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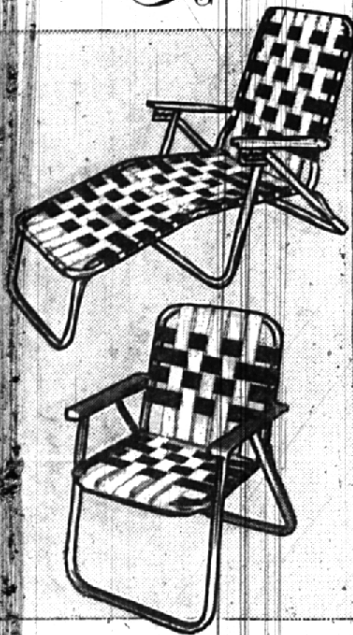
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"CHARGE IT" AT KRESGE'S

Your Backyard Barbecue Is 'Outdoor Living Room'

Although charcoal cooking has been employed since man first rubbed two sticks together, it has enjoyed unprecedented popularity in recent years with the fast rise in backyard barbecues.

The present popularity of outdoor cooking originated in California, which generally is conceded to be the source of the simple but mouth-watering dinner of charcoal broiled steak, garlic or cheese sourdough bread, and a mixed greens salad topped with bleu cheese or oil-and-wine-vinegar dressing.

SLOWLY this truly American meal has spread eastward during the past quarter-century until today almost every hamlet has a steakhouse that serves up a reasonable facsimile.

A home barbecue can either be contracted for or it can be built as a home handyman project. It can be plain and simple or big and costly—ranging from a portable table-top model available in any housewares store to a "bomb shelter" type that weighs several tons and has warming ovens and other types of conveniences for luscious cookery.

Building a barbecue will vary to some extent depending on the size of the desired structure, but the basic construction remains the same.

AN OUTLINE of the barbecue should be marked out on the ground, and this should be dug 10 or 12 inches deep. Eight to 10 inches of sand or sand-and-gravel mix is tamped well, and this is topped with concrete between four and six inches deep, depending on

the size and weight of the barbecue.

This will bring the base two or three inches above ground level, for which forms are needed.

A level or plumb bob should be used in laying the base and all courses of brick to insure a perfect level.

The second step is the chimney, built with the level or plumb bob to be sure it is perfectly vertical, for no one wants a miniature "Tower of Pisa" confronting them whenever they barbecue.

A HOLE should be left in the firebox side of the chimney to draw

Eye-Stopping

One ingenious housewife, tired of the drab exterior of her home, installed rough-sawn cedar tongue-and-groove boards on the front of the house, sprayed them white to contrast with the brown of the rest of the siding. The face lifting was an eye-stopper.

Home Siding

For many centuries, Indian tribes along the Washington coast built long houses of split cedar shakes. Modern man also knows the virtues and long life of cedar, uses it all across the nation for home siding both in lumber and shakes.

With a saw, a hammer and a chisel, a person can build almost anything from lumber. No other building material is so flexible and easily cut and shaped.

smoke from the fire and up the chimney.

The firebox or ashpit can be constructed of block or brick or rock, or a prefabricated unit can be bought at a building supply outlet.

Two or three courses of block are laid (again, make sure each course is level) and then sidewalls are built up on the two sides, with an iron grate built into the concrete joint about a foot above the ashpit.

Although a bit more difficult to install but much more satisfactory than the built-in permanent grate is a series of two or three steel tracks on which a grate can be inserted at varying levels for different types of cookery.

AN EXCELLENT accessory for every barbecue is an LP-gas torch that will save 15 or 20 minutes of preparation each time you build a fire.

This is the same liquified petroleum gas familiar to all who live on farms or in country homes. In small towns or other rural areas to provide all the comforts of modern gas appliances far beyond city gas mains.

A small LP-gas hand torch can be used, or a larger refillable tank can be installed for multi-purpose use. The small hand torch will light charcoal in brief minutes.

Not only does the larger LP-gas unit serve this same purpose, but it also can be used for gas cooking, if desired, such as grilling hamburgers or broiling hot dogs for youngsters.

And if the evening turns a bit cool, the gas fire can be turned on to bring warmth and cheer to the group gathered under a starry sky.

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