



PLEASANT HOMES

by Elizabeth MacRea Boykin

THE DUTCH INFLUENCE ON AMERICAN HOMES
From Holland Have Come Many of our Customs, Much of Our Furniture and Some of our Staunchest Stock.



Marquetry for furniture decoration was a famous art in Holland in the 16th and 17th centuries, and these dining room pieces, original Dutch antiques owned by Elizabeth Rothberg of the Metropolitan Opera, show clearly the Dutch influence on later Queen Anne styles so widely copied in America.

(By Elizabeth MacRea Boykin)

The time was just this last summer. The lady went into a drug store in a small New England town and bought a sponge. Then she visited a grocer's and bought some soap powders and a broom. The fact that the lady was Queen of the Netherlands, exiled by Nazi aggression, yet carrying on a great housewife tradition, explains somewhat the strength and invincibility of this little nation which has influenced our American way of life more than we realize.

Early Dutch Settlers

The broad down-to-earth thread of comfortable clean homemaking that so predominates our own scene can be traced to those hardy Dutchmen who followed the doughty Hendrik Hudson to these shores in early Colonial times. The Dutch made New York the cosmopolitan center of eastern life with religious freedom, 13 languages spoken, sturdy brick architecture . . . yes, and even Santa Claus found his way into our life from the Dutch in the New York colony. Even the traditional moving day (May 1) in many cities goes back to a yearly celebration by the early Dutch colonists, annually observing the move of the residents of a town called Communipaw into New Amsterdam. And periodic house-cleanings? The Dutch housewives had what they called "quarterly clothes-washings" . . . and a general chase for dirt these were too!

The pattern of home and the love of it figures large in Dutch history, both in politics and art. When the English people discarded the over-bearing Stuarts in 1688, William of Orange and his English Queen Mary brought a homely domestic theme into English court. Court intrigue and behind-door romances went out of style, along with massive English oak furniture which was replaced by walnut pieces in the Dutch manner. This new style, called "William and Mary" to this day and still in use, was smaller in scale, more livable and comfortable than anything England had had before. Smaller more-

intimate and comfortable rooms took precedence over large drafty "halls" formerly the fashion.

Queen Mary and her ladies were great ones for needlework, for "fixing things up", for tending to their home chores. They liked lower ceilings and they liked their colours warm. The Dutch liked upholstery, introducing this comfort-making addition to English furniture. The Dutch were smart explorers too; instead of wanting the world they concentrated their holdings in the East Indies, thus creating a world empire unchallenged until today. They brought back exotic motifs from the far east to liven their homes—not, you understand, in the chi-chi French fashion but as pleasant warm additions to their domestic comfort. They were creating a way of living that has set a standard we like in America to this day.

Dutch Painting

The 16th and 17th centuries were great ones for the Dutch. Big names were starred in their civilization—Rembrandt, Spinoza and a host of others. The Renaissance had hit Holland with a bang-leaving in its wake the Dutch School of painting, its appeal based on its warm expansive meticulous portrayal of simple Dutch home-life. No fancy theorists were the Dutch painters but they created great art because they painted the things, places and people they knew—and loved. In much the same heart warming fashion did Dutch artisans join the ranks of the finest of the world's cabinet-makers, silversmiths and potters.

Good Queen Anne, who followed William and Mary on the English throne, was a collector for her home—she liked Chinese bibelots and porcelain and she demanded suitable open-faced cupboards to show off her collections. In fact most of the furniture we know as Queen Anne reflected the Dutch influence and the "china mania" for collecting and displaying china plates and ornaments, which was to run all the way through England's 18th century England had had before. Smaller more-

hions had started in Holland as a result first of the fine eastern porcelains brought to the continent by the Dutch trading ships and later by the fine porcelain made at Delft and other Dutch cities.

Conversational Contributions

For the Dutch influence in the United States is not confined to New York and Michigan (where they settled in the 19th century). In almost any home and in practically every conversation the influence can be traced. Double-doors, brick homes, over-hanging eaves are part and parcel of American architecture . . . picture books for children were first created in 17th century Holland . . . our hooded bassinettes are modern versions of the deep-hooded Dutch cradles . . . when we call our front porch a "stoop" we are using a clearly loved Dutch word. Coloured Easter eggs . . . golf (from the Dutch word "kolf" meaning club) . . . crullers . . . public markets and fairs . . . tulips . . . and many of our most-loved Christmas traditions were introduced by the Dutch, and of course we have the Dutch to thank for bowling, the game which has the greatest public following in our country today.

All in all, for such a small country, Holland has exerted a mighty lot of influence here in America. We can thank the Dutch not only for our "spick and span" tradition but for the expression itself—spick meaning a nail and span a new board, thus signifying anything that has the appearance of freshness and cleanliness. This comfortable honest emphasis on the good home life we cherish so highly these days is the reflection of the Dutch tradition of life—peace, good food, family fun, warmth and cleanliness. In other words, you can't beat the Dutch!

But—don't confuse the Holland Dutch with the popularly termed Pennsylvania Dutch who were really Germans!

(Released by Consolidated News Features, Inc.)

Delightful Shower Thursday Evening for Local Lady

Mrs. Ed. Belanger Guest at Shower, Hostess Being Mrs. Edmunds and Mrs. Belanger.

Mrs. Edward Belanger was guest-of-honour on Thursday evening, at a delightful shower held at her home at 161 Tamarack street, hostess being Mrs. Margaret Edmunds, and Mrs. J. Belanger.

During the evening, bingo was played, prize winners being, 1st. Mrs. Aldege Belanger; 2nd. Mrs. G. Stebbins; 3rd. Mrs. George Whitford. The door prize was won by Mrs. Delphise Belanger.

At the close of the evening, the honoree was presented with many nice gifts, from the guests present. Lunch was served by the hostess, Mrs. Margaret Edmunds, Mrs. J. Belanger, assisted by Mrs. W. J. Doyle.

Those present were Mrs. Delphise Belanger, Mrs. George Whitford, Mrs. Celestine Stack, Mrs. Aldege Belanger, Mrs. Lornie Gauthier, Mrs. Wilfred Gauthier, Mrs. Joe Tremblay, Mrs. G. Stebbins, Mrs. Bertha O'Brien, Mrs. Leo Guinard, Mrs. W. J. Doyle, Mrs. Leo Perron, Mrs. Electa McBride, Mrs. Louise Stubinski, the guest of honour, Mrs. Edward Belanger and the hostess, Mrs. Margaret Edmunds and Mrs. J. Belanger.

Mrs. Frank Gosse in was unable to be present but sent a gift.

North Bay Nugget—The Fuehrer's latest photo's disclose he is in poor health. Maybe the guy needs a rest, some good food and a change of intuition!

Health League of Canada Advocates Vegetable Gardens

Predicts Probable Scarcity of Vegetables in Canada Unless This is Done.

The launching of a national campaign to promote the growing of vegetables by non-commercial individuals and groups is announced by the Health League of Canada. It is the intention of the League to awaken Canadian citizens from coast to coast to the need for increased vegetable growing in 1943.

It is pointed out that there will in all probability, be a scarcity of certain commercially grown vegetables in Canada this year. The reasons for this are:

1. The export of large quantities of processed vegetables to our overseas

forces and to the people of the United Kingdom.

2. A decline in commercial growing due to labor shortage and transportation problems.

One answer to the problem, says the Health League, is the home vegetable garden. That part of the population living in rural sections will probably continue to grow their own vegetables. City dwellers, however, are urged to put their backyards to good use by planting vegetables this year. By so doing they will relieve any possible shortage, as well as gain a fascinating hobby.

The Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. J. G. Gardiner, states: "We of this Department fully endorse the encouragement of backyard and community gardens in 1943, and have already communicated with provincial departments of agriculture suggesting that encouragement be given to such projects this year."

Provincial Department of Agriculture, Education and Health have expressed their endorsement of this campaign.

TEN YEARS AGO IN TIMMINS

From data in the Porcupine Advance Files

The E. Patrick's tea and sale of home cooking, held on Saturday, March 18th, 1933, in the basement of the church by the Ladies' Aid of the Timmins United Church, proved a very pleasing success. The hall was especially decorated in honour of Ireland and St. Patrick and the work of decoration was done with artistic skill and effectiveness. Attractive home baking was for sale and found ready acceptance by the many attending the event. The afternoon tea was a very pleasing feature of the occasion and was greatly enjoyed by all attending.

The meeting of the Kiwanis Club ten years ago was an evening success. And it was "Irish Night." It proved one of the best meetings of the club that year. President Reg. Smith was in the chair and there was something of interest and enjoyment every minute of the event. Ken Fitzpatrick and Karl Eyre were the committee in charge of the programme for the night, and they certainly made a happy success of "Irish Night."

There were many musical numbers presented during the evening and many funny Irish stories. Guest speaker was Dr. Hare, a visitor, of Dr. Moore, and another guest for the evening, was Mr. Gene Colombo, who favoured the gathering with a solo.

The selection of Balmer Neilly B.A., Sc. M.E., as president of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, was announced ten years ago. He succeeded Dr. John A. Allen, Ph.D., Professor of Geology at the University of Alberta, whose year of office expired with the annual convention held in Toronto in April of 1933. Mr. Neilly graduated from the University of Toronto in 1908 with a B.A. Sc. degree followed in 1912 with an M.E. degree. Since that time he had been intimately connected with Ontario mining activities, first in Cobalt and later as secretary of the Ontario Mining Association. In 1924 he was appointed assistant to the president and the treasurer of McIntyre-Porcupine Mines, which position he had since held.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of Trinity United Church held a very successful St. Patrick's birthday party in the church basement on March 17th, 1933. Mr. and Mrs. Huxley and their pupils gave a splendid musical programme, every item of which was appreciated by the large crowd present. At the conclusion of the programme there were potato races for children and adults, these providing hilarious entertainment for both participants and onlookers. Prizes were won as follows:— ladies' race, Mrs. C. Brown; gentlemen's race, J. Heywood; girls' race, Maisie Eldridge; boy's race, Stirling Heywood. The ladies served sandwiches and cake and a most enjoyable evening was spent by all present.

On Wednesday evening, March 22nd, 1933, R.W. Bro. H. E. Tommey, of Cobalt, paid his official visit as District Deputy Grand Master to Golden Beaver Lodge A.F. & A.M., Timmins. There were a number of other visitors for the evening and the event proved a most interesting one. After the meeting upstairs the brethren retired to the banquet hall where a repast was enjoyed as well as a programme of much interest. After the menu had been attended to, the toastmaster, W. Bro. J. Goodman, called the toast to the King, to which loyal response was made in the singing of the National Anthem.

In the Advance issue of March 23rd, 1933, there was an interesting column: "Some counterfeit 50 cent pieces have turned up in town during the past few days and this week the police warned all business men to be on the lookout for these bogus coins to prevent any general passing of these counterfeits. They are easy to detect being of too white and oily appearance. They are also light in weight and do not ring true. No one used to watching their change will be taken in by this counterfeit coin. It is made of rabbit-metal and is soft enough to be tested by the teeth, being easily dented. The design of the counterfeit is apparently the same as on the genuine coin but it is poorly finished and indistinct. Apparently somebody has made an attempt to get some of these coins in circulation in Timmins, but no serious success had been met with in this. A keen-eyed young lady in one of the stores in town caught one of the bogus fifty cent pieces and turned it back to the lady who gave it. This lady had just received it in change from one of the banks. As soon as the bank knew of this the police were informed and the general warning against the bogus coins

was sent out. The police are working in the matter in the hope that it may be possible to locate the source of these counterfeit coins before they get any particular circulation.

Wide circles of friends in town and district deeply regret the death of William George James, who passed away on Friday, March 17th, 1933, in St. Mary's hospital, Timmins, after a comparatively brief illness, being sick only about eight days. The late Mr. James, who resided at 14 Main avenue, was for six years in the Vipond mill as an operator. He had lived in Timmins for several years and made wide circles of friends and was held in the highest esteem by all who knew him. The deepest sympathy was extended to the bereaved widow and three sons in their loss.

Among the local and personal items in The Advance ten years ago were the following: "Sam Bucovetsky, of Timmins, was a guest at the Mount Royal hotel, Montreal, last week." "Hugh Train, of the Imperial Bank staff, is holidaying in Lindsay." "Mrs. A. J. Murphy, of Haileybury, visited her son, Jack, in South Porcupine last week." "Mr. and Mrs. John Dalton returned this week from a visit to Florida and other points south." "Born in Timmins, Ont., on Wednesday, March 15th, 1933, to Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Doodridge—a son (Ernest Clyde)." "Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Brown, of St. Catharines, Ont., were visitors to friends in town last week." "Norman Pearce, of the Northern Miner, Toronto, was a Timmins visitor last week and paid a fraternal call on The Advance." "Mrs. Ethel M.

These days, when tea must yield the utmost in flavour, quality is of supreme importance.

"SALADA" TEA

Bride of This Week Honoured at Shower on Thursday

Miss Ann McPherson Married Monday at Church of Nativity.

Miss Ann McPherson, bride of this week, was guest of honour last Thursday evening, at a personal shower at the home of Miss "Cappy" Lang, 113 Tamarack street.

Keene, Vice-President of the Rebekah Assembly of Ontario, left on Wednesday for Toronto, where she will attend the executive meeting of the Rebekah Assembly.

A pleasant evening was spent Miss Jean Murtagh rendering many fine piano solos, and the guests joining in on a sing-song.

The gifts were wheeled in on a tea wagon, and presented to the honoree, who immediately opened them.

A dainty lunch was served at the close of the evening, by the hostess, with the mother of the bride, Mrs. David Fox, pouring the tea.

Those present were Misses Jean Sweeney, Claire Sweeney, May Andrews, Frances Hogan, Jean Murtagh, Lillian Mascioli, Gladys Carr, Eileen Perreault, Mary Cotnam, Evelyn Mousseau, Agnes Evans, Carmel Fox, Mrs. Eldon Keon, Mrs. Greg Evans, Mrs. L. Redford, Mrs. David Fox, Mrs. A. W. Lang, Miss Ann McPherson, and Miss "Cappy" Lang. Miss Annabelle Lang was unable to attend but sent a gift.



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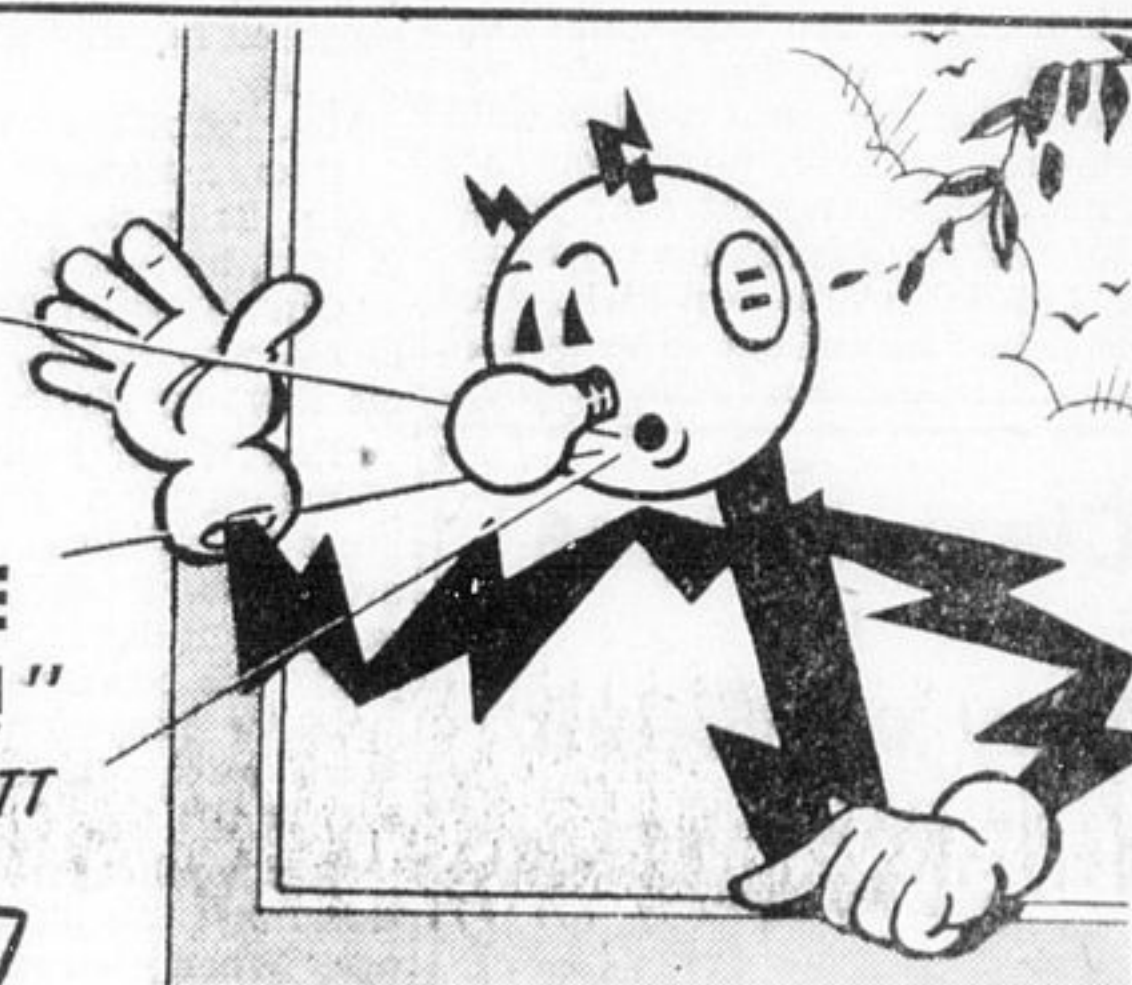


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...IT COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED!"

Says REDDY KILOWATT



IS YOUR IRON ON THE SHELF?

A little attention now will save you time and trouble later. If it won't work, have it repaired.



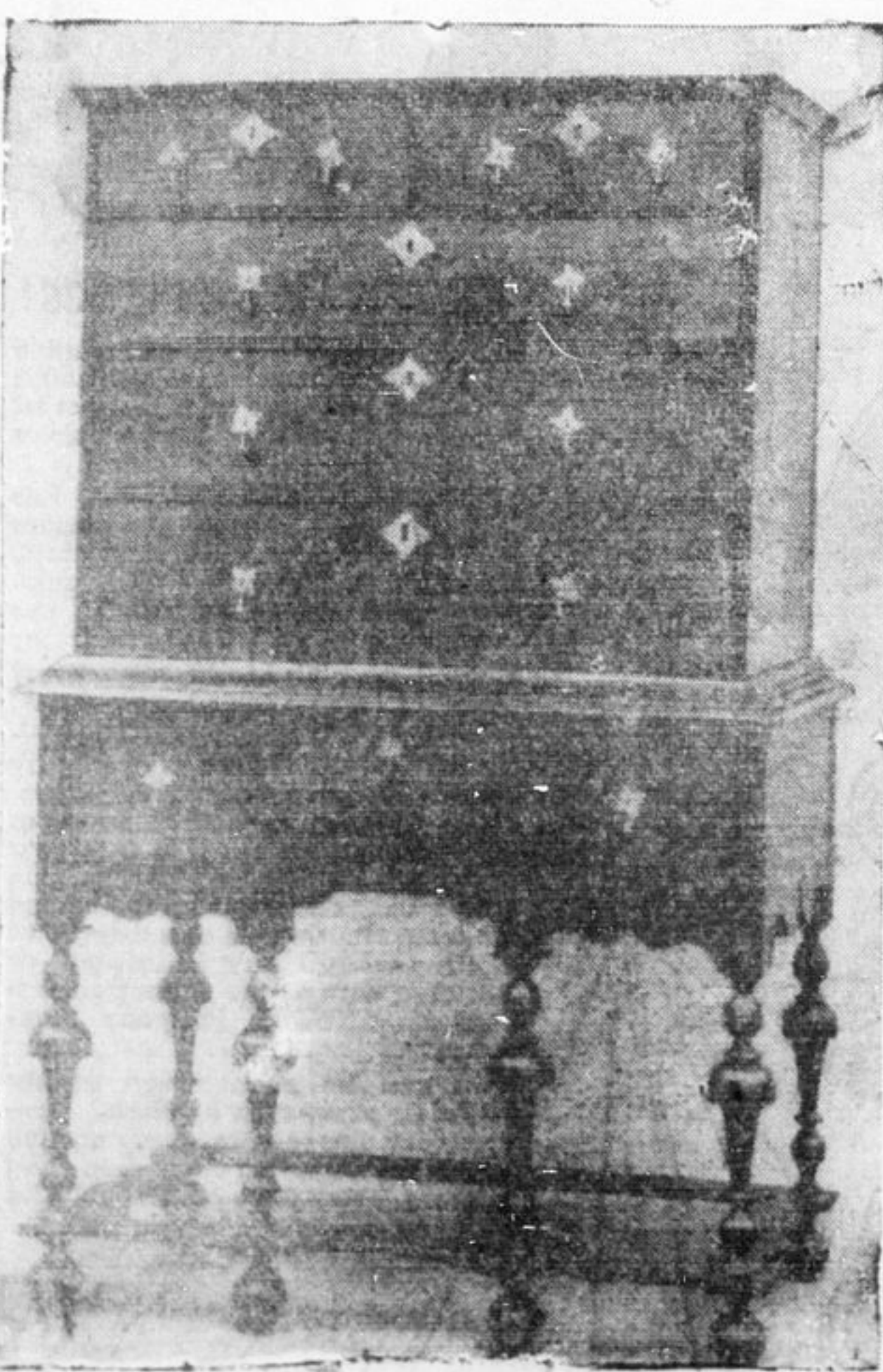
HERE'S HOW TO KEEP IT RUNNING!

- Keep the bottom of your electric iron clean. Wait until iron is cool, then wipe off with a damp cloth. If necessary, use supersuds or a mild scouring powder. Wipe with a clean damp cloth afterwards. Never put the iron in water.
- Be sure the iron is perfectly cold before putting away.
- Replace the connecting cord at the first sign of wear.
- Avoid ironing over buttons, hooks, zippers, or other hard articles.
- REMEMBER THIS: It's the contact of heat with the dampened garment that removes wrinkles, not the pressure or weight. So, don't wear yourself out pressing down. Use a light-weight iron and let the heat do the job.
- Avoid dropping the iron.
- Keep the cord away from hot iron.

REDDY SAYS:

"War Savings Certificates are not rationed! When you can't buy what you want, get Certificates—then you can buy everything you want after the war!"

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A high walnut chest of drawers made in America in the 18th century in English William and Mary style, a design which was inspired directly by fashions from Holland.