A Summer Living Room

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Judge Allen Interviewed—
"Can a Homemaker Be a Citizen?"

O'F COURSE a homemaker can be a citizen," said Florence Allen, judge of the Ohio Supreme court, the only woman in the United States to hold such a position.

At the invitation of Mrs. R. A. Pearson, we drew our chairs closer to Judge Allen as we sat in the living room at the "Knoll" before a blazing log fire. Years ago Mrs. Pearson and Miss Allen were roommates at Western Reserve College and largely thru the influence of this friendship were Iowa State people privileged to hear Judge Allen at an all college convocation.

"A woman," said Miss Allen, "should make the same use of leisure time as a man. Men earn a living, to be sure, yet they do not think of a man giving up earning his living to take the responsibilities of citizenship so why should we think that a woman must give up her work as homemaker to perform her duties as a citizen."

"Judge Allen in her plain black dress smiled and added, "Don't let anyone think that I'm down on marriage, for I am not. I'm for it, only I think it should be somewhat adjusted."

"In her own home," continued Judge Allen, "a woman can exert a tremendous influence for right administration of government. She can inform herself, she can vote, telephone, and write letters. She can make a special effort to get out and meet people whom a man would normally meet in his business relationships."

"A woman owes a special duty to her children to be informed about public affairs. Every mother wants the respect of her children and to gain this she must keep up. No child should be brot up in a community with improper administration of government."

"A man also has a home duty to his children and if he meets this responsibility the mother will have more leisure time. Then too it means more to the children to have a father as well as a mother. I was fortunate enough to have a father," and Miss Allen's eyes twinkled.

"For the first few years of marriage a homemaker is unusually busy, but after the children are well established in school she finds herself with much leisure time and it is then that she can take on more civic duties. If women take on these duties they will keep younger and find life more interesting. There are too many dried up old ladies with nothing to do. Women stiffen themselves by living entirely in houses."

In conclusion Miss Allen said, "There are no rules as to how much outside work a homemaker should take over—that depends on the individual woman. Some have taken the responsibility of raising children and sees that her outside work is interfering, the outside work should be dropped. Her children must come first, but a homemaker should have some outside work also."

As we rose to go, Judge Allen smiled and added, "Don't let anyone think that I'm down on marriage, for I am not. I'm for it, only I think it should be somewhat adjusted."

A Summer Living Room

By MILDRED BOYT

IN spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love. So sing the poets—therefore it must be true. However, the thoughts of Dad and Mother and the rest of the family turn to lovely gardens and cool porches, and so, unconsciously, they prepare the stage for sister and someone else's brother.

How lovely a porch may be made! But alas, how seldom people utilize their porches for an extra summerly living room. One may walk blocks and blocks and pass bare porches and verandas used only for a passage way to the door, or else covered with ugly old furniture that mother won't have in the house. But with a bit of energy on the part of some one, these same porches could become places where the young people of the neighborhood would collect on warm evenings, and where merry laughter would be heard accompanied by the thinkle of ice in lemonade glasses.

"But how?" you ask. "Porch furniture is so expensive we simply cannot afford it." If you can afford nothing new, go up to your attic and look around. Here you will doubtless discover cast off furniture that has been collecting for years. Choose the plainest chairs and a table or so, take off any curlicues and decoration which may be removed, then invent a can or two of flat white paint, and some enamel. The furniture should be scrubbed well with strong soap and a brush, then the old finish sand papered off. Apply two or three coats of flat white paint, allowing each coat to dry thoroughly before adding the next. Finally add a coat of colored enamel. It is best to paint the furniture in rather dark colors as it requires much less time and energy to care for it. A blue grey makes lovely porch furniture, especially when stencilled in some brighter harmonizing colors.

After the finishing coat has been added and has dried the furniture may be decorated by adding stencilled designs, or colored lining or by simply adding bright cretonne or chintz cushions and head pieces. One lovely piece of furniture I saw was made from an old washstand. It had been painted a soft neutral color and then brightly colored squares of chintz had been pasted over the panels in the doors and pieces of molding tacked around them. This piece of furniture was used on a porch to hold sewing and magazines. Furniture enamelled black takes such decorations beautifully, though most people prefer color.

Of course for an outside porch one must take the color of the house into consideration and paint the furniture in a harmonizing neutral shade. The porch must have one or more rugs of some kind. Matting is about the cheapest as well as the best covering for the floor. It also comes in cool summery shades and adds greatly to the attractiveness of the porch. However, at times one may have a rug that goes well with the furniture and that is not too good for a porch. Then one can make a more appropriate floor covering than rag rugs? Where is the family that doesn't have rags? These rags may be cut in narrow strips and crocheted into a run in a surprisingly short time. The best thing about the finished rugs is that they cost nothing. Can you imagine a more restful place on a warm afternoon than a shady porch containing pieces of furniture painted a grey blue, decorated in a brighter blue, and on the floor several grey and blue bits and miss rag mats? Now imagine a grey pottery jug filled with bright flowers on a table and green vines climbing up one end of the porch and the person who owns the porch. If you think the young people would choose such a place in preference to the movies on a hot summer evening.

A family occupying a house with roofed verandas or no porches at all need not despair but may have as attractive an outdoor room as any one.

On an uncovered veranda most furniture will not do for it is sure to be forgotten and left out in the rain some night and ruined.

For such a place the most desirable furniture is rustic or made of wood with the bark still on. Rain and weather furniture does not hurt it and the family need not be awakened by rain in the night to remember that the porch furniture has been left out.

Families with no porches at all should make one in the garden. With a tree for a roof and the thick green turf for a rug, may be made the loveliest porch of all. Here a green and white bed-hammock, hanging from a standard roofed (Continued on page 23)
A Summer Living Room
(Continued from page 7)
with a canopy and covered with cushions may be placed near the rustic tea
table. A canopy chair to match the hammock, and a white lawn bench or
two completes the picture. One may also buy a huge lawn umbrella and erect
it over the tea table.

So you see porches may be cheap or
expensive but always attractive. They
are within the reach of every one and
the family with such a porch will find
themselves living out of doors and will
be healthier, happier and wiser as a
result.

Hazards of Bird Life
(Continued from page 9)
of them make on their migrations from
tropical winter homes to temperate or
even arctic breeding homes in the summer. Nature sometimes tempts them to
go too fast into the inhospitable tho
tropical lands where the birds may be
within the reach of every one and
be healthier, happier and wiser as a
result.

The Eternal Question
(Continued from page 15)
HOME-MADE METAL CLEANER

Will you please give me a recipe for a good
general metal cleaner which I can make myself?

In making the following place the silica
in a bottle first, then add the other
ingredients.

½ cup dilute oxalic acid
1 box electro silica
½ cup wood alcohol
1 pt. kerosene

A RECIPE FOR VEAL BIRDS

Will you kindly send me a recipe for veal
birds?

Select slices of veal from the leg, cut
as thinly as possible, remove bone, fat
and skin. Cut in pieces two and one-half
inches wide, each piece making a bird.

Chop trimmings of veal and add one-half their meas-
ure of finely crushed crackers.
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