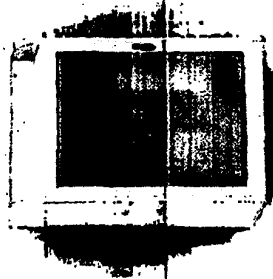
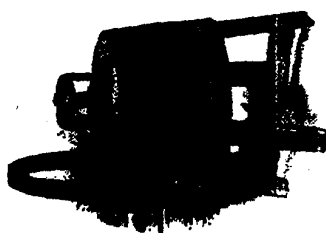


Useful Articles in the Home That Require Occasional Refinishing



•Medicine Cabinet.
S-W Enamel Pure White



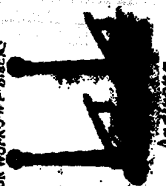
•Washing Machine.
S-W Enamel Pure White
Iron Works 3-4-5-6-Black



•Bread Box
Painted & Finished with
S-W Varnish Stain Light Oak



•Kitchen Stool.
S-W Enameloid-Crimson



•Armchairs.
S-W Flat Black



•Willow Clothes Hamper.
S-W Varnish Stain Light Oak



•Hall Tree.
S-W Varnish Stain Mahogany

For Directions see inside pages

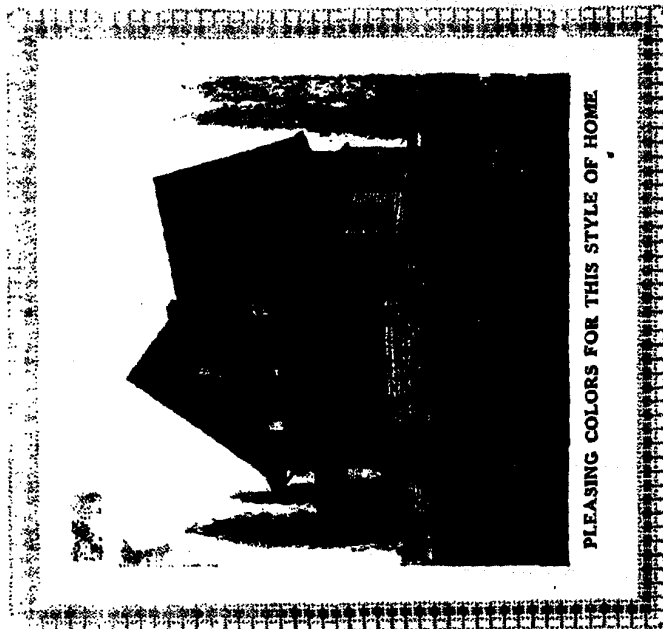
The HOME DECORATOR

A PRACTICAL MAGAZINE OF SUGGESTIONS FOR HOME DECORATION
PUBLISHED BY THE SHUREN-WILLIAMS CO., CLEVELAND, OHIO

VOL. IV.

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No. 2



PLEASING COLORS FOR THIS STYLE OF HOME

Pleasing Colors for the Large House

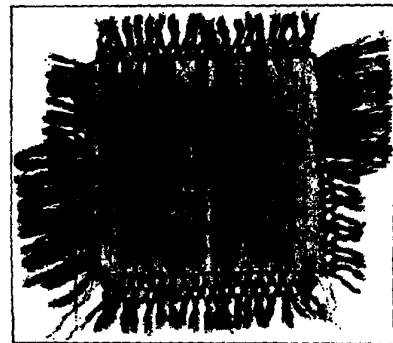
ON THE front cover is illustrated a type of house that can be painted in many different ways and the colors for which can be more easily adapted to meet surrounding conditions without detracting from the structural size of the building. The only treatment that should never be followed on a home of this style of construction is that in which the lower body is darker than the upper. In fact, the lower color should always be lighter, even though but one or two shades, than the upper. Here are a number of ways in which such a house can be painted. I. The upper and lower bodies can be tinted in the same color, even though shingles are used for one and siding for the other, with gables the same or not, and combined with either a light or dark trim. Either a very light or very dark color can be used for the bodies with the trim in a contrasting color or in the same shade. The roof can introduce a color not used on either body or trim to match one of these. II. Or if separate body colors are used, separate trim colors can be selected for the trim portions of upper and lower, the upper matching the lower color and vice versa.

None of these combinations perceptibly detract from the size of the frame, broad roof lines produced by the large gables or straight wall lines broken symmetrically with comparatively small windows. However, there is one combination of tints and shades that is excellent—namely, the use of a medium light color for the lower body selecting a quiet unobtrusive dark color for upper and roof, with the trim all alike in a shade as dark as upper body but in a color that will show a contrast as the house on the front cover illustrates.

Specifications

Upper Body—S-W Preservative Shingle Stain C-71.
Lower Body—SWP 457.
Trim—SWP 388.
Siding—SWP 457.
Roof—S-W Preservative Shingle Stain C-71.
Porch Floor—S-W Porch and Deck Paint 48.
Porch Ceiling—SWP 457.
Exterior Doors—S-W Handcraft Stain Weathered Oak.

Burlap, Stencil and Raffia



BURLAP and some of the roughly woven fabrics are always favored for the cushion-cover. Here is a combination of this material stenciling and needlework that produces a pleasing and serviceable cover. Burlap is inexpensive and the decorations as illustrated involves only an outlay of about 15 cents for Stencil Pattern No. 3-Y $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, 8 cents for one small tube of Olive Lake Stencil Color, and the price of the raffia. The latter material can be secured at the Kindergarten Supply Shop, in bunches costing 10 or 15 cents. As two or more colors are required for this pillow, but little of each color, you may find a number of friends who will make up the same cushion and stand one-third the cost of the raffia. However, this raffia can be used for a number of things—namely, tying up parcels, tying up gifts, and is suitable also for fastening the paper around the flower-pots. It is also excellent for tying up the vines.

To make the cushion, as illustrated, cut a 30-inch square of the burlap for the top, and an oblong piece 30 x 34 inches for the bottom. Cut the latter through the center along the shorter length, and finish each end with an inch hem. Put these hems one over the other, bringing the piece down to the size of the square for the top. Stitch together about 8 inches from the end for about one inch. This will fasten the two portions together, and leave the necessary opening for the insertion of the filling. The opening can be sewed together after the pillow is filled, or

furnished with patent clasps. The surplus material which was folded under to make the hems should be cut out. Now ravel out the edges for about 8 inches to form the threads for the fringe. Baste front and back pieces together and proceed to knot the fringe. This knotting is a simple matter but very effective. Take a bunch of unraveled thread about the thickness of an ordinary sized pencil, half top threads and half bottom. and knot together well up near the unraveled portion. Then separate into two parts, knot one-half of one portion with one-half of the other as illustration shows. The second knot should be about one inch below the first. Trim off fringe evenly. The pillow is now ready for the stencil.

Apply the stencil pattern as the illustration shows, placing the inner side of the stencil four inches from the center line, and just a trifle to the right of the center crease. Work to the left bringing the third *motif* just at the corner, then with the stencil still working to the left, apply three more *motifs* to complete the decoration of another side, etc., until all four sides are stenciled. Apply the pattern with the stencil color, Olive Lake. When this is done, the interesting part of the work can be undertaken. Finish the top of the cushion with a row of chain stitches just one inch inside of the fringe, using blue and green raffia, and inside of that with a plain stitch, run red raffia. This, however, is not necessary, but will make the pillow individual. It is a newer treatment of a cover.

The heavy portions of the stencil are then buttonhole stitched in a radiating shell effect with blue raffia, while the small dots and stems are covered in the same way with the red. This will give the pillow a three-color effect. On the natural burlap the whole is attractive. If desired, a simple band in red could be used as an outside border to the stencil. The pattern itself could be applied in blue, green and red, using stencil color Orange Lake for the red, Cobalt Blue for the blue and Olive Lake as previously suggested for the green. The needlework of raffia can then be omitted.

The men who are lifting the world upward and onward are those who encourage more than criticize.

A Precaution Against the Fly Pest

See Screen, Back Cover

YEAR in and year out there is always the task of taking out and putting in the screen. There are some things that cannot be overcome. They must be endured, and this is one of them. Until the fly campaigners exterminate this pest, we must make the best of the screens, may even make the task an enjoyable one, and so lighten the burden. Get out in the fresh air and sunshine and make the painting an excuse to don old clothes, and old gloves. Get a good stiff brush—a 10 or 15-cent one will do, and try your hand at painting. You will find the exercise as beneficial as playing tennis or golf and not quite as strenuous.

Added to the Spring work such measures as the painting of the screens, the immediate hanging of the same, etc., are a trial. An ounce of prevention, however, is worth a pound of cure, so that this Spring's experience will bear on next Fall's suggestion—namely, to paint the screens when they are taken down and before they are stored. Paint now or in the Fall, with S-W Screen Enamel Black, both screen filling and wood frame. Brush the material out well and allow to dry thoroughly before using the screens. This material is also made in green.

Canvas Cushions

White or striped canvas, which can be secured in 18 or 22-inch widths for 25 and 28 cents per yard, is excellent for camp and lawn-cushions. The red and white striped is especially attractive, and, as the canvas is not affected by rain, they require little care. Pine needles, excelsior, or cork in which grapes are packed, make excellent fillings. The white canvas can be stenciled in red, blue or dull green, using S-W Stencil Colors, Orange Lake, Cobalt, or Olive Lake, mixed with 1-10 part of the Stencil Medium. Conventional designs, such as Nos. 123, 127, 124, 103 and 74, are good. In making the canvas pillows use a very heavy needle, and thread the machine with coarse cotton.

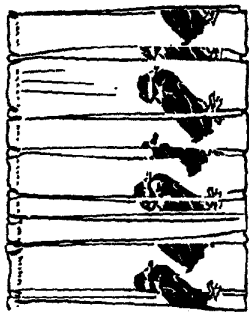


Diagram S

Pattern No. 52. For Nursery Sash Curtains

Stencils for Curtains and Hangings

HANGINGS of very inexpensive material as well as those of the better fabrics can be made attractive by the introduction of hand decoration. The stencils can be employed to introduce borders (Diagram M), medallions (Diagram O), all-over (Diagram R) and applique (Diagram X)—patterns which will give decorative interest to the fabric. A large variety of



Diagram X

Linen Band Stencilled with Pattern No. 100
Appliqued to Heavier Material

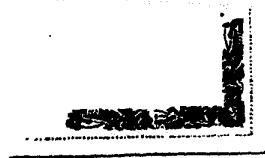


Diagram M

Pattern No. 46 in two colors
Used as Curtain Border

designs, suitable for this work, is shown in the Sherwin-Williams Booklet, "Stencils and Stencil Materials" which will be furnished upon request. Even stencil patterns suitable for the nursery are shown (Diagram S).

Scrim, Etamine, Marquisette, Muslin or Cheese-Cloth, is suitable for the outer curtain and can be finished with border stencils, placed just inside the seam or hemstitched hem. As these materials are more or less transparent, the colors used for the stencil decoration, should be a trifle heavier than those for the opaque fabrics, as the light will weaken the color. The heavier materials, Linen, Crash, Basket-weave, Pongee, Rahja, Silk, Cotton Crepe, Plain Taffetas, Galatea Cloth and other similar fabrics, are required for the inner hangings, portieres, cushions, etc. A personal touch is given these household furnishings by the stencil, which can be combined with needlework if desired. It is preferable to use colors for the stencil darker than the fabric, therefore the lighter colored cloth is most favored. However, tans, browns,



Diagram O

Stencil No. 74 as
Medallion Decoration

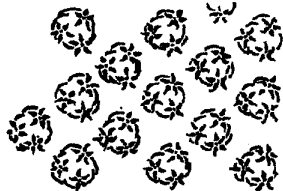


Diagram R

No. 26. Used as All-over Pattern



Diagram X

Stencil No. 100y used to give
Appliqued Wreath Decoration

gray, green and blue, can be decorated and some variation in tints of stencil and background shown. The lighter colored materials are best when a comparatively light hanging is desired.

The stencil colors which are necessary in connection with the stencil for the application of the decoration to the fabric, are of the proper consistency requiring only the addition of 1-10 Stencil Medium to render the stenciled fabric washable. The stencil paint is a transparent oil material, and acts much as a dye or stain. It should be so applied as to retain the texture of the fabric. A painted effect should be avoided. However, it is often desirable to apply a design to a dark fabric in a lighter color. The addition of a small quantity of Stencil White is essential. This produces to some extent an opaque appearance and has the tendency to destroy the quality of the fabric. Avoid such a treatment whenever possible and rather apply the decoration to a light-colored material, which in turn can be applied onto the darker as illustrations "X" show. This makes possible interesting needlework, as the applique can be fastened with buttonhole stitch, couching, herring-bone or feather-stitch. Plain machine stitching on a straight band is possible.

A stencil design can be further accentuated by embroidering, and the darning stitch should be used here and there to fill in a background or brighten the color effect of one portion of the design. Floss in various colors can be used for this purpose.

Paint for the Bird-House

See Back Cover

THE crude little bird-house, which the boys have laboriously fashioned or the architecturally planned bird-house, indicate a desire to make the feathered neighbors comfortable. A brightly painted bird-house elevated on a pole should indeed be an attraction to the birds. SWP is recommended for the painting and the combination as illustrated by the bird-house, shown on the back cover can be used with good results.

Other combinations than the one of white and green can be selected, and if light colors are being employed in the painting of the residence, these could be used on the bird-house as well.

Practical Uses for Paint

See Back Cover

THE garbage-can at its best is not very attractive, so that its appearance should be made as inconspicuous as possible. Green is an excellent color, for it is dark, therefore, serviceable and, matching the foliage about the back lawn, loses itself as much as possible among the greens of Nature. Aside from appearance, however, the can should be painted both inside and out every season from an economical standpoint. Paint prevents rust and decay.

Use S-W Screen Enamel, Green, applying one or two coats as may be required. Allow the paint to dry thoroughly before putting the can to further use. The new can will last longer if painted at once.

A Garden Suggestion

See Sprinkling-Can on Back Cover

ONE of the more useful garden accessories requires frequent attention to make it last the Summer through. It is a needless waste to allow such articles as the garden sprinkling-can to become leaky, especially, as this is so easily prevented. In fact, the can will last several seasons if it is properly painted each year.

The paint costs only a few cents, and it's just pure fun to make old things look new. Try it once and see how good you feel. Paint inside and out with a coat of SWP Red No. 367. As the red is in strong contrast with the lawn and garden colors, one more readily discovers where the garden equipment was hurriedly dropped to chat with a passing neighbor or forgotten upon one's discovery of a new bird, enthusiasm over a particular development of the flower, or even dismay and real sorrow at the sudden and unaccountable death of a favored, well-cared for plant.

You may find it necessary at this time of the year to paint the hose-reel, lawn-mower and roller, all of which will appear bright and new in this color. Do not neglect these things. They make the yard look either prosperous and well kept or untidy and shiftless.

Suitable Paint for the Flower-Urn

See Back Cover

THE flower-urn like the sun-dial and bird bath are garden accessories that are introduced successfully on many grounds, but their use, however, is merely a matter of taste. Those who possess the flower-urn can use it just now to good advantage, as there is a tendency to pattern the garden after the old-fashioned ones in which such things naturally found their place.

A good paint for the flower-urn will be found in the use of SWP No. 351—Stone Color. It combines well with the natural tints of the flowers and plants, which is not always true of the greens. The Gray will also show off the foliage to greater advantage than the green. Then, too, the light color gives the urn a more substantial appearance, and is suggestive of the cement and stone of which many of the gardens' ornaments are made. One or two coats of material will be necessary and about one quart of paint required.

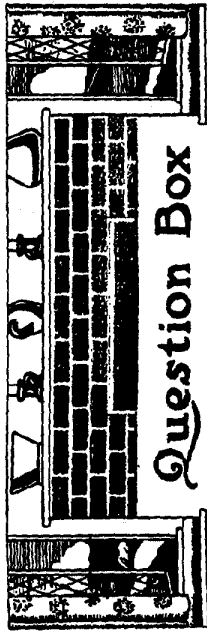
A Finish for the Ladder

See Back Cover

AFTER the ladder has been given rough usage at house-cleaning time—and it certainly is then most essential to one's comfort—it will need more than a good scrubbing. In fact, a coat of paint will be needed to cover a multitude of—one is most tempted to say sins but that would hardly be fair to the ladder. No, the only thing that will make the ladder presentable after it has done such untiring service in the painting, papering and cleaning of the home, is a coat of good covering and durable paint. Make it look like new, and as if it were capable of supporting the average person by finishing with one or two coats of SWP Golden Brown No. 486.

The illustration on the back cover shows a neat, attractive ladder ready for use and adding to the appearance of its surroundings. One quart of the paint will be sufficient for this work.

THE HOME DECORATOR



Note—Conducted for the purpose of helping our subscribers in the decoration and care of their homes. If the question asked requires a long answer, we will write you. Address the Editor.

Question—Mrs. L. B. Florida: How can porch furniture be made serviceable as well as attractive for another season?

Answer—Use S-W Porch and Lawn Furniture Enamel. This is made up in attractive colors, and the paint itself does not soften under heat or stick to clothing. It is made for the finishing of the porch furniture, as it will stand severe exposure. It requires little labor and will restore a badly-worn surface without much expense. It is made up in two reds and three greens, the Bog Green being especially attractive for the porch furniture. Wash furniture thoroughly to remove grease and allow to dry before painting with the Porch and Lawn Furniture Enamel, which should be thoroughly stirred before using. Spread paint evenly and thinly. Use the soft bristle-brush.

Question—A. B. T. Kansas: How can a home-made Mission porch swing be finished to stand service?

Answer—To retain the Mission effect, stain the wood if new with S-W Handcraft Stain Brown Oak; follow with a coat of S-W Mission-lac and varnish the surface with S-W Kopal Varnish, which dries slowly but hard and is not affected by moisture or heat. If a dull surface finish is desired, the varnish can be rubbed with pumice-stone and oil. If the swing is made of old lumber, paint with two coats of SWP No. 385, Teak Brown, Dark. This finish does not retain the grain of the wood as does the stain, but produces a satisfactory and durable finish.

Question—Miss F. D. Canada: Is it possible to stain or paint floor matting that is slightly worn?

Answer—The matting can be finished with S-W Floorlac, which will produce a durable surface finish and give an effect similar to stained and varnished treatment of floors. The texture of the matting will not be destroyed. If the floor covering is in a badly worn state, a coat of S-W Floorlac Ground, which is an opaque material, covering up defects and forming a suitable

foundation for the floorlac finish, must be used. The ground when finished with the floorlac in color selected, hides the weave of the matting, much the same way as any heavy oil-paint. Two or three coats of S-W Inside Floor Paint can be used, if it is only necessary to give the surface a practical finish and not essential to retain the matting appearance. Either finish is appropriate and very durable.

Question—Mrs. F. A., Canada: Can you suggest materials suitable for porch cushions?

Answer—For rough use, denim is considered advisable. This can be secured in a good blue, green, brown and red. Khaki cloth, also an inexpensive material, comes in a very light tan, and is as serviceable as the denim. It makes excellent cushions for the bungalow porch. Matting can also be used, and has the advantage of keeping clean longer than cotton materials. All these can be attractively stenciled.

Question—E. H., California: We have made two very nice candlesticks of oak wood that we want to finish in an effect similar to copper verde effect. These will be used with brown mission, and green wicker furniture in den. Can you tell us how the brown, green finish is secured?

Answer—Sandpaper the surface smooth, brush surface thoroughly with a stiff brush to remove all particles from the pores of the Oak, and apply a coat of S-W Handcraft Stain, Brown Oak. This material can be secured in 1-2 pints, which quantity will be sufficient for the candlesticks. When dry, apply a coat of S-W Mission-lac, using a good fitch-brush for the work. Sandpaper this surface lightly. The green corroded effect is secured by applying S-W Glaze Color Nile Green, filling the pores of the wood only, and wiping off the superfluous paint before it sets, rubbing across the grain. If a lighter shade of green is desired, add a small quantity of Stencil White to the Nile Green.

Finishing the Mud-Scraper

See Back Cover

TO THOSE who find it necessary to continue the use of the old-fashioned mud-scraper, our suggestion will appeal. Continual exposure and use has a bad effect on the iron. Its appearance reflects upon that of the porch or steps. Only frequent painting will remedy such a condition.

Use a coat of SWP Black as frequently as necessary. In fact, keep this material on hand and a special brush just for this purpose. Scrub off the fixture when the porch is being cleaned and apply one or two coats, if the present surface is rusting—of SWP Black. That is all. The scraper when dry is again ready for use and the entrance to your home, even down to the minor details will appear tidy.

The New Home

IT IS easy enough to say we are going to have this and that in our new home, and we are going to build that kind of a house, but it is another thing to say, "Well, we want those things, and we will pay just what our architect figures." How many, if any, ever plan a house that does not more than exceed the amount that can be put into the home. One enthusiastic home-builder was perfectly scandalized to find that her simple bungalow plan with living-room and dining-room combined, and chambers on the first floor and no elaborate stairway would involve an outlay of \$5,000. It was such an inexpensive cement



The small entrance at the front, which is almost necessary for the small home, makes it possible to add to the width of the house by using the living-porch at the side.

and shingle bungalow without any furbelows and with low roof lines, and she had been careful to utilize all the floor space, as only a woman can—but so it is. The architect will take but one look at the plans we have so lovingly cherished and pronounce their doom.

The bungalow is considered an excellent type of building to follow when a low-cost home is to be built. This, however, is not so, as the plans cover more ground space than the two-story house, and as building is usually estimated at so much per square foot of ground space, the cottage type of home is a better selection. The character of the bungalow can be suggested by the gambrel roof with wide dormers, giving the chambers the full height.

An attractive cottage of just such a type and combining all the desirable features of the bungalow is shown by the illustration. With the hall and stairway in the center the large living-room to the left, well lighted by three exposures, and the dining-room and kitchen on the right, a compact but convenient arrangement is secured.

The second floor is as economically planned, containing three chambers, bath and linen-closets. The rooms are not large, although large enough to contain the necessary chamber furniture without crowding. A glimpse into the dining-room shows an individual treatment of built-in cupboards, and this feeling of individuality is carried out in the entire home.

Shingles, too, are advisable for the low-cost house. They are durable when properly finished and give warmer walls than siding, and are fully as attractive as cement or stucco.

The gray body tint used on this home is better than a darker color, as it adds to the apparent size, whereas a darker color would detract. The rich green of the roof and shutters, contrasts well with the gray body and introduces the necessary strong color. The low foundation is of gray stone, blending into the wall tone, thus adding to the height of the roof line but keeping the low set appearance of the structure.

The shingles were dipped two-thirds before being laid, thus coating the underside of the shingle with the preservative ma-



The light gray tint of the wall, blended from a very light tone to a deeper, apparently increases the size as well as the height.

terial and prolonging their life greatly. S-W Preservative Shingle Stain C-82 was used for walls and C-71 for the roof, which gave the gray green tone. The latter was repeated in the finish of the shutters, which were painted with SWP No. 481. The trim and sash including the exterior doors were painted white with SWP Gloss White. The porch floors were given three coats of S-W Porch and Deck Paint No. 49, the light gray color, thus keeping the home in the two-color effect of gray and green.

The White Enamel wood finish was employed throughout the home, as the dining-room shows, the doors being finished in mahogany and the floors in the natural varnish finish, retaining

the light tone of the birch wood. S-W Old Dutch Enamel was applied over a proper foundation of Flat-tone White to give the woodwork its pleasing and durable surface finish. The Mahogany Stain No. 700 Dark was employed for the doors, bringing the finish to a high surface effect by filling the birch wood with the Mahogany Paste Filler and following with a coat of pure White Shellac, which surface was sanded with 0000 sandpaper. This was then followed with two coats of Durable Wood Finish. Interior, the first coat sanded with 0000 sandpaper and the last coat rubbed to a dull finish with pumice-stone and oil. Three coats of S-W Mar-not were used on the floors, the first coat thinned 10 per cent and the second coat 5 per cent with pure spirits turpentine. The third coat was applied full strength and rubbed to a dull finish with pumice-stone and oil. The rubbing process is not at all difficult, as the oil has a tendency to kill the high gloss of the varnish surfacer. With the white and mahogany as a foundation, light wall tints were selected for the ceilings and walls. Yellow was used in the hall with green in the living-room and the gray and rose in the dining-room. Touches of blue were also introduced in this room through the china and the stencil border. Stencil Pattern No. 604-Y, 5 inches, price 30 cents, was applied against the light gray ground, produced with S-W Flat-tone System Effect No. 25, in a darker gray by the use of Stencil Color Raw Umber. It was then filled with Stencil Color, Italian Blue reduced with turpentine, and Permanent Crimson Lake, also reduced with turpentine. The latter color was employed for the lower and upper bands as well as for the spaces separating the heart-shaped design in the border. The border is so treated that an iridescent effect is secured. The furniture is oak, of the antique character, finished in the silver gray tone with S-W Handcraft Stain Silver Gray. It is treated in the dull surface finish and is excellent in this type of room. The low hanging lights are hidden by the silk shade that is an attractive feature and helps to keep the quaint appearance of the interior. An India make rug in gray, dull brown and blue covers the center of the floor.

The entire appearance of this home, both exterior and interior impresses one with its simplicity.

The Economic Value of Prepared Paint

IT HAS been found that whereas the entire home only requires painting every two or three years, the portions around the porches such as railings, water-boards, spindles, the floors, etc., are ready for a coat of paint each season. One owner has found that by having his house painted with a prepared paint, such as SWP, it is possible for him to touch up the worn parts without involving much expense. All that is necessary is the ordering of a small can of paint of the color specified, and to apply or have applied this paint. Such a plan is entirely out of the question, to say nothing of the other disadvantages when the painter is allowed to mix the lead and oil and to tint same to the color, selected by the owner. The difficulty of matching up a color is entirely overcome, and the newly painted portions will be of exactly the same shade as the previously painted part, thus keeping the same inconspicuous.

The Table-Top

ONE reader requests information regarding the finishing of the table-top to withstand the effect of hot dishes. Many of our readers will doubtless be interested to know that one of the most satisfactory treatments for the dining-room table-top is produced by the use of a plate glass cover, similar to that used for sometime on dressers and dressing-tables. The glass is not only an absolute protection to the top, but makes it possible to expose the finish, which on most tables is very attractive, brought about by the grain of the wood and the high polish to which the wood itself has been subjected. Very frequently tables of this kind are set for luncheon with no other table-linen than the individual pieces under the table service.

Where this is not possible, protect the table-top with an asbestos pad. For refinishing a marred table-top, sand the entire surface lightly and apply one or two coats of S-W Bar Top Finish. This will not turn white, spot or crack, but it will be readily understood that very hot dishes unless properly separated by the necessary pads, will in time effect even the best varnish surface.

Garden Hints for June

Plant tender annuals, as portulaca, also dwarf nasturtiums, dahlias and gladioli. Tie up tomato-vines. Do not neglect. Set out cabbage and cauliflower plants in rich soil. Well drained clay soil is best for cabbage.

Sow for late crops, beets, carrots, potatoes, and for succession, radishes, sweet-corn, beans and turnips.

Look out for cut worms. Poisoned bait made by dipping clover in S-W Paris Green or New Process Arsenate of Lead, 3 pounds to half barrel of water distributed over the prepared garden, will get a good many of the worms. Spray orchard trees as soon as petals fall from blossoms.

Brighten Up News

Individual members and organized clubs are hard at work, and we have promise of excellent "Before-and-After." Brighten Up Campaign photographs. Still a few copies of "Making Over Maybridge" left—sent free on request. Brighten Up Day bids fair to be an annual event in many cities and towns. The creed is being generally adopted and, in many cases, is published over the mayor or town official's signature.

An Embroidery Hint

One of our readers, who is very skilful with the needle, used Stencil Pattern No. 26, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, 10 cents, as a pattern for an embroidered waist. The stencil was placed on the material, and with a sharp pencil the outline was traced. These gave the outline for embroidery. Three *motifs* on the front and one on each sleeve gave a pretty decoration.

Mrs. Never-Think-At-All showing a friend through her new home—"What do you think of the decorations?"

Mrs. Magazine Reader—"Show a great deal of taste."

Mrs. Never-Think-At-All—"Oh thanks."

Mrs. Magazine Reader—"Yes, but it's all very bad taste."

A New Theory of Colors

THE use of paint in the decoration of the walls of our rooms has been advocated not only for the artistic effects obtainable through its use, but for the sanitary qualities of the painted finish. Medical authorities in recommending its employment warned us that wall-paper harbors bacilli. Now they go a step further and tell us that paint positively kills bacilli. Extensive experiments have been made and the following is the substance of their discoveries:

The tubercle bacillus has been found to have no chance against paint of certain hues. Enameling colors exterminate cholera and diphtheria bacilli, and even kill the typhoid bacillus in eight days. With oil colors the effect is less rapid but as certain. A Paris doctor has experimented elaborately with various colors, green, yellow, Chinese red, and found that ultramarine blue the pyogenic bacillus in nine days "became inert." *The British Medical Journal* looks forward, therefore, to a time when we shall find sanitary salvation in frescoes.

But one foresees complications. What is a guest to think, who finds himself allotted by his hostess to the Chinese red room? (Or will the visitor be expected to know what bacillus he is most likely to harbor and to ask for his room accordingly? Again the efficacy of this new witchcraft depends upon the constitution of the paint used. Will the elderly hypochondriacs refuse an invitation on the ground that he is afraid there is not sufficient lead chromate in his hostess' paint?

There is at least some solution of the problem of selecting colors according to this theory, in the use of some of the mottled two and three-color effects, which are becoming so popular. It should be possible to exterminate several different species in this way. Perhaps in a few years' time it may be necessary for paint manufacturers to place a special label on their paint-cans telling what bacilli the contents will exterminate.

The sum and substance of the whole thing, however, is the selection of a sanitary wall finish and of colors that will lend themselves best to the character and purpose of the room. When a restful atmosphere is required the quiet, unobtrusive colors are best. Warm yellows are used to suggest bright sunlight.