



PLEASANT HOMES

by Elizabeth MacRea Boykin

PAINTED FURNITURE FOR INFORMAL ROOMS

Brightly Decorated Furniture for Peasant Designs Suggest Ideas for Casual Rooms. Buy These Pieces "Ready-Made" or Paint Your Own.

What a democratic world we live in—when peasant things are in vogue in smart places and hardly anybody anymore strives for elegance or grandeur. Especially for summer, simple painted furniture looks pleasant and fresh and comfortable to live with. Especially for this summer when we all seek to put our hands on earthy things, on reality, on robust designs for living. Most such things are equally livable for the year around but summer seems to be the time we get inspired to take on such jobs.

The Pennsylvania Dutch Influence
The world has invaded the quiet valleys of the Pennsylvania Dutch peoples to borrow many of their furnishing ideas. Their gay painted motifs enliven many a plain utilitarian piece of furniture and suggest charming ways to do-over old furniture. Besides the possibility of a do-it-yourself paint job, several manufacturers have presented various types of Pennsylvania Dutch chests decorated with hearts and tulips, dough trough side tables with painted flower detail, chairs with painted sprays, plant stands with flower detail, open shelf cupboards with painted fruit medallions, along with wall racks, benches, corner cupboards. The favourite motifs include hearts, tulips, lilies, birds, stars, fruit, intricate penmanship scrolls, hex signs. With this furniture, use plaids and checks and stripes, printed calicos, chintzes and woven goods with documented designs, braided rugs and patch quilts, bright pottery, tinware and pewter and painted glass.

But all painted furniture needn't stem from Pennsylvania—California has given us a delightful and equally native idiom of painted decorations for simple homey furniture—their motifs being adaptations of the early Spanish and Mexican design sources and pleasant to paint on natural wood. Swiss and Tyrolean and Swedish themes are amusing for painted furniture too—it is particularly interesting to decorate your maple or pine or painted pieces with designs that reflect your own racial heritage.

The opera singer, Lotte Lehmann, has painted furniture in her dining room that recalls the charming gaiety



This delightful painted cupboard is set under wide windows in the dining room in the home of Lotte Lehmann, the Metropolitan Opera singer. The cupboard is painted blue with the design in bright colours. The little chairs are in natural wood with perky peasant motifs painted on the backs with the seats covered in a printed cotton.

TALL STORIES

The American and the Irishman were trying to see which could tell the taller story.
Said the American: "Well, I guess this beats everything. I once knew a man in the States who could take a 20-rung ladder into a field, stand it up on end, and then walk up to the top and down again."
"Begorrah, that's nothin' at all," replied Pat, not to be outdone. "O' know a man in O'reiland who can take the same ladder into a field, stand it on end walk up to the top and then pull it up after him."

Kiwanis to Seek United Effort of All Local Groups

Ask that Youth be Given Immediate Training in all Types of National Defence Industries.

Atlanta, June 19.—At the closing session of the 25th annual convention of Kiwanis International here today, 6,000 delegates and members completed plans for aggressive community and service programmes for 1941-42. In over 2175 U.S. and Canadian communities Kiwanians will seek united co-operation of all local groups for national defence and pro-democracy work.

Paired F. Cox, Logansport, Ind., stated that 4 million youth in the U.S. are at present neither in school nor at work. He advocated vocational training for all youth in every type of business and industry allied to national defence.

"The answer to subversive activities" declared Mr. Cox, "is the productive employment of all youth. Adequate vocational guidance is essential, not only to our national defence but to the development of good citizens."
"Vocational guidance is being used to speed up the national defence programme. Youth and others should be placed in proper jobs where their aptitudes make them highly productive," he said.

Spiritual Values Needed
"National unity in the democracies cannot be achieved without moral and religious strength," Rev. Philip E. Auer, of Galion, Ohio, told the convention. It is not enough to gird ourselves with material weapons to withstand the foe. We must also arm ourselves with spiritual values. Without them no nation can endure. We must give primacy to the human and spiritual rather than the material values of life.

"We must be broad minded enough to shelter the many alars of all who seek the guidance of God," he said. "Legislation, mediation and conferences cannot solve social and economic problems without the aid of spiritual and humanitarian values."

Trade Practices
J. C. Jones, Jr., of Thomastown, Ga., explained that no community can rise above the composite character of its citizenry. "Every citizen is either an asset or a liability from the boot-black up to the bank president," he remarked.

Mr. Jones presented a business standards programme which would include the application of the Golden Rule. He said from a long-range business viewpoint the Golden Rule always pays.

"No philosophy has ever improved upon fair dealing. It is the master code for business for all time. It is a law of human relationships which no business or professional man can eliminate."

He urged Kiwanians in their communities to defeat the dishonest use of political power and unfair trade practices.

Vocational Help
"Vocational work in Kiwanis does not attempt to decide for a young person what his life work should be," Mr. Cox explained. "Nor does a club act as an employment bureau. All youths have the opportunity of investigating in Kiwanis as many vocations and professions as they desire, since clubs have members in every type of business and professional enterprise."

"Kiwanians are ready to interview, counsel and help those who have natural talent, ability and who show interest," he stated.

The vocational leader said that over

a thousand clubs are now co-operating with schools in extending guidance services.

Another 1,668 clubs are giving assistance in general educational activities. These include: scholarship and loan funds, legislation for equalization of school taxation, furnishing new equipment, sponsoring the repairing or building of new schools, holding spelling, oratorical and essay contests.

Composite Kiwanian
Kiwanians were asked to demand more effective local safety campaigns. The death toll is heavier in 1941 than ever before, reports revealed.

"There must be greater effort to protect lives, for we are engaged in an all-out defense programme. It makes little difference whether men die in an automobile or a tank. The lives lost represent a terrific toll of man-power and money," said Charles J. Griffin, of Beverly Hills, Calif.

A series of conferences all recommended clubs increase their memberships and interest younger business men in the service organization.

A composite picture of the average Kiwanian was drawn by Dr. A. F. Branton, of Willmar, Minn. "We call him John Q. Kiwanis," said Dr. Branton. "He is 46 years old, has been a Kiwanis for ten years or longer and is either a tradesman engaged in retail business or a professional man, located in a town between 1,000 and 10,000 population."
"He is devoting about ten hours a month to Kiwanis and remained in his club throughout the depression. The greatest appeal Kiwanis has for him is its underprivileged child work. He likes most all the weekly meetings, attending 8 out of every ten."

Clubs were asked to investigate all nearby communities for possibilities of building new clubs. "Fifteen years ago many leaders thought that Kiwanis had reached its final growth when the 1000th club was completed," Earle F. Gardemann, of Salt Lake City, reported. "Since that time nearly 1200 new ones have been chartered. There are those who again believe we have reached the saturation point. This is untrue. Kiwanis continues to have a normal healthy growth. Seventy clubs were organized during the last year."

Criticizes Lack of Air Precaution Work in the North Land

Kirkland Lake Man Thinks Mining Areas Very Vulnerable.

(From Northern News)
"I cannot think what was in the minds of government men in charge of the designation of vulnerable areas when they failed to set aside Northern Ontario points as likely to be subject

to attack," said a prominent Ontario man closely in touch with Air Raid Precaution work during a visit to Kirkland Lake and other Northern Ontario points.

"There should certainly be Air Raid Precaution training centres throughout Northern Ontario, and the necessary equipment to make that training effective," he said.

"In Southern and Eastern Ontario a number of points have been named vulnerable areas and the necessary air raid precaution work, together with the equipment to teach that work, has been made available by government."

"In my recent visit through Northern Ontario I have been struck with the necessity for the creation of similar vulnerable areas here, and the need for the setting up of Air Raid Precaution classes."

"It has been pointed out many times that an enemy airplane carrier, gaining a lodgment in Hudson's Bay, or any place along the northern coastline, could send out planes to attack Canadian industrial centres."

"A hostile fleet of bombers, one bomber, coming down from the north could, flying in almost a straight line, bomb, cripple, if not completely destroy every one of Ontario's great gold producers. Thing what would happen to Hollinger should a hostile bomber drop a bomb right on the Hollinger Cupola. The result almost defies description. Southward of the Porcupine camp comes that of Kirkland Lake and here the mines lie also in a straight line offering an easy target should hostile planes come over."

As to Council Action
"I do think that the various councils of Northern Ontario centres should take the matter up with the Dominion Government and have Northern Ontario points designated as vulnerable and this, in turn, would bring about the sending in of necessary equipment for the teaching of Air Raid Precaution classes."

Blairmore Enterprise: The truth about H. M. S. Malaya, according to Walter Winchell, is that she wasn't torpedoed or bombed—she split her sides laughing at the Italian navy.

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of Austria in other days. The table, chairs and open-shelf cupboards are natural oak with jaunty painted medallions and sprays. A side chest under a window is painted blue with bright flowers while a small breakfast table and chairs are blue too with flower decoration and so is a grandfather clock. The doors of this room are covered with imaginative flowers and scrolls, while a natural wood screen has panels with painted figures in peasant costumes. The curtains and chair seats are in a printed cotton, the rug is a coarsely woven natural color and the walls are cream.

Flowers Growing Up the Wall
A neighbour of Lehmann's is musician Elizabeth Rethberg whose old stone house wanders around on several levels. She has just finished fixing

up a play room in her basement that has made still a different use of painted designs. Here the walls are white with stencilled flowers "growing" up from the baseboard. A carpenter-built cupboard with open shelves is painted bright blue with red moldings and holds a collection of interesting plates and pottery. The floor is bare for dancing, while at one end a round natural wood table and cane seated chairs make a genial spot for talking over coffee or beer.

It doesn't take a professional to achieve a creditable job of furniture painting. On the other hand, you can't expect to splash around carelessly and end up with anything nice. But if you're a careful workman and willing to follow directions, you can embark on a painting spree with confidence. Our bulletin "How to Paint Furniture" will tell you how to do that job. Another bulletin "How to Refinish Hardwoods" has instructions for doing over natural wood grains. Still another bulletin "Designs for Painted Furniture Decoration" includes peasant designs to trace and paint on furniture. Send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for each bulletin desired.

(Released by Consolidated Features, Inc.)

ducks. The revenue from this back-to-nature area is represented by sales of pelts and the fees which hunters pay for the privilege of shooting at wildfowl. Thus was disaster turned to profit.

Besides the swamp area of 1200 acres, there are others that escaped the flood and are still producing wheat, corn, alfalfa and onions. Here about 25 tons of fertilizer are used annually, which gives some idea of the extent of the regular farming operations.

LOT OF WORK SAVED
Aunt (inspecting jumper)—And did my little niece knit this all by herself?
Betty—Yes, auntie, all except the hole you put your head through, and that was there when I started.—Exchange.

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Growing Mint and Raising Muskrats

Farmers with Resourcefulness Turn Misfortune Into Profit.

(By B. Leslie Emslie)

Two striking examples of resourcefulness were encountered recently on farms in south-western Ontario. A farmer of Polish origin is growing 30 acres of peppermint and has already installed equipment for distillation of the oil. Next year the crop will extend to 85 acres, and a second still will be constructed. His father was a veterinary surgeon who used to grow and distill peppermint for his own medicines. That's how the son got the notion. The crop, for which a fertilizer with high potash content was applied, was nicely up at the beginning of May. Four crops will be taken before the field is plowed again.

The other story is of a man whose farm grew bumper crops of corn and alfalfa prior to 1929 and had been tilled drained at great cost. Then Lake St. Clair overflowed in a tremendous flood which submerged the farm land. Efforts to reclaim the land from the waters proved unavailing, so this man decided it was futile to buck nature and he would co-operate with her. The once fertile farm is now a swamp, growing bullrushes instead of alfalfa, but stocked with muskrats and wild

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