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Ben Bella Directs Algerian Policy

Algiers, Algeria - (AP) - Premier Ahmed Ben Bella personally will direct Algeria's foreign policy in place of Foreign Minister Mohammed Khemisti, still in a coma from an attempted assassination, informed sources said today.

Hospital sources said it appeared unlikely that Khemisti would ever regain consciousness.

The 32-year-old diplomat, highly regarded by Western observers, was shot by a gunman last Thursday as he left the National Assembly building with his wife. The bullet which lodged in his brain has not been removed.

Informed observers said Ben Bella might name his personal cabinet director, Mohammed Hadj Small, to take over the Foreign Ministry on a temporary basis.



Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn W. Watkins

Register & Tribune Syndicate, 1963

House Needed Remodeling Before Pair Could Move In

The new occupants of the "house" on the pole had decided to remodel the old homestead. Determined to do the work of remodeling themselves, they began the operation.

Seemed their main trouble was the front of the residence. They felt the door was too small, figured the opening must have been made for a midget. Whatever work needed to be done to the interior could be determined after a suitable doorway was constructed.

One could not know what the inside looked like if one couldn't get in at the front door. So, with determination Mr. and Mrs. Woodpecker began "a labor of love," enlarging the front door.

Originally, the house they were looking at had been made for smaller tenants. Actually, it was erected by the householder in hopes of interesting a family of house wrens to occupy it. It was a beautiful little structure, ideal for a wren couple, but for some obscure reason they were delayed. The woodpeckers, evidently accustomed to making snap decisions, made up their minds.

City Living
They could see the advantage of living in a city backyard, and besides, Mrs. Woodpecker had become somewhat discouraged. A shortage of suitable trees in the area may have had something to do with her decision to occupy a man-made birdhouse. None of her ancestors, or Mr. Woodpecker's either, would ever have thought of using anything other than a cavity in a tree, but times have changed for woodpeckers as well as humans, and, being opportunists and advocates of modern living, they decided on the wren house.

After surveying the situation from every angle the two birds with the chisel bills began the task of door-remodeling. It wasn't much of a job. The wood used in the construction of the little house was soft.

Mr. Woodpecker, his stiff tail feathers braced against the supporting pole, hammered away at the side of the small opening. His technique was the same as that practiced by any experienced woodsman with an ax. He chipped out bite-sized pieces with repeated blows, each one at a selected place. Wood chips half an inch long fell away from his powerful blows.

Careful Workmen
It didn't take long, in spite of the fact that the opening had to be made nearly three times its original size. Both birds were careful workmen. The hole opening was nearly round when they had finished. Both birds seemed proud of their handiwork.

Mrs. Woodpecker moved in before her hard-hitting husband had chipped out the last hunk. It was the first time she had seen the inside. Before the opening was enlarged she could barely get her head inside the door. When she did, her own head shut off the light inside the house. Once inside she peeked out, and apparently said to her spouse, "OK dear, we will take it."

Alterations completed, the next step was furnishing the apartment. This was easier than the remodeling - they just moved in a generous quantity of sawdust and wood chips. Woodpecker babies have rested on wood shavings since the very first woodpecker hollowed out a cavity in a dead tree trunk.

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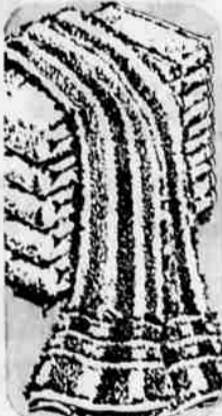
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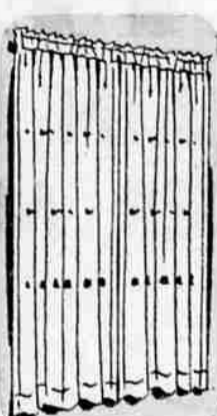
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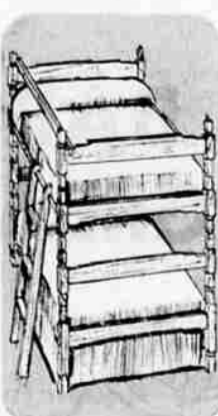
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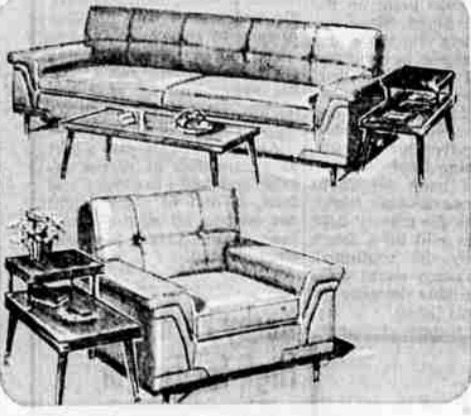
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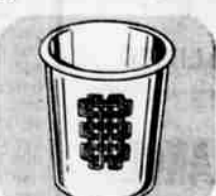
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