

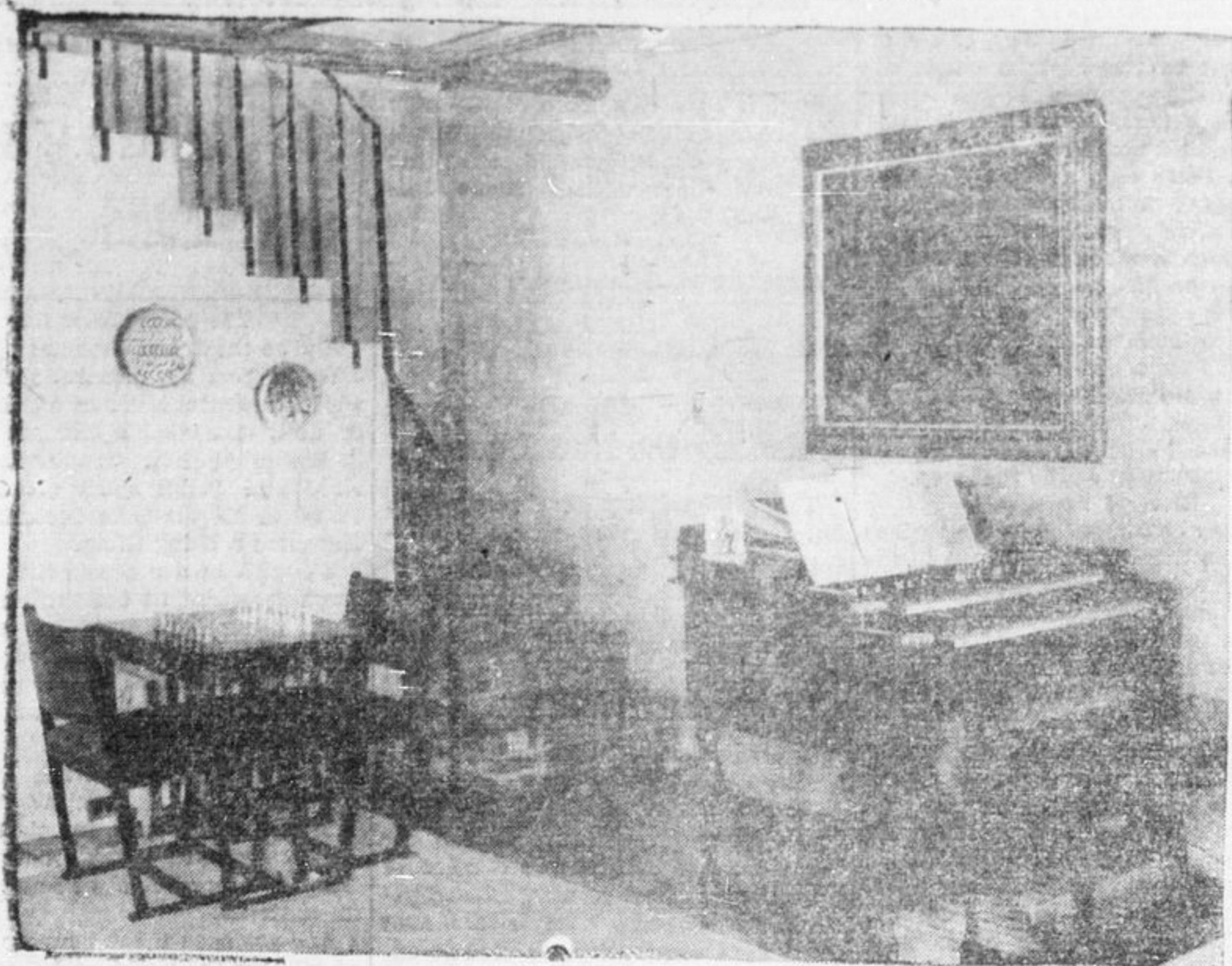


PLEASANT HOMES

by Elizabeth MacRea Boykin

"MAKING A POET OUT OF A MAN"

Organs and Pianos in the Home Scene—Select Them Not as Furniture but as Instruments to Lift Life Out of Its Routine.



A home organ is now within the realm of possibility, as this one in the home of Maxwell Anderson, the playwright shows. The modern home organ is completely electrified and occupies a small amount of space—grills take the place of pipes.

Took to Bush to Escape from Imaginary Enemies

The Hearst correspondent of The Northern Tribune, of Kapuskasing, last week made the following reference to the case of a man who wandered several days and nights in the bush to escape from imaginary enemies—
"A man known locally as Joseph Pelletier (real name Arthur Robichaud) was brought in from Coppell district on Friday last, after ten days' wandering in the bush where, suffering from hallucinations he had gone to escape his imaginary enemies, and where he for days eluded searchers. He was committed to a mental institution by Magistrate E. R. Tucker after examination by local medical men and was taken to Halleybury on Monday."



That Body of Hours

(by James W. Barton, M.D.)

Machines to Measure Loss of Amount and Range of Hearing

When one finds his eyesight failing, he does not hesitate to consult an optometrist or an eye specialist, to find just how much assistance is needed to bring his eyes up to normal vision. And this has been the case for many years. When one finds his hearing impaired and is told by the ear specialist that nothing can be done from the treatment standpoint to restore the hearing, instead of seeking a hearing aid, as one does an eyesight aid (glasses) the hard of hearing individual tries to get along without the aids as he is ashamed to let his friends or acquaintances know of his hard of hearing. This of course

may be necessary in some cases as loss of employment might follow the discovery of his hearing defect.

It is certainly gratifying however, to see that our hard of hearing friends, recognizing that impaired hearing should really be compared with impaired eyesight in that both need help or aid, are now more willing to use these aids. What is just as gratifying is to know that not only can the degree and range of hearing be measured with the new instrument—the audiometer—but the type of hearing aid to suit the various types of hearing defects can now be obtained.

Just as the optometrist measures the exact seeing ability and fits the glasses in the proper position, so can the ear specialist, after measuring the hearing ability, fit the right type of hearing aid to the patient. Sometimes the hearing aid is adjusted to the outer ear and the hearing is improved by magnifying the sound striking the ear drum in the usual manner, or by adjustment to the bone behind the ear from which sound goes to the inner ear and to the brain.

Dr. Austin A. Hayden, Chicago, in the Journal of the American Medical Association, advises physicians about to purchase an audiometer to get information from the Otologists Committee on Audiometers and Hearing Aids of the American Medical Association.

Valuable help on selecting hearing aids for those hard of hearing may be obtained by writing the American Society for the Hard of Hearing, 1528 Northwest 35th St., Washington, D.C., enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Eight Health Booklets

Are you susceptible to colds? Do you worry about your heart? Do you worry about your weight? Do you worry about your food? Do you have to watch your calories, fats, starches, etc.? Do you believe you have an ailment that medical tests do not reveal? The following booklets by Dr. Barton will be helpful to many readers and can be secured by sending Ten Cents for each one desired to cover handling and service to The Bell Library, 247 West 43rd St., New York, N.Y., mentioning The Advance, Timmins. They are: Eating Your Way to Health; Why Worry About Your Heart?; Neurosis; The Common Cold; Overweight and Underweight; Food Allergy; Scourge (gonorrhoea and syphilis), and How Is Your Blood Pressure?

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Suggest Coffee Has Effect on Eye Trouble

(By Dr. J. W. S. McCullough, M.D.)

The presence in Canada recently of Sir Stewart Duke-Elder, the noted eye surgeon of London, brings to mind the fact that he is one of the world's authorities on the subject of glaucoma. This affection, according to Sir Stewart includes a series of diseased state of the eye depending to a large extent on increased pressure within the eye-ball. This increased pressure, which is the cause of the pain in glaucoma, is roughly due to defective drainage of the fluids contained in the eye.

The diagnosis, treatment and general control of this affection are matters for the doctor, chiefly for the eye-specialist, but it is of interest to observe that among the latter are some who believe

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that such stimulants as coffee have a decided tendency to increase intra-ocular pressure. This is probably due to dilatation of the blood-vessels within the iris and ciliary body of the eye.

It has been found in suspected cases of glaucoma that the drinking of two cupsful of black coffee will, in 15% of cases, increase the pressure definitely in as many minutes. The early signs of glaucoma are, briefly, recurrent attacks of dimness of vision lasting perhaps a few hours and the appearance of coloured halos around lights. There may be headache or eye discomfort. These signs should be sufficient to send the sufferer to a doctor. The treatment is essentially surgical. If promptly given the results are good. Neglect of the aforementioned signs or failure to have proper treatment will result in loss of sight in the affected eye. Needless to say, those presenting any sign of glaucoma should avoid the use of strong coffee.

number five years previously of 11,630. The report states that the increase should not be construed as a real increase in the extent of mental disorders among the general population. Mental disorders, it is pointed out, are, in the main, disorders of adult life, the average insane first admissions being 43 years. The increase in the mental population may be partly explained by the fact that among those who take an active interest in the care and treatment of persons suffering from mental sickness there is an increasing demand for early treatment of mental diseases.

The most serious problem presented by the increase in the population of mental institutions is stated to be the lack of a corresponding increase in the bed capacity of hospitals. It is pointed out that by the judicious use of parole and the introduction of the boarding-out system, as in use in Ontario, the situation of over-crowding is met to some extent. However, at the end of 1936, the number of patients in residence exceeded the normal bed capacity by 2454.

Of a total of 57 mental institutions, 37 are provincial institutions, 14 are controlled and maintained by municipalities. 2 are maintained and controlled by the Dominion Government and 4 are under the control of private agencies. The personnel at December 31st, 1936 totalled 7538—3909 males and 3269 females. The medical staff numbered 276 and graduate nurses 1032. The net cost of maintenance to federal, provincial and municipal governments was \$10,004,049.

Special Interest in the Report on Mental Hospitals

Ottawa, September 28.—In view of the enquiry being conducted into one of Ontario's mental hospitals, special interest attaches to the Dominion Government's fifth annual report of mental institutions. This report just recently issued covers the calendar year 1936 and the figures show the importance of public attention to the problems involved.

The total number of patients under care in 1936 was 53,326 an increase over the previous year of 2,592 and over the

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"What was he doing, the great god Pan, Down in the reeds by the river?"

In Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poem "The Musical Instrument," she tells the story of Pan and his discovery of music, "making a poet out of a man." So as we choose an organ or piano for our home we must approach reverently, for we aren't just buying a piece of furniture. We're bringing to our family circle the reed that Pan found by the river and noched so that he could blow those first sweet piercing notes. "Making a poet out of a man" ... music is a responsibility to feel very humble about.

A Part of the Picture

Remember when a piano or organ was as much a part of the picture of a family room as the radiator or stove? Then came radios and the shrinking size of our homes, and they were all but crowded out. We lost a great deal when we let them slip out almost unnoticed. But what, pray tell, could a lady do with a big piano in a pocket handkerchief room? Besides, upright pianos went out of style and grands were pretty expensive as well as too large for many of us.

Then the piano manufacturers came to the occasion. Going back for inspiration to a small piano that had been made in Paris the latter part of the 19th century when small intimate rooms came into style, the modern piano and organ makers have evolved a whole repertoire of instruments made to fit into the contemporary scale of living.



Here is a miniature piano in modern style designed by Leo Jiranek. It is only thirty-six inches high and may be had in mahogany, walnut or lacquered finish in white or colours.



As graceful as spinets, yet as adequate musically as big pianos, they are available in styles to fit nearly any type of interior.

The concert grand remains the pin-

nael musically, and if your family are real connoisseurs and you have the space for one, nothing else will content you, so have one by any means you can manage. They give it the best spot in the room acoustically and decorate the room to it as the centre of interest.

Happy Enough

But a smaller grand is good enough for even quite a musically fastidious family when there isn't room for a big piano. While the most of us are happy enough with the charming new adaptations of the old types—the square piano, the spinet, the harpsichord. They fit pleasantly into most rooms and satisfy the audience, for generally they have the full eighty-eight note range and a far better tone and resonance than you would expect for their size.

Even the small pianos deserve consideration in placing them where the sound can get out into the room. And of course all pianos do better where there are not too decisive changes in temperature. We have a personal preference for placing a piano if possible where the player doesn't have to sit with her back to her "audience." This is easy with any type of a grand, but harder with the vertical or spinet types of pianos. When you can't have the room arranged so that the player faces the audience, you can usually manage a profile view at least by having your seating groups at the opposite end of the room from the piano.

But don't feel too hide-bound about putting the piano in the living room. If there's not space there or for some other reason you'd rather not, have it in the dining room, play room, nursery or even in a bedroom if it's not something the whole family is going to be using.

But a piano isn't the last word on the subject of music. Now that organs have been electrified, so that no expensive pipe installations are needed, many musicians are having them in their homes. Grills take the place of pipes. They're trim and small and surprisingly adaptable. And of course nothing is so truly magnificent as fine organ music.

In choosing a piano or organ, let the last word be said by someone who

really knows music. If you don't trust your own judgment, better call in some friend who's an expert. A good tone and a good action will be essential to the ultimate pleasure you'll be having in the instrument. Then take care of it, having it tuned several times a year.

As for woods and styles, you'll find most everything from Colonial maple to carved Renaissance, from Georgian mahogany to modern transparent plastic. Several important modern designs have contributed exciting contemporary designs—notably Donald Deskey, Leo Jiranek, Russell Wright. The little vertical pianos take up the least space, but personally we like the spinets best.

And don't be deterred by the fact that your mama couldn't get you to practice your scales, so that your music lessons didn't take. If you like good music but can't play it yourself, we can think of no more satisfying way of enjoying it than the fine reproducing pianos to be had these days. Don't confuse them with the old early players—these are really sensitive and responsive.

If you have an upright piano and can't afford anything new, don't discard it just because it's out of style. After all many of these are fine musical instruments, and as we said to begin with, a piano is more important as an instrument than as a piece of furniture. Maybe we can lend a hand if you will send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for our bulletin "How To Arrange A Room With An Upright Piano."

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Peterborough Examiner: Suggestion was made at the Ontario Municipal Association that municipalities should be relieved of the cost of preparing voters' lists for Provincial elections. That suggestion is so reasonable that the wonder is it has been necessary to make it. The present system whereby municipalities have to pay for the preparation and printing of a list which is used only for provincial elections is a fair enough example of plain imposition.



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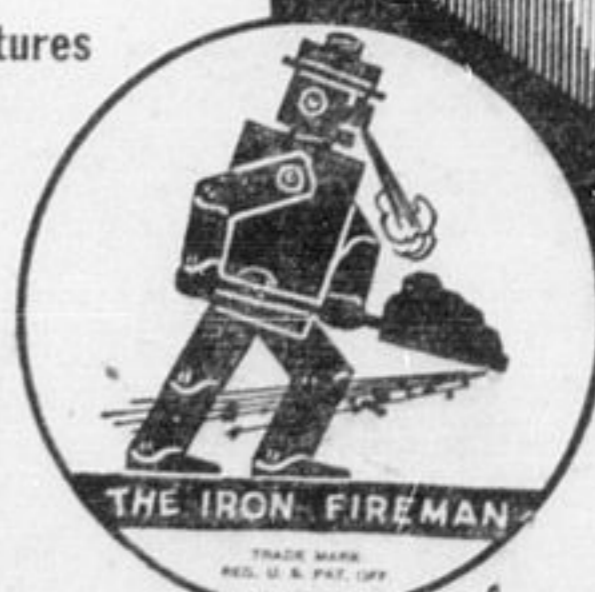
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