

The Home Beautiful

DINING-ROOMS, BUFFETS, and CHINA CUPBOARDS

By Margaret Greenleaf-
Drawings by G.B. Mitchell.

Copyright, 1908, by Margaret Greenleaf.

THE location of the various rooms of the house is a factor of much importance. In planning a home the dining-room should always be so placed as to receive the morning sun. It is, however, the fortunate few to whom the pleasure of arranging and planning their own house is vouchsafed, and the best must often be made of existing conditions. If the dining-room is small and ill lighted, the walls should be covered with a good, clean yellow paper, either in two-tone or plain effect. This greatly lightens the aspect of the room and apparently increases its size. Frequently white enamel woodwork is feasible and is an added improvement if the furniture to be used in the room can be in accord; for instance, the white woodwork makes an excellent setting for mahogany, mahogany-lined birch or cherry, and, of course, looks well with white enamel furniture which is beginning to be favored for cottages and country house dining-rooms.

It has been said that it is more difficult to depart from the conventional and ordinary in the fitting and furnishing of a dining-room than in any of the other rooms. Tables, chairs, buffets and china closets more or less elaborated must appear in the dining-room of the artistic but simple cottage, as well as in the private dining-rooms of a great hotel.

Where there is a wainscot in the room it establishes the necessity for a dignified and conventional treatment in the furnishing. Above the wainscot to the ceiling line the wall may be covered with a figured tapestry paper, a paper of two-tone stripe or large figure, or may be tinted in a plain color which harmonizes with the woodwork. In more elaborate rooms a tapestry fabric is often used; the embossed Spanish leathers, also are much favored and are very beautiful in effect, the subdued though glowing colors and glint of gold and silver are richly decorative. Such treatment, however, is only to be considered when one is the fortunate possessor of a long purse. But for the woman who must manage to make one dollar do the work of two there are ways and means by which she can provide for her family a dining-room which is essentially suitable and comfortable and also entirely harmonious and attractive.

The mantel of simple Colonial design shown in the drawing No. 1 has established the keynote for the dining-room in a remodeled farmhouse. This room in its earlier day was the living-room of the family. The woodwork has been treated with white enamel of eggshell gloss, the walls covered with two-tone medium green striped paper are restful and attractive. As the room is extremely



A DINING ROOM IN A RE-MODELED FARMHOUSE

well lighted and of southern exposure, this paper is a wise selection. The rows of blue and white plates which decorate the high mantel shelf are complemented by the orderly row of shining brass candlesticks placed in front of them. The plate racks, it will be observed, are both useful and ornamental. As closet space in this room was almost nil these were found necessary. They were purchased by the woman who fitted this room at a department store for the ridiculously small sum of 48 cents apiece. The extreme glass variety with which they were finished was removed and they were treated with mahogany stain, followed by an application of shellac and a finishing varnish which produced an eggshell gloss. This same stain and finish, by the way, were used on the table,

the mahogany stain selected to match the color of the chairs, which were valued as family heirlooms. An hour's work from the carpenter set these plate racks in place, beneath them was set the serving table. The floor of soft wood was painted an unobtrusive brown; by a judicious mixture of floor finish with the last two coats of paint an effect of a waxed floor was gained at very little cost and much less labor than any other finish would demand. The central rug or druggat was made from wool terry or filling, dark green in color, and the room was ready for the individual touches. Madras curtains of leaded glass pattern, with blocks of green and blue, occasionally introduced on the white ground, harmonized perfectly with the green wall covering. Ivory woodwork

and blue and white china. Between the windows, opposite the mantelpiece, a plaster bas-relief was set. The few pictures in the room were black and white, set in mahogany frames. This room has proved a great success, and, while it is sufficiently conventional to live up to its character of dining-room, it is also homelike and inviting. The china closet shown in the drawing was made by the village carpenter to supplement an incomplete dining-room set of oak. This has proved so great a success and so satisfactory to the woman for whom it was constructed that the working drawing is here given. Any carpenter can work from these. From such drawings the different boards were sawed out and dovetailed and fitted, but not set up. After the doors were finished they

were delivered to a glazier. The ten pieces, besides the two doors, and six wooden keys or wedges, were packed flat and delivered, ready to be set up. The back was made of upright tongued and grooved boards, held together with cross strips. The four shelves were made to fit into grooves in the interior surface of the side pieces. The top, middle and bottom shelves are 2 1/2 inch projections passed through openings in the sides. When the keys were placed through these tails it required only firm raps from a hammer to insure the closet holding together compactly. The carpenter fitted the hinges and also set in the lock. Completed, the closet stands 42 inches high, 38 inches wide and 14 inches deep. This construction allows, of course, of its being taken apart as readily as it can be put together. The design is adaptable to any wood.

The dining-room shown in picture No. 2 has a wainscot which has been built and fitted into the room. This is removable. While this mode of treatment is not usual in America, in England and on the Continent these adjustable wainscots, called fittings, are frequently used. The wood employed here is cypress, and it has been treated with a dark oak stain, which

shows almost black. The wall above it is covered with an inexpensive paper showing a design of Japanese pine trees against white ground. Coarse white linen has been used for the window draperies, and down the sides and across the lower edge of the curtains a stonch showing the pine tree of the wall paper is effectively employed. A blue and white rag rug covers the floor, with the exception of a two-foot margin, which is finished the color of the woodwork and finished with a dull gloss.

A country resident writes: "Kindly tell me if I can use a Chinese cotton print as a frieze, like the one you described in last week's paper, and what the price of this material is."

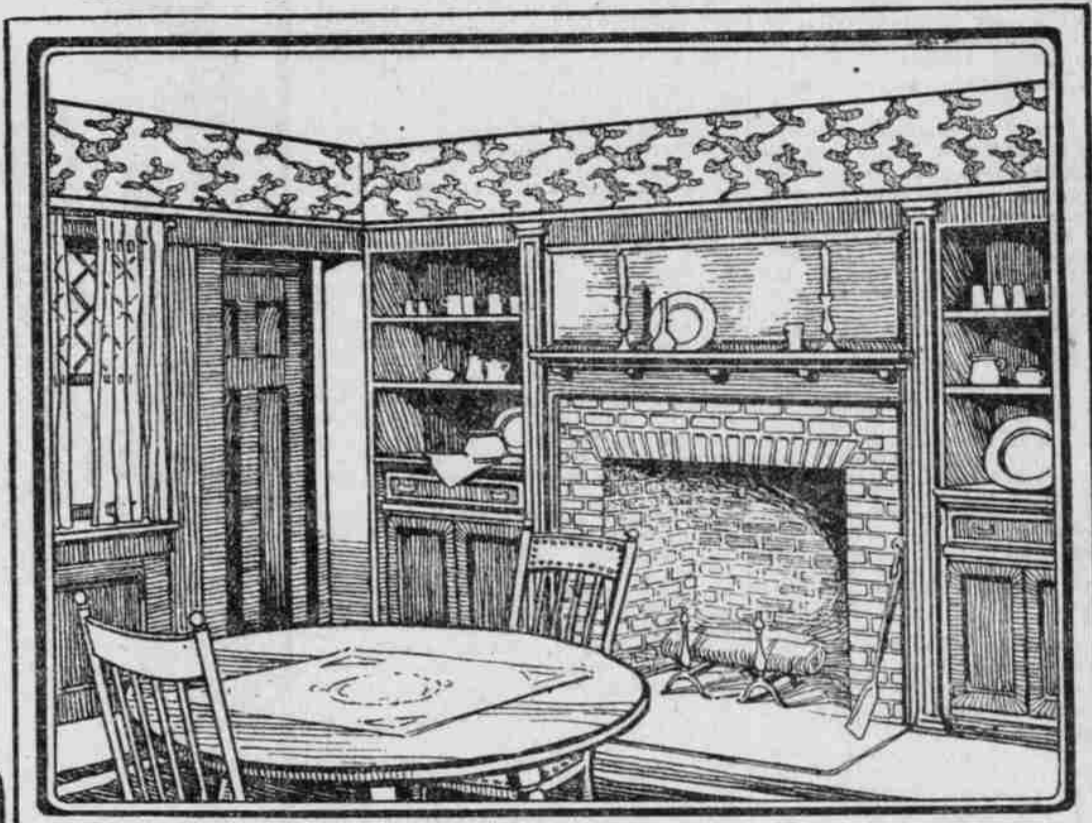
The Chinese cotton or Japanese cotton crepe can be used as advised with extremely good effect. The price of the latter is 35 cents for 36-inch material. The Chinese cotton print is only 18 inches in width, and comes in 10-yard pieces. This usually shows a good, strong blue on a clear white ground. If you will send me a self-addressed envelope I will be glad to send you samples.

A college girl writes: "I would like very much to have your advice on the selection

of chairs for the sitting-room of my suite at college. My walls are covered with a two-tone stripe brown paper. My window draperies are plain yellow linen. I do not know what kind of inexpensive chairs to use or of what to make the cushions."

I would suggest willow furniture as being the most attractive to use in such a room as you describe. Treat the willow with a light brown stain and have cushions fastened in the backs and seats of each chair. These to be covered with a figured linen, taffeta showing shades of golden brown, dull blue, ivory and soft old red. This material can be bought for \$1.75 a yard and is 36 inches wide. One or two pieces of dark oak furniture, such as a table and armchair, could be worked in advantageously in the furnishing of your room. If you will send me a self-addressed envelope I will be glad to send you samples of the material to which I refer.

An invitation to correspond with The Sunday Oregonian on all matters pertaining to the decoration of the home is extended. All inquiries should be written on one side of the paper only, and when an early response is desired, should be accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope.



DINING ROOM WITH FITMENT OF CYPRESS STAINED DARK

Easter cheers the Hotel Clerk

"**E**POSE you're kinder glad Lent's over," said the house detective of the Hotel St. Reckless. "As I recollect you started out by denyin' yourself quite a lot of things."

"Something of the sort did occur, I believe," said the Hotel Clerk, with the air of one trying to remember the forgotten events of a busy past. "But you may have noticed that as time passed on, I sort of relaxed, and so now on my return to the world, the flesh and the devil, you'll hardly be able to notice the difference as I once more merge my interests into that old and reliable firm. Sometimes, Larry, I'm afraid I'm too soft-fibred. I can deny myself anything, but I can't deny others. In Lent, as at other seasons, it's easy enough for me not to take any drinks that I have to pay for, but frightfully hard for me to refuse any drinks that somebody else is willing to pay for."

"Swearing off is a fine discipline for the human mind if you don't let it make a bigot of you. Personally, I do not prefer the H 2 O chariot, sometimes known as the water wagon, for steady purposes during Lent. As a regular vehicle I would cordially recommend the hippo. I speak as one who has used this amiable creature. The hippopotamus, Larry, is a broader minded than the water wagon. Part of the time the hippo is dry, but the rest of the time he's just pleasantly moist. The amphibious style of abstinence appeals to me greatly. I have strong ideas of forming the Hippo Riding and Driving Pastime Temperance Club and putting the puritanism and narrow-minded water wagon back into the same class with the high-wheel bicycle and the Deadwood coach."

"Forty days ago I said to myself: 'Wine is a mocker, especially the kind of wine you get at a 60-cent table d'hotel, and strong drink, if rectified, is generally ragine. Moreover, in the end it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder—like a patent adder stings you when the bookkeeper is using it to figure up your account for incidentals at a Summer hotel. I shall cut it out during Lent. Maybe I'll cut it out forever.'"

"That's what I said to myself, Larry, and when you came in that evening I was, as I recall, humming that jolly old drinking song as revised by the W. C. T. U., entitled 'Fifteen Men on a Dead Man's Chest, Yo-Ho and a Bottle of Citrate of Magnesia.' You made me a proposition touching on a mild libation at the shrine of Bacchus, Gambrianus, O. P. C. Taylor & Company. Do you remember how sternly I rebuked you, as I coldly stated that there was positively nothing doing?"

prevalent color scheme of my thirst. I had a dawning conviction that the stage setting demanded a red interior—and I got it. But that's the only way to deny yourself, Larry. Do it, but do it without being fanatical."

"It's the same way with the exhilarating indoor sport known as draw-poker. About once in as long, I find myself making a high resolve to quit poker, following on a session where the utmost skill and finesse on my part have still been fraught with dire disaster as opposed to

veins. There was but one among our merry number that had what you might call a calculating nature. As soon as he sat in and took out a large stack, for a dollar—small stacks were 50 cents—there was something about his manner that seemed to tell you he was going to need a pair of felt insoles before the evening ended. Even at that early stage he played 'em in such close proximity to himself that he had to unbutton his vest to read the spots. He subsequently became a trust company president, and as

BY IRVIN S. COBB

billeted kitty of the Maltese variety. I say Maltese, Larry, because the word suggests a double cross. Clever conceit, is it not?"

"It is not? Oh, very well, envious one—I can tell when a grouch is rose because I've beat him to a palpitating one. But as to poker playing, the habit of swearing out and dovetailed and fitted, but not set up. After the doors were finished they

"It's been a purty quiet Lent, seems to me," said the House Detective.

"And yet there have been matters of national moment to the fore almost constantly," said the hotel clerk. "For a while I could hardly wait for morning to come so's I could get a paper. Would Tyrus Cobb sign with the Detroit for \$3000 a year and food thrown in—it often is thrown in by a ballplayer, Larry—or would he stand aloof and further complicate a situation that had acutely distressed some of the greatest minds that ever figured up a batting average? Would

hired girl when they first kept house at Rochester, this state? Could the Kaiser consistently admit to his court a man who was known to be guilty of the crime of detached cuffs and suspected of the still more hideous outrage of shirts that open in the back and have little tabs with button holes in 'em, at the south end of the all-linen bosoms? Or would he force our President to search all the retail clothing stores of the country for a diplomat of the Charlemagne Tower school, with box alder sidewalkers, knee breeches,

provider around the house was almost good enough for a sweet American girl. So Abruzzi looked like a lucky man to me, if he won out. It couldn't be a matter of money that stood in the way, because Grandpa Davis, who ran for Vice-President four years ago in an almost noiseless manner, said if it was a detail of cash that made the Prince so backward that he didn't call at the Elkins home much oftener than the postman did, he'd be right there with a large bundle of the green trading stamps. To be sure this may have looked as if the old gentleman was making a cold bid for the solid Duke vote in case the Democratic party should ever again feel like running a Parker and Davis ticket for the exercise maybe, or something like that. But you oughtn't to question motives when there's a romance on foot. But how about that young lady's father? There was a good deal of talk to the effect that it might be necessary for the King of Italy to crown him or knight him or something, so's to take the curse off the fact that he belonged to the United States Senate, and it has made my heart bleed at the thought of some day reading in the cable notes that at the imperial reception in the Coliseum at Rome, or wherever it is that the royal family resides, the Dowager Father-in-Law, nee Elkins, entered the drawing-room wearing white point de spree over lavender, and carrying his new coronet under his left arm."



HE ONLY PLAYS FOR THE FUN OF THE THING

LIMITED EDITIONS OF THE ADVANCE EASTER MODES

"Yes, and the very next time I seen you, you was stewed," said the House Detective.

"Not stewed, Jerry," corrected the Hotel Clerk. "I may have been gently simmering, but I submit that I was not stewed. The drought lasted two of the longest and most arid days I ever recall. I had a feeling inside of me like a new fountain pen. So I decided to indulge in a little of the harmless fluid known as creme de menthe. It gave me a pleasing breath, like a camphor ball, and it had a soothing taste going down, but somehow the green that didn't seem to match the

the well-nigh incomprehensible luck of some mere novice; or else it's after I've shattered my brave three-masted bark against one of those human icebergs with a cold glittering eye who always says he only plays for the fun of the thing, but invariably puts on a style of parlor magic which enables him to vanish with the only materials that'll buy the said fun. I've been that way since I was a boy.

"We were a bright set in our home town, bright and spontaneous; but always brighter and more spontaneous just after the Primrose and West minstrels had been at the Opera House. And we had rich sporting fluid coursing through our

he cannot bear confinement, he is now traveling for his health in countries where the extradition processes are defective. But even at that time, when little more than a boy, he would manifest a conservatism regarding the uplifting powers of a full house that was perfectly incomprehensible to me because I've always been able to detect a great deal of leverage in a simple two pair. And along toward the shank of the evening he would be overtaken by a chronic suspension of circulation below the ankles, and he'd fade away, leaving me and the others contemplating a large mutual deficit and a de-

through life. I notice that when I have annexed a tidy little winning I am able to look with more tolerance upon the vice than when I emerge from a temporary smokehouse at 3:30 A. M., with a taste in my mouth like a brass key ring and a deep dimple, bordering on a crease, in my salary pocket, after having made an ineffectual effort to compete against one of those human repertoire troupes who can simultaneously present The Man in the Iron Mask Upstairs, while his principal vital organ is offering a spirited rendition of The Marble Heart and his feet are stirring in The Sea of Ice."

Madame Anna Gould marry the Prince Helle—that's short, Larry, for Heliotrope—Helle de Sagan in time for him to get his Spring wardrobe and the family jewel out? Would the Duke of the Abruzzi win the hand of Miss Elkins, and thus leave the feeling of tension prevailing not only among the folks back home in Abruzziville, but in several of the adjoining countries? Would the Emperor of Germany allow our new ambassador to pick out a good two family house in a quiet Berlin neighborhood and move in, notwithstanding the deplorable fact that the new ambassador's wife had only one

and an impressive air when in company, like a club butter?

"But on the whole I think I was more interested in Abruzzi than I was in de Sagan. Abruzzi is a good comedy name, something like Parazza. I like it. It makes you think of the night wind mourning through a set of whippers. Besides, Abruzzi is a regular Duke, with steady work at his trade, while the de Sagan bunch were laid off some time ago on account of slackness in the Prince market in France. I've always contended that any Duke who behaved himself and was a good

At One Fell Swoop.

Success Magazine.

"Have you got any of those preparations for removing superfluous hair?" asks the man who enters the drugstore with a firm tread and a set countenance.

"Yes, sir," answers the druggist.

"Give me a pint. I want to use it on my head."

"But man, you haven't got any superfluous hair on your head. You're nearly bald now."

"I know it. And I've got so aggravated and tired watching the contended hair leaking off day by day that I want to remove the rest of it at one sweep and have the agony over."