



PLEASANT HOMES

by Elizabeth MacRea Boykin

MODERN ROOMS FOR MODERN BABIES

Plastic Furniture in Streamlined Designs Does Not Elbow Old Favorite Nursery Rhymes Out of Young Decorations.

It looks as if even babies would eventually be swathed in cellophanes, so completely are we all going over to synthetics and plastics. But where do these clean practical materials fit more properly than in the nursery where pristine freshness is of such vital importance?

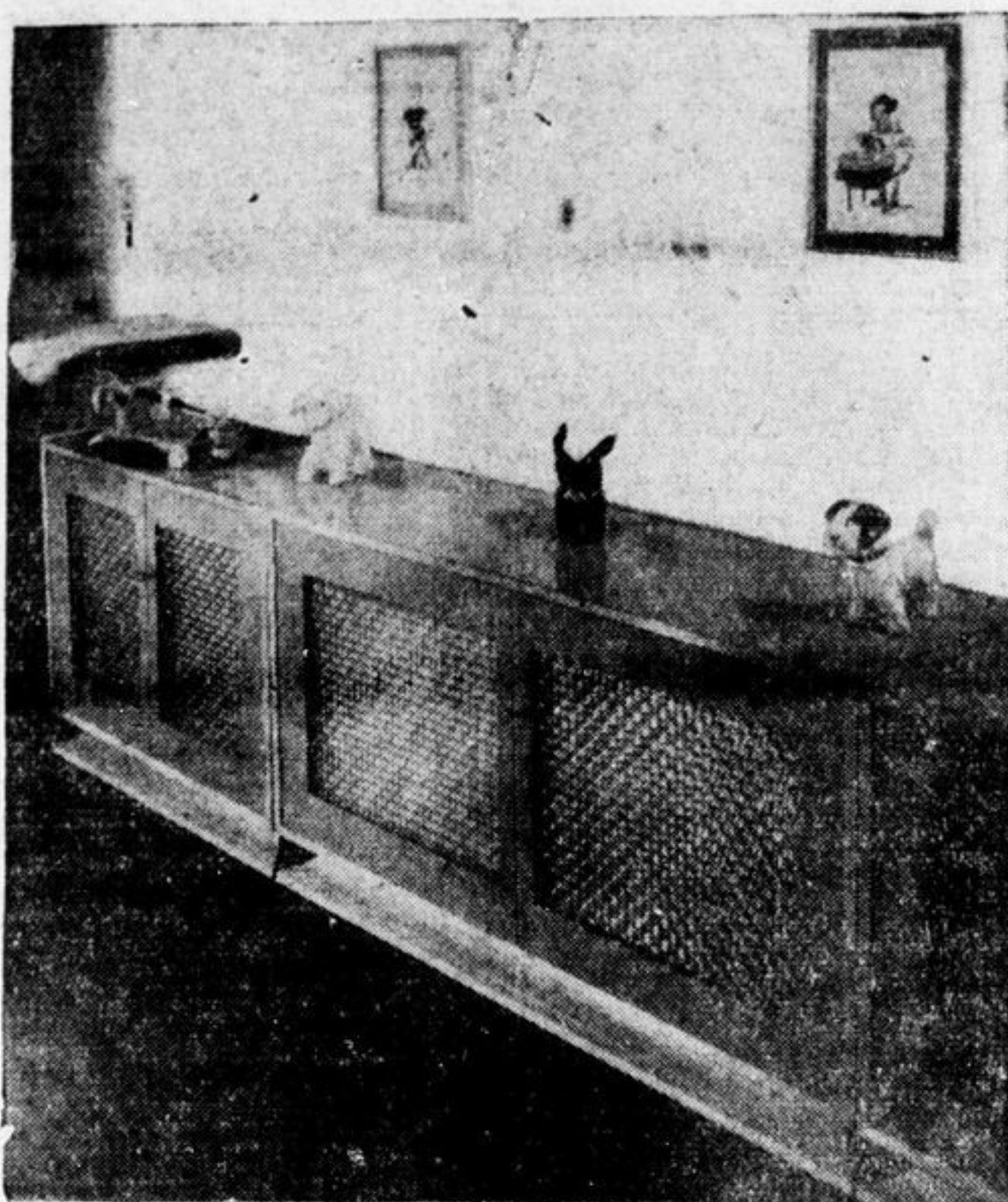
Fragile Mesh

The most modern and incredibly hygienic nursery we've encountered was designed by a brilliant pair of pioneers in plastics—Paul Bry and Jo Kim. And for all that aseptic perfection, the room manages to have charm, too, which is important where babies are concerned. Tenite is the plastic in this case—it is woven into a fragile looking transparent mesh which is used for sides and ends of a very new sort of crib made with barrel hoop ends of bleached walnut with pale blue leatherette trim. Novel also is an arrangement for a sliding cover of clear transparent plastic sheeting that can be pulled up on tracks in the hoops to cover the crib, partly or completely and keep out drafts and dirt.

Chests with woven tenite doors have door frames covered with pale blue leatherette and tops of plastic in pale salmon pink. The floor is covered in a soft blue jasper linoleum with a border of salmon color. Walls are painted in pale blue and specially designed lamps of wrought iron are finished in ivory. Floors, walls and furniture are all washable—the tenite woven panels, despite their delicate lustrous appearance are very strong and durable and dirt resistant as well as washable.

Plastic Veneers

But don't worry if you can't go in for such a combination of fairyland and laboratory. There are many other new and modern things for new and modern children—an important commercial line of nursery furniture has some alluring new pieces with a plastic veneer finish in a linen weave effect—very streamlined and young looking with enamel decorations in blue and red. This group is available with either crib or youth's bed—the latter with a propeller design on the footboard. Also included in the group to add as to the child grows older is a pilot desk with a radio and electric clock built in, a chest with secret compartments, a chair like those on a



These cabinets in a baby's nursery were designed by Paul Bry, with doors of woven tenite, a new transparent plastic material that is washable and wonderfully practical for such use.

transcontinental air liner, a vanity like a stewardess desk.

Curving lines and rounded corners to protect against bumps are features of a group of nursery furniture in pink enamel combined with bleached wood and decorated with plastic medallions. Another pretty new set of very young furniture is finished in white enamel with pink trim and kitten for decoration.

Sweet Dreams

Maple and birch are presented in both modern and colonial designs, and with many new ideas incorporated. A maple colonial crib, for instance, has ladder type ends, while a more modern crib has a cabinet built into one end for convenience. An enamel crib has a cabinet built into one end for convenience. An enamel crib has "Sweet Dreams" spelled in ABC book letters in pastel colors. Maple frame cribs with woven tenite panels are included in one commercial line too.

Many new wall papers are delightfully young in heart, and they're the answer if you want to put your furniture investment on more permanent styles that can be used all through childhood. For enduring grown-up furniture looks gay and babyish against papers with nursery rhyme illustrations for their motifs. Our pet among these is one with Jack climbing beanstalk all the way up the wall. A fantasy of animals and children in delicate shades of blue was inspired by and named for Gertrude Stein's "The World Is Round."

As the child grows older, there is a wall paper border with symbols of

Posters Warned the Britons of Their Fate if Nap. Won

(By D. S. R.)

There was talk of German invasion during the last war and strong defenses were scattered along the east coast of England. Had the Hun attempted it he would have had to deal with Major-General Sir Sam Steele, Canada's veteran of the Mounties who held the eastern command of all troops in the British Isles.

Hitler's threats of to-day inevitably recall Napoleon's elaborate preparations for invading Britain which Nelson by destroying the combined French and Spanish fleets at Trafalgar, in 1805, completely set at naught. In a smaller but no less glorious naval battle with the Italians, Admiral Cunningham has just taken a similar step to thwart the enemy.

In the Bodleian Library at Oxford are stored specimens of the pamphlets and colored prints issued by the government when Britain was threatened with invasion 138 years ago. They reminded Britons how lucky they were to be living in a free country and warned them what would happen if Napoleon overwhelmed England. Here is an example of one of the pamphlets posted up in London in 1803:

Appeal For Volunteers

"For let the poor man know . . . no man can here be confined in prison without trial. The poorest man if he have any ingenuity and ability may rise to the highest ranks of society, and, if necessary, I could point out many who adorn the country, the city, the Parliament . . . I am a poor man myself, but my heart overflows with gratitude toward the noble defenders of their native land . . . Success and victory . . . prays Matthew Bickerstaff, an early servant living in Whitechapel."

One broadsheet appealed to the citizens of London to raise, arm and maintain 100,000 men, recalling that in the days of the Spanish armada the city had supplied just over 10,000 volunteers. In 1803 England, Scotland and Wales had a combined population of less than 12 million and the five million in Ireland were largely disaffected. France at that time with a population of some 28 million had a large standing army. The British regular forces were a mere fragment compared to London's present Home Guards.

Napoleon's Threats

To arouse Britons of what would happen to them under Napoleon one pamphlet says: Men of all parties slaughtered. Children murdered. Trade ruined. Laboring classes thrown out of employment. Famine with all its horrors. Despotism triumphant. Remaining inhabitants carried away to foreign countries.

Our enemy is a cruel unprincipled upstart.

Then Napoleon, who referred scornfully to England as "a nation of shopkeepers," is quoted as having told his soldiers: "They may talk of their safety from the sea that surrounds them . . . their troops can never guard the whole line of their shores; and the people, encumbered with arms which they know not how to use, will fly before us in every direction . . . and every soldier may have an Englishman as his slave."

Another pamphlet tells of Napoleon's preparations at what we now call the "Invasion ports."

By Boats and Balloons

"At Boulogne they have 36 gunboats . . . each carrying 3 pieces of ordnance . . . besides 152 flat-bottomed boats; in 3 weeks' time they expect to have as many more in readiness. At Calais several of the floating batteries are now fitting out and about 70 boats that will carry 150 men each. At Dunkirk there are 47 gunboats with remarkable heavy ordnance, and not less than 200 boats . . . They count on being able to send 400 of these vessels to sea in less

South Africa Takes Its Part in the War Effort

Cape Town and the Cape Peninsula have been intensifying air raid precaution work.

Since the invasion of Holland, South Africa has become the world's chief producer of cut diamonds.

Ivan Walker has been appointed Controller of Labour. His main task will be to enable the Government to arrange an adequate supply of labour for munitions and undertakings essential to war effort.

For the first time in the history of South Africa, howitzers are being made entirely in the Union. During a demonstration, specially constructed porters drove up at high speed and within forty seconds of coming to a standstill, the guns were on the ground and firing.

A chemical preparation which will battle South African troops from infection by Malaria-carrying mosquitoes has been produced by Dr. Botha de Meillon, entomologist of the South African Institute for Medical Research.

North Bay Nugget:—Or as one cannibal said to 'tother cannibal . . . "Sorry, but you're too late for dinner. Everybody's eaten!"

than 3 weeks. At Ostend the gunboats, floating batteries and vessels for carrying soldiers amount to 487. They work here during the whole of the moonlight nights. At Bruges and Ghent they are equally numerous . . ."

Alarming pictures of highly imaginative contraptions were displayed, notes a recent feature article from a correspondent of the Montreal Star in London.

One is a huge raft propelled by paddle wheels which derived their power from windmills.

"This tremendous machine measures 2,500 feet in length and 1,800 feet in breadth. In the middle is a fort . . . The raft is armed . . . with 36 and 48 pounders to the amount of 500 pieces and is intended to carry 50,000 men."

Then there is a print of a fantastic flock of balloons carrying troops across an exceedingly narrow English Channel. Yet another depicts and describes a balloon to carry 3,000 men and costing 300,000 francs to construct!

Truly the artists let their fancy run riot, and one wonders how sane people could swallow such stuff. But the authorities doubtless had it in mind to scare the people into realization that invasion could be a deadly peril.

A "Female" Corps, Too

One pamphlet envisioned a forerunner of the various women's service corps of to-day. It had a plan for a "Female Association for Preserving Liberty and Property" which began:

"We, the consorts, relicts and spinsters of this United Kingdom . . . do hereby engage ourselves for the service of His Majesty King George, to defend him with our tongues and hearts, our eyes, eyelashes, lips, dimples and every other feature. We do further promise and agree to annoy the enemy wherever he shall have the temerity to invade us with all the flames, darts and armor with which nature has so liberally endowed us . . ."

Sir Walter Scott in The Antiquary makes use of one false alarm that the enemy had landed in England. On the evening of February 2nd, 1804, the watchman at Home Castle on the east coast, seeing a distant glow in the sky which proved to have been an accidental fire in Northumberland County, set his beacon aflame. The signal was immediately repeated through the valleys of the English border. Fortunately the watcher at St. Abb's Head, reasoning that bona fide signal would have come along the east coast, instead of from the interior, refrained from lighting a beacon that would have aroused all Scotland.

At the false alarm volunteers and militia flocked to the coast and parties of horsemen. But they never had to face an invasion, and to-day Britain's sea and air fleets are making such plans ever harder for Hitler.

Canadian Soldier Overseas Writes to His Red Cross Mother

Soldiers Appreciate Work of the Red Cross.

In the current issue of The Red Cross Dispatch there appears the following human document—a letter from a Canadian soldier overseas to his Red Cross mother:—

"Hello Mummy! Look where I am now! You never know where you will be next! The M. O. decided that I had better come here as I was still running a temperature. After due consideration he says that I have a small patch of pneumonia in my left lung. So here I am in a comfortable bed with lots of attention and good food.

There are ten officers in this ward, and we certainly represent the Dominion. We've got them from Coast to Coast—Halifax to Vancouver.

Needless to say I haven't much to tell you, but I thought that you and your workers might like to know what use their bed jackets are being made of.

It was a very queer feeling yesterday when the nurse brought me my pyjamas, etc., to actually see these articles being put to use after I had been a spectator at what one may call their birthplace. For I well remember the nights when I cursed you, dear, for asking me to try the blessed things on. I'm not cursing now. At home I used to tease you about the work. Well, Mummy, I won't tease you any more, because I realize what wonderful work you and your workers are doing. If you could join me for an hour here I'm sure you would be more than repaid for all your labors, but as you can't I will have to do my best to describe what goes on.

I know you've heard platitudes from speakers about your wonderful work. Now I'm going to add mine—not platitudes but heartfelt thanks. Because I know how much labour is entailed in the making of one garment. I should know, darn it all—it's all I heard for over a year!

Well, to get down to facts. First of all, I've got a delightful pneumonia jacket, done in tasty baby blue. Really, Mother, you should stamp on each one detailed instructions how to get into the darned things! I wasn't at all clear if it went round the upper or lower part of my anatomy! One word of advice. Sew the tapes on extra firmly; they are always coming off.

Secondly, pyjamas. Yes, you're right. They are swell for most people, but, of course, the pants are about at my calves. But you know what my legs are. They (pyjamas) seem to be standing up well in spite of the fact that they obviously have been nearly washed to extinction.

Thirdly, bed-jackets and Oh! are they warm and comfortable! In fact, they are more than welcome, they are a necessity, for the wards aren't too warm. We have steam heat, but even steam heat seems to be affected by the English climate. It functions, but

only in a half-hearted manner. And do you know that the bed-jacket that I have is of the same material as the one I tried on in your sitting room one night—brown background with red and blue squares.

Lastly, the dressing gown, and believe it or not, it also is of the same material as I tried on, two-toned green. One little suggestion about the dressing gown. I think it is needed here. It would entail no change in cut or anything; just put a button on so they can be done up around the neck.

Well, that's all I myself have, as far as I know. The nine other officers in the ward have the same things. About 500 patients in this hospital and each has the same equipment.

Oh! by the way, I saw a box with the famous box linings today. It was like a glimpse of home, as I was practically married on box linings. They were certainly the bane of my life!

So you women can tell that your work is really wonderful and your efforts have had the only reward you want. They've made things comfortable for thousands of men. You're doing a grand job, my dear. Keep it up!

At present the Radio (presented by Red Cross) is belching forth some very sentimental cowboy music. No wonder the English have some queer ideas about Canada. Outside it is snowing to beat the band and inside it's cold according to our ideas. I've got no my equipment on and am none too warm.

I think Canada should be proud of the women that are over here in the capacity of nurses. They certainly are a marvellous bunch and terribly nice. If you ever hear any criticism, you squash it.

I will really run out of inspiration, so I've close. With all my love.

THE RIGHT WORD.

"I want to be procrastinated at the next corner," said the passenger to the bus conductor.

"You want to be what?" demanded the conductor.

"Don't loose your temper. I had to look in de dictionary myself before I found out dat 'procrastinate' means 'put off.'"—Sudbury Star.

CONSTIPATION A LIFELONG STRUGGLE

Relief Found at Last

With perfect frankness a woman correspondent writes:— "I have suffered from constipation as long as I can remember, and taken all sorts of things—which in some cases seemed to do good at first, but afterwards to have no effect. Then I thought I would try Kruschen in my tea every morning, and I have done so for over a year. I am pleased to say after the first month I had no more trouble with constipation and I have felt very fit."—(Mrs.) G. M. S.

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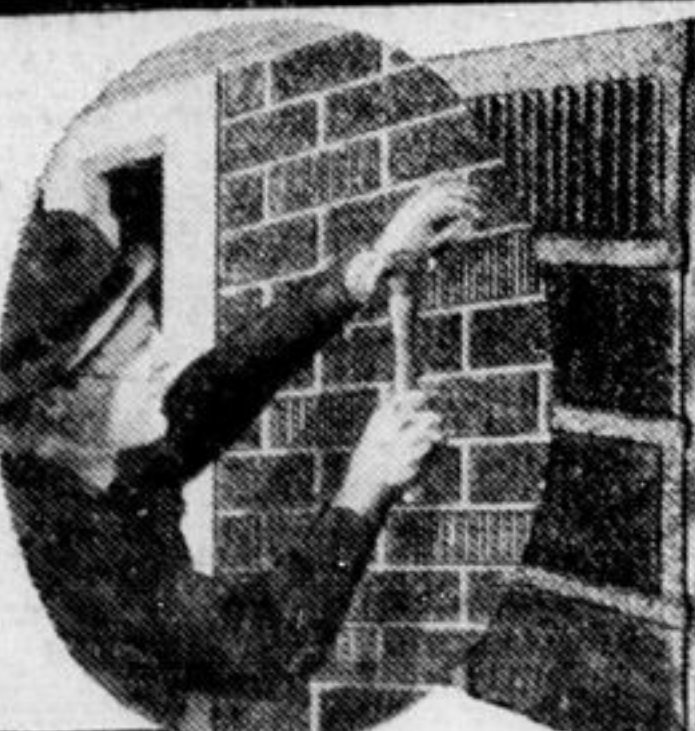
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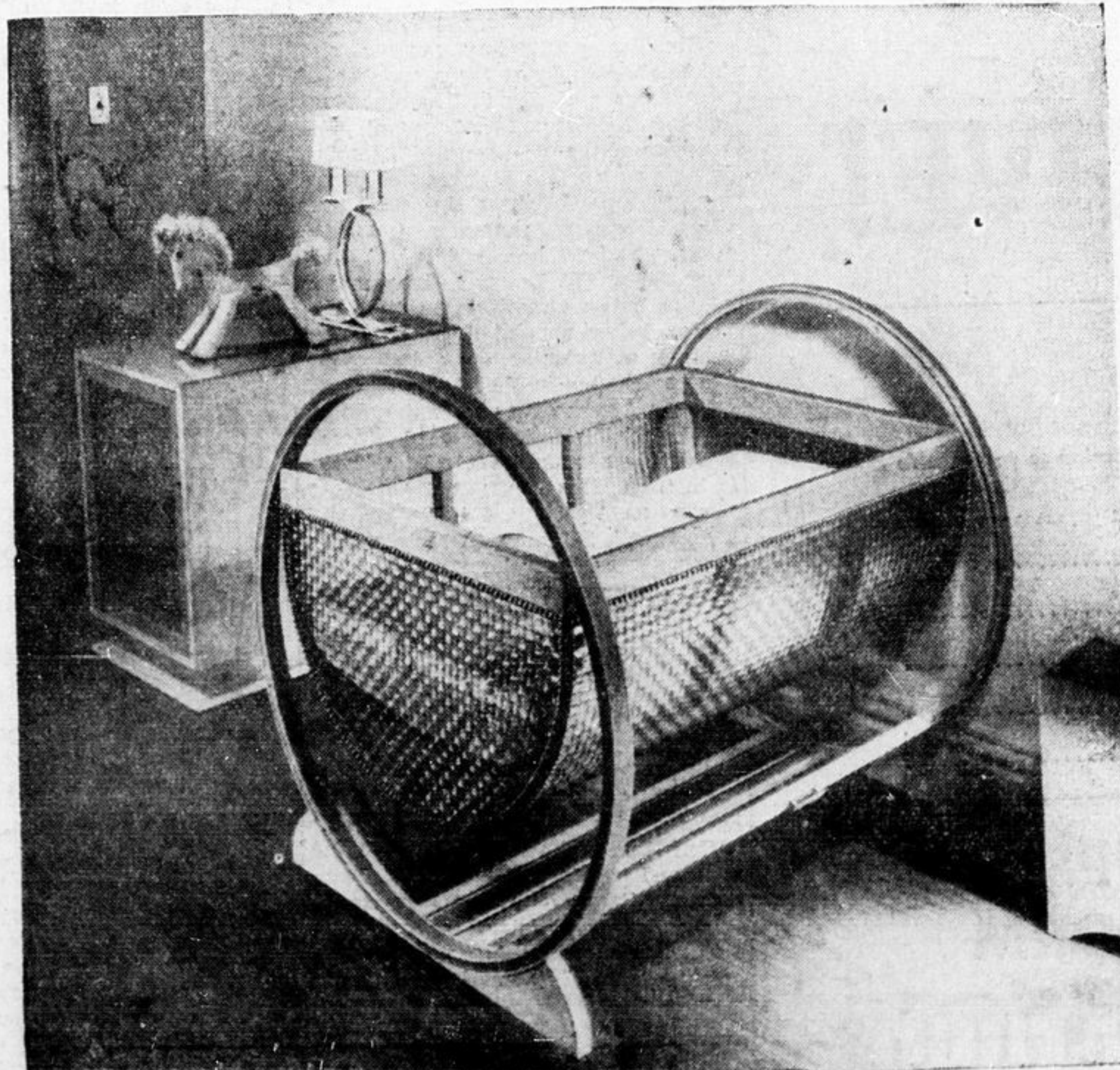
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