

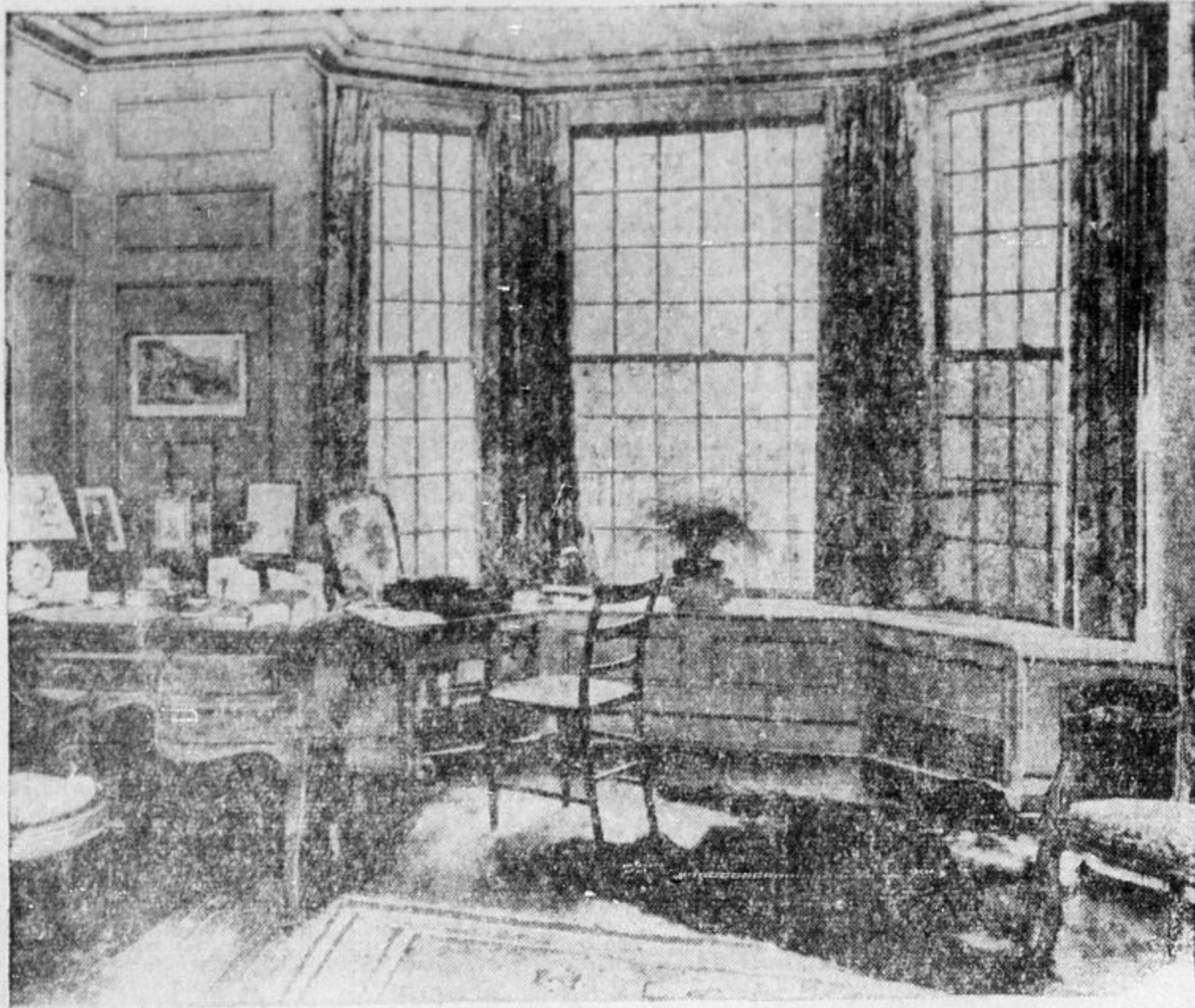


# PLEASANT HOMES

by Elizabeth MacRea Boykin

## HOW TO LET OUT THE SEAMS OF YOUR ROOMS

Making a Room Seem Larger Than It Really Is—A Matter of Mirrors, Window Decoite, Colours and Arrangement.



Here is a living room before it was done over. Note the cluttered arrangement, small window panes and assortment of little accessories which tend to make the room seem small.

It's done with mirrors—at least that's the easiest way to let out the seams of a room. Especially if the problem is posed in the home where you can't jiggle walls around to suit yourself. Decorator tricks that make a room seem larger than it really is include:

**The Mirror Method**—Not just a mirror over the mantel but an entire mirrored wall or at least an entire mirrored chimney breast. If you're up against a room with too many doors and windows (frequent dining room problem) the answer is to mirror the wall and have mirror doors as well, framed in chromium moldings. If you have awkward spaces between groups of windows have mirrored panels for these spaces and treat the entire expanse as a broad group of windows with a single drapery dramatically joining them.

**Reflections**

For a bedroom, a dressing table set against an enormous mirrored panel is stunning. If you'd rather not go off the deep end and splurge on mirror installations, you might have a mirrored screen as a frame for an interesting grouping of furniture. Deep set windows, faced with mirror, or else mirrored sills, add immeasurably to the illusion of spaciousness in the room and reflect pleasant extra light.

**Window Decoits**—The room with a tier of small paned windows or a bay with small paned windows can be apparently opened out to end by replacing these small paned windows with big panes of plate glass, picture window fashion. French doors leading onto a balcony or porch can be replaced with perfectly plain inch-thick glass doors without frames.

As for curtains, there are several sleight-of-hand ideas to consider. If the windows themselves aren't as big as they should be, widen them by hanging the draperies over onto the walls at the sides and heighten them by having the valance extend upward above the actual top of the window. And of course have the curtains sweep to the floor. If the ceilings of the room aren't very high, don't go in for

horizontal swag effects and watch out about Venetian blinds with their horizontal lines.

**Beware**

If the room is too much cut up already with doors and windows, have the curtains and draperies the same color as the walls and beware of too much fancy over-draping. Be careful of fancy over-draping in any case unless you have large rooms and plenty of money to do a very right job of them. Straight hung curtains made plain and full and to hang to the floor in organ pipe folds are about the nicest thing you can have for a room of simple dignity.

**Color Cues**—By painting the baseboard the exact same color as your broadloom carpet you appear to add feet to the size of the room. Or if it is not possible to have a wall-to-wall carpet, paint the floor the same shade as the rug and see what an effect you get. Decorators do this even with pale rug colors. Walls and rug in the same tone make a room appear to be larger. The popular notion is that white or cream ceilings give a more spacious effect, but some of the best decorators maintain that a darker toned ceiling tends to raise the apparent height of the room.

**A Merger**

**Furniture Formulas**—If bulbous furniture is your problem, first consider covering the pieces set out in the floor in the exact same shade as the rug, while the pieces against the walls can be covered in the wall color. Then they will seem to merge rather than intrude. You can even consider painting wooden furniture after the same formula. Or, if you don't want to be as drastic as that with your wooden pieces, consider bleaching those lumpy wall pieces so they'll blend against a pale wall tone. If your rugs are figured, the furniture out in the floor can have plain coverings in the predominating color of the rug. Glass and mirror pieces of incidental furniture are often useful in the room that you want to look bigger than it really is.

**Backgrounds**—Some of the misty scenic wall papers seem to make a room more spacious, but generally a plain wall is the answer for the too-small room. That doesn't need to limit you to the usual ivory, however. Any of the soft pastel colors fit this picture often even a dark wall can give the effect of spaciousness if it is used with great skill. Get rid of those molding panels that homes were strewn with some years back. Not only do they chop up the wall spaces, but they make it all but impossible to place the furniture decently or hang pictures properly.

**Be Hard Boiled**

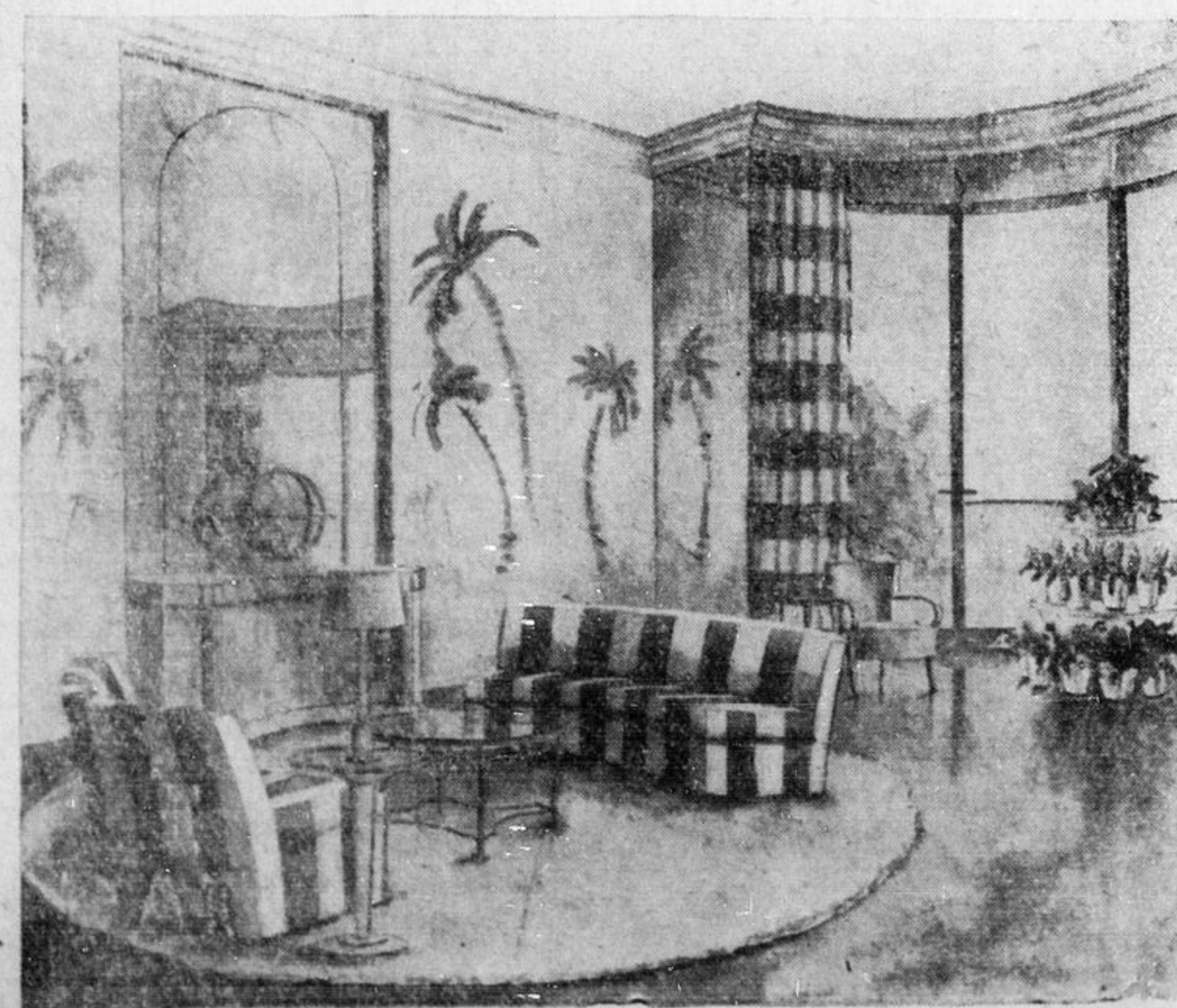
**Arrangement**—When all's said and done, the real answer to the question of getting a spacious effect is in the arrangement of the furniture. If you will fill a room fuller than it was ever meant to be, it's going to look smallish and stuffy . . . if you put only enough pieces in it for its size and use, it will seem tranquil and spacious. So be very hard boiled about eliminating a lot of stuff that just crowds the room.

If you have too many little magazine racks and stools, flower stands and too-small tables, clear them away. If you have some enormous bulbous furniture that is too big, try to make plans to replace it as soon as possible because the overstuffed set, circa 1925, is pretty oppressive in most any ordinary layout. As for ornaments, eliminate all the little gimcrack things that clutter up without making the slightest decorative contribution to the room. A few good ornaments, big enough to make bold positive accents, are far more effective than a trunk full of trinkets.

(Released by Consolidated News Features, Inc.)

Toronto Telegram:—Women's hats will soon return to sanity, says a stylist. Maybe it's a crazy prediction.

Sudbury Star:—It was down in the hill country that a native told a visitor he raised hogs, because you don't have to hoe hogs.



The same room after it was redecorated. The floor further enhanced the spaciousness of the de small window panes were removed and big plate glass. The only pattern of importance was the glass panels put in their places. Radiators under broad striped fabric used for pull curtains and sofa the window were also moved in order to create a covers. Furniture was in light bleached finishes through effect. The walls were lightened and covand lacquers. The room was decorated by Eleanor cred with a soft misty mural design. A plain light Herst.

## Considering Both Sides of the Question

(continued from page 1.)

states in his book, Year of Reckoning: "The readiness with which the German Government incurs this risk (war) would seem to discredit the belief of some foreign observers that its supplies of essential raw materials, especially petrol, are so limited that it could not face a long campaign. Marshal Goering has assured me that Germany is now manufacturing petrol from 'brown coal' on such a scale that he is building two distillation plants to utilize the deposits of that material in Austria, which will produce petrol for export.

"With the nine-million ton output of the Roumanian oil fields already in reach of her grasp, it would certainly be optimistic to suppose that Germany's war machine would collapse for lack of fuel."

**Lacks 33 Products**

Authorities estimate that Germany is deficient in at least 33 raw materials which are essential in varying degrees to her economy. Germany must import 75 per cent of her peacetime war demand of iron (half her imports came from France) and it appears quite likely wartime requirements will be on a much expanded scale. Germany may now win access to the resources of Upper Silesia but it is known that the Poles planned to dynamite these mines before abandoning them so the Germans may not find them readily usable.

German resources of oil are very small and synthetic output is only one third of peacetime requirements. Whether the synthetic product itself is suitable for airplanes is not known. In time of war the German need for oil may be doubled or perhaps even trebled. Roumanian produces an amount equivalent to the German peacetime consumption but other sources will have to be drawn on if war demand is to be met. Roumanian production is declining at it is. The U.S.S.R. has resources of oil but her own demands have increased in recent years and intensification of difficulties with Japan may leave little surplus available for sale, even assuming that Germany should have an export surplus of suitable goods for trading.

The following statistics were compiled by the Royal Institute of International Affairs:

Largely or Entirely Lacking	Partly Lacking	Approximately Self-Sufficient	Export Surplus
Copper	Iron	Potatoes	Coal
Tin	Lead	Wheat	Potash
Bauxite	Zinc	Manganese	Asbestos
Nickel	Manganese	Antimony	Cotton
Tungsten	Petroleum	Fats	Wool
Chromium			Jute
Vanadium			Silk
Molybdenum			Flax
Mercury			Hemp
Phosphates			Sisal
Tobacco			Corn
			Coffee

**Has No Nickel**

Nickel is one metal that Germany is practically entirely dependent on imports for her requirements. It may some day prove a very vulnerable spot in the German armor if it is possible to prevent re-export of nickel from neutral countries once it has been sold by the Canadian companies, the chief producers. Small supplies are available from other countries but are entirely inadequate for the German needs. In 1940, International Nickel will bring a new mine into production in Finland, as the possibility is faced that Germany will have an accessible supply from that country.

While Germany is now believed to be producing close to 85% of her food requirements she is particularly deficient in certain particular products. Thus Germany is fully self-sufficient in potatoes and beet sugar, but dependent for at least 40% of her supply of fats. In cereals most of the country's requirements can be met from domestic production, although in a bad year such as 1937, 25% of requirements had to be imported. In the case of corn the entire supply has to be brought in.

**Short on Fats**

Germany imports 15% of her butter requirements but more important than the butter shortage are the imports of oilseeds and whale oil, both of which must come from abroad and will be now cut off. The volume of imports of oilseeds (in terms of oil content) are about six times those of butter, and of whale oil about double. Some whale oil may be obtained from Norway but oilseeds must come in the main from the tropics or the far east. Output has been fostered in Europe but is still very small.

For some other raw materials Germany is either not so badly off or has sources of supply which are not too remote. Half her needs in lead are supplied by herself. The other half comes from Yugoslavia and Spain, one perhaps accessible the other not. She

has expended a smelting capacity to put her well on the way to self-sufficiency in zinc and may find export surpluses in Italy, Yugoslavia and Sweden. She supplies 25 per cent of her needs of sulphur and pyrites, and gets the remainder from Norway, or from Italy, which is the leading exporter of pyrites. Germany gets mercury from Spain, a source now easily cut off.

**New Lacks Capital**

At the beginning of the last war Germany was a country with an abundance of raw materials and strong financial resources. The methods of financing resorted to over the last year show that Germany is now lacking in liquid capital or raw materials, even though a war chest of essential war materials has probably been built up within the country. A shortage of food, however, may just as easily bring Germany to her knees as a shortage of nickel. It did in the last war and the food problem proved a deciding factor in the Spanish war. Madrid's surrender was rather due to a shortage of food than any final passage at arms.

**Railways Slighted**

Effort in the German economy has been so concentrated on rearmament that industry has not been able to make needed replacements. Concerning this angle Bernard Keeling writes in "Germany—What Next?" as follows: "The number of houses and flats completed in the first nine months of 1938 declined by 21 per cent as compared with 1937, and there is an estimated shortage of 1.5 million dwellings. Even the railways have suffered in spite of their obvious strategic importance. According to a recent report by the Reichsbahn, they are in urgent need of new capital for the renovation of the permanent way and rolling stock. Indeed the semi-official Institut für Konjunkturforschung estimates that the supply of goods wagons is 15 to 20 per cent short of requirements, and that the railways will have to raise nearly Rm. 10 milliards of new capital during the next three or four years.

The methods used by Germany in building up her resistance and striking power may prove her ultimate downfall. Attempts to build up impenetrable walls on her east and west frontiers may have overtaxed her financial strength. Perhaps the large German productive capacity in planes may be of little use if, after the first rigorous months of war, it is impossible to finance the necessary imports of raw materials for the manufacture of additional planes. Reports have already been circulated of German authorities removing iron fences to tap the last possible resources of the country in iron. Time will tell if the quick steps taken by Germany in rationing certain foods at the outbreak of war was but a sign of preparedness for any eventuality or an indication that every day would be of intense importance if Germany was to be successful in its war game.

## Buying British Goods a Help to Winning War

(An editorial in The Montreal Star)

The suggestion made by A. M. Wiseman, senior British Trade Commissioner in Canada, that wherever possible Canadians should buy imported articles from Great Britain, should be heeded. Mr. Wiseman said:

"We (Great Britain) shall need to buy a lot from you. I only hope you will help to make that easy by buying as much as possible from us. I know that in the early stages of the war you may feel that you are taking rather a chance, but I am sure that you will take that chance gladly when you realize how much you will be helping us to carry on. Already I have received very many inquiries at my office from business men anxious to place their services at the disposal of the United Kingdom. Here is a way in which all can render the most practical assistance possible."

We shall do well to heed Mr. Wiseman's words. British purchases of all kinds of supplies from Canada are likely to be very great indeed for some time to come. We cannot expect that payment for these will be made in gold. That is impossible even in peacetime and with the enormous strain which war puts upon the finances of any country, even the richest, payment "in kind" is the only feasible basis for trade. Quite aside from helping to make things easier for Britain, generous purchases of British commodities and British manufactured articles is in Canada's own interests. Unless we keep our end up, "buying British" whenever we possibly can, in making purchases of imported articles, we shall be adding seriously to the tremendous task of British war financing and making it harder and harder for her to continue her purchases here.

"Buy British" when you can is good advice.

Toronto Telegram:—Some war observers think hordes without are no more dangerous than hoarders within.

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## Gen. Gort Has Had Rapid Rise to the Command of Army

Was Winner of Three Medals in Last War.

London.—Appointment of Viscount Gort, V.C., as commander-in-chief of British forces in the field when Britain went to war with Germany, brought to light a military career in which service of high distinction, untiring energy and industry and an odd episode on the ski-runs of Switzerland all had their part.

"Tiger" Gort rose from the rank of major-general to the highest active command in the British army in the space of two years. His promotion up the sang froid of military circles but on all sides the government's choice met with whole-hearted approval.

It started in 1937 when War Secretary Leslie Hore-Belisha, answering the demand for a shake-up in the British high command, appointed the 51-year-old Viscount Gort as chief of the general staff. Hore-Belisha disregarded seniority qualifications and made the appointment over the heads of some 30 senior generals.

**Winning the V.C.**

Then military secretary to the war secretary, Gort, a member of a distinguished soldiering family, had a record of 32 years in the army. Going into the Great War as captain in 1914, the Sandhurst-trained officer won decoration after decoration and as a brevet-major in 1918, won the Victoria Cross, Britain's highest military award for valor.

A few months before the armistice in 1918, Gort was leading the Grenadier Guards in an attack across the Canal du Nord. Twice he was severely wounded. But he insisted on being carried forward on a stretcher, directing the advance until the position was won. Only when flares announced the capture of the goal did Gort collapse.

**Won Many Honours**

Previously he had won the Military Cross and the Distinguished Service Order and had been mentioned in despatches nine times.

When Hore-Belisha was looking for a military secretary to help him rejuvenate the army, the war secretary recalled an incident in Switzerland and a hurried trip to Ascot, where Gort was engaged in manoeuvres, followed.

Several years before the two men collided while skiing in the Alps.

"Who the hell are you?" demanded Hore-Belisha, picking himself out of the snow.

"Gort" was the terse response.

The commander-in-chief, a soldier from the head to toes, was said by a fellow officer to be "hard but no bully." He added the "Tiger" had no time for anything but his work.

During the past two years a personal acquaintance with conditions in the Orient has been valuable with un-

declared war raging between Japan and China. Gort has also seen service in India. A qualified pilot, he learned to fly a few years before he became chief of the imperial general staff.

Since 1937 wide army reforms, many of them having to do with mechanization, have been instituted under Viscount Gort's direction. One of the most important was the creation of a large strategic reserve "in a zone from which it could be directed where security was most likely to be threatened." This involved reduction by several units of the Indian Army and transfer of a British Expeditionary Force from England to the middle east.

Born John Standish Surtees Prendergast Vereker, the commander-in-chief succeeded his father as Viscount Gort at the age of 16. In 1911 he married his cousin, Corinne Vereker. They were divorced in 1925. They had one son and one daughter.

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