

## Picture Story Reflects Contest Winner in Action



**SHE'S WELL-GROOMED AND A SEAMSTRESS:** It isn't all work and no play in the Jacobs' household, for frequently mother and dad take time out for dinner, dancing or the theater. A graduate of DePauw University, where she majored in Home Economics, Mrs. Jacobs is adept with a sewing machine, often making her own clothes. She is likewise an expert at setting her hair—claims she doesn't have time for beauty salons.



**SHE'S A SUBSTITUTE TEACHER:** Mrs. Ray S. (Miriam) Jacobs, 32071 Auburn, Beverly Hills, is Birmingham's answer to the Suburban Homemaker Contest of the year. Not only did we find that she lives up to the stringent qualifications imposed by the judges, but in order to keep "mentally agile" (her quote!) and by way of increasing the family income, she teaches Art and Home Economics on a

substitute basis in our local junior and senior high schools. Mrs. Jacobs was unaware that her husband and two youngsters had entered her in the contest. (and this secret, according to them, took SOME doing) but when told she was a runnerup and consequently in line for the national \$5000 award in Chicago, her response was, "I've already won my prize—from my family!"



**SHE DOES HER OWN HOUSEWORK:** Each day is filled to the brim for Mrs. Jacobs but, on the days she doesn't teach and after the children take off for school, she dedicates mornings to keeping her house shining and spotless. She employs no outside help. Each member of the family, however, has assigned chores, making the work load lighter. The task she dislikes the most is dusting, because "it is so eternal".

### It Was a College Romance

Suburban living was something neither Miriam nor Ray Jacobs had to become accustomed to in Birmingham, for both were raised in Lakewood, Ohio, just outside Cleveland.

And although they attended the same high school, they didn't meet until they enrolled in DePauw University, from which they were both graduated in 1946 and were married the following year.

They were transferred here four and a half years ago from Upper Arlington, a suburb of

Columbus, Ohio. Ray is an industrial salesman for the Abitibi Corp.

Miriam has an ability to reach out in a dozen different directions for the benefit of herself and her family, but all this extra curricular activity in no way detracts (she feels it adds) from her prime purpose in life—that of being a fine homemaker.

She's a soft spoken person, blue-eyed with dark hair slightly streaked by natural gray. Her smile is frequent, her clothes smart and in good taste, her poise innate.

### The House Where They Live

Miriam and Ray Jacobs live on a tree shaded street in Beverly Hills in a house that mirrors excellent taste combined with a whole of a lot of do-it-yourself ingenuity.

First impression on entering (it's a small, three-bedroom colonial) is one of sunshine and pastels. The walls are decorated in softest turquoise, an exact match to the wall-to-wall carpeting used in the living room and dining room.

On each side of a well-used fireplace, ceiling to floor windows are concealed by leouvered shutters painted to match the walls.

Shades of pale pink and green combine in the chintz-covered, roomy sofa dominating one end of the room (recovering done by Miriam), and off-white draperies and lamp shades serve to emphasize a continuing impression of sunlight, be it high noon or midnight.



**SHE'S A NON-PROFESSIONAL DIETITIAN:** Mrs. Jacobs is not only a firm believer in well-balanced diets, which she concocts easily and, of more importance to her youngsters, tastily, but is also strongly convinced that having a hearty breakfast starts any family off on the right foot. Nancy, who is 11 and goes to Greenfield, and Tom, who is 14 and attends Groves, are robust, living proof of their

mother's culinary ability. If further testimony is needed, hanging on one wall of the efficient little kitchen is a framed certificate from a national magazine endorsing Mrs. Jacobs' recipe for Shish Kabobs with Onion Marinade. The continued good health of the entire family further attests to Mrs. Jacobs' excellent meal planning.



**SHE'S A TOPNOTCH MOTHER:** A brief visit to the Jacobs' home is all it takes to appreciate the kind of influence 39-year-old Miriam Jacobs wields in the total life of her family. Her great warmth, affection and understanding shine through every conversation. In spite of a personal daily schedule which would deplete most women, she always takes time to listen, is easy to talk to, makes a point of help-

ing others. She is a believer in doing things together as a family, whether it be attending church, going on vacations or just spending an evening at home popping corn! The fact that she's adored by two lively youngsters and her salesman husband is proven by the letter they wrote making her a contest winner!