

## THE SMALL HOUSE.

HINTS IN TASTEFUL FURNISHING AND DECORATION.

**The Window Bench a Help in Solving the Seating Problem—A Nook on the Stairs—Increased Space Effect—Floor and Wall Covering.**

A common mistake in fitting up a small home is to overfill it with furniture. In rooms of no very capacious extent the seating problem is often a difficult one. Enough chairs for the family may be provided, but great in-



A NOOK ON THE STAIR LANDING.

convenience is often caused by introducing extra seats for visitors. A window bench is in such cases a good substitute for a sofa, or an angle of the wall may be fitted with a seat of wood that is covered with a thin hair cushion. A built in seat is also an advantage in a narrow hall or on the stair landing as a reading or sewing nook.

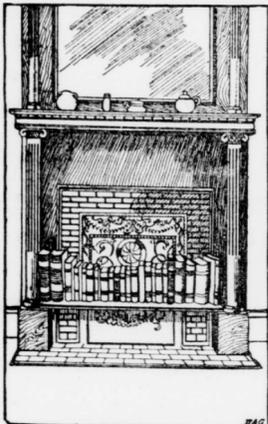
In one tiny home a low screen which formed part of a bedroom equipment was also a complete little sewing and work table, with pockets and shelves for holding thread, buttons, tape, needles and patterns. The screen was light enough to be easily handled and so compact as to take a minimum amount of space when unfolded. Another space saving device was originated in a sitting room with an unused fireplace, as here pictured. Without the application of hammer or nails a bookshelf was laid between the columns that supported the mantel.

One way to give the appearance of space to small dwellings is to lay the floors of connecting rooms and passages with a plain or small patterned carpet and to cover all the walls alike in a plain paper or one that is printed in two tones of the same color. In either one of these arrangements there will be the question of harmonizing the different colors in the rooms with the one large amount of color introduced on walls or floor.

Color has so important a share in increasing or decreasing the apparent size of a room that it should be selected with infinite care. Red seems to contract the walls and give a feeling of density; light yellow or buff has an opposite effect. Low ceilings do not seem as prominent if colored a cream white as they do when tinted in a stronger color.

The height of a ceiling may be seemingly increased by using a striped paper with well defined lines. Narrow hallways look wider when the walls are plain or covered with a paper of unobtrusive design.

In all wall decoration in small houses or apartments the papers to avoid are



A SPACE SAVING DEVICE.

those that proclaim themselves as "the latest thing" and in which prominent pattern and aggressive color force themselves disagreeably on the attention.

Borders and friezes need not be considered for the walls of the small home, as the windows and doorways cut into the spaces too much to make an upper wall decoration desirable.—Designer.

PEAS IN TURNIP CUPS.

Select white turnips of medium size and rather flat in shape. Pare thinly and boil in salted water until tender; then with knife and spoon dig out the center of each until a nicely shaped cup is formed. Drop into cold, slightly salted water until needed, then drain and place in a steamer until hot through. Fill with green peas and sprinkle with a little finely chopped parsley.—Table Talk.

A Small Trick With Silver.

It may be of interest to those who have a quantity of silver to care for to know that after silver forks and spoons have been cleaned, if they are put into a glass fruit can and the top put on tightly so as to exclude the air, the silver will not tarnish as long as the can is kept closed. In this way much time is saved, also much hard work.—Ladies' World.

## NEW STYLES.

Cunning Little Vests, Half Revealed, Half Concealed.

Fine embroidered swiss muslin and bebe valenciennes edging—this combination can do no wrong, nor indeed can valenciennes anywhere that the light slip or vest is demanded, as with a taffeta, voile or foulard gown. It is a pretty fancy, this new vogue of the season, for hiding a filmy little muslin and lace vest away beneath the front of a corsage that almost meets, affording just delicious little peeps at the daintiness beneath.

The only foulard with a future before it is that of finest quality and fresh design, such as tiny checks or pin lines so close together as to give almost the look of a solid color. These foulard or



GIRL'S TARTAN FROCK.

radium silks in delicate tints should be popular for young women, for whom they are made up in simple and pretty-fashion, the fullness of the skirt at the waist being laid in tiny stitched tucks, while a fluff of valenciennes lace frills is set upon the hem with a narrow strapping of the silk.

For these gowns with their effectively simple bodices and dainty vests are provided most fetching little cloth capes, falling in handkerchief points, the fullness being caught underside through small plain buckles. Doubtless these piquant little capes have a good run before them. They carry conviction in their every elegant fold of unlined cloth and unique strappings of crepe de chine.

For the schoolgirls inclined to be a trifle short and thickset that pretty tartan frock illustrated is a capital notion, the folds on the bodice apparently continuing in an unbroken line through to the skirt.

J. V. WALDER.

**Quick Deaths to Moths and Bugs.** The quickest, easiest, cheapest and most effective way to rid carpets, furniture or clothing of moths, buffalo bugs or bedbugs is to spray the article infested with an atomizer filled with a mixture of benzine and carbolic acid. A teaspoonful of acid to a quart of benzine is the right amount, and care should be taken to keep the mixture out of the reach of children, as it is poisonous; also away from light and heat, as benzine is explosive. The mixture kills all bugs, and it evaporates quickly, leaving no stain on the finest fabrics, says a Good Housekeeping correspondent.

**Cooking Beets.** When preparing beets for cooking do not cut the roots or trim the leaf stalks off too closely. This as well as piercing the beets while cooking gives an opportunity for "bleeding," and the vegetable loses much or all of its color. When done drain and cover with cold water, when the skin may be slipped off like a glove. Stamped out in tiny fancy forms one slice of beet will do much in the way of garnishing a dish of salad or vegetables.—Table Talk.

**Variation on the Old Chest.** The careful housewife packs away for safe keeping certain of the household clothing and bedding, in a cedar chest preferably. Sometimes an article at the bottom is desired in a hurry, when the whole contents of the chest must be disturbed and tumbled. A chest designed to avoid this and also to avoid pressing articles that must be placed below the top layers is illustrated.

**IMPROVED CLOTHES CHEST.** This chest has a top hinged at the back in the usual way. The front is hinged to the front edge of the top and folds back upon it.

The shelves are both hinged at the back, permitting each one to be raised while the packing is being done below it. The front is held in place when closed by two small hooks at either end or by a little catch.

**Cream Cheese Salad.** Work a cream cheese (ten cent size) until smooth, using a wooden spoon. Add one-third of a cup of celery, cut in very small pieces, and one-fourth of a cup of English meats broken in small pieces. Form in the shape of small balls and sprinkle with paprika. Arrange in lettuce leaves, pour over it a French dressing and garnish with radishes cut in fancy shapes.

## IRRIGATION WORK.

Preparing Land by Grading, Drainage and Subsoiling.

By E. J. WICKSON.

Having brought water to the distributing points on the land to be irrigated, ease and evenness of application to the whole of the land are facilitated by grading, not by leveling nor by securing any given slope, but merely to correct elevations and depressions upon each slope or face over which any water is to be run. If this is not done there will be sags or swales, in which too much water will collect, and knolls or humps which will get only what they can secure by capillary rise. Such work as this can be done quite boldly in any arid region because the soils are usually deep and of uniform fertility to a considerable depth. To plow and scrape off knolls into sags is a safe proceeding, as a rule.

**Drainage Necessary.** Drainage of irrigated land seemed to be a foolish and wasteful conduct of policies when irrigation began in the west, but later experience has shown that unless the soil is very deep and loose and the irrigation wisely applied there is considerable danger of excess of soil water, which is ruinous. Even deep, loose soils may be practically submerged by seepage from leaky ditches and excessive irrigation combined, for there are large areas in California where before irrigation was introduced it was necessary to dig over fifty feet for well water, but after ten years of irrigation the ground water rose within a few feet of the surface and made ponds and marshes in the low places. This rise of the ground water also brought up corrosive alkaline matters, which work havoc beyond simple water injury. It is quite necessary, then, in many places to arrange drainage for irrigated lands and especially where summer irrigation may be supplemented by copious rainfall.

**Deep Tillage and Subsoiling.** Preparation of land for irrigation should also include deep tillage and subsoiling. This is also desirable upon other accounts as well, but with irrigation it is essential that every cultural effort should be made to promote deep penetration of the water and deep rooting of the plants.

**A Common Operation Made Easy.** Drenching, or forcing the animal to swallow liquids from a horn or bottle, is the most commonly adopted method of administering medicine to cattle. A pint bottle with long neck, such as a wine or beer bottle, is most useful for the purpose. In administering the med-

icine the cow's head must be held up in a position slightly above horizontal by means of the horns, a halter or by inserting the fingers in the nose, as shown in the cut.

The mouth may be forced open by inserting the bottle neck at the corner so as to permit the liquid to flow down the throat. Drenches should be given slowly, small amounts at a time, and see that swallowing is performed naturally. When choking or coughing occurs lower the head at once. Never drench a cow that is too sick to swallow readily and do not pull out the tongue or close up the nose while drenching.—C. L. Willoughby, Georgia.

**Lice in Hens' Nests.** Our old and often recommended preventive of lice in nests is a big handful of dry slaked lime in the bottom of nest boxes. A little carbolic acid is put on the lime before it is slaked. Every time the hen steps in that nest she stirs up the carbolated lime dust.—Farm Journal.

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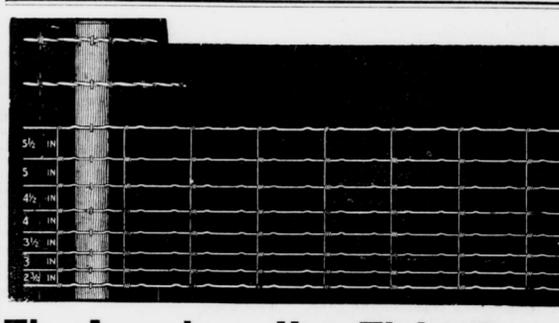
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