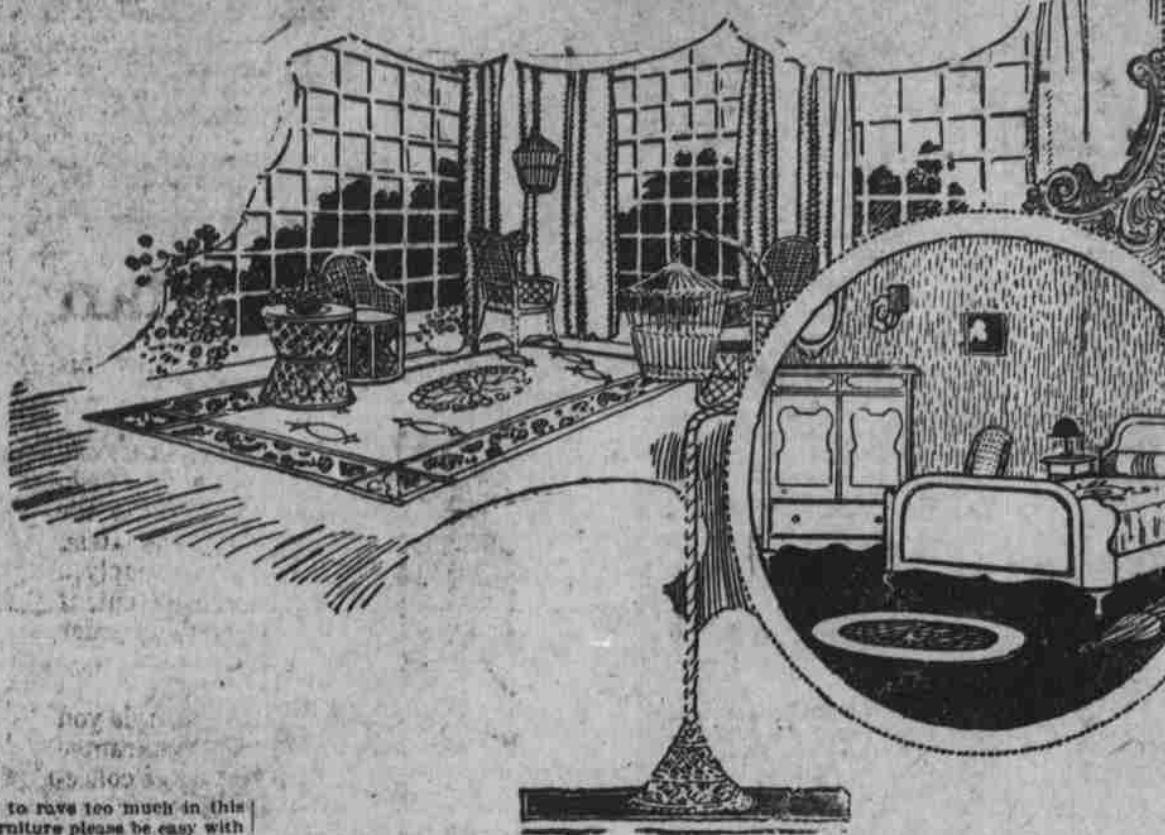


A Chat on Spring Furniture

by Marjorie Howe Dixon



If I begin to rave too much in this article on furniture please be easy with me for I will frankly tell you that I am a brand new bride, experiencing all the thrills of furnishing our own little home.

Of course Husband Wert is mildly interested in what I am doing. I do not believe he ever had much of an idea what our home should look like. Why, do you know that when we went furniture shopping before we were married the only things he fancied were a very fancy spears Louis the Tenth golden oak bureau and some flumpy tubular rockers. When I finally worked out of him why he liked the bureau and mission rockers he advanced a most remarkable theory. It seems Husband Wert lived once upon a time in a boarding house and though I blush to tell you, he always placed my properly entered cabinet photo in a corner of the mirror of his bureau.

What could I do with such an old case.

I promptly had a violent headache and had to be taken home immediately without seeing any more atrocities. And after we were home and real cozy we had a little confidential chat in which Wert vowed he didn't care what kind of furniture we got just so he had me. Of course it was hard for a girl to understand such disinterestedness in a man in things which are to me my very dreams day and night. I had been dreaming and planning my home for years and so I knew what I wanted and why.

Well, I am not going to tell you very much about my kitchen, except that I have a little short closet for the vacuum cleaner, the brooms and mops and I have my ice box, kitchen cabinet, stove and work table very near each other. It is so arranged that I can almost reach from one to the other. When supper is served all piping

hot I am not hot and cross as I have seen my mother. Wert and I have a really lovely time at meals.

Since we married in spite of high rents and scarce houses we must accept rather small quarters; so our dining room has the minimum number of pieces. Period designs always appealed to me especially those having simple characteristics. That is why I chose Tudor for our dining room set. Our dining table is oblong of dark walnut with nice rounded corners and paneled legs. The chairs are in the same wood and a little wide and low. Husband Wert's chair is high armed and most comfortable. My particular delight is a tall silver chest which has wood doors instead of old-fashioned brass. I keep in this, all my immediate table linen and a few of our special dishes besides the two lower drawers for silver. Our serving table

is semi-circular and above it hangs a large mirror.

We have a thick single color blue rug, and a low bench which stretches across the entire length of the windows. There is nothing prettier to me than our dining room in the early spring morning when the sun glances through the curtains, sparkles on our brilliant enameled cage and reflects in the mirror to the farthest corner. And what is more pleasing to me is that Wert always seems surprised and I believe he is really beginning to appreciate good simple furnishings.

I have often seen dining rooms in the Italian Renaissance design in mahogany brown. Very beautiful arrangements have been accomplished though I do not care so much for the more ornate carvings of the Renaissance. Furniture is made to last and we have to live with it a long time. I think that the simple designs are more

enduring, for we do not tire of seeing them day in and day out.

Our living room is our special joy. We have a long low fireplace with built-in book shelves on either side. There is a mantle above the fireplace upon which we have two tall brass candle-sticks and in the center, a lovely bright landscape painting. In the middle of the room we have a long Queen Anne reading table of brown mahogany with an over stuffed sofa directly against it so that when we use the sofa we face the fireplace. An adjustable iron reading lamp stands at one end of the sofa. With our favorite books and our phonograph in the corner what more can we ask for an evening's rest and entertainment?

Wert's arm chair is also Queen Anne with cane panels and seat and I really think he is beginning to like it better than any old mission chair he might have had a year or so ago. In

act since we have been adding a new piece of furniture from time to time I have noticed a growing interest in the ultimate comfort and effect I am trying to produce in our home and I see him occasionally reading my house-economizing magazines.

In choosing bedroom furniture I have found most homes prefer the Louis XVI, the Hepplewhite, or the Shafston designs and from the furniture catalogs I have seen, these three designs seem the most popular. We have the Hepplewhite design for our twin beds in walnut and between them we have a little table with a shaded lamp. I have just installed for the benefit of Wert a high-boy with four deep drawers and next to the window we have our long mirror. On my side of the room I have a walnut dresser and a little dressing table with folding mirrors near the window. It is such an advantage to have the mirrors in a position affording plenty of light upon the face. I have a low rocker besides the small straight chair for the dressing table. Chairs in a bed room are such handy things. Wert is rather old-maidish about his clothes and everything has to be properly hung up at night, but I have noticed he appreciates his chair upon which to drape miscellaneous clothing when he is too tired to care.

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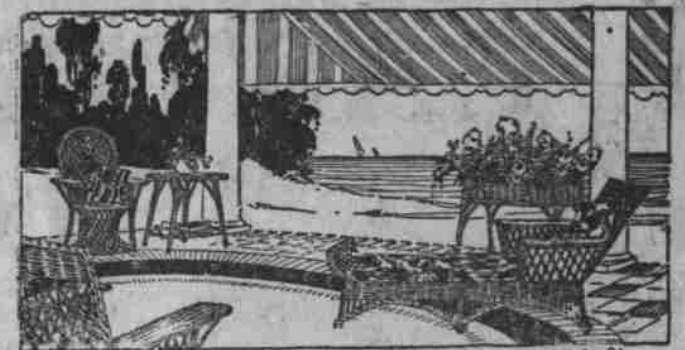


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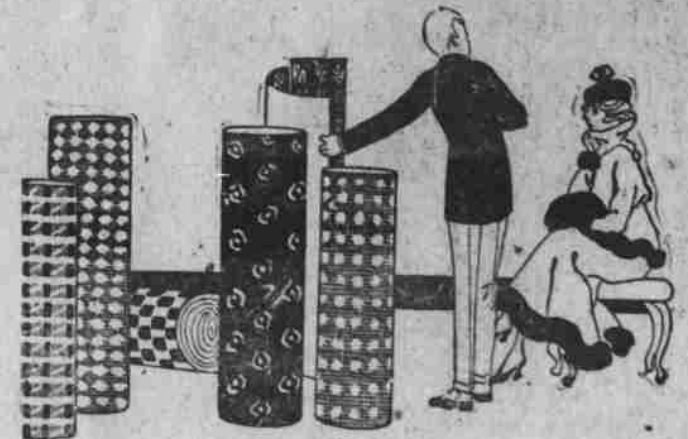
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