



# A Consideration of Autumn Home Decoration

By Marjorie Howe Dixon



In the realm of good taste where decoration is concerned, all thru the prevailing styles of home treatments, now in vogue, one is impressed with the element of simplicity, of reserve. If a home is done in the Italian manner, which is one of the severer period styles, there are certain rigid demands to be carried out. The Spanish rooms now also popular are essentially simple in treatment. And as for Early American homes, in these, surely, all excess ornamentation is done away with.

**Decorations Are Sophisticated**  
And with them all, there comes about quite naturally a sort of childish note. It is perhaps a paradox, to say that the present sophisticated home decoration is really childish in character but such is actually the case. One finds a room with a background of naive prints against gay paper, almost foolish in design, with a tiled floor in checker pattern. Delightful built-in shelves lined with small patterned paper, chintz chair coverings, the use of Toby jugs and ruffled curtains primly tied back, all suggest things that appeal to children. There can be no argument about the fact that in the rush, the excitement, the tremendous activities of present living, these things are easier to live with, than the over-decorated, muchly ribboned styles of the eighteen nineties, or the terrible objects created during the black walnut, hair cloth, and red plush era that preceded it.

Among the suggestions for an Early American treatment of a bed room is a pleasant arrangement centered about a tester in Tolle de Jouy over a field bed. Under the arched drape of the tester two square pictures hung on the wall, each with a prim little emblem, a broken flower, to greet one on awakening. Tolle de Jouy was repeated in the rose window drapes edged with a pleated ruffle and tied back.

**Fireplace Is Unusual**  
With its unusual fireplace and convenient secretary desk one would want to spend more than the usual sleeping hours in this room. The fireplace was most attractive with a decorative map of Belgium, set in a square panel above it. A horizontal panel above the fireplace opening, containing two oval portrait silhouettes seemed exactly right above Colonial brass andirons.

Close to the narrow secretary stood a comfortable wing chair and a lamp, with, just a bit beyond a low table with an old chocolate set of gold and white ready for one's breakfast.

Since "She" who would use this room would want a bit of glass, a vanity table, waited in another corner. The center leaf of this, raised, disclosed a set of boxes for trinkets and powder with the lid containing an old mirror. If one used these suggestions for a bed room, in an apartment, a dining room of the same period

would be equally effective. Let us imagine this one, fitted out with maple. Cane seated Hitchcock chairs might group themselves about an oval mottogged table. A large square of rose linen would make a good cover for this table with a border of wool stitching in bright colors. A similar mat of rose linen might lie on the serving table.

**Row of Rose Glasses**  
On this latter a row of rose glasses might stand along the back with a pair of pewter sconces above. Flat tallow candles could sit in the sconces, the backs of which should be circular and highly polished to act as reflectors.

Curtains of rose sprigged chintz might be tied back at the windows with a sash of pink, binding each of these. The combined effect would produce a direct simplicity and cheerfulness that would reflect the Colonial spirit sincerely.

In a country house one can imagine an Italian living room with its massiveness and severity. A heavy oval topped table in oak would make a centerpiece, with arm chair upholstered in leather and studded with brass nails. Light for this room would be arranged with sconces and tall wrought iron torchers. Monks cloth would lend itself to drapes, and panels of embroidery would make appropriate wall hangings. Small tables, three legged chairs with carved backs, could be scattered about where convenience suggested.

**Italian Dining Room**  
An Italian dining room can be a colorful spot in spite of its native severity. Red cushions in a window niche, brass panels on the wall, a tooled leather screen with brass nails, decorated in gilt and red lacquer, these will provide color, not to mention a portrait print with much red, and a red background to the carving on the buffet, the tall china cabinet and the side table. Above the buffet a round framed map of tinted gesso would supply more color.

At any season it is difficult to generalize about style tendencies whether in clothing or home decoration. One thing, however, seems noticeable this year and that is the prevalence of cushions, especially small ones. There are gingham, chintz, embroidered or quilted cushions scattered about—each chair with one or two. Small round or heart shaped pink cushions, all frilled with lace like valentines, are lying on the beds. Bits of old

In a Spanish dining room with its low arched doors, the tones of brass and dull red were the leading color notes. Chairs of red tapestry with gilt fringe stood about a long refectory table. A Gothic window made a background for a tall iron fern stand. Wrought iron was repeated in the fire place equipment standing in an interesting Spanish fireplace with its overhang built out from the corner. Carved walnut was used for a chest and china cabinet. Over the buffet hung a portrait with a pair of twisted brass torchers below.

If one cares not for the period rooms, one may choose from many modern pieces or sets, and produce a most successful arrangement.

**Fixing Up the Bed Room**  
A bed room with a swan motive carried out in each piece, comes to mind. It was modern and of no definite period. A huge rag doll dressed as Pierrot, lounging in a love seat, did suggest a French influence but then so did a few modern French prints. Twin beds with a swan at each corner of the foot board, covered themselves with mauve spreads. At the foot of each a small stool was placed, covered with green needlepoint. On the dresser a glass shelf stood either side of mirror supported at each corner by a swan carved in walnut. A similar pair of glass shelves stood on the vanity case, each holding a lamp.

patchwork quilts are centers for others. One may devise almost any shape or use any material and find it is correct, just so it is small. Here again is the childish note repeated, as was mentioned before. If you are a step further, and make a delightful squirrel of gingham, or a fat cat, or a frisky bunny, it will find many uses. Dad can fall over it, and mother can use it for an elbow rest. And small brother will find it excellent for emphasis in an argument, being just the right size to throw at any one "when words fail you."

# DOUBLE BREASTEDS



## dominate Boys' Suit Styles

Despite any propaganda the long trousers suits for boys of six years or more will continue to remain in favor.

In certain sections of the country here have been efforts made to revert to the knicker suits, but it does not seem as if such campaigns have been successful.

The situation is something like this: The little fellow who once was put in long trousers, when this idea started developing, detests like everything to go back to knickers. In this opinion he is retrograding in style—and that's a condition he will rebel against.

On the other hand those Tom Thumb Suits with long trousers for juveniles of four, five and six years have been discarded almost entirely, although some sections of the country will continue to sell them.

**Knickers More Practical**  
While this idea was a novelty with many a mother, she permitted her youngster to make the change, but since the youth of those tender years still likes to crawl on his hands and knees and

has little regard for cleanliness the long trousers often were a messy sight. Since mother still holds the ruling hand over her son of that age, she made the youngster go back to the more practical knickers.

In many sections both longies and knickers are being sold with suits for boys of six years and over. This is due largely to the fact that the short pants are used for school and play, while the mannish trousers are suitable for Sundays, holidays and special occasions.

As for style it seems as if the double double breasted suit will have the major call this fall. Of course, there will be many single-breasted modes, but the double-breasted sack coat will meet with greater favor, just as it is meeting with favor among men in their late teens and over.

This style is well liked, for it sets the younger off; gives him a bearing that is not obtainable in single-breasted clothes.

While it usually has been the fashion to revert to sombre colors for fall and winter wear, this season promises to be another in which light colored clothes will prevail to a great extent. The demand it seems is growing for flashier shades and among the more popular tenses will be grays, browns and mixtures.

There will be no decided change in the materials offered. Among them are worsteds, chevots, home-spuns and tweeds.

As for the youngster in the juvenile class there will be presented the same sort of clothes he wore last spring when the Tom Thumb suits started on the downward course. Fancy novelties in wool suits will be shown a lot, while the wash suit selection is similar to that of several years past.

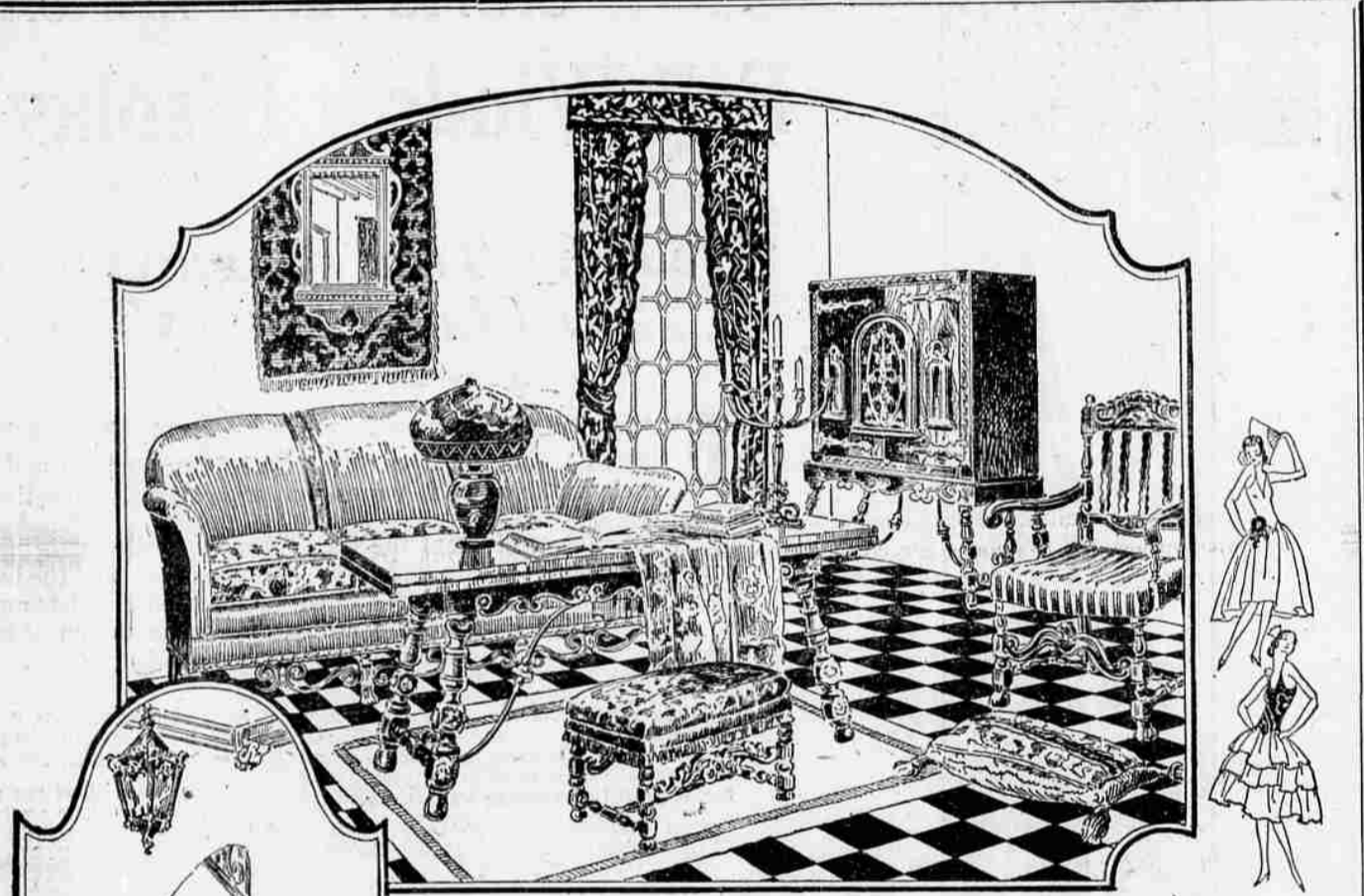
Merely a single paragraph is necessary to tell about the accessories that boy of yours will wear. Furnishings, hats and shoes are very much like they were a year ago—hence there will be no worry occasioned by style changes.

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