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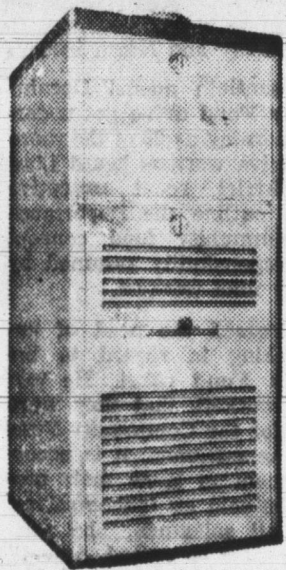
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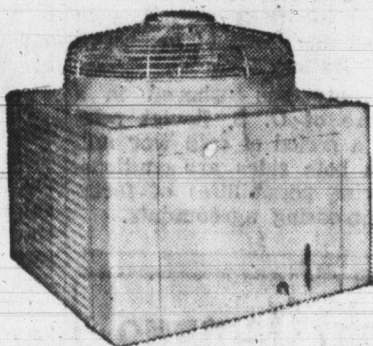
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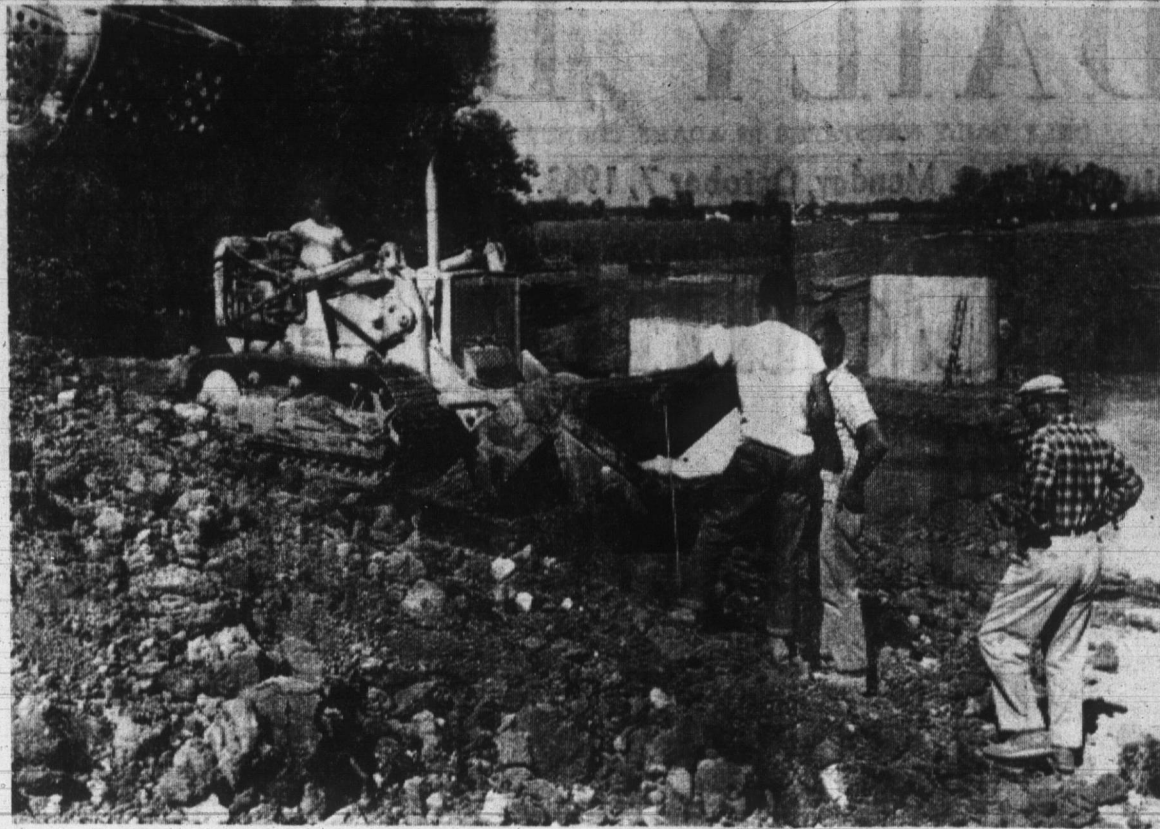


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MOVING AHEAD—Work on the new Pleasant Mills bridge, being built by the Yost Construction company, is progressing on schedule. Two of the main supports for the bridge have already been erected and the approaches to the bridge have been built up. The old covered bridge has been completely removed. (Photo by MacLean)

About \$13 billion will be spent this year on home improvement projects.

Many banks and savings and loan associations offer remodeling finance plans.

Actor's Widow, at 90, Happy in Hollywood

Firemen who fought a raging brush fire in Hollywood's Laurel Canyon four years ago still recall a tall, elderly lady who tirelessly walked up and down Stanley Hills Drive with her cook, Mary, serving lemonade from an heirloom pitcher as the fire consumed 30 homes.

The woman was Lady Aubrey, widow of the distinguished British actor, Sir Aubrey Smith. Today, at 90, Lady Aubrey still lives on Stanley Hills Drive, just as resolute as she was then, but with far better reason now to appear unconcerned about the likelihood of fire.

Her home has been carefully protected from fire by its owner, Russell Brown, who lives next door. The roof is made of asphalt shingles approved by Underwriters' Laboratories as fire resistant. Sprinklers have now been installed on the grounds and on the steep hillside against which the house is built. In case of fire, Lady Aubrey needs only to walk to her porch to turn on the sprinkler system.

Throughout the house Lady Aubrey occupies, Landlord Brown has installed intercoms which connect with his house. As a further safeguard, he is clearing brush all around the four houses he owns on Stanley Hills Drive.

All of Brown's houses have fire-resistant asphalt shingle roofs which reduce fire insurance



Lady Aubrey, widow of the distinguished British actor, Sir Aubrey Smith, helps trim foliage outside her home in Hollywood.

brush-exposure charges by ten per cent. At present he pays \$85.92 for \$12,000 worth of coverage for three years on the house Lady Aubrey rents. When brush clearance has been completed to a distance of 200 feet all around the house, his premium will drop to \$42.12 for three years.

As a result of these precautions, both Lady Aubrey and her landlord are less concerned about the threat of fire. She and her Hungarian Puli sheep-dog "Pete" are snug and happy, and Russ Brown is happy to have the remarkable, indomitable British lady living contentedly and safely in one of his houses.

California Kitchens Colorful, Says Designer Who Knows

"This is a California kitchen—color it with imagination," says Mrs. Mary Ann Kruce, California kitchen designer, to her customers.

"Women—at least those in my part of the country—are much more daring about the use of color in kitchens than they used to be. In the past, most kitchens were either yellow or white. Today's homemakers don't hesitate to use two and often three different colors," according to Mrs. Kruce, owner of Western Kitchens in Pomona.

"There is a strong preference for appliances in colors. Many prefer matching colors, but others like to use contrasting colors," Mrs. Kruce added.

"The use of labor-saving automatic appliances in our kitchens is just about mandatory, and among these, built-ins lead the way. Automatic electric dishwashers, for example, are classified as standard equipment in virtually every home above \$12,000," she said.

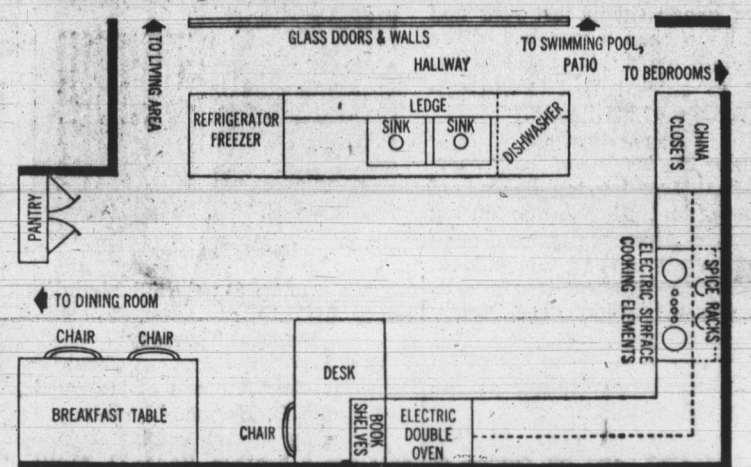
Mrs. Kruce urges families to select a quality dishwasher because, she says, "It's the most-used appliance in the kitchen."

The pace-setter in electric ranges, according to Mrs. Kruce, consists of separate built-in wall ovens and surface cooking units. These high-oven ranges, which hang on a wall or set on a cabinet, are excellent for use by renters. They look built-in but can be taken along when a family moves.

Most of her clients specify two ovens, Mrs. Kruce said—one for meat and one for baking. "Two ovens plus the marvelous automatic controls they have today help give the housewife a lot more freedom, and she's a better cook, too, because results are consistently good. And electric double ovens require a minimum of space," she added.



Mrs. Mary Ann Kruce tests efficiency of new, all-electric kitchen she designed for the Walter Sterling family of Claremont, Calif. As floor plan below shows, working area is compact, yet there's ample storage and counter space, plus room for several people to work. Sliding glass doors give view of pool and patio from dishwasher-sink area in foreground.



The trend in electric refrigerator-freezers is toward larger capacity and also toward combination refrigerator-freezers that never need defrosting, Mrs. Kruce noted.

"In 1946," she said, "refrigerators were eight, nine, or ten cubic-foot units. Today, for the same price, 18- and 20-cubic-foot units are available—and they don't take up any more floor

space than the old ones." And what about Mrs. Kruce's own kitchen? It's adequate, she said, but it doesn't come close to the dream kitchen she has designed for the new house she and her husband are soon to build. "It will have electric appliances throughout, plenty of room to move around, ample counter space, and separate refrigerator and freezer units."

Burning Brands Strike Out On Rugged Asphalt Roofing



SABOTEUR? FIREBUG? NEITHER! Hat pulled down to protect himself from the heat, this technician is performing a "burning brand" test on asphalt shingles at the Underwriters' Laboratories under carefully controlled conditions. To receive the UL label, asphalt shingles must pass three grueling tests for fire resistance. They include one for flame exposure and another for spread of flame, as well as the one pictured. Because of the proven fire resistance of roofing with the UL label, hundreds of cities require it.

Smart Storage

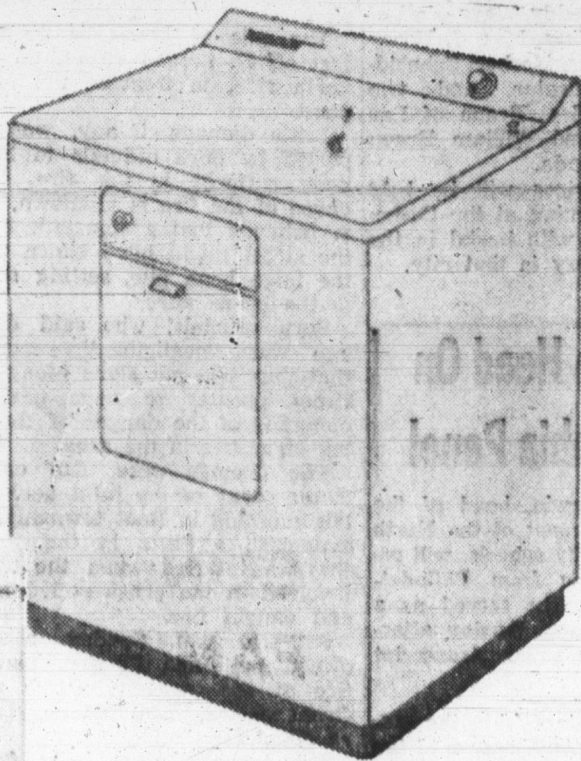
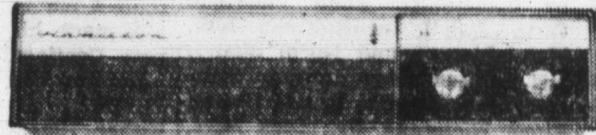
To hide an unsightly rear door entrance where garbage cans milk bottles and home deliveries clutter things, some architects are building a compact wood storage unit in one unit, a space for milk bottles in another and sometimes top them off with a flower planter.

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End Chaos, Get Closet Organized

Is every chair, table and counter-top a dumping ground for letters, newspapers, magazines, games, packages and other things that "we have to put down somewhere"?

Then you need to find and utilize more storage space, says the Masonite Home Service Bureau.

"If you have a 'Fibber McGee' closet, we suggest you start there," the bureau suggests. "First empty the closet, weeding out things to be given or thrown away. Then organize your storage."

This can be done in several ways:

Offer Three Suggestions

1. On the shelf, build a series of pigeonhole dividers, using Masonite Duolux, a splinter-free hardboard that is smooth on both sides. Put it together by fitting slots together in egg-crate style, as shown in a free plan.

2. Select one or two walls that are free for hanging storage. Cover them with Peg-Board panels placed over 1/2" wide furring strips 16" apart. Use plastic Delrin fixtures, attractive and firm-holding, to hang anything from umbrellas to golf bags.

3. Panel the inside of the door also with perforated hardboard for an additional 16 sq. ft. of hanging storage.

Here's Rule One

"Making full use of existing storage space in closets is Rule One for eliminating household clutter," the bureau concludes. "Send a postcard for free plan of good closet planning. Address: 29 North Wacker Drive, Chicago 6, Ill."

Wood Mullions

To get clean lines in full window walls, or in tall windows installed in two-story hallways or stairwells, use ordinary clear grades of Douglas fir 2x4 or 2x6 for mullions or frames leading home architects state. The wood frame is strong, resists high winds is easy to maintain, does not sweat with heat or cold.



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