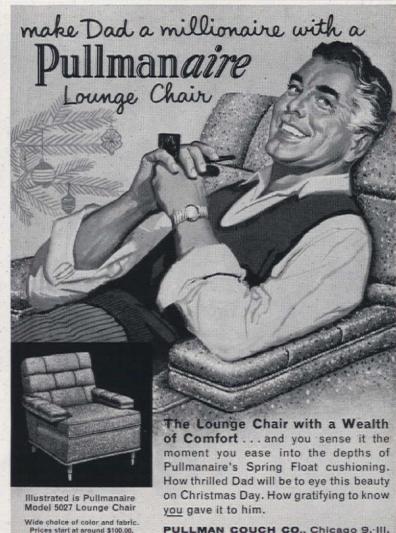
Use the branch tips as seasoning, fresh or dried, all year long.

Rosemary is a graceful plant, with upward curving branches. This spicyleaved plant has become a traditional decoration in England. THE END

TWO NEW HOW-TO CENTERS

• Two new How-to-Do-It Centers are ready for you-one at Kirven's in Columbus, Georgia, one at Sibley's in Rochester, New York. Visit these stores and see their complete line of AMERICAN HOME patterns: sewing, construction, and painting patterns, all with explicit instructions.





PULLMAN COUCH CO., Chicago 9,-III.

Below, far left, in traditional blue and white, is the graceful Italian figure that started the collection. Next to it, the small bust with Christ Child standing was made in Austria of white and dark blue porcelain, Hummel's beautifully detailed Flower Madonna, all in white, contrasts with sprightly Pennsylvania Dutch interpretation in sand color. A gold crown and petal-like cape distinguish Lenox China's modern, child-like Madonna. Blue and gold bust, with hands raised in blessing above two doves, is by Lenci of Italy.



Below: Delicate pink and white bust with hands in supplication is from Japan. Italian figure has lovely hands holding flower. Miniature Austrian model, in deep blue and yellow, is before slender German Madonna with Child. Unadorned blue and white head is American, while charming German bust is trimmed with flowers. Colorful French version of Mother contrasts with simplicity of last two Italian figures; smaller is by Lenci.



ADONNAS This unusual collection started

Some of more unusual pieces in Mrs. Wallace's collection are shown at left and below. Three slender figures at left (1, 2, 3) are of carved balsa wood, two of them 8" tall, and tiny one in folding triptych only 3½" high. Note lovely lines on center carving and impressionistic horizontal folds in robe of figure at right. All Italian imports. Single bust (4), also Italian, wears tranquil expression, has violet robe and gray hair. In trio below, exquisitely simple modern head is American, and center figure is classic Italian study distinguished by beautiful detail in modeling of face, hair, crown, and hands. The last, and most lifelike figure, is German model of Mother and Child reminiscent of the abundant quality of Renaissance painting.



of all symbolic figures, the Madonna is among the most beloved. She has represented not only Mary, mother of Christ, but also universal motherhood. And artists of all centuries have painted, written, and composed music about her beauty and serenity. At this season, it is particularly appropriate to show these lovely Madonna figurines from the collection of Mrs. Ralph Wallace of Smoke Rise, New Jersey.

Mrs. Wallace's collection started with a Christmas present. Several years ago her mother asked what she wanted for Christmas and Mrs. Wallace replied, "A Madonna." From this first one, the collection grew until it now numbers 65 Madonnas from all over the world. All are modern and completely individual, and the figures are executed in such varying materials as wood, glass, china and other ceramics.

With the white or ivory figures, Madonna blue or another shade of blue is the most prevalent color, but pink and gold are also used frequently. Even green and touches of red appear, as in the green trim on the dress of the Pennsylvania Dutch lady and the red flowers in the hand of the French figure. Mrs. Wallace says her Madonnas are "not a hobby, but a joy" and a daily inspiration. She uses them for accents and in flower and table arrangements, especially at Christmas and Easter. The END

with a Christmas present and became a year 'round joy



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You can get more space and beauty in almost any room with built-ins of mellow Western Pines. These convenient shelves, cabinets and TV and phonograph niches provide wonderfully ample display and storage.

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TODAY'S WESTERN PINE TREE FARMING GUARANTEES LUMBER TOMORROW



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- 4. Silex Electric Glass Coffeemaker...Here's the modern way to get the very best coffee every time...richer, clearer, more hearty brew! Attractively trimmed with color. Economical with semi-automatic brewing stove included.
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AMATEUR MOVIE MAKERS will get professional lighting with Brownie 4-lamp movie light. Fastens on tripod of any camera. Use two 375-watt reflector floods (for close-ups), or four (for distance). In camera stores, \$8.45.





PERFECT SMALL COPIES of Revere Ware are "just like mother's." They come in a carton that makes toy range. For \$14.95, 7 pieces. Revere Copper & Brass Inc., 230 Park Ave., N. Y. C.

FREE STANDING circular fire screen of brass doesn't need to be built in, fits openings up to 38" wide, 32" high. Pulls for opening mesh curtain are manual. Costs \$79.95. Fred Meyer, 1499 Potrero Ave., San Francisco, Cal.





THIS CHALK LINE has chalk built right in so line comes out ready to use. Case has recessed rewind handle and can be hung up for use as a plumb bob. It's \$1.49. Evans Rule Co., 400-416 Trumbull St., Elizabeth, N. J.

CIRCULAR PLAY PEN
has safe, soft nylon-netting sides
to protect baby and help him get
around on his own more easily.
Padded pen is 41" in diameter,
folds flat to carry or store.
\$29.95. Tigrett Enterprises,
200 5th Ave., N. Y. C.





BRIGHT TYPIST? That's what you'll certainly be with this portable typewriter, for it comes in six colors: pink, yellow, blue, green, and two shades of gray, \$117.50. Royal Typewriter Co., 2 Park Ave., New York City.



Plastic floor is Armstrong Excelon Tile, Style No. 787, Powhatan Turquoise.

the modern fashion in floors

You're on your way to extra hours of free time when you have a well-planned kitchen. Especially if it's equipped with the new, easy-to-clean materials, and a time-saving, labor-saving plastic floor of Armstrong Excelon Tile. This smooth, vinyl-asbestos floor cuts minutes from your cleaning time every day. It whisks free of dust in seconds, and spilled things wipe up easily with a damp cloth. Nothing you'll normally upset in a kitchen will hurt it. Excelon will brighten all your kitchen hours with its lovely colors. You have dozens to choose from, and you can give your kitchen a gay or a high-fashion look, as you wish. Yet Excelon is remarkably low in cost, and the easiest of all resilient floors to install. It's so flexible you can shape the tiles with scissors! Enjoy extra hours out of the kitchen, pleasanter hours in it, with Armstrong Excelon Tile, the low-cost modern fashion in floors.

Send for free room portfolio describing this step-saving kitchen with its indoor-outdoor dining area. List of furnishings included. Write Armstrong Cork Company, 5512 Plum Street, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.



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Under \$30.00 . . . the new "Six-plus-One" place setting gives you all six usual pieces, plus an extra teaspoon free! Only \$29.75+ (smaller place settings-4 or 5 pieces-also available).



eight spoons, plus two handsome serving pieces-just \$99,754. You save \$16.75 by buying it as a set, instead of

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People who love you will love to give you Heirloom* Sterling-there Now's the time to drop a few are so many wonderful ways to buy Christmas hints in the right places! this fine solid silver for Christmas.

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"space-out" payments - and let you have all of this lovely sterling you want, for as little as \$3.00 a week! See all the distinguished Heirloom *Trade Marks. © 1955, Oneida Ltd., Oneida, N.Y. †Extra-heavy Stanton Hall slightly higher. Federal Tax included in all prices. Sterling patterns at fine stores every-Oneida, N. Y., for stores near you. where-or write Oneida Ltd.,

