



PLEASANT HOMES

by Elizabeth MacRea Boykin

OUR NEW YEAR'S WISHES AND RESOLUTIONS MEAN SOMETHING THIS TIME.

Appropriate Celebrations for This Year are Friendly Family Affairs—Patriotic Motifs Will be Popular—Allied Flags for Decorations.



Little golden angels blowing the New Year in set the theme for Ilka Chase's punchbowl party. Decorative and gay are the yellow crepe paper skirted horns mounted on the greenery wreathing made of laurel and pine. The chaste simplicity of Miss Chase's Steuben glass punchbowl and cups is counteracted by the elegance of the exquisite candelabra and the ornately carved sideboard. Silver shell plates of cookies and nuts and two colourful pottery fish complete the arrangement.

We approach the New Year of 1942 with trepidation and with far more important and heart-felt wishes for the coming year than in other peaceful times. Some of us approach this usually festive holiday with the feeling that perhaps we haven't the right to celebrate when all over the world people are suffering, when even our own country is engaged in war. True enough, we don't have the right to celebrate in the old gay carefree ways. But never has the fellowship of friends and relations mattered so much as in these grim and threatening days, and so it is right and proper for us to reach out this New Year season and touch hands in hope and dedication and unity.

All-Age Parties
The kind of celebrating we do this New Year will have a simple friendly human quality—with few airs and little la-de-da. We will have more all-age parties with the whole family invited... more old-time suppers where everybody sits down around a big tureen platter of something steaming and fragrant... more spur-of-the-moment affairs occasioned by friends who dropped in for a minute and were urged to stay on... more hilarious game parties around a ping-pong table or a Chinese checker board. In line with the homey mood of this New Year's entertaining is a party with musical toys from the five and ten as the theme. If you're ingenious and energetic, make a to-the-floor tablecloth for that old round table... make it of light green percale or tartan

applied with horns, harps, violins, drums of figured percale. Or if you don't want to bother with sewing, get the actual toys and hang them down from the top of the table with ribbon of different colours. Have several giant size candles set on a toy drum for the centrepiece, surrounded by noise maker souvenirs for the various guests. Napkins of striped cotton, plates of different coloured pottery, a simple menu of apple cobbler with hard sauce and cider, and there you are.

All American
A geographic evening would certainly be timely—have maps for place mats, a globe for a centrepiece. Serve Boston baked beans, Virginia ham, or California fresh vegetable platter with Wisconsin cheese dressing, Texas grapefruit juice—then for good neighborliness, a steaming pot of Brazilian coffee.

An air-minded evening would start with a white tablecloth banded with blue and red stripes of air mail envelopes, a big toy airplane centrepiece, small American flags flying at each place, a menu of white frosted cake and raspberry ice, served on blue plates. An Allied evening would be interesting too—decorate with flags of all our Allies—have guessing contests with prizes for those who can recognize the most. Some geographic games would be apropos too—with prizes for those who can locate on a large wall map the most places in the news. A spelling bee with military terms, strategic cities, officers' names and such like would be a good idea too. For the table have various small flags for the centrepiece, the place-mats made of maps of different Allied countries. The menu could be cosmopolitan too—with some speciality of one of our Allies... English roast beef and Yorkshire pudding... or Mexican chile con carne... or Russian borsch.

An old-time country supper would be different if you served it on a long boat-shaped set on saw horses and lighted with kerosene lamps. For the menu, why not have ham and eggs, hot biscuits, apple pie and coffee. Or else baked beans, brown bread and buttermilk. For New Year's eve, you might decorate entirely with evergreens, gold ribbons and big white balloons. Then serve a fine white fruit cake with cafe

diabie... you make it dramatically in a silver bowl in which are placed orange rind, a cinnamon stick, sugar, brandy... turn off all the lights and light the brandy and let the blue flame bubble and blaze with its very blue light. When it's burned down, add the coffee and the result is a mighty nectar!

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Sister of Mrs. A. J. Shragge Passes at Montreal

Third Member of Bilsky Family to Die Within Year

Mrs. A. W. Jacobs, sister of Mrs. A. J. Shragge, of Timmins, and member of one of Ottawa's leading Jewish families, died suddenly in Montreal on Sunday, December 14th.

The former Gertrude (Beck) Bilsky, Mrs. Jacobs was the third member of the Bilsky family to be taken by death within the past year. Her sister, Mrs. A. J. Freiman, O.B.E., died last fall and her brother, Samuel Bilsky, a popular figure in sport and business circles of the Capital for many years, predeceased her in July of this year.

Born in Ottawa, Mrs. Jacobs was the daughter of Moses Bilsky, founder of the Ottawa Jewish community, and the former Pauline Reich. Carrying on the tradition of the Bilsky family, she was very active in philanthropic and social welfare work for the Jewish people both in Ottawa and after her marriage in Montreal.

Surviving are her husband, two daughters, Hannah and Wyima, both of Montreal; four brothers, Alexander M. Bilsky, New York; Jack Bilsky, Ottawa; David Bilsky, New York; three sisters, Mrs. Allan Bronfman, Montreal; Mrs. A. J. Shragge, Timmins; and Miss Eva Bilsky, of Ottawa, and several nieces and nephews.

The funeral service was held at her late residence, 5010 Sherbrooke street west, Montreal, last week, and burial was made in the family plot at Adath Jeshurun cemetery, Metcalfe Road, Ottawa.

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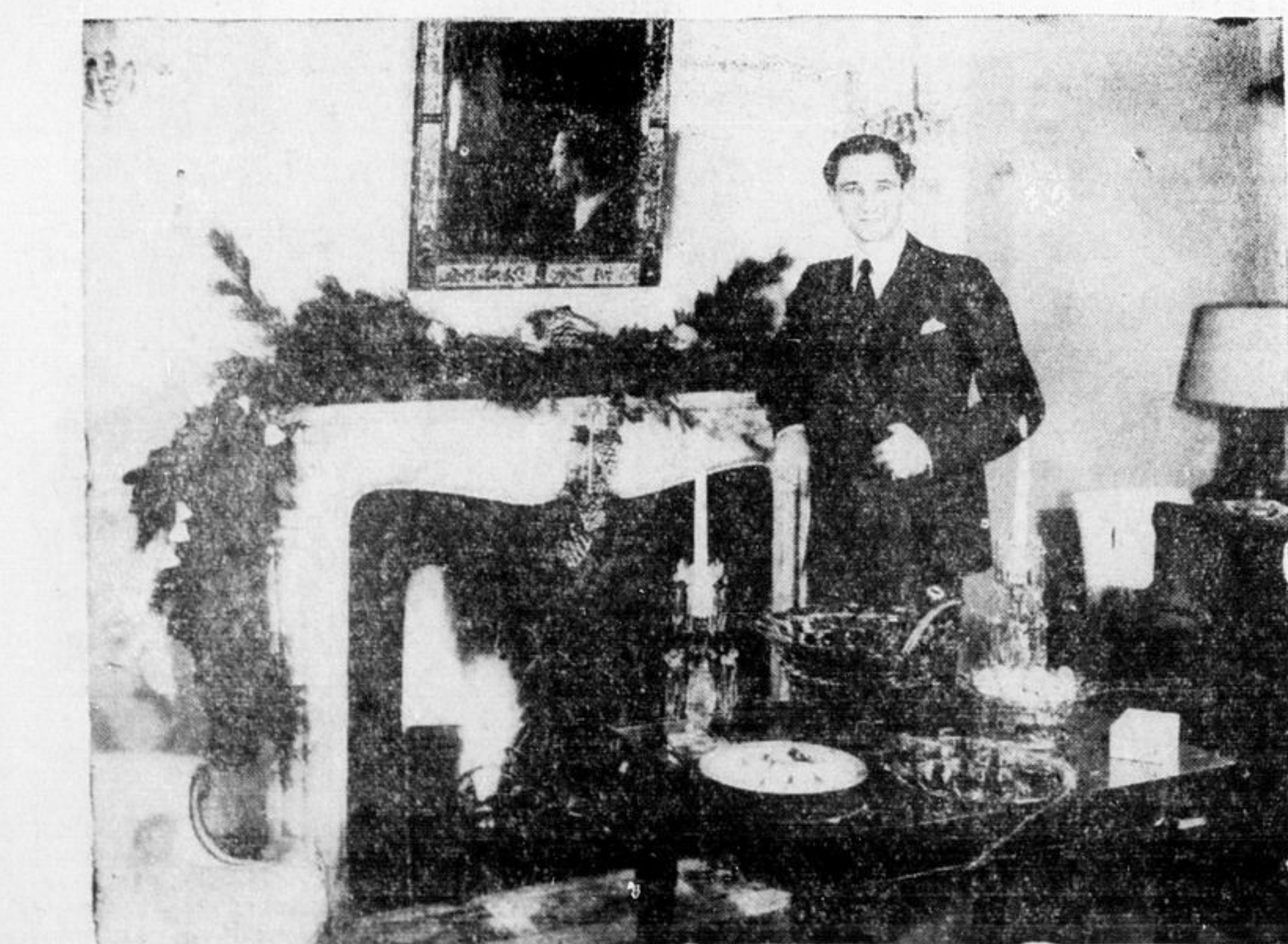
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WHY? DAD!
A good example of one of those questions grasped out of thin air by the family's young hopeful and then tossed at an unsuspecting parent is the following:
"Dad, why do you wind up a business when you want it to stop?"—Northern Tribune.

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The New Year is ushered into the New York home of Prince George Chavohavazde noted Russian concert pianist on a gay and festive note. Merry bells and pine cones adorn the greenery of laurel and pine, which encase the white marble fireplace. Punchbowl, cups and candleholders of cut glass, a platter of crunchy cookies and a bowl of walnuts, add to the merriment of the occasion, while a fog fire leads warmth to the Chavohavazde setting.