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Designed for Efficiency

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BUILT for living, new Ames homes have tucked into every corner possible some unexpected idea that boasts of comfort and convenience. These home owners can often be found enjoying their basement recreation rooms.

The Clinton Adamses have their favorite games inlaid in the linoleum floor covering, inviting a game of shuffle board or deck tennis. Over the mantel of the basement fireplace in the home of Dr. L. B. Schmidt, head of the History Department, is the head of a gargoyle rescued from the ruins of old Margaret Hall.

Coming up from the basement in the Henry Giese home, the railing is made of a heavy rope strung through large brass rings which are fastened to the wall with heavy copper strips.

The W. H. Pierres have built their kitchen equipment into a solid unit. Even the breakfast nook occupies its place in this arrangement with the backs of the seats at just the same height as the working surfaces. In the Schmidt kitchen a small compartment built into the cupboard houses each electrical appliance, making it unnecessary to remove the electric toaster or beater from the cupboard to use.

A gay Dutch door between the dinette and the kitchen makes an easy serving arrangement when just the top half is opened. In the new home of Miss Florence Fallgatter, head of the Home Economics Education Department, and Miss Pearl Swanson, professor of foods and nutrition, there are convenient soap drawers built directly below the sink. These metal lined drawers tip out easily for use.

A cheerful glow in all the Giese’s rooms has been obtained by mixing a small amount of rose in the paint for the walls and woodwork. The Pierre dining room is papered at one end in a gay pattern of birds. The design extends a few inches past the corner; to avoid cutting off the birds’ heads, the background was cut away and the heads of the birds were continued around the corner on the adjoining wall, making an interesting and unusual design.

The Pierres used a knotty pine paneling over the fireplace in their living room, painting this ivory. The texture and the cut edges of the wood make it an unusual feature. A handmade antique mantel, carved in black walnut, is found in the Schmidt living room.

Comfort is assured in the study of the Giese home with a bunk. The Gieses also may pull a board out from the linen shelves, making an ideal surface for folding or sorting linens.

Closets are growing, for the new home builder has demanded space and has obtained it. A closet to be used for Mr. Schmidt’s work has shelves on three sides extending from the floor to the ceiling.

The Adames open their garage door by means of the “electric eye”. The driver merely presses a special button in the car and the door opens. Special permission had to be obtained from the federal government to use this beam.

The Adames have built a completely circular stairway for the use of the children. Located by the kitchen, the stairs lead from the basement to the second floor.

Flower and nature lovers give visitors a peep of their gardens from the inside. The Giese front hall extends from the front to the back with a window door looking toward the woodland view.