

Copycat Decor Not So, Suburban Writer Says

By RUTH VOGT
Special Writer

Without showing disrespect towards a craft which is highly admired, can this question be honestly asked? Why do "columnists" sometime write as if they disliked us, we the unfortunate who happen to be labeled "suburbanites"?

Is it because some days they race to their typewriters and finding their "spatulas" utterly barren of fresh ideas and again decide to lash out at us? The latest lady who did writes for a syndicated press and wondered, recently, why all of our homes were exactly alike.

"Go into nine out of ten shiny new ranch houses in a brand new suburban area anywhere in the country and you can't tell one living room furniture (or decor) from hundreds of others," she wrote.

Adding that looking around their front rooms, you can't, absolutely, tell anything about the people who inhabit them. She insisted

deductions, that she has not seen many real honest to goodness alive front rooms.

"WITHOUT GIVING the impression that most of my spare time is spent roaming about other people's homes, may it be stated that the few six or seven dozen domains I have been asked into are as different as all get-out?"

There could be no mistake of what the owners were like. Just looking around the front room, without even reaching the kitchen or bedroom area, each one has "spoken a language" all its own. No two walls have ever been found to hold up the same identical pictures. Some lean towards modern; others love the traditional and some even reach back to the colonial days. The same with the furniture.

SHE SAID THAT most of them looked as if they had stepped right

out of pages from a decorating book or from a model in a store window. How could this fact be true? The mortgages accompanying the purchase of these homes forbid such extravaganzas.

A woman is tickled to death to place her old stuff on her new carpet; no matter how out-dated it appears.

"Sometimes, after we get on our feet," she says to her spouse over coffee at night, "we might replace that wobbly davenport and the lamps which lean." Out of magazines? Of course not. Her front room is still "very much at home" even though the roof be new.

THESE COLUMNISTS should every now and then, leave the confines of their typewriter machines and take it upon themselves to look around. They would be surprised at how so many do live, quite happily, without following the book.

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Creative Experience In Everyday Actions Says Area Authoress

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An article recently stated that "no college student should be allowed to get through four years without having had the wonderful experience of creating an essay, a poem, or perhaps drawing a picture." That was wonderful.

But why limit these splendid opportunities to such a narrow field? Why not be bold and declare that no person should be allowed to pass through what we call "Life," without having known this joy? Creation must not be limited to a certain era; it's nothing that flourishes at one time in life and not in another. It's for everyone!

Before some youngsters with grey hairs sprouting around the rim of their heads exclaim, "why speak of the arts? I'm no Grandma Moses," may it be stated that all of us do not need, ever, be a genius in these fields?

Who said that the end of Art was always in its recognition? A recent critic of these things declared that the moment "recognition" appeared, half of the fun disappeared. "It's in the striving which counts; it's in the attempt of trying to express oneself where the fun lies," he said.

To create an essay, a poem, a picture or even a simple line of prose, the awards are tremendous. Even if they never are admired by others? Of course. (This feat is only one which separates men from the machines.)

Within our four walls, there exist so many magic push buttons which do our manual work for us that sometimes the two hands lay empty in the lap for want of "creation." No longer do they need "stir starch." It comes from a jar. No longer do they need to push fresh fruit within the confines of a can, someone else has already packed it firmer and better than amateurs could ever hope to.

No two hands need to rum clothes through a wringer; a machine does this and so does it fluff 'em dry. A stove cooks food without our effort. Yet? We all carry within us, still, the urge to "create." This can be accomplished in so many different ways.

For those who are not at home with a pen, with which to cup a line, or poem or piece of verse, let them consider perhaps other avenues. Such as a piece of land which can be turned into a garden. (Or, what is wrong with an ordinary paint brush when applied to the kitchen stairways. A woman can work herself into the art field with just a ten cent brush.)

And who can say that real literature doesn't exist when a simple story is read aloud, to some five year old just before bedtime? Or, who's to discount the value from taking a child out to see the evening sunset, and guide their eyes thereon? For an adult, this is "expressing one-self." Very much so.

Don't scoff, either, at a well laid



A Cozy Foursome

Localities chatting at the United Foundation's 12th Annual Torch Drive kick-off reception are (from left) Mr. and Mrs. Earl Ward and Mr. and Mrs. Ray Ferring.



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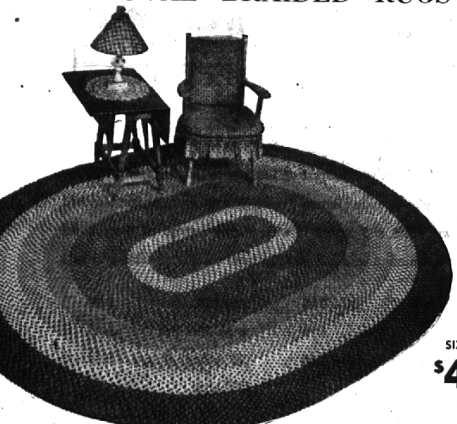
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