

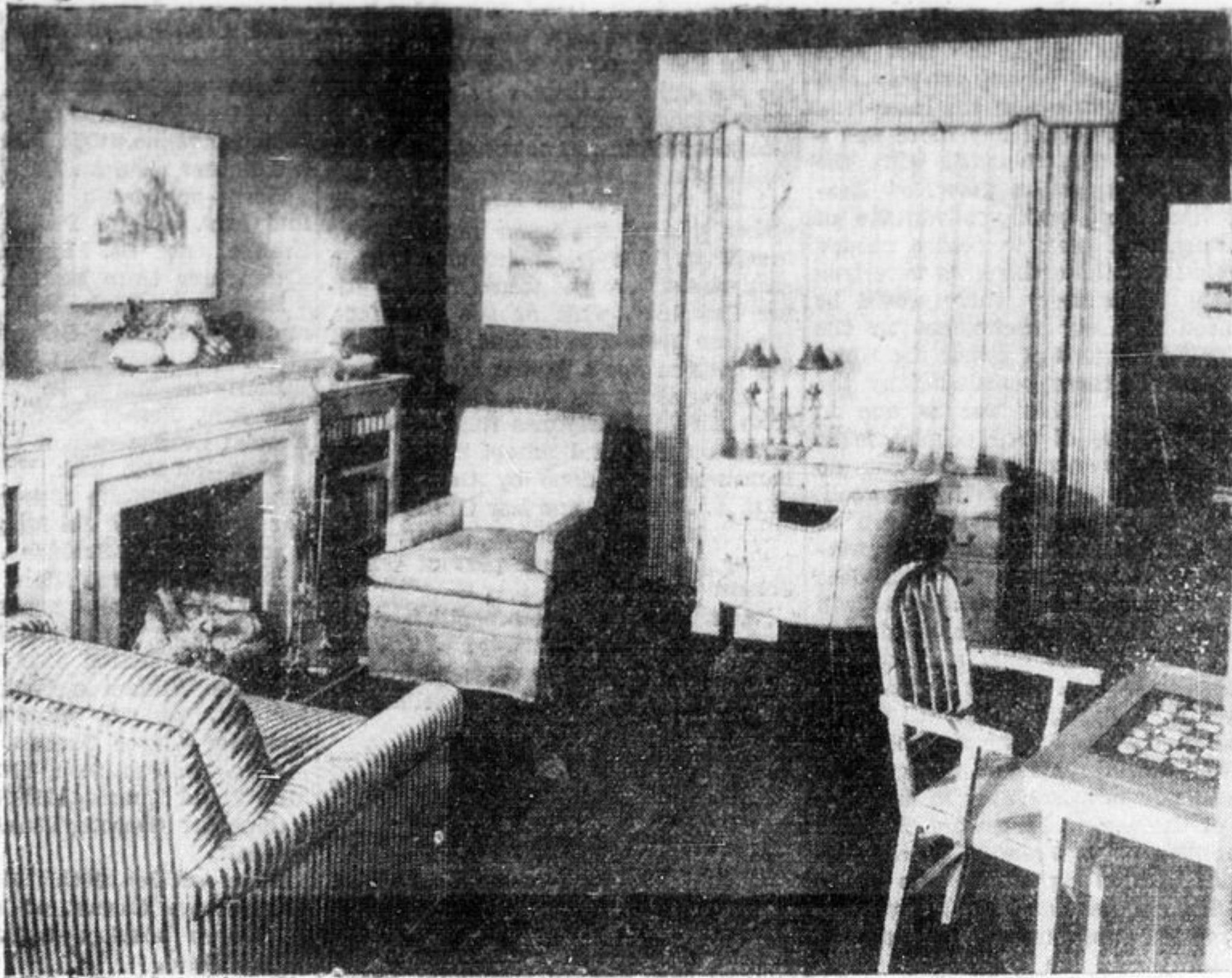


# PLEASANT HOMES

by Elizabeth MacRea Boykin

## SLIP COVERS PUT OLD FURNITURE BACK INTO CIRCULATION

No Longer in the Luxury Class, Slip Covers are Important in the Salvage of Household Furnishings—Select Staunch Fabrics and Make Them Well—Substitutes Available for War-Scarce Zippers.



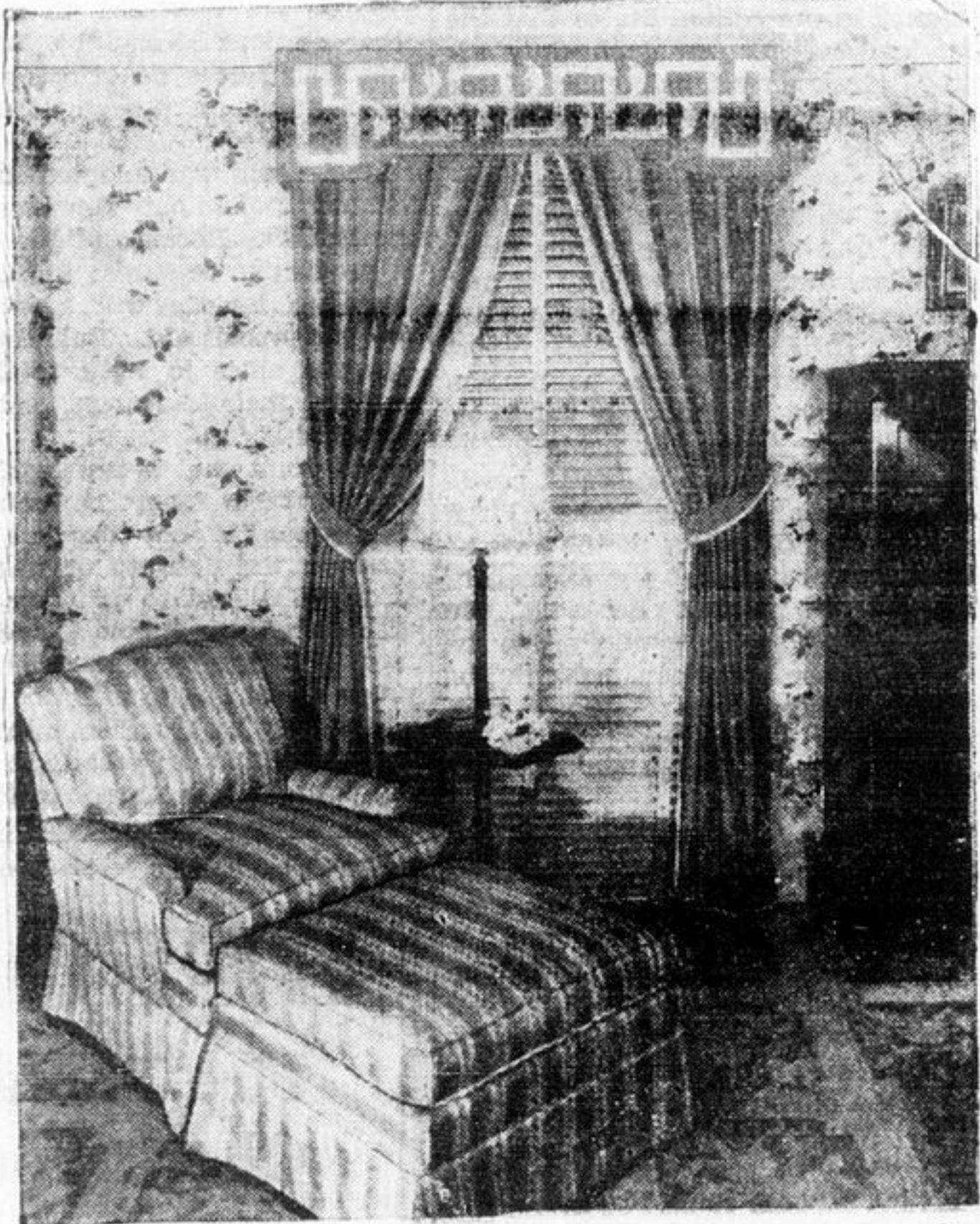
This pleasant living room in a three room apartment has a calm and uncluttered feeling with easy chairs grouped conversationally in front of the fireplace, one covered in a plain fabric and the other in the same striped material as the draperies. The desk in front of the window is in blond wood as is the game table in the corner.

We should think up a new name for "slip cover" — at least for the duration. Maybe "war weeds" might do (a bit dolorously) or "victory cover-alls" — in any case, since these always trust-worthy camouflages are going to predominate in the "until peace" decoration picture, we should get over any idea of fly-by-summer ideas the term "slip cover" connotes. For a chair or a sofa, victory cover-alls may mean the difference between survival and discard.

**Protect Chairs and Sofas**  
Slip covers in wide use today to hide worn upholstery, to protect precious irreplaceable furniture, to "pull together" odds and ends of furnishings into a pleasing picture, are no longer on the luxury list. In many cases the slip cover will be as important and necessary an investment as repair parts in your furnace — or washers for your faucets. But the chances are that you and I are not going to be quite so glib about "calling in" the decorator and refurbishing our coverings with a grand gesture. Upholsterers and slip cover makers have been named "non-essential" to the war effort and henceforth we will see more and more of our erstwhile professionals transferring their measuring and cutting skills to the not-too-gentle art of fashioning a fusilage or turning out tents.

And so there is a cloud of war over the springtime picture for slip covers — a cloud that seems to predict that Mrs. America will be cutting, measuring and sewing her own slip covers for quite a while to come. And so a few remarks on this art may be in order.

A slip cover must be a "second skin" — it must fit with the finesse and faultless tailoring of a lady's best spring suit — and, these days, it must be made with plenty of bright ideas tucked and stitched into its design — to conserve material, to add glamor and pride to a tedious job and to aid and comfort ailing furniture. Here again that word "know how" pops up again, referring to a process that takes skill and patience — but is rewarding in results. Pains and patience head your list of needs for making slip covers; pre-shrunk material comes next; a finished job in "pin fitting" before the use of scissors follows — and the next intelligent use of sewing machine attach-



This is a so-called permanent slip cover in that the cover is nailed on. A well-fitting striped slip cover takes skill to achieve but looks very smart when it's successfully accomplished.

ments (hemmers, corders, binders, zig-zaggers, quilters and the like save hours of precious time and do a much better and more lasting job than the conscientious straight stitching.)

**Cover-Alls**  
Styles in slip covers blow hot and blow cold but honest tight fit goes on forever. The major modern trend in cover-alls is just that — slip covers that are made to cover anything and everything from bleak straight-backed dining chairs to Grandmother's grass-covered linen chest in the upstairs hall, from tables to pianos as well as the familiar upholsterer's job. Box pléats,

deep gathered flounces, straight skirts with kick-pleats at the corners, or straight uncompromising borders that fit like the original upholstery are among the styles you may choose for your slip covers.

Remember, too, that furniture with pretty graceful lines can afford to have its good points accented with bold treatments and trimmings — but furniture that is on the unattractive side looks a lot better in a strictly tailored cover. Too-large furniture can be cut to size by slip covering in the same color, as walls or floor covering and, conversely, small dinky chairs or sofas can gain importance and prestige with the use of bold dramatic patterns, wide stripes, bright contrasts of color.

There's a trend toward the so-called permanent slip-cover. This is a tacked-on covering of a fabric lighter in weight than the usual upholstery material. It is easily tacked on over the upholstery and can be ripped off for cleaning, yet the effect is of a regular upholstery job.

War-time restrictions are seen in the limited number of splashing patterns and the growing tendency towards simpler, less colorful designs. Dyes have gone to war and taken much of our homes' color with them. Pre-war stocks are still fairly plentiful, however, and you will no doubt be able to find about the patterns and colors you want in limited quantities — sometimes so limited, in fact, that you will be forced to use that bright bold chintz for the dramatic flounce, with a plain material for sides, arms and seat. Such contrasting fabrics will offer all sorts of gay ideas for highlighting formerly drab furniture.

**Re-Model the Misfits**  
Don't overlook the possibilities of made-over or re-fit slip covers. Many a perfectly good fabric is not doing duty because it was so poorly made that it looks like a blowsy dress on a fat lady. A re-modelling job will put such slip covers back into service. If you are short of both cash and material and have a very informal room, consider the possibilities of a patchwork slip cover made of cretonne remnants. Or ordinary bed-ticking makes fine slip covers. A firmly woven cotton material (pre-



Flowered materials are still the prettiest and most popular fabrics of all for slip covers. And why shouldn't they be, pray tell, when they bring so much cheer and charm to the drabbiest room?

## Twenty Years Ago

From the Porcupine Advance Files

At the town council meeting twenty years ago the council formally decided to purchase a LaFrance fire truck specially built for the town at a cost of \$15,000, the payments to be spread over three years. Councillor Wallingford again brought up the question of installing water mains and sewers in the newer sections of the town. He pointed out the absolute necessity for these for fire protection and sanitation. In regard to the water mains, estimates by the town engineer, Mr. Henderson, showed that the revenues from the services would almost meet the debenture charges necessary. An application was received for the position of town engineer but was left over with other applications for the same position.

A box social given by the Caledonian Society twenty years ago was a very enjoyable event. The boxes were original in design and very artistic and the contents fully up to the appearances. A. J. Downie acted as auctioneer and a neat sum was realized from the sale of the boxes. Dancing and games featured the evening and there were also songs by A. J. Downie and W. Shewan.

The second musical festival given by the Caledonian Choir, under the auspices of the Caledonian Society of Timmins, was held in the New Empire theatre, on March 27th, and proved a notable success in every way. One of the outstanding features on the notable programme was the dancing of the Highland Fling by little Miss Helen Chisholm, this five-year-old lassie making a remarkable hit by her grace, charm and talent. Mrs. Sims played the violin accompaniments for her pupil. Another special dance for the evening was the Sailor's Hornpipe by Harry Nichols, in regulation naval costume. Among the selections so effectively given by the Caledonian Choir, under the leadership of Jas. Geils, were "Comrades in Arms"; "Good Night, Beloved"; "Mary"; and "Sleep, Gentle Lady." All these numbers reflected the greatest credit on the conductor, Jas. Geils, and on the talent of each and every member of the large choir. Other unusually good numbers included: duet, by Mrs. J. Cretney, and Mrs. W. Dalzell; quartette, by Miss V. Nukey, Mrs. R. Calverley, Mrs. Oswald and W. D. Forrester; solo by A. J. Downie; Steve Lynn in humorous numbers that brought down the house; J. Cowan, in "That's the Reason Now I Wear the Kilt" and other numbers; quartette, by Messrs McCulloch, Hefferman, Skelly and Geils; quartette by Mrs. Cretney, Mrs. Dalzell, H. McCulloch, J. Geils; quartette, Mrs. Parker, Mrs. Shippam, Mr. McCulloch, Mr. Geils; Trio, by H. McCulloch, J. Callum and J. Geils; instrumental selections by the Caledonian orchestra, Messrs Wolno, Johnston, W. H. Browne, C. E. Macdonald; cornet duet by Messrs O. Browne and L. Maltais. The special soloists of the evening, Mrs. Geo. S. Drew and J. T. Hefferman, were particularly appreciated. The accompanists for the evening, to whom much of the success of the programme was due, were W. H. Wilson, R. R. Johnston and Mrs. Chittenden. G. A. Macdonald president of the Caledonian Society, was chairman for the evening. The musical committee in charge of the event were Messrs J. K. Moore, Jas. Cowan and Mrs. H. McCulloch. After the concert the members of the choir were the guests of the society at a luncheon at the Goldale.

Twenty years ago there was an announcement in The Advance to the effect that the T. & N. O. intended to inaugurate a dining car service on the line as soon as arrangements could be completed. An odd case was referred to in The Advance twenty years ago where a lady in Kirkland Lake was faced with fines running nearly to \$1,500, or an alternative of many months in jail in default of the fines and costs, all for having furs illegally. The story as told by The Advance twenty years ago was as follows: "Last week at Kirkland Lake, W. A. Ward, Overseer for the Game and Fisheries Dept., prosecuted Miss E. Atkinson for having in her possession out of season 293 muskrat skins. Magistrate Atkinson granted a week's adjournment in the case, and informed the defence that the only way to get a reduction or change of penalty prescribed was through the Department.

ferably one that does not need ironing and can be whisked through your own washing machine) is a good idea for duration slip covers. Chenille bedspreads make practical slip covers that wash easily and don't need ironing. So do quilted fabrics.

Zippers are, of course, another gene-to-the-war item. But our ingenious manufacturers have worked out several "closing" methods which, if not exactly as efficient as the miraculous zipper, at least have the advantage of being easily applied and doing the job adequately. Ready-to-use tape with oval-shaped buttons (easier to manage) on one side and loops on the other can be sewn to your slip-cover openings in the same manner that you applied your zippers. And of course you do not need to be reminded that any present slip-covers which you are replacing should be de-zipped before being discarded. Another practical and fairly simple closing method for slip covers whose backs won't show is the use of tapes that tie the back plackets snugly in place. If the slip-cover fabric is so durable and dirt-proof that it won't have to come off often for washing, a beautiful fit can be achieved easily by basting up the plackets.

Exact details on making and fitting slip covers are included in our bulletin "How to Make A Slip Cover That Fits" which will be sent to you on receipt of five cents (coin preferred). Write Miss Boykin (name of paper) to Post Office Box 75, Station O, New York, N.Y. (Released by Consolidated News Features, Inc.)

# Marketing Big Problem to the Business Woman Housekeeping These Days

Accustomed to Using Meats that Can be Prepared Quickly, She Finds Herself at Considerable Disadvantage These Times with Rationing in Sight and Canned Goods Scarce

The business woman housekeeper has always had a more difficult problem in planning, marketing for, and preparing quick meals, than has the housekeeper who can devote more time to these problems. She has been accustomed to using meats which need only a short time for cooking, although these were often more expensive than others. She kept on her shelves a supply of canned products which she could call upon when she had no time for market.

Today, she cannot always get the chops and steaks, the slices of ham, and the chopped meat which she used in turn. She may have to take a roast, or a pot roast and make it do for several meals. This means that the original cooking must be done, or at least begun, the night before. In this case, she should plan to start her roasting as soon as her stove is free from dinner



(by Edith M. Barber)

The penalty is from \$5.00 to \$50 for each skin for muskrat. At the minimum of \$5 per skin that would mean \$1465. Evidence was given by the prosecution as to the finding of the skins in the young lady's room, but the defence did not present its case. The purpose of the prosecution in giving part of the evidence was so that the skins could be shipped to the Department.

Dr. Doolittle, president of the Canadian Automobile Association, twenty years ago, sprung a new one on a deputation interviewing Hon. Beniah Brown regarding a North Land trunk highway from North Bay to Cochrane. Dr. Doolittle's statement was to the effect that "New Ontario" was really "Old Ontario" and "Old Ontario" was truly "New Ontario." He pointed out that Champlain made trails through Northern Ontario long before there was any settlement in the South and so New Ontario is really some centuries "older" than Old Ontario.

Among the local and personal items in The Advance twenty years ago were the following: "Mr. J. O. Robinson left on Tuesday for a visit to Cobalt. His many friends in town are extending congratulations to "Moose" on his approaching marriage which will take place soon in Cobalt." "Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Grewcock, of South Porcupine, have returned home after a pleasure trip to Washington, motoring through Detroit, Toledo and other points in the U.S.A." "Mr. Bailey Harrison, of the head office of the Porcupine Telephone Lines and the Northern Ontario Light Co. was a business visitor to the camp last week." "Born—in Timmins, on Thursday, March 22nd at the Cairns hospital, to Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Forrester—a son." "Mr. J. M. Levine is expected here this week from Milwaukee where he has starred this past season on the hockey team of that southern city."

meat. If one of the more tender cuts is available, the roast may be cooked without any addition of water, and if a Dutch oven or any type of heavy kettle is used, the roast may be rare in the center, and well done on the outside as accomplished by oven roasting. If less tender meat is used, a small amount of liquid must be added and cooking time increased. A four pound tender pot roast will need about two hours, while a less tender cut will need at least three hours.

Grease kettle with fat from meat, add one or two sliced onions, season meat with salt and pepper, and dredge with flour, and brown on all sides in kettle with onions. If necessary, add one cup of water, covering tightly, and cook over low heat until tender. For long cooking, a little more water may be needed.

### Applesauce

Wash, quarter, and core eight tart cooking apples and put in saucepan with just enough water to cover. Cover and cook over low heat about 10 minutes, until very soft. Rub through coarse strainer. Sweeten to taste, and stir until sugar is dissolved. Cinnamon or nutmeg may be added. Yield: 6 servings.

Note: Apples may be pared, cored carefully, and cooked in the same way. After sauce has been sweetened, beat instead of straining.

(Released by The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

Globe and Mail:—Hitler and Mussolini are strangely silent these days; and the silence isn't golden.

preparations. Cooking should be completed long enough before bedtime, so that cooked meat will be sufficiently cool to go into the refrigerator to remain until dinner time the next day.

Breakfast may present another problem since canned fruit and tomato juices are on the rationed list. Fresh fruits should not be prepared the night before they are to be used. Instead of squeezing orange juice, the housekeeper will find it time saving, at least for herself, to serve halved oranges. If a sharp knife is run around the pulp, between it and skin, these are easy to eat. It is not necessary to separate each segment as it is with grapefruit. A new suggestion as to squeezing grapefruit quickly for juice, is to cut each half into quarters and to use the orange reamer for this purpose. Applesauce or stewed apples while this fruit is plentiful, may sometimes be used for breakfast. Either one may be prepared while dinner is being cooked. It is not necessary to pare the apples for sauce if after they are soft, they are pressed through a course strainer.

### Quick Meal

Broiled fish  
Spinach with Vinaigrette sauce  
Broiled grapefruit  
Method of Preparation  
Scrub potatoes and boil  
Prepare salad  
Light Broiler  
Prepare and cook spinach  
Cook fish.  
Prepare grapefruit, and broil while dinner is being served.

### Pot Roast

The method of preparation and time of cooking a pot roast will depend largely upon the original quality of the



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ASKS REDDY KILOWATT...

## HERE'S HOW TO KEEP YOUR ELECTRIC WASHER RUNNING

- Drain immediately after the washing is done. Rinse tub thoroughly after each washing. Remove agitator or suction cups and rinse.
- Remove any soap curd, or lint, that may have remained in tub, agitator or suction cups, with soft cloth or sponge. Wipe your washer clean and dry after each use. Be sure to cover it over if it is kept in a dusty place when not at work.
- Rolls and frame of the wringer should be wiped dry. Release pressure on rolls when not in use to save the spring and the rubber.
- The cover should be left off the tub until all dampness has evaporated, to prevent musty odor.
- The connecting cord should be wiped dry and carefully wound on hooks provided.

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