

DOWN TO EARTH

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Incorporate Sandbox in Terrace

The space use of your rear property should come in for review each year because your family and neighborhood specifications change annually.

If you are raising children remember they are your most important crop and "simmer down" and plan for them to have space of their own for fun and friends. They can enjoy the same terrace the adults enjoy.

A **SANDBOX** should not be far from view because toddlers only enjoy playing outdoors when they know they have the security of their mother closely. Many of the finest sandboxes I have seen have been incorporated into terraces made in a basket weave design of brick. When that cycle is over, the sandbox becomes a part of the terrace pattern.

When your children have to use other people's property to reach the home of their best friend or the school bus, it behooves the parent of the child to call on the person whose property is trespassed upon and ask for their wishes.

This technique often recalls, to the property owner who is being trespassed upon, their childhood dilemmas and it is often wise for a path to be planned for young friends. This can be made very attractive and is excellent Hollaender insurance. I would rather have it written on my "tablet" that I was a Mrs. Burlingame friend of children.



Mrs. Burlingame

After digesting the home design magazines for a season we often decide that what we really want is a solid fence which will assure immediate privacy for the owners. This is definitely the tempo for California designed gardens.

In Birmingham we have developed our thinking so that we will accept wire fencing to enclose children and dogs but we are slow to accept the new concept of design whereby a small city lot can be made truly private for the occupants.

A **LARGE** terrace gives us more use of our rear gardens. Until we can have baffle fences around our

Combination Sewing Wrapping Desk

Some ingenious ladies have developed a custom-made desk that doubles as sewing machine and wrapping center.

This three-way unit can be built of any softwood like fir and to fit any sort of wall space or corner space. The sewing machine can be hidden in a harrow cabinet at the rear, and arranged to slide forward when needed.



Women Dictate Home Fashion, Construction

Home builders and designers may not relish it, but the women of the country are leading them around by the nose.

For the past decade or more the lady of the house has been calling the shots and telling just how she wants her new home built. The smart home builder listens, or knees broke.

The authority is the U.S. Department of Labor, which is responsible for all sorts of surveys, some of which never see the light of day.

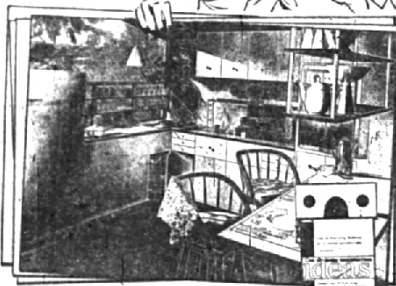
This particular survey which placed the womph of America on record for all time regarding their opinions on home design, is mighty revealing.

First off, women want larger homes than the 950 square foot jobs that were built immediately after World War II. The average house being built today is nearer 1270 square feet.

They want more functionalism, more built-ins, better space use, more open area homes, more appliances built in with the home originally.

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Grass Grows On Dirty Carpets

Institute Finds That Grass Could Grow on 90% of Rugs!

Washington, D.C.—The National Institute of Rug Cleaning, Inc., finds that nine out of ten carpets are so dirty that a lush crop of grass will easily grow on them.

In other words most floor coverings are dirty. Sprinkle a little grass seed on them. Water the seed occasionally. Pull back curtains and let in the sun. In a few days, the grass will begin to pop up. Ordinarily, it would die out right away, but the grime gives nourishment, as Mrs. Seale, of Washington D.C. discovered. A patch of grass on Mrs. Seale's rug grew four inches high within a few days.

Unable to get the grass, especially the roots, out of her rug, Mrs. Seale, a normally fastidious housewife, looked up a reputable plant rug cleaner and turned the problem over to him.

Although this is a little far

etched, it is possible. The average 9 x 12 rug holds from 2 to 4 lbs. of dirt.

Only in a professional rug cleaning plant, like the Crescent Carpet Cleaning Co., can adhesive soil and traffic dirt be completely removed from rugs and carpets. Why is this? Thorough cleaning requires rinsing and control-drying after a rug has been washed. This can be done only in a plant.

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