

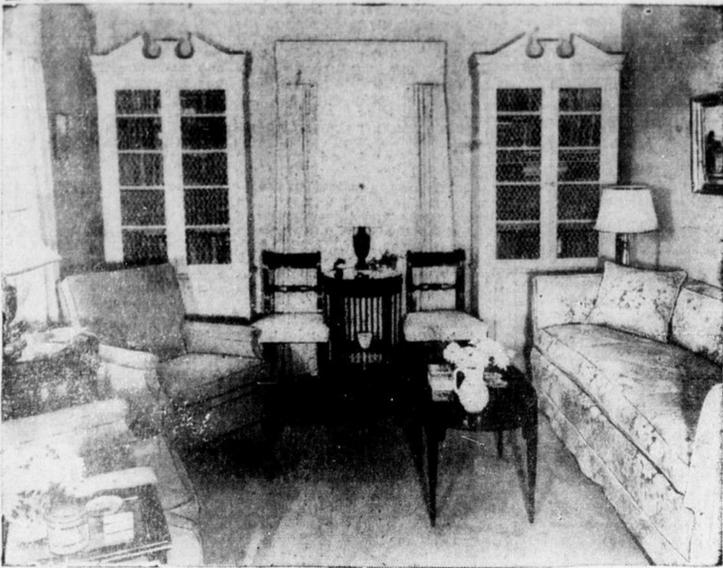


PLEASANT HOMES

by Elizabeth MacRea Boykin

NO MARGIN FOR ERROR

To-day's Decorating is Down to Earth and Can't Afford Mistakes—Here Are Ideas for Furnishing or Refurbishing on a Defense Budget.



This small room was made enormously comfortable by skillful arrangement of furniture and the subtle use of colour. Walls and cabinets were painted in a light pink-beige. The rug is also beige as is the background of the chintz on the sofa and the unhoisted chairs. The draperies are in pale gold and there are flecks of gold and rusty red in the flowers of the chintz. Other chairs in the room are in rust-red and olive green. This photograph was taken in the home of Millicent Jones Ayres.

With everybody seriously digging in for the duration, the idea of budgets and budget furnishings becomes more than a casual gesture... it becomes a necessity. For not only will the war burden cut into our incomes, but it will make all consumer goods scarce, and we will have to be ingenious and resourceful about making the most of what we have, doing over, pinch hitting. That takes a good deal of skill, decoratively speaking... more skill than casually ordering whatever you need and not counting the cost. But it's interesting and challenging... and recalls some of that old gusto of homemaking in the pioneer days when women had to make do or else do without. There are several tricks the decorators turn to when they're confronted with this problem.

One Colour Rooms
Colour cards up your sleeve—Whether you have make-shifts or antique treasures in furniture, the main effect will depend upon colour. In a small house the colour is particularly important... a very pleasant effect can be achieved by painting all the walls the same colour from front entry straight through to the kitchen and if possible have the floors covered in this same shade too. For instance, very pale blue walls throughout with high blue broadloom in living room and dining room, blue rag rugs in the bedrooms and blue linoleum in the kitchen would be restful and charming; curtains could be all crisp and white and muslin with slip covers and spreads in flowered cretonne with a pale blue ground and accessories in scarlet or wine. Another one colour small house could be done all in beige from tip to toe—beige walls, beige floors, beige curtains, then upholstery in shades of olive green and tangerine and accessories in brass or copper. What a background for a brunette! Or consider a small house with all walls in pale green, all floors in light green, then sheer curtains of sunny yellow, furniture coverings in yellows and rusts and flashes of pure white for accessories.

Paper Patterns—Wall paper seems all but magic in creating effects in decorating. Especially when the budget is limited, it can be relied upon to so a long way toward "furnishing" a room that actually has too little in it.

Many charming papers are in the expensive books... try repeating the design on your walls elsewhere in the room. You can use motifs or borders from the wall paper as decoration for a chest, table or cabinet... some decorators cover small end table chests entirely with wall paper, shellacking over to give the surface a permanent finish.

Colour tables with wall papered tops are smart if you give them several coats of shellac or else cover with glass. You can make headboards for studio couches out of plywood and cover them with wall paper, and lamp shades of pleated wall paper are gay—so are lamp shades decorated with motifs cut from wall paper. Home-made screens covered with wall paper help furnish a budget room smartly. And don't forget the idea of wall paper borders for window cornices or to outline the windows even in a room with plain papered walls—sometimes this treatment will give the effect or finish of draperies to the window with only sheer curtains.

The Simplest Recipe
Chintz Cure—In many ways we think a bolt of chintz and a sewing machine is the simplest recipe we know for changing the scene. That involves no outside workmen, no basic changes and yet it can create a completely new feeling in the whole house. So don't worry too much if the old furniture has to stay—if the old rugs are drab—if the walls are uninteresting. Envelope all the chairs and sofas in flowered chintz (or cretonne or sateen)... make flowered curtains and flowered lamp shades and even flowered mats from framed photographs.

Cosmopolitan
Argument for Accessories—If your furniture is average but you'd like your home to seem fastidious, cosmopolitan, sophisticated, here is the prescription: put the allotment for new purchases on exquisite bibelots, on fine lamps, on good pictures, on distinguished bits of porcelain. They are what will set your home apart, give it individuality and distinction.

In planning to furnish or refurbish on a budget, there are several things to remember—first of all put the absolute essentials first in your list, then if there's anything left for extra's that's just grand. But you have to have

comfortable places to sit and some lamps in the living room. You must have a dining table and chairs. You can't make out without a bed and a chest of drawers. You'll want rugs, curtains, some sort of a desk, occasional tables, mirrors, book cases. Check those items off the list before you invest in mirrored waste baskets or marabout lamp shades. And have clearly in mind the sort of a home you want yours to be... not so huge but friendly and intimate not cluttered up, but pleasantly complete. Not freakishly different but definitely individual. The way to have this sort of a home—without spending a fortune—is to buy everything to fit into a plan for the finished whole—and never, cross your heart, fall for something and buy on an impulse. (Released by Consolidated News Features, Inc.)

Pte. Geoffrey Morris Has Three Days' Leave Here

The many friends of Pte. Geoffrey Morris were more than pleased to greet him during a brief three-day visit home from Christie Street hospital, Toronto. Geoffrey looks very fit, but unfortunately his leg is still under treatment. It is hoped, however, that he will soon be sufficiently recovered to permit of him returning home and back into civilian occupation. During his 15-month stay in the hospital he has had the best of care and attention and speaks most highly of the doctors, nurses and orderlies who have attended him. Geoffrey Morris returned on Saturday last to undergo his final treatments. All wish him a speedy return and complete recovery.

Taylor Hardware Give Bonuses to Employees

Following their usual custom, the George Taylor Hardware Company and subsidiary organizations, gave generous Christmas bonuses to every employee in the organization this year. The only change that was made in the distribution of the bonuses this year was that each employee was given fifty percent of the bonus in cash and the remainder in War Savings Certificates.

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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.



Built-in bookcases and deeply comfortable upholstered furniture in tomato reds give this small old brass and copper. This photograph was taken in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Cullman.