



AERIAL RETREATS STAY-AT-HOMES

FOR POSSIBLE FOR ALL WHO HAVE FLAT-ROOFED HOUSES



RUSTIC HOUSE A WELCOME ADDITION TO THE ROOF GARDEN.

AN ATTRACTIVE FLOWER GARDEN ON THE HOUSETOP.

PEOPLE are slowly waking up to the joys of a roof garden on their house-tops. Pure air, plenty of breeze, sunshine, all the privacy you want, and just enough noise to remind you of the escaped discomforts of the first floor, are free to all who wish to luxuriate in them.

Here is the eulogy of one city dweller who has found his Eldorado of summer comfort in his aerial abode.

"When I think of the many days and nights myself and family sweated underneath the roof and in the cubby yard for the want of a little more sense and practical forethought, well—it wouldn't sound just so well in print.

"Business compels me to spend all but two weeks of the summer in town, and my wife simply would not go away with the children without me.

"I urged to the best of my ability the necessity of outdoor life for the children; but you know how it is with some women, when a notion becomes firmly rooted in their minds. It's hopeless," said the man with a befitting wave of his hand, "so I had to make the best of it.

"One maddening night when the heat and mosquitoes nearly drove me wild I went up on the roof in desperation. Well, the breeze that welcomed my entrance convinced me that henceforth the house-top was the place to sojourn en famille.

"I went downtown the very next morning with my wife to buy suitable fittings and you see the result. The pleasure, comfort and wholesomeness to be derived from this open air camp cannot be overestimated. The sun peeps over in the morning, for an hour about noon, and a little while in the afternoon. After that we have shade and a delightful breeze.

"The children have a good healthy color, elastic appetites and all the sewing and other needle-work that is practical to do my wife does up on the roof.

"In the evening we have a surprising number of callers, and when a game of bridge or pinochle is in order, we light the lanterns and burn a few sticks of punk, and our happiness is complete.

"That's the story of this snug little retreat, for which I would not trade a seashore cottage." The guest accorded the pleasure of enjoying the delights of this aerial garden, immediately breaks the coveted commandment; she cannot refrain from envying its exclusiveness, its congenial surroundings, and the cool breeze that constantly stirs the lanterns and the trailing vines in the flower baskets.

For the benefit of those who are fortunate in the possession of flat-roofed houses, let me describe the furnishings of this roof garden, the sketch of which appears on this page.

THE ARTISTIC FURNISHINGS.

The most expensive item was the rustic railing that entirely encircled the roof garden on the exposed sides. This was put up very substantially, and higher than the children's heads. Toward the street were suspended hanging baskets of rattan, and Kotchi ware. On the side with brick wall was fastened a narrow box planted with moon vines. These are great runners and prolific bloomers. The large, white flowers last but a night and possess the most subtle fragrance. Potted plants, including palms, bay and box

trees, were brought up from the yard and distributed about the roof. Electric bulbs were adjusted to the rustic railings, an achievement which the host did during leisure hours. Both red and white globes are used.

The tin roof is covered with a fitted wooden flooring. Over this is placed strips of Japanese matting, Japanese cotton rugs and prairie grass rugs. The furniture is mostly willow and wicker,

in natural color and in forest green (a stain may be had in any color for twenty-five cents a can.) A couple of tables for magazines and flowers and a small tea table for the children add to the practical attractiveness.

A RUSTIC HOUSE FOR TEA HOUR

At the close of the season last year the host picked up a genuine bargain in the way of a

rustic house. Just what he intended to do with it wasn't quite clear to himself, but it graced the centre of the grass plot in the little back yard during the snow storms of that winter. Every afternoon at five the youngsters take their tea or lemonade, together with any little friends that happen to drop in, while the mother presides over a corner of the roof garden on the opposite side.

A gay canvas awning is stretched across another angle, giving shelter from the sun and subduing the glare from striking against the eyes. A hammock is swung diagonally across underneath from the rustic pillars, making a delightful little reading corner, or a cool spot for an afternoon siesta.

Out in the suburbs a certain family have on their house-top an open air garden in the sun-



A COOL SPOT FOR AN AFTERNOON SIESTA.

mer time and with the addition of glass windows and heavy glass top it becomes a sun parlor in winter.

A high wall, stuccoed, completely surrounds the roof. Vines of all description clamber over the walls. The floor is covered with rugs of varied description, some old-fashioned ones of rag, that were hand-made, alternating with those of Oriental cottons. There are easy chairs and tables spread attractively about, while in the centre is placed a piano (the family are all musicians).

Here it is that impromptu musicales are held, and exclusive little dances given throughout the summer and autumn.

In winter it makes an ideal sun parlor and playground for the children.

THE ROOF AS A SLEEPING APARTMENT

Open air treatment, so urgently advised by doctors for weaklings, especially those having weak lungs, may be admirably taken by those who do not wish to leave their homes for sanatoriums.

Consumptives in all sorts of weather remain out of doors a certain number of hours every day. Practically the same treatment may be taken at home on the house-top.

The benefit of sleeping outdoors on the piazzas has been tested by a number of people, who employed it as the last means of regaining their health. So far, this scheme has worked admirably. The patient remains outdoors during the extremes of heat and cold. The sides of the piazzas are protected from draughts by awnings, and the patient is thoroughly bundled in warm but lightweight covering.

PROFESSIONAL WOMEN ENTHUSIASTS

Three well-known actresses whose engagements will keep them in New York for the season are testing the healthful benefits of this aerial abode. They have engaged several rooms on the top floor of a large hotel, with the privilege of appropriating a generous portion of the roof.

Here they sleep, dine and make merry. They even spurn their rooms when a rainfall makes the joy of such quarters somewhat uncertain. There are awnings and tents which are used on such occasions. They intend to remain outdoors all summer and many of their friends are anxiously awaiting to learn the benefits of such a novel experience.

There's but one thing, however, that disturbs the peace of these three women, and that is the untimely presence of a burglar, who might take a notion some dark night to explore their lofty domicile.

A phone, two Winchesters, a poker, and a thoroughbred English bull dog with a hungry stare are the means with which they mean to demolish the unwelcome intruder.

It is puzzling to know which would be the most welcome fate for the man behind the mask—to drop into the embrace of Mother Earth from this lofty skyscraper, or to resign himself to the splintering he would receive from the hands of the armed brigade. MARJORIE

How to Remove Spots

HAVE you got a scrapbook? Then here's something to paste in it. Tea spots can be removed if you pour boiling water on them from a height. Coffee or chocolate spots must first be sprinkled with borax and soaked in cold

water. Fruit stains also may be treated thus. Wine stains must be thickly covered with salt, then rinsed in boiling water, re-salted, and rinsed again. Milk spots disappear when cold water is used. Hot water fixes the stain. Wagon grease may be removed by rubbing lard

over the stain, then washing with warm water and soap. Paint stains vanish when rubbed with clean flannel dipped in benzine or turpentine. Ink—Soak in warm milk. Perspiration—Same as for scorches: Warm soapsuds and sunshine.

Iron mould.—Oxalic acid melted in hot water. Rinse with pure water with a touch of ammonia added. Mildew.—Lemon juice and sunshine. Every one a proved old-fashioned kind of remedy. Try them, and you will find the spots will disappear as if by magic.