

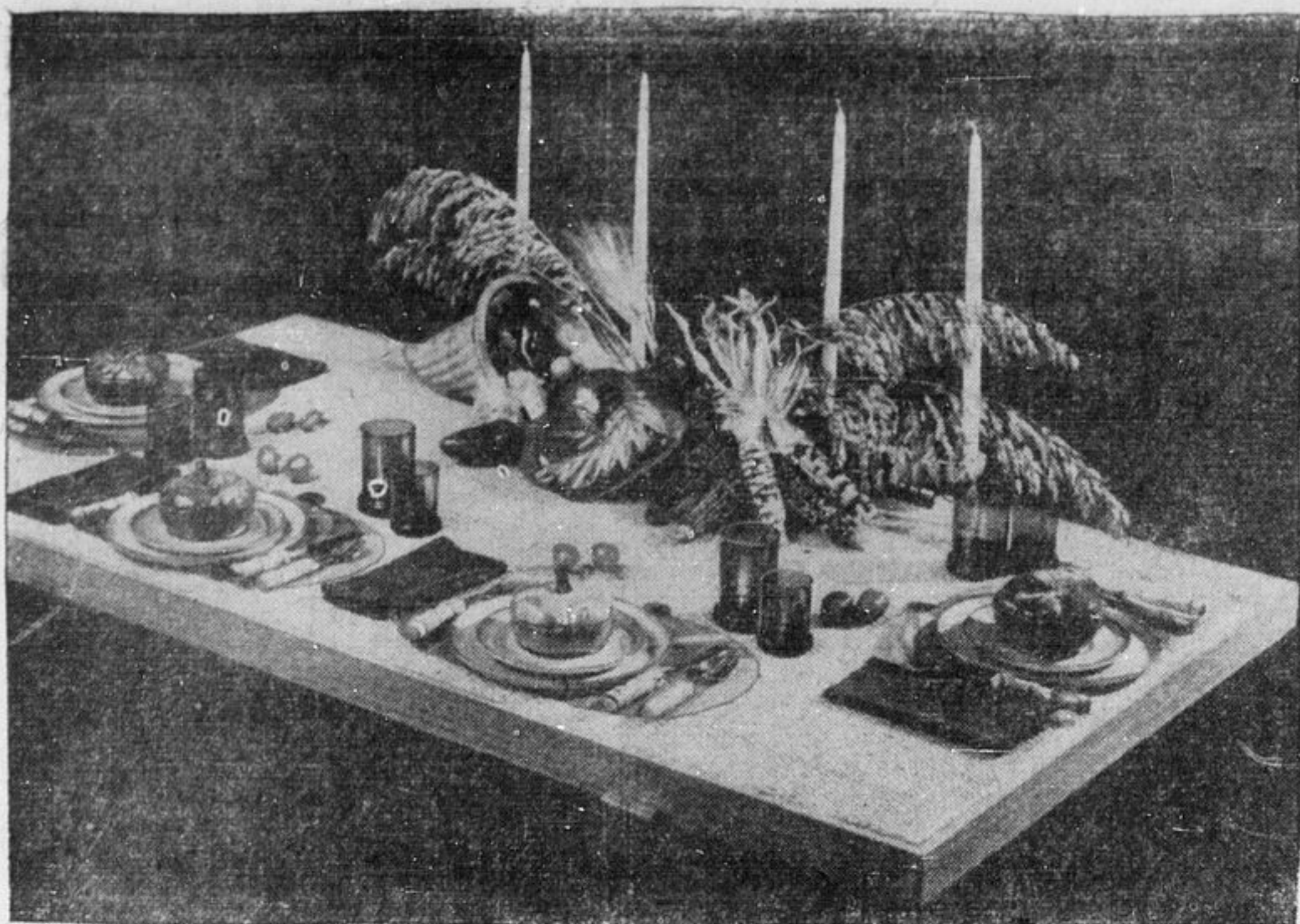


PLEASANT HOMES

by Elizabeth MacRea Boykin

HOW'S YOUR HOSPITALITY?

Entertaining is an Important Part of Successful Home-making—Informal Ideas for Autumn Parties



A raffia table cover set with chartreuse plates and individual tomato casseroles is a pleasantly informal table for autumn. The centerpiece is composed of a basket cornucopia with harvest vegetables, grain and fruit.

Four Friends

The last autumn leaf had danced disconsolately down the street. In the grate, the coal fire had burned to quiet glowing embers. The old silver tea kettle with a blue alcohol flame under it was humming softly to itself. And there we sat talking, four good friends.

It was Eleanor Gale Carroll, author of that charming new book "Is There a Baby in the House?" who really hit the nail on the head in our discussion of that provocative subject — woman's work. Julia, the rebel, had been staunchly holding out for careers and politics. Charlotte, the gay and dainty one, felt that making an attractive home, raising a nice family and joining in the everyday life of the town was a pretty good life. I put in a mild word for the earthy jobs like cooking and gardening and sewing.

The Art of Living

"Well," said Eleanor, "I think a woman's main job is the art of living. Some of us can realize ourselves most by outside careers, others by club work,

others by home-making. The main thing is not to lose track of the goal-making an art of life itself. The reason that this responsibility falls on us is that we establish the mood of our homes and if we're artists at living so will our children probably be. And that I'd say would be quite an achievement for any dame."

When you think it over, there's quite an idea there. It puts things in place

and straightens out a lot of kinks as to the relative importance of this and that. Entertaining, for instance—if you agree with Eleanor, you'll have a new respect for the role of hospitality in everyday life. Not the stress and strain of formal parties but the gaiety of casual family gatherings, the freedom to bring most anybody in most any old time and know that mother will welcome them. And that implies a



School-age entertaining is charmingly informal if arranged on a knee-high table on the floor and the simple refreshments are tea served in the new tea mugs, apple popovers and sharp cheese.

mother with a sense of values, who doesn't wear herself out doing drudgery that doesn't matter nearly so much as a proud fresh spirit. She's the woman who makes it her business to see that the whole family helps with the work — without a lot of whining and arguing. . . a mother who makes an effort to be good at her job. For the art of living, like any art, means not only perfection but ease; and behind that there is work, plenty of it. It's a lot easier to talk your head off, drudge dutifully but blindly, scold and let the family take it or leave it; it's harder to make the effort to live with art, but well worth it.

For Spur-of-the-Moment Parties

The kind of parties you'll have for the family probably won't be pink teas or soup-to-nuts dinners. They'll be buffet suppers with a tasty casserole as the main dish and pick-me-up oddments and served on a plaid cloth and pewter or pottery plates. They'll be spur-of-the-moment afternoon refreshments, like cider and doughnuts of an autumn afternoon, served in a bright pottery pitcher and in painted glasses. Or an after-the-movie snack of melba toast and piping hot cocoa, served in thin china cups. Or whenever anybody stops in, your coffee urn can be ready to serve hot coffee topped with whipped cream and served with Danish pastry—a cup and plate is the thing here without a saucer.

The gracious service of tea can be an art in itself. And it has the advantage of being so easy to prepare and serve, so inexpensive and simple. The school-age youngsters have discovered tea as a heartening beverage — they take theirs in tea mugs, which are news in practicality. But pretty tea cups with saucers and a graceful pot still have charm for the oldsters, and the stores are filled with such alluring ones.

From Modern to Rural.

For informal luncheons, leisurely holiday breakfasts or casual Sunday night suppers, there are appealing

Proof That Nazis Used Poison Gas in Poland

Paris, France, Nov. 22.—The Information Bureau of the Polish Government-in-exile said today that the German Army is conscripting Poles for military service, and unmarried Polish women for the Nazi labor service.

The bureau said also that it had obtained evidence that poison gas was used by the Germans during their Polish campaign last September.

The bureau said all unmarried Polish women over 18 years of age in the German-occupied sections of Poland had been drafted for labour, and that most leading Poles in the occupied regions had been sent to concentration camps in the Reich.

Regarding the use of gas, the communiqué said:

"Numerous affidavits were drawn up by health authorities at Wilno (Vilna) on this subject. The Germans used poison gas.

"During the siege of Warsaw they used phosgene in the suburb of Powazki, causing many deaths. Also during the siege of Warsaw Red Cross nurses treated persons burned by yperite. Among other cases, yperite was found at Prague in the bottom of a shell-hole."

Here's Another Wolf Story from Sault Ste. Marie

Sault Ste. Marie, Nov. 22.—The story of a wolf which regrettably learned its wind gave out before the steam of a locomotive engine, was told here by engineer Jimmy Gordon and fireman Joe McColl.

The men chased the wolf almost to exhaustion with their train along the tracks of the Algoma Central Railway. They then hopped from the cab and killed the animal with engine tools.

The unlucky wolf ran in front of the train at the mouth of the Agawa canyon. After it was winded it started to run up a snowbank but the two men brought the train to a halt and caught it.

Sudbury Member May be Lands and Forests Minister

Rumour has it that James M. Cooper, M.L.A., for Sudbury, may be appointed as Minister of Lands and Forests to succeed Hon. Peter Heenan. Another name mentioned for the post is W. L. Miller, of Bruce Mines.

Neutrals Stirred by Mine Warfare Violating Codes

Regulations are Strict Under Hague Accord.

Washington, D.C.—Outlaw sea mines, drifting in the path of neutral shipping in the war zone to take a heavy toll of non-combatant lives, have shocked world opinion.

Whoever laid them or whoever they came to be floating in the sea lanes as blind and terrible menaces to all shipping, those mines are outlawed by The Hague conventions of 1909 to which all sea-using nations, including Germany, Great Britain and France, have subscribed.

The British Admiralty's contention that Nazi submarines have deliberately sown the seas with floating contact mines outside formerly proscribed war areas raises a graver charge against Germany than even the unrestricted U-boat warfare of the last war with its "sink-without-trace" slogan. The Germans have entered a denial, saying that an inquiry showed a German mine "could not have been responsible" for the sinking of the Dutch ship Simon Bolivar.

Might Be Hazard For Years

A floating mine that does not conform to the rigid specifications of The Hague conventions might jeopardize lives in waters far removed from the war zones. Drifting with wind and currents, such mines could wander the seas for years, a peril of all vessels, before rust and corrosion rendered them harmless.

The Hague rules provide that unanchored mines, fused to explode on contact, may be used by warring sea powers, but only if so safe-guarded as to become harmless within an hour after they are launched. The clause permitting short-lived mines was inserted to meet a special condition of warfare. It is designed to cover the case of a belligerent war vessel, or even a fleet, fleeing from a stronger enemy in close pursuit.

Floating mines, dumped overboard by the fleeing craft, offer an hour's leeway for escape. The pursuers would not dare close in from directly astern if they knew that floating mines might be awaiting them. Yet The Hague rules require that such "unanchored automatic contact mines" must be fitted to sink or become harmless within an hour after the "person who laid them ceases to control them."

Anchored mines must be fitted with devices to sink them or disconnect their contact firing mechanism as soon as they go adrift. A torpedo must be similarly fitted to become harmless when it reaches the end of its run without hitting anything.

Laying of Mines Restricted

The Hague articles further provide, in any case, that contact sea mines shall not be laid "off the coast and ports of the enemy, with the sole object of intercepting commercial shipping." They require that "every precaution" be taken "for the security of peaceful shipping" in planting mine fields.

A casual reading of the conventions makes clear the gravity of the charge against Germany brought by the British Admiralty. The verdict of world opinion will be rendered on whatever substantiating evidence is brought to support the charge that Nazi leadership, in a desperate effort to frighten all neutral shipping away from British ports, has ignored its obligations under The Hague conventions.

Convincing circumstantial evidence of the source of the floating mines that sank half a dozen or more ships, most of them under neutral flags, over the week-end, and caused a still unknown loss of life, cannot be long in coming. Where so many floating mines exploded, there must be others.

Sooner or later one will be brought in intact by British mine-sweeping patrols. Discovery anywhere at sea of

a German-made floating mine lacking the fittings to render it harmless would set up a prima facie case against Germany on which the verdict of world opinion would be rendered.

Killed by Fall from Truck at Val d'Or Last Week

Val d'Or, Nov. 22.—Camille Robert, age 16, was killed last week when he fell off the truck belonging to his brother, and the back wheels passed over his body. The truck was not loaded, and death was not instantaneous. The lad was taken to the Amos Hospital and died the next day. Examination revealed that there was a six-inch wound in the liver. At the inquest a verdict of accidental death was returned.

Blairmore Enterprise: — Men like girls with brains enough to tell them how wonderful they are.

Planning for Liberation of the Czecho-Slovaks

Chicago, Nov. 22.—The Czecho-Slovak representative of Dr. Eduard Benes, former president of Czecho-Slovakia, announced yesterday formation of the Czecho-Slovak national committee in France to take over the political direction of affairs of the former republic.

Purpose of the committee, said Dr. Jan Papanek, is "the liberation of the Czecho-Slovak state territory from the criminal invader and blunderer." The new group will co-ordinate and unify all such endeavours, he added.

Globe and Mail: — After all, the horse has not passed altogether from the military scene. German cavalry is reported off the Holland border and France is buying 6,000 artillery horses in the United States.

Why Not Make Sure?

It may be comforting, particularly in these times, to accept the belief that "what is to be will be." But would it not be wise to review your plans for the future security of your family in the light of present-day conditions . . . just in case.

All of us must realize that war brings many changes—perhaps in military service at home or abroad; perhaps in employment, in business, in family affairs. Now is the time to make absolutely certain that your life insurance will do all that you want it to.

Are you sure that your insurance money will be paid to those you have in mind? Do some of your beneficiaries no longer need as much protection, and others need more?

Do you know that you can probably increase the effectiveness of your present life insurance by anywhere from ten to thirty percent without any additional cost to you?

Do you know how much of your present insurance will give you an income at retirement and what the amount of that income will be?

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accessories. Very modern are the serving platters, pots, casseroles and tureens of brushed aluminum or Kensington metal. Quiet and friendly are the provincial pottery plates and pitchers and bowls, while covered overware pottery in shapes of vegetable is positively rural. Wooden salad bowls and cheese boards are hospitably inclined and suggest many a good time by the fireside of a winter's night. The new and talented electrical appliances for buffet use tempt the hostess — these take most of the party responsibility out of the kitchen and guarantee good food. After all what is more delicious than hot toast popping out of a toaster, with butter and honey at hand? Or waffles coming up as fast as you want them. . . or Welsh rarebit out of a grill or old-fashioned fudge. Or for that matter a whole electric buffet server with several compartments for serving piping hot a spaghetti supper, or a curry feast, or a whole Mexican menu.

You see, there's more to this business of the art of living than you'd think at first glance. It's more than the mere mechanics of running a house, though that's part of it; it's more than bringing up a well-behaved bunch of children, though certainly that's a very big angle. It's that extra thing that sometimes known as charm and sometimes called hospitality and even answers to the name of enchantment. It's the difference in the home that concerns itself merely the physical needs of the family and the one that ministers also to the spirit. Really it's a quality that hasn't a name, that you can't really define and could never buy. But you know, as soon as you enter a house, whether it's there. And the art of living describes it as nearly as it can be put into words perhaps. We do know that Eleanor's home has it—and that is the nicest thing we could say about her.

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