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## It's a Light Subject...

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# It's a Light Subject . . .

By Thelma Carlson

"WHEN I build a house—" How many times have you said those words? And probably many times you added, "I will have a more adequate supply of electric switch buttons, outlets, fuses and lighting fixtures."

It is true that no one thing can add as much to the convenience and comfort of a home as a sufficient supply of electric fixtures.

The study of the correct placing and best types of these efficiency bringers will be of value to you before you build that house.

In the living room the lighting serves one of three purposes. First, there is the general illumination for the room when it is entirely in use. Then there is the local illumination for reading, sewing, writing and other tasks. And third, there is the decorative lighting, which is really to look at rather than to see by.

**L**IGHTING in the living room may be accomplished in two ways — the ceiling fixture or indirect portable lamps. No type has proved so successful as the overhead light for a flood effect. The effect is dependent on the wattage of the light and the color of the ceiling. Enough wall brackets will do away with the necessity of flood light from the ceiling, but they will interfere with the picture spaces and the arrangement of furniture. On the other hand, they may form an attractive background for the furniture.

The local lighting is carried out by portable lamps varying with the size of the room and the furniture arrangement.

Decorative lights are of various kinds. Bracket lights with bulbs of low wattage may be used for subdued effect. The fireplace can be made a center of attraction by lights.

Too much care cannot be given to the planning of adequate numbers of convenience outlets. At least every 12 to 15 feet of wall space should have a duplex outlet. The baseboard is the best location in the living room. The outlet should not be put near a door or in such a place that it cannot be used from both sides.

There should be switches so that the light can be turned on from at least two doors in the living room.

Primarily the lighting is used in the dining room to light the table, for this is the piece of furniture that is used to the greatest extent. This is done by a center light, which should not be higher than 26 inches from the top of the table, as this concentrates the interest of the diners on the table. Semi-indirect lighting is recommended for this room if it is used for other activities. Brackets in the dining room are purely decorative.

There should be at least two convenience outlets in the dining room. One of these can be placed under the table. A multiple receptacle placed here will pay

## Can You Answer These?

31. Of how many courses did the great dinners of the Renaissance consist?
32. What combination of two vegetables still bears its Indian name?
33. What is Potage a la Julianne?
34. Goulash is native of what country?
35. What is furnety?
36. For what foods is Boston famous?
37. What is matzoth and when was it used?
38. What is the English name for what we call crackers?
39. What are anchovies?
40. What is baba?
41. Where is the plum pudding served as a traditional Christmas dish?
42. What are capers?
43. What is Pot au Feu?
44. In what country was Roquefort cheese first made?
45. How was the action of rennet on milk discovered?
46. Why are hot cross buns served on Good Friday?
47. What is the French mode of dinner service?
48. What are peppernuts?
49. What does the word "sauerkraut" mean?
50. What English breads are baked on a griddle and served with tea?

(The Answers Are on Page 15)

for itself many times in its convenience. This makes it possible to plug in several appliances at once. It is an excellent practice to have the receptacle on a separate circuit wired with a larger size conductor than the lighting circuit so that the use of several appliances will not affect the lights. The switch for the ceiling light should be just inside the door.

One of the most important things to watch in putting in the outlets in the kitchen is to see that the housekeeper does not stand in her own light. This necessitates a center ceiling unit. Probably the most satisfactory is a white glass enclosing globe mounted close to the ceiling. Except in very small kitchens there should be a light above the sink.

In an extra large kitchen there should also be lights above the range and over the working table.

There should be convenience outlets for the iron, one near the table for appliances, and one for the refrigerator. These outlets should be placed 36 to 40 inches from the floor. There should also be a heavy duty outlet for the stove. If two entrances are frequently used there should be a switch at each door.

Even if the breakfast nook is only a corner of the kitchen, there should be an individual light. This can be a simple pendant fixture hung low. A double convenience outlet should be placed on the edge of the table for the toaster, percolator or waffle iron.

**T**HE bedroom requires general illumination so one may see the entire room, to find things or to see oneself full length in the mirror. This general illumination is best brought about by the ceiling figure, which may be either direct or semi-indirect. In providing for local lighting there should be outlets for a pair of dressing table lamps and for bedside lamps. There should be at least one double outlet on every wall space large enough for placement of furniture.

The ceiling outlet is the best for the closets. This may be a simple pendant or a ceiling receptacle controlled by a pull chain. A switch which works automatically by turning on the light when the closet door is opened and turning off the light when the door is shut is very convenient and saves lights.

For the small bathroom a central fixture may be enough, but it is best that there be local lights at the mirror. When it is possible, it is best to locate wall brackets with white glass shades or mirror lights to eliminate shadows from the face. There should also be a convenience outlet near the mirror for curling irons or other needed equipment. The fixtures should be controlled by wall switches when possible. If pull chains are used they must be well insulated.

**O**UTLETS for the reception hall should be controlled by three-way switches, one inside the entrance door, one at the rear of the hall and the third at the head of the stairs on the second floor. In this way the hall may be lighted at any point of entrance. There should also be a convenience outlet for the waxer or vacuum cleaner. The light on the second floor hall should have a separate switch so it will not be necessary to have both lights burning at once.

The outlet for the basement should have a switch at both top and bottom of the stairs. If there is an outside entrance there should be a switch there. In the laundry room there should be about three ceiling outlets, one of which should be controlled by a switch at the door. The outlets for the appliances should be put on a separate circuit.