

SPRUCE STREET APARTMENT HOUSE



A small house at 108 Spruce Street North, Timmins was converted into this large apartment house by Dave Martin, general contractor. Mrs. P. Richer is the owner.

How to Make Summer Rooms Look Cool

Some Hints About Home Decoration.

(By Walter Rendell Storey)

One of the timely functions which the contemporary decorative style is called upon to perform is the creation of cool, simple rooms for Summer use. The light and graceful types of bleached and blond wood furniture seem made for this purpose, especially when they are supplemented by pastel-hued walls and cool greens, blues, yellows and white in curtains and upholstery. Welcome in the Summer home far from the heat of the city, these modern furnishings provide the stay-at-home town dweller, too, with the background he needs for comfortable hot-weather living.

Ideas for achieving this effect of Summer coolness, whether through simple rearrangement or complete redecoration, may be gleaned from some of the new exhibition rooms in shops and in World's Fair displays. One important aid toward Summer satisfaction seems to be compact, unobtrusive furniture, not too large in proportion to the room. Some of the new light-toned maple furniture meets this requirement, a pigmented or rubbed paint finish giving it an evasive rose tint which makes it delightfully cool looking.

Illustrating a successful Summer color scheme is a dining room, one of a series of newly decorated modern interiors at Macy's. It dispenses with the heavy dignity which has sometimes been associated with the contemporary style and goes toward a graceful informality. The rose blond pigmented wood of the oval table is accented by the Spring green velvet seats and backs of the chairs near by, and dull bronze hardware adorns the sideboard and the china cabinet, whose upper shelves are protected by sliding panels of glass.

Wall and Windows

At the windows are satin moire curtains, chartreuse lined with light spring green and, a new touch in window decoration, glass curtains dyed jonquil yellow. Not every one, perhaps, would find it feasible to choose walls individual, but their scheme of white above a yellow dado whose upper line runs along in graceful curves does hold expensive treatment. Novel in effect, too, is the latest flooring of light-hued leather-surfaced tiles.

In the same mood of refreshing simplicity is a living room with upholstery in soft colors, light pigmented wood and an original wall treatment. Bands of deep rose and very narrow lines of turquoise blue decorate the cream-painted walls, and a pair of easy chairs in ashes-of-roses antique satin flank a flat-topped library desk. Further new color suggestions are offered by the grey-blue moire silk covering on the sofa, the pale blue velvet of an armchair and the white porcelain bases and

shades of the lamps.

One may prefer, perhaps, a dining room grouping placed against walls of robin's egg blue and a rose sand carpet. The table here is made larger by opening out its top; its scalloped edges are repeated on the floor panels of the sideboard and the modern version of Welsh dresser. White leather-covered chairs like those shown, accented by gay red nails, should make any one feel cool on a hot day when dining often becomes a task.

Historic Wallpapers

A phenomenon in the decorative world is the rapid increase in the number and excellence of wall paper designs. "The poor man's tapestry," it is called in colonial times because it replaced more expensive wall coverings, and ever since it has been a democratic expression of decorative art. It is because of its close connection with everyday life and its resulting historical significance that Cooper Union Museum is opening on Tuesday an exhibition commemorating the 200th anniversary of wallpaper making in this country.

This well-arranged display, besides showing many beautiful examples of antique wallpapers, builds up a background for wallpaper design through the years by means of fabrics, drawings and panels showing technical processes of today and yesterday.

It was in 1739 that one Plunkett Fleeson in Philadelphia opened the first wallpaper factory over here and sold his product in his shop along with "bedticks, live goose feathers and blankets." While none of his papers has come down to us, there are in the exhibition American-made examples which date from about 1830 and some of French manufacturers as early as 1720.

The most interesting period of wallpaper of the past is the early nineteenth century, when there was a great vogue for historical types printed by hand from wood blocks. Today's antique examples painstakingly removed from wall of old houses command high prices. But they also inspire less costly reproductions and new original designs adapted to the home today.

Elaborate Scenes

Some of these early nineteenth century wall papers, made for the most part in France, were very elaborate, their scenes inspired by classical sub-design might cover the entire walls of a room, without any repetition, and took a dozen or two strips of paper to be printed on. Part of the design or a smaller version might be used as wall panels or over mantels or for over-door decoration. They were drawn by some of the most noted artists of the time.

In those early days wallpaper patterns were made, too, to cover band boxes, as illustrated by some of the museum's extensive collection. One depicts in a naive manner an early view of Erie Canal, another the Capitol at Washington and a third a famous balloon ascension in Cincinnati in 1835.

In addition to showing many fine papers of the past, the exhibition devotes part of its space to modern meth-

ods of production. Most of the wall-papers used today are printed by means of wooden rollers on which the pattern is made by metal strips filled in with felt. Modern block printing, photo-engraving and the latest development of screen or stencil printing are also interesting shown. How the designer works from the first sketches through a choice of color, schemes to the finished product is graphically pictured in a series of panels prepared by William E. Katzenbach. Interesting also is the demonstration of the early and continuous relation between wallpaper and fabrics shown in displays of textiles whose patterns obviously inspired the near-by paper designs.

TO CLEAN MARBLE

To clean marble, cover with a paste made by mixing two tablespoons of soda, one tablespoon each of salt and powdered pumice and some cold water. When the spread paste has dried, rub it off with a cloth and wash the marble well with soap and water. Repeat if stains are hard to remove.

Putty May be Used for Filling Open Joints

Woodwork that has not been sufficiently seasoned frequently shrinks and joints open at the corners of windows and door frames.

This can be corrected by filling the opening with tinted putty or wood putty to match the natural finish of the woodwork.

Open joints also often appear between the bottom of a baseboard and the flooring and are notorious dust catchers. An easy way to overcome this is to close the opening with quarter-round molding.

Arranging Finances Under Dominion Housing Act

Benefits of Act Now Available to Timmins.

The Home Improvement Act was of remarkable benefit to Timmins and district and has had unusual value in helping improve homes here and add to their beauty and comfort. For a time the Dominion Housing Act was not available to Timmins people, but more recently it has been made to apply here. It may be generally known that the Mutual Life of Canada was an approved lending institution under the Act, but it may also be noted that Simms, Hooker & Drew, representing the Manufacturers Life are also authorized to arrange loans under the National Housing Act.

Make it a Better Town by Making a Better Home

Interested in your own home? Interested in the development of the town?

You can help both, by making that needed improvement in your home—whether that improvement be small or great.

Maybe just a coat of paint would do the trick. Or a sun porch. Or some other little improvement.

This "Better Homes" edition may help you. If it does, its purpose will have been fulfilled.

Remember, you have the Home Improvement Plan to assist you. And the National Housing Act.

It is worth thinking about. How about it?

Notable Advances Made in the Use of Plywoods

Very rapid advances have been made in the use of plywood and these are largely attributable to improvements which have been made in the quality of wood glues and particularly in the development of water-resistant glues, says The Canadian Lumberman. Plywood may now be obtained which is suitable for exterior as well as for interior use. It has many advantages over solid wood for certain purposes; it has opened up a very attractive market for high-grade logs, and new uses are constantly being found for the lower grades of veneers obtained from the centre of the log. This development has resulted not only in economies in the use of wood, but in developing markets for other wastes since a great deal of glue is itself recovered as a by-product from other industries, as in the case of blood and hide glues from abattoirs. Collaboration of Forest Products Laboratories with industry has played a large part in improving and standardizing the quality of glues and their method of application.

STREAMLINING HOUSES

Streamlining enters the housing business this year with the new insul-brick sidings using a newly sharply-recessed mortar line to give a smoother, more streamlined effect on home exteriors.

Of particular interest to the owner of a small home where every foot of space is put to use are "disappearing stairs," which may be used to connect the attic with the rest of the house.

Saving valuable floor space otherwise necessary for a built-in stair well, the "disappearing stairs" operate on a counterbalance plan and are lowered from the attic only when needed. They are especially valuable in homes where the attic is used only for storage and the stairs are seldom used.



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