



HOME IMPROVEMENT

More warmth in interior decorating

There's more warmth today in interior decorating trends, and this reflects what people want.

People are going out less and are entertaining more at home. They want warmer decor, something that feels more durable and natural.

Interiors today tend to be more old-fashioned, more romantic. Materials are more natural: wood, copper and other metals being used extensively in furniture.

Incandescent lighting is making a comeback. Warmer and less direct, it is being marketed mainly in the form of

small lamps with lamp shades mounted on a lamp stand that has an antique feel. Halogen lamps are also regaining popularity. There are some beautiful standard brass halogen lamps on the market.

There is a trend to combine incandescent

and halogen lighting in the same room. The warm ambience of incandescent lighting is being paired with halogen's practicality.

A good reading lamp provides functional lighting. It's also a good idea to find a lamp that provides maximum

lighting for a room when needed. It's always better to choose models that have two or more brightness settings.

For lighting ambience you could buy a lamp with lamp shade and a brass or ceramic base that has an old-fashioned touch to it.



Natural wood being added to modern furniture design

Value-minded shoppers are looking for simple, clean lines in furniture because they want to be sure that it will last a number of years without falling out of fashion.

Contemporary furniture design is still the most sought after. How-

ever, there is a trend toward the use of natural wood in new furniture.

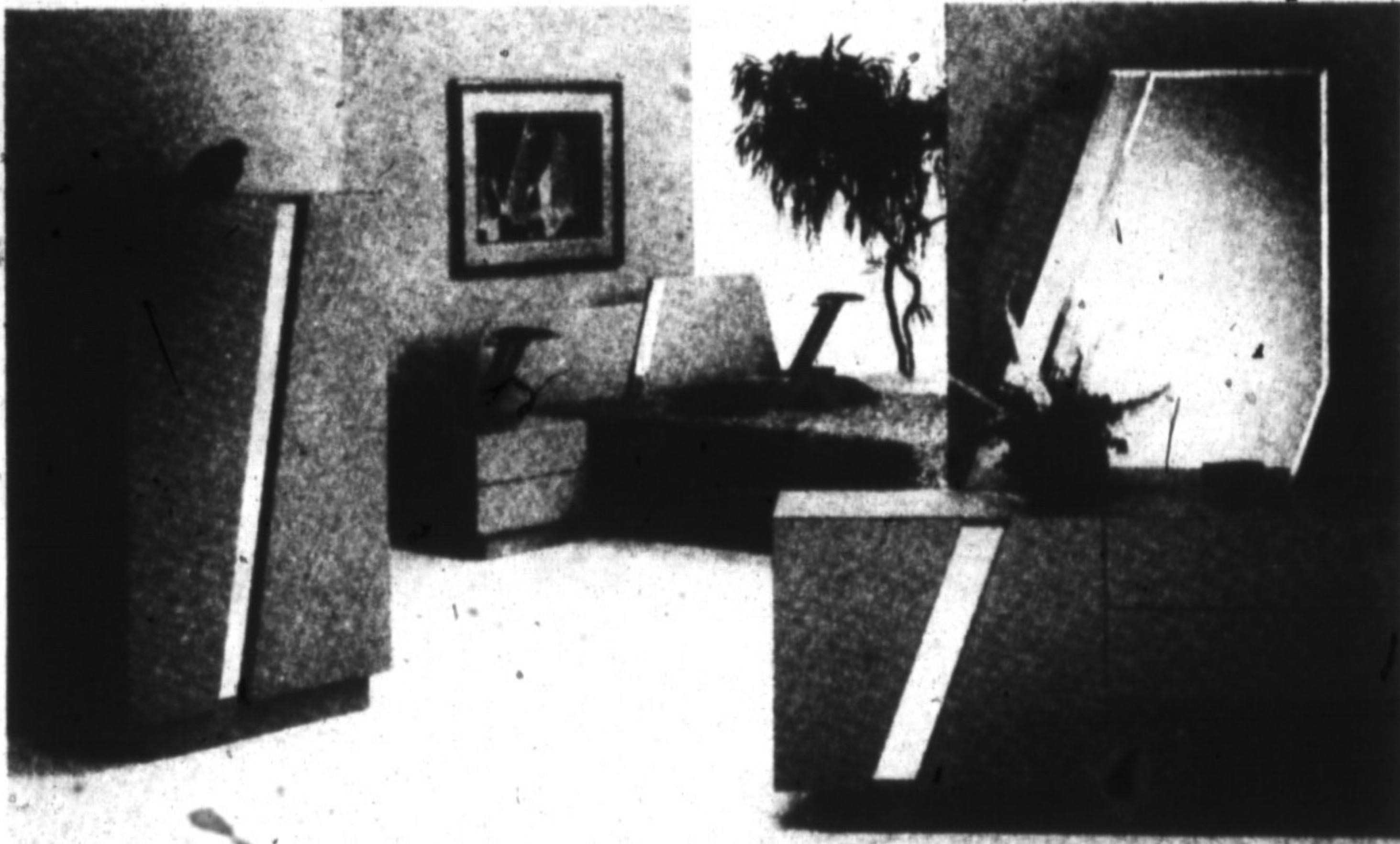
The popularity of white and black furniture reflects the continued acceptance of modern design styles, but the addition of touches of natural wood indicate a search for traditional

values in these designs. Often treated with a clear finish, these natural wood touches can be found in drawers, cupboard doors or decorative edges.

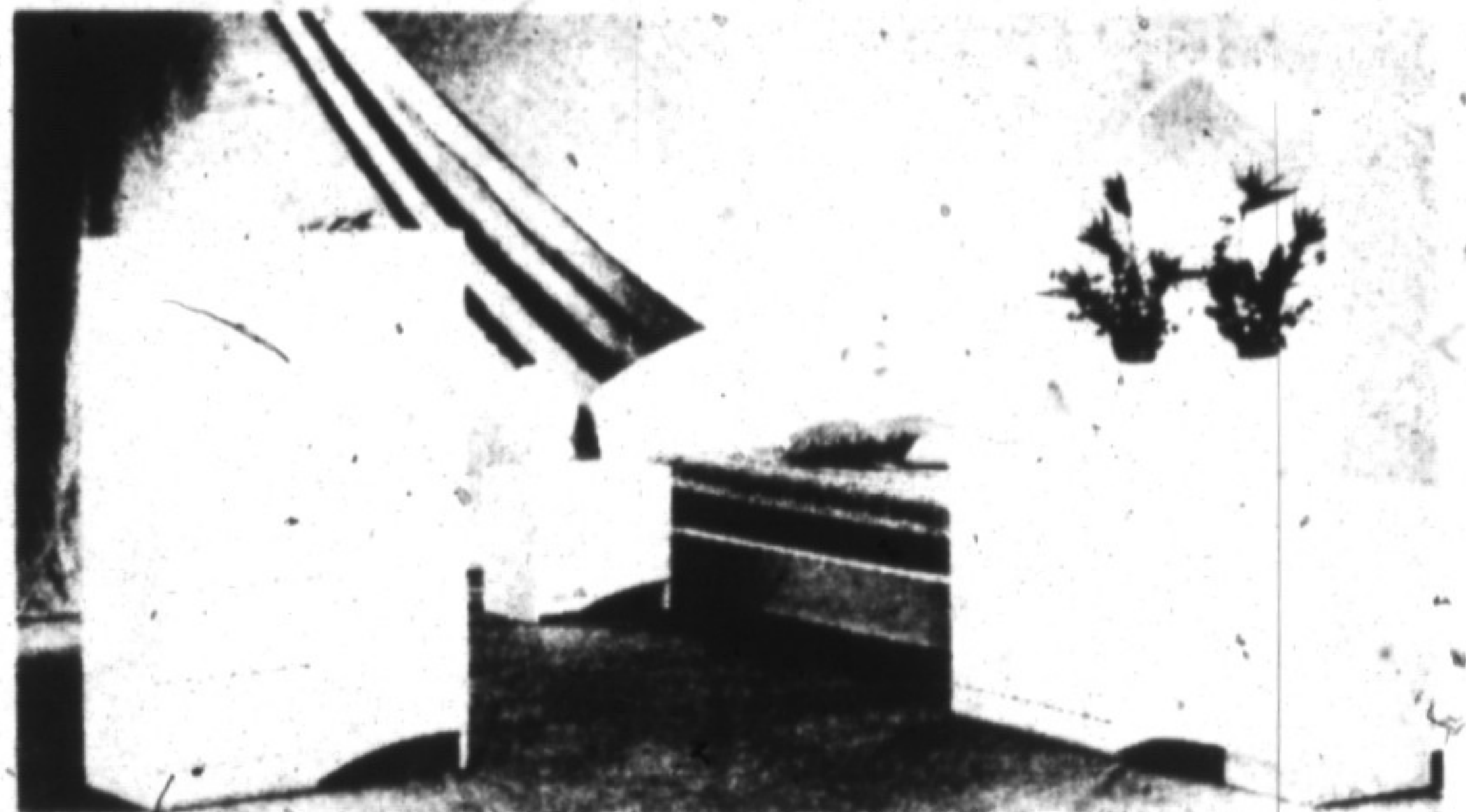
Modern furniture made entirely from natural wood is of course

readily available.

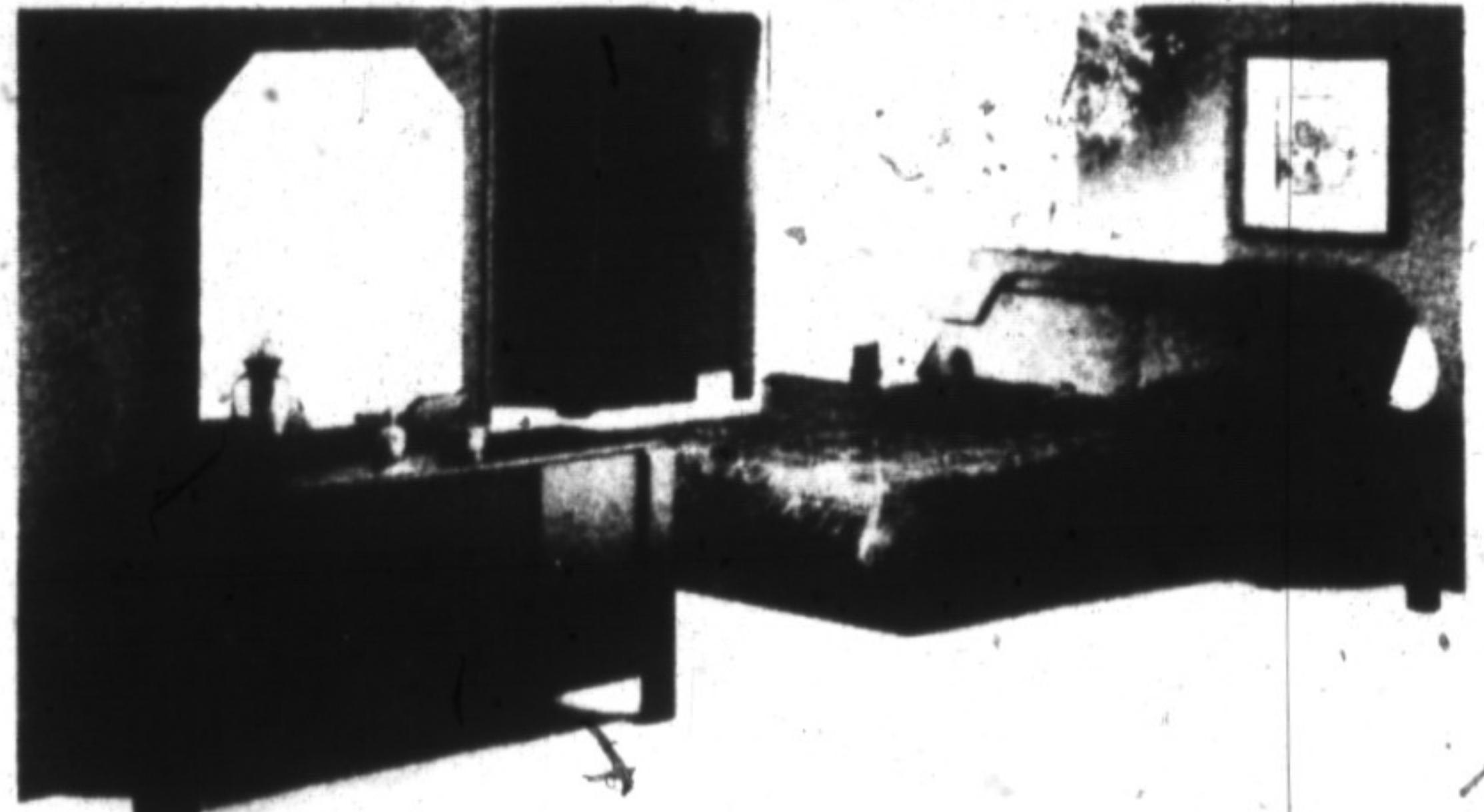
Autumn and the richness of its colors has certainly influenced designers who are proposing a return to darker colors and flower patterns for this year's furniture.



Contemporary bedroom furniture is trending to darker colors.



Simple design lines for furniture result in durability.



Modern bedroom furniture finished in black with touches of natural wood showing.

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