

THE HOME

Curtained Windows Demanded—What the Stores Are Showing—The Necessity for Early Shopping.

SETTLING down for the winter after summer vacations are over generally includes a certain amount of redecorating and refurnishing of the home. One of the first considerations this season is going to be lace curtains of some sort for the window.

The more costly materials have been tried in past seasons and found less dainty and less generally satisfactory than the lace curtains.

No window will be considered well trimmed during the coming year which does not include lace as well as an over-drape.

BEAUTIFUL CURTAINS

Remarkable progress has been made in the last two or three years in the type and beauty of "window lace." The best stores are showing, at reasonable prices, curtains designed to harmonize perfectly with the modern American type of architecture. And for the small, oddly proportioned windows found in some American bungalows splendid patterns of lace nets are obtainable.

For over-drapes the merchants are displaying excellent patterns of machine-print and hand-blocked chintz for the bedrooms. For the rooms re-

quiring greater dignity of trim, plain or multi-colored madras is to be found in great variety, with, of course, the rich velours for rooms of especial solidity, such as library or the large living-room.

DECORATIVE VOGUES

The black and white vogue for home decoration which made its way here from Europe some two years ago and took the country by storm during the past season will continue to be popular. The retail stores are showing Americanized modifications of the original European materials, which, from the American point of view at least, are far more sane and satisfactory than the imported patterns.

But just as this paper notified the women of the city two years ago to watch for the development of the black and white vogue it must now call attention to the tendencies of the home decorators toward reviving the Italian Renaissance. Blue and gold rooms will be more and more noticeable in the next few seasons.

DIFFICULTIES WITH DYES

The forerunner housewife will do her homefurnishings shopping early

this year. Ever since Europe went temporarily insane a year ago America has been threatened with a shortage of dyes, and the threat is daily becoming more serious.

Many of the stores are still selling guaranteed sunfast materials, but these are becoming more difficult to obtain every day. The late shopper is very likely to find that her dealer declines to certify the color-proofness of the draperies offered.

GOOD RUGS

Greater advance has been made during the last few years in American-made rugs, as in other types of homefurnishings. Aside from a splendid assortment of Oriental designs, the stores now show excellent examples of American-made rugs in patterns perfectly suited to American architecture. An increasingly large number of these rugs, too, are to be had in one piece without seams, and while a few years ago these seamless rugs were made only in the cheaper fabrics, today some of the very best Wilton rugs obtainable are made seamless.

SANITARY LINOLEUM

Retailers continue to show linoleums for every conceivable purpose. The fact that this material has an actual germicidal action besides being very easy to keep perfectly clean and free from dust continues to make

linoleums more and more popular in the bedroom, nursery, etc.

In all lines of homefurnishings, however, we suggest that our readers do their shopping early, or they are likely to find less choice in the matter of colors and patterns, because of the growing scarcity of satisfactory dyes and other coloring materials.

GOOD TASTE IN THE LIVING ROOM

An attractive living room is a far easier problem to solve now than in days of yore. Where formerly every article of furniture must "match" and an odd piece was completely out of place, now the reverse is the order of the day. The various tables and chairs not only need not all be of a kind but it is even considered in better taste to have the living-room furnished with a collection of odd pieces. To be sure, they must all be in harmony and one would not introduce a Circassian walnut chair at an antique mahogany table. But walnut of a soft brown tone, and oak that is pleasingly mellowed afford a combination that gives a sense of rest to the beholder. The floor covering, too, must not stand out vividly in sharp contrast, but must blend softly with the wall-paper and hangings. In other words, a well-arranged living room should look as though it had "grown" rather than as though it had been arbitrarily put together and should give evidence of the best taste of which one is capable.

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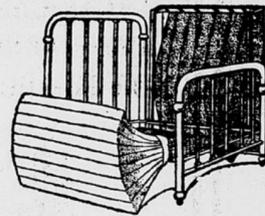
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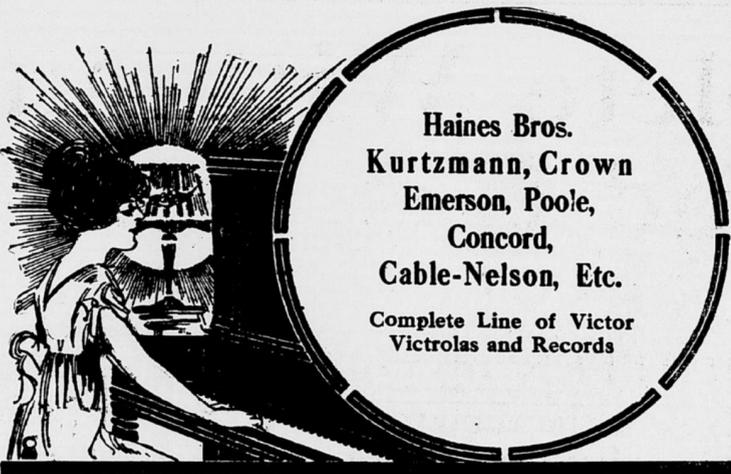
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