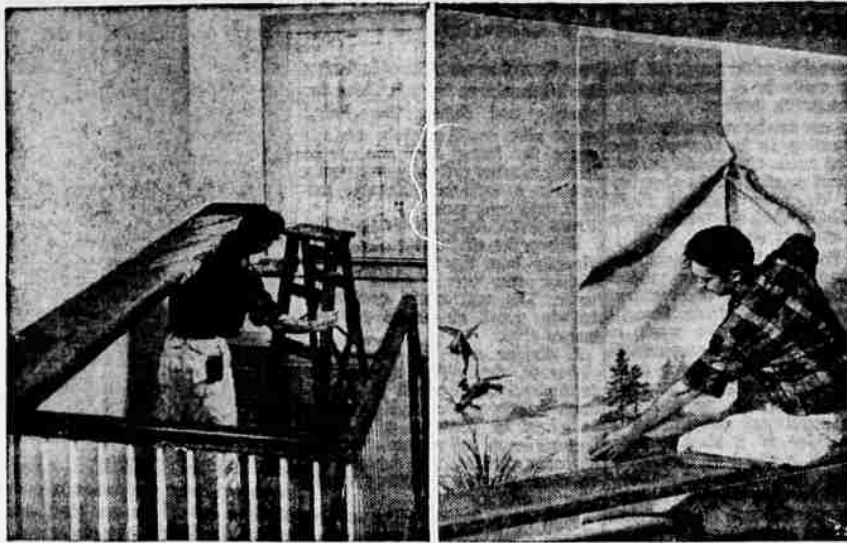


Murals Brighten Stairwells



DRAMA AT THE STAIRS. Put up your own mural to brighten a stairwell. Begin by balancing a plank on a ladder and the banister, as shown at the left, for the hard to reach areas. A stiff brush fixes the new plastic material to the wall and smooths any wrinkles. Line up the panels, as shown at the right, so that the strips blend into one another.

Why not put drama into your stairwell? A handsome mural may be used to dramatize this area and hide scars or an old paint job.

One do-it-yourself project transformed an otherwise conventional stairwell into a landscape with hand-printed mural depicting wild ducks alighting on a wooded marsh. The mural of plastic coated wall fabric is easily cleaned.

The same general steps that apply to hanging a wall covering are followed for decorating a stairwell, a working platform should be provided. The easiest way to do this is to place a step ladder on the landing to support one end of a stout plank. The other end rests on the upstairs banister.

Before starting the mural job, decide where the alternate strips of solid ground material will go. A good idea for balance is to alternate the strips—a strip of solid material, a full mural, another strip of solid color and a second full mural.

There is no need to cut murals because the strips are complete units in themselves, unlike patterned wall paper. Basic steps to follow are:

Establish a vertical straight edge with a plumb line at the point where the mural begins. Spread ordinary wallpaper paste evenly on the back of each strip and affix to the wall, using a stiff brush to eliminate wrinkles.

Be sure the pattern matches as the strips are brushed in place. Wash down with a soft damp cloth or sponge to eliminate excess paste.

The solid color material needed to fill in the space between the murals must first be measured and then cut in strips or the re-



THE FINISHED PRODUCT makes an otherwise drab stairwell into a scenic area and will brighten the landings.

quired length before it is hung. Strips should be reversed when using a solid color, to assure uniformity.

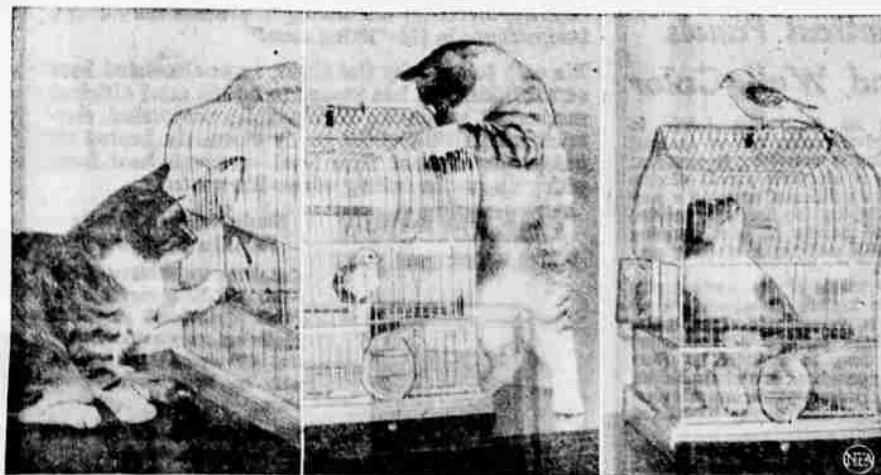
When using a mural on a staircase it is a good idea to choose a flowing movement of some sort. Avoid static designs.

JACK OF ALL TRADES

NEW YORK (AP)—Robert Downing, a man with two jobs, won't just be acting in Broadway's planned comedy - with - music, "Say, Darling." The plot concerns theater folk and production of a musical. Downing was first signed to be stage manager of the real life production, and then cast to act the role of a stage manager in the show. A special union waiver was required for him to take the dual chore.

BROADWAY ABROAD

NEW YORK (AP)—A stellar company of Broadway creative talent congregates 4,000 miles from home next summer for a drama-music-ballet tourney in Spoleto, Italy. The project has been organized by Gian-Carlo Menotti, Italian born composer. Entitled "Festival of Two Worlds," the project launches June 5 with a production of Verdi's "Macbeth," sung by young American and Italian singers. Menotti has raised \$136,000 for the three-week festival. Among the U.S. artists participating are to be Thomas Schippers, conductor, who will direct the music branch of the festival; Jose Quintero, in charge of drama; and Jerome Robbins, who will choreograph a program of ballets.



WHILE THE BIRD'S AWAY. White Paws, a kitten belonging to Mrs. Martin Gal of Battle Creek, Michigan, figures that a cage in hand is better than chasing birds any day. That is why she pays no attention to Peppi, the parakeet, when the bird is let out of its cage to fly around the house. It is the cage that White Paws wants; and into it she pops as soon as the bird has flown the coop. While Peppi flutters around outside, White Paws takes a nap inside.



BEFORE THE NEW BABY ARRIVES is the time to fix up one of the bedrooms as a nursery.

Father-To-Be Has Assignment To Prepare Baby's Bedroom

If there's a new member of the family scheduled for arrival in your home some one of these times, you might want to consider some suggestions for preparing one bedroom as a nursery.

First to be considered is paint job or wall-covering. Better leave the color selection to the home-maker, but for your own sake insist on washable paint or covering. Now is the time to do the job. Don't wait until the baby's arrival.

Check wall outlets in the room. There should be one available for a night light, one to supply power for illumination at the bath table and another within extension-cord distance of a location where you might want to use a vaporizer when baby has a cold. Locate it so that baby can't possibly reach cord from his crib.

Equip all base plugs with safety-type outlets. These outlets have a spring-mounted, circular cover over each outlet position. When an appliance plug is inserted and given a quarter turn, slots in cover line up with connections in outlet.

When plug is removed, cover returns to a position that foils efforts of small fingers to explore the outlet.

If you think such a precaution unnecessary at this time, recall that baby will be crawling about the nursery before very long.

You might care to replace conventional electric light switches in and near baby's room with either mercury or mechanical action, silent-action switches. Follow safety-first precautions; throw main switch at fuse box or remove circuit fuse before starting to replace switch.

Check all extension cords and plugs; replace those that are defective in any way.

Take care in painting bassinets, cribs and other furniture that you might acquire from friends. Use lead-free paint only.

There are several nontoxic lead-free paints formulated especially for nursery use. If baby chews on those, he'll come to no harm.

Check paint labels carefully. Many state specifically that they are suitable for nursery use. Failing such clear-cut information shy away by all means from any paint that lists among its ingredients lead or lead chromate. Lead chromate is found usually in the chrome yellows, greens and oranges.

A finish that you can compound is made from fresh, white shellac and certified food coloring. Use dry coloring; water-base coloring will not mix with the shellac.

If you can't buy dry coloring, allow water-soluble coloring to evaporate and dissolve residue in denatured alcohol before mixing with shellac.

Get color intensity desired by varying amount of color used and by mixing colors. Use fine lamp black, very sparingly, to get a black finish, or to darken other colors.

For a white finish, use fine, precipitated chalk.

Thin this shellac-enamel with denatured alcohol if necessary. Brush on rapidly.

"How to Succeed as a Mother-in-Law"



by Jean Komaiko

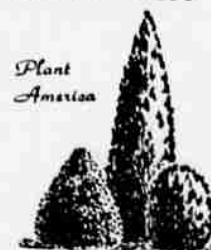
In the Orient, a bride moves in with her mother-in-law. This, say the Chinese, helps develop understanding and tolerance. In the West, a bride and her mother-in-law cross swords when the wedding march ends. They, too, could become friends with the aid of a few rules of conduct.

**Feb. 23
Family
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Herald and News

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