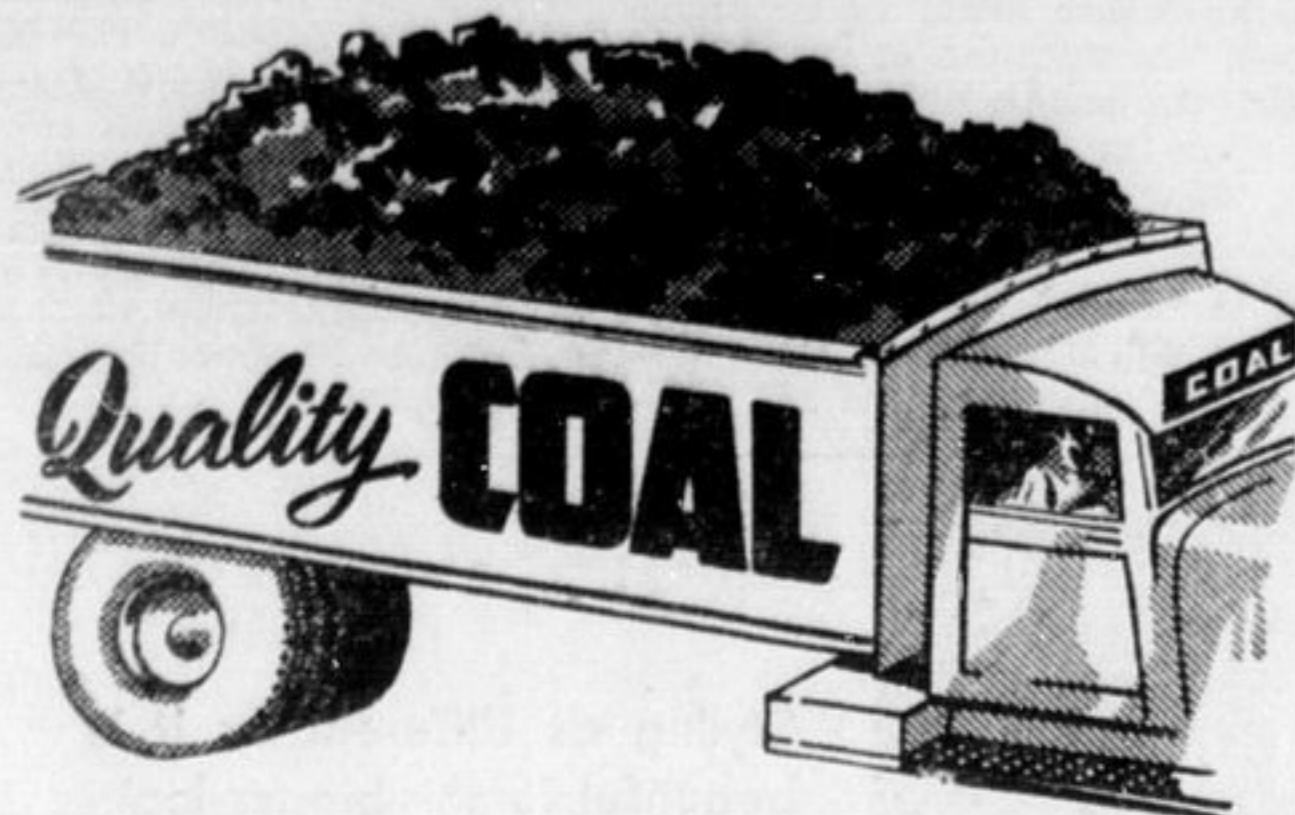


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PLEASANT HOMES

by Elizabeth MacRea Boykin

CONSIDER THE SIZE OF YOUR ROOM BEFORE DECIDING ON FURNITURE
Contemporary Reproductions of Older Pieces of Furniture are Scaled to Meet the Needs of Smaller Rooms—Saving Space without Sacrificing Comfort.



Chairs and tables of 18th century ancestry that suit the moderate sized rooms of today's living. This pleasant room has pale turquoise walls a plum carpet, plum valance and flower garden colours in the chintz with a preponderance of yellow. The plain chair is in a deeper turquoise, the striped one in yellow and plum and the side chair in yellow.

Not many of us live in palaces, chalets or even villas. In fact we generally put up in a small house or a smaller apartment and wish we had another closet or an extra bedroom. The rooms are not baronial halls and can't be furnished with baronial furniture.

And yet most of our decorative periods date from the days when furniture was designed for enormous rooms. If we take it unadorned and add a few heavy overstuffed pieces we're lucky if there's enough room left to breathe in. Even our modern designers think in pretty big terms and have gone in for obesity in chairs and sofas.

Scaled Down

The problem of the lady in the average house who sets out to buy herself something new and nice in the furniture departments is made easier by the co-operative efforts of certain manufacturers and dealers who have done much thinking and experimenting to provide furniture to suit the scale of today's homes. And so, if you look for it, you can find plenty of furniture that will fit easily into small quarters. Period furniture is reproduced in carefully scaled down sizes that lose nothing of their original charm but gain immeasurably in their adaptability to the contemporary scene. And it has been discovered that upholstered furniture doesn't have to weigh a ton to be comfortable. In fact many pieces being shown now aren't bulbous at all but are simply padded enough to be easy.

But the same stores that sell this type of furniture also have pieces for spacious big homes so it's up to the purchaser to choose the furniture that will go into her home with dignity and without crowding. Here are a few pointers that may be useful to remember:

ABOUT SOFAS—Select pieces with simple graceful lines and a minimum of padding about the arms and back. Tuxedo sofas Federal sofas, some of the Chippendale sofas, Queen Anne designs and certain Empire pieces are

good for small places. If the sofa itself seems too big and stuffy for the size of the room, consider a comfortable love seat, a graceful settee or else one of the new come-apart unit sofas that can be combined to make sofa, love seat or separate chairs. Some rooms that can't stand a full sized sofa can take a corner sofa made up of these units. If you decide on a love seat, choose one that can be duplicated later should you want a pair of them.

Avoid the Fat Ones

ABOUT CHAIRS—Here again avoid the heavier overstuffed types for small rooms. You'll find just as comfortable upholstered models in less obtrusive sizes. Don't forget that you can still get rockers and that they take up a very small amount of space for their comfort. And we have a friend who has some simple dark stained wicker arm chairs with foot rest hassocks that are the last word in comfort yet light to lift and very conservative of space. Another point about them is that they could be painted in the same colour as the rug or wall to make them recede still further. And by the way, if your furniture is too big for the room, here's something that can be done about it, upholster or slip cover it in the rug colour and see how it recedes and merges right into the picture. Or if it's a piece such as a sofa that stands against the wall the same good results can be had by covering it in a tone the same as the wall colour.

If you have more company than your living room has space for chairs, keep some folding bridge chairs on tap to bring out when needed. You'll be surprised and delighted to find what attractive designs bridge chairs come in these days. Hassocks that slide under tables and into corners are likewise grand space savers. In bedrooms hassocks with fringe all around are nice in place of straight or slipper chairs if space is limited.

The dining room is an important place for chairs, so choose them with discrimination. If space is a problem here, use low back chairs rather than upholstered high back models. Hitchcocks, Windsor, Victorian or Duncan

Phyfe chairs are excellent for such purposes.

ABOUT TABLES—For occasional uses, nests of tables are the thing because they tuck themselves away so neatly when not in use. Drop-leaf type of tables come in all sizes from small coffee tables to big dining tables with end tables and the like thrown in. The cleverest dining table we know about for making itself big enough for a party without gymnastics is a drop leaf which stands against the wall between meals and does nicely as a console. It's a classic type of 18th century table... looks all right for a full time dining table too.

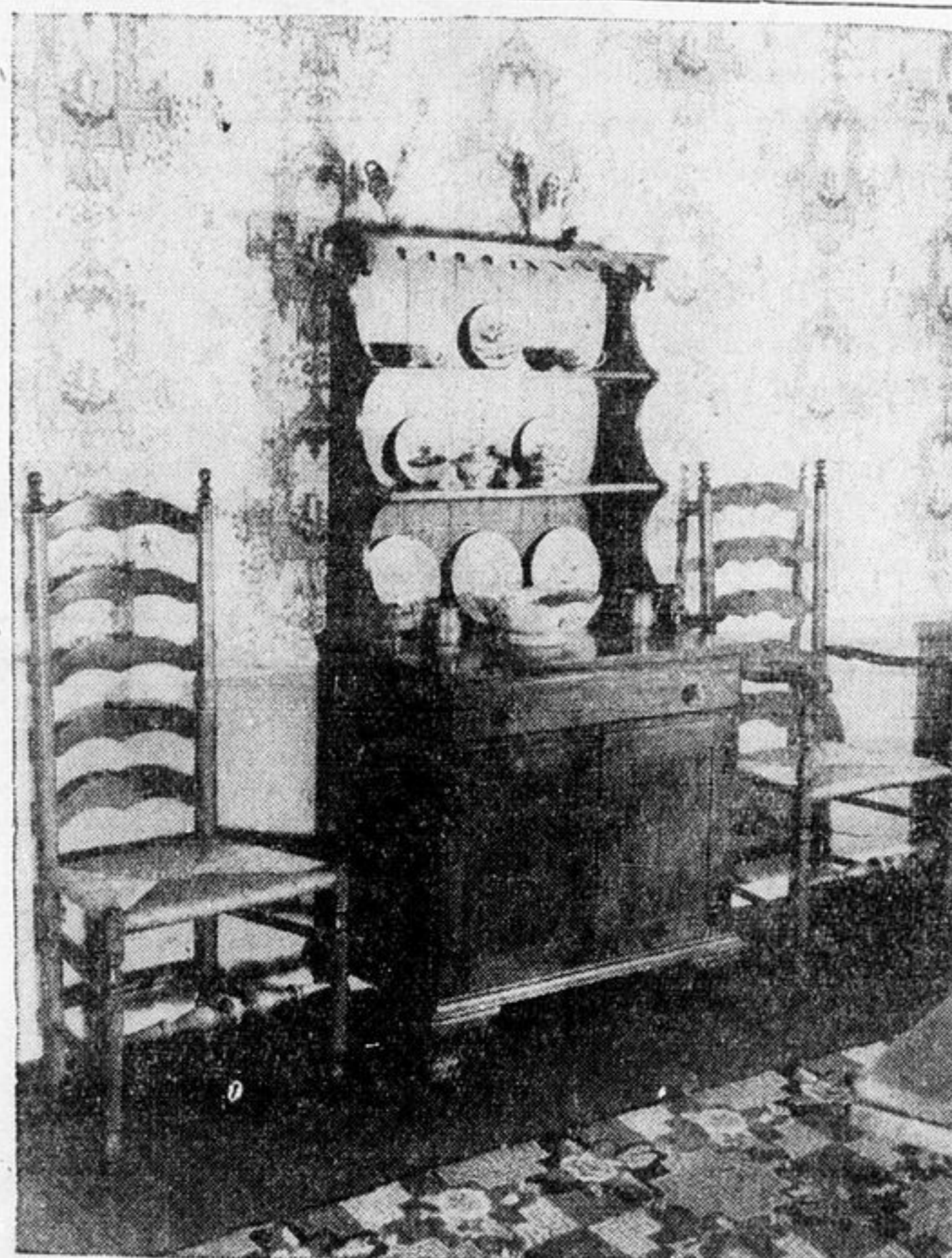
A pair of serving tables with drawers for silver and a pair of knife urns on each do graciously in place of a buffet because they will not only take up less space but will give a lighter effect in a small room. Don't forget combination lamps and tables if you're space saving, not to mention the tiptop tables.

Handsome and Handy

ABOUT CABINETS—Have them not too heavy looking but as capacious as possible so that you can put lots in them. A secretary scaled down for an apartment is an ideal piece of this kind because of all its various utilities. Highboys are handsome and handy. Little chests of drawers can be infinitely useful in place of night tables or end tables.

A pair of corner cupboards in a small dining room or dinette are usually much more graceful looking than a big buffet or china cabinet protruding into the floor space of the room. Corner cupboards, incidentally, are not a bad idea for a living room also when space isn't too ample. These may be simply shelves or they may be rather commodious cupboards with a compartment at the bottom and shelves above. Very decorative we might add.

Welsh dressers are a good solution of the space-saving problem also. Breakfast book cases are available now in smaller sizes so that they don't look too imposing for an average room. There are innumerable little tricks



An open front dresser of small scale like this one is decorative yet occupies small space and doesn't look heavy. Colourings in this room are mellow in tone.

Cupboard Just for Hats, Gloves, Scarves

Built of White Pine, it may be Finished in Several Different Ways.

(Home Improvement Plan Suggestion)

Every woman has hoped some time or other for a cupboard just for her hats, and here is a suggestion for one. It is built of white pine which takes stain or paint equally well.

At either side are niches for a candlestick or a pot of flowers, and underneath each niche is a small drawer—one for makeup and the other for gloves. A long drawer provides space for pocketbooks and scarves. Inside the door is a mirror.

Several interesting colour schemes may be used here. The wood may be stained a lovely warm mellow brown, while the floor may be tile or linoleum, in shades of rich reds, tans and blues.

Another delightful effect may be obtained by painting the cupboard white (and let that be a dull eggshell finish). Then set it off with dull dead black hardware. Something a bit more unusual would be to paint the door and niches robin's egg blue, and again use the dull black hardware with it.

On the other side of the same wall, you can have a bookcase. Imagine how it would completely transform your living room!

Don't worry if you haven't enough books to fill it. You probably soon will have. Let some of the books stand up straight, lay the bigger ones flat, and let some lean over.

A bookcase gives you an opportunity of displaying a bit of metal or pottery on the top—for instance, one side could have a brass candlestick, a pewter plate, and a little blue pot—the other side, a copper plate with a jade-green vase in front of it. You can build cupboards and bookcases in under the Home Improvement Plan. Any bank will be glad to explain the plan.

Gore Bay Recorder:—The only time debt seems to bother some people is when someone else owes them.

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Disfiguring extra pounds that make it difficult to dress as you wish are often due to sluggishness of your liver. When this great cleanser of blood and distributor of energy is inactive or overworked, sugars and carbohydrates which should be stored in the liver develop into fatty tissue. Middle aged and older women with attractive figures invariably possess healthy livers. Fruit-a-tives fruit liver tablets put your liver in good condition, and keep it healthy. You feel better, skin clearer, eyes brighter, are more likely to retain your graceful figure—wear smart young styles. Thousands of women use Fruit-a-tives for this reason. Try them, 25c., 50c., all druggists.

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ABOUT BEDS—Don't buy a full canopied bed for a small room. If you want a canopied effect, use a drapery just at the head of the bed. Low head and footboards, or no footboard at all, tend to minimize the size of a bed. Or an Empire type of bed with head and footboards of the same height can be placed lengthwise against one wall of the room rather than out in the floor... this will save loads of space and a canopy draped from the wall above will make a small room into a queen's chamber.

Not For a Steady Diet

We're sure you know all there is to know about studio couches and the clever sofa beds now on the market. They're fine for occasional guests and all right if that's the only bed you can give floor space. But if you have a separate bedroom, don't try to get along all the time with a daybed or studio couch, for a real bed is so much more comfortable.

Twin beds are pretty bad eaters—uppers of space in the average room. Do a bit of measuring before committing yourself to them. If you still want them, but don't feel you can spare the space, investigate those that have a single headboard but separate springs and mattresses which come apart for making the bed. At least they save that space between the two beds.

ABOUT DRESSERS—This is something you can manage without if you are short on space. Use a good sized chest of drawers, taller than the dresser, but with a mirror in sight for the man of the house to look at himself in. The drawer space here can be shared, then you can get a dressing table for yourself, a very small one to fit in a left over wall space. With a pretty petticoat, it will add decoratively to the room without encroaching. Better not try this scheme unless you have a long mirror on a wall or a door though or you'll miss the dresser mirror for looking at yourself full view. Fortunately though a separate mirror doesn't take up floor space!

ABOUT MUSIC—The new small pianos are ideal for modern use and they are as graceful as old time spinets and melodians. But contemporary and traditional in style. The new compact but well designed radios that tuck themselves into tables, desks and chests are equally practical and pleasing.

There's a trend now to do as the decorators do and buy separate pieces rather than sets of furniture. The leading stores make this possible by their well ensembled groups of related furniture that can be used together according to your need and space. This is especially important when you're thinking in terms of a small home and simply haven't space for a whole set without suffocating.

Speaking about scale of furniture brings up the question of how to place furniture to best advantage. Miss Boykin has a bulletin on this subject "Where to Place the Furniture—and Why" which covers the salient points and suggests ways of solving perplexing problems. This bulletin will be sent on receipt of a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

(Copyright, 1937, by Elizabeth MacRea Boykin).

FIFTY-FIFTY

(From Galt Reporter)
The two men had been partners in business for more than fifty years. But now the partnership was about to be dissolved. One of them lay dying.

The sufferer called his friend to his bedside.
"I know I haven't much longer to live, old man," he said. "Before I go I've got a confession I must make. During our years of partnership I've swindled you out of thousands of pounds. Can you forgive me?"
"That's all right," said the other cheerfully. "I poisoned you."

Globe and Mail:—Further evidence of Ontario's progress along cultural lines is provided by the fact that a Brantford choir of fifty voices, under the leadership of Mr. Frederic Lord, received an enthusiastic reception in New York, which should know a good deal about vocal music.

Use of Parasites to Control Parasites

Methods of Modern Science in Dealing with Pests and Diseases.

(By J. W. S. McCullough, M.D., D.P.H.)

One of the romances of natural history is the transmission from one country to another of parasitic and predatory insects, that prey on the pests that carry disease. The practice of modern times is the endeavour to control insect pests by their natural enemies. The theory of this practice is based upon the assumption that all nature is in a state of equilibrium, that is to say, that all life, in its native home, is kept in check by other forms of life which prey upon it. So the jingle:

"Big bugs have other bugs
Upon their necks to bite 'em,
And little bugs have lesser bugs,
And so on, ad infinitum."

The tiny beetle called the ladybird is one of the little bugs. The native home of the Sen Jose scale is in Northern China where it lives and breeds on a small haw apple growing wild. The ladybird is also there, feeding on the scale-causing insect. Once imported to America for its parasitic activity against other insects, rearing of the ladybird is now a Californian industry. The scale of orange and lemon groves, of plant lice and the hop aphid are victims of the ladybird. So too, is the white citrus fly of Florida which becomes the prey of a reddish brown ladybird one-tenth of an inch in length.

The product of a variety of moths are caterpillars very destructive of plant life. The hereditary enemy of the caterpillar is a brilliant green-coloured beetle brought to America from Sardinia. In a short lifetime this beetle is most active. It has been known to travel in a lifetime of 72 hours, nine thousand and fifty-eight feet. Its speed varies from 3 to about 5 feet per minute. Caterpillars have a hard life of it when this beetle gets among them.

Fortunately not all insects are potential enemies of the races. The bees give us honey, the silkworm spins its beautiful product, lac insects provide shellac and sealing wax. Many insects are the foes of noxious plants, others act as scavengers. Earthworms work the soil to the high advantage of the cultivator, others carry pollen for the necessary fertilization of plants, still others are useful drugs.

Sudbury Star:—No passengers were killed on railroads in the first half of 1937 in the United States according to reports. Probably owing to the fact that trains never tried to go through mountains 100 feet below the summit where there wasn't any hole.

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