1957

Polly Otto, Nancy Stephenson Win!

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Winners receive two don-
Washington's Choice bed

A "butterfly chair" lends an unusual shape to one corner of the room where Nancy enjoys letter writing and Polly finds room to stretch out for study.

The frame of the chair is twisted from black wrought iron. Beige burlap drapes to form the seat.

A "living" touch is added to the room by non-flowering plants set in glass bricks.

"We spent the summer bargain hunting," says Polly, pointing to the wrought iron magazine rack purchased on sale for $1. The floor lamp came from Nancy's parents' home.

Polly and Nancy attended a sale held by the Applied Art Department last quarter and purchased a reproduction of the "Head of Christ" by Leonardo da Vinci for only $3. It hangs beside their dresser. The women sent to travel bureaus in New York for the two posters which decorate their walls.

POLLY OTTO, NANCY STE

WITH $9 CASH and hand-me-downs from home, two bargain hunters, Polly Otto and Nancy Steffenson, won the Homemaker's 1957 College Home Contest. These two Oak Hall women have turned a bare dormitory room into a pleasant and comfortable home filled with furnishings they personally enjoy and treasure.

One end of the prize winning room is devoted to easy chairs, bookcase and lamps. Desks are pushed together along a side wall, and the opposite corners of the room house dresser and trundle bed.

A 9x12 cocoa brown shag rug and two matching scatter rugs brought from home team with warm yellow walls for an atmosphere of harmony. Bamboo curtains cost the students only $5 at a mail order house. The bamboo texture is repeated in a rounded chair salvaged from home and a bamboo shaded lamp on the dresser.

Brown is continued in the bed spread, a holdover from freshman days. Polly's mother embroidered each girl's initials in gold on brown toss pillows. Additional red pillows pick up red in an overhead poster.

THE IOWA HOMEMAKER
"We're regular scavengers," says Polly. She and Nancy poked through a used furniture store in Ames last fall and found three scarred table leaves. "The storekeeper just gave them to us," said Nancy. "We filled in the old niches and holes with plastic wood, applied an undercoating which gave the leaves an artificial grain and painted them beige. All three leaves are different lengths, but when combined with blond bricks, you can hardly tell it."

A gingerale bottle, two pop bottles and an Old Spice container enameled in black, browns and gold make an interesting arrangement for the bookcase. The driftwood is Nancy's prized possession. She found it on the beach of a Minnesota lake one morning. Later, while strolling along the water's edge, a dog snatched the wood from her hand and she spent the next half hour in a merry chase to recover her prize. Sea shells from Lake View, Iowa, remind Polly of her days as life guard last summer. The shells now serve as ash trays. Bright aqua accents in the poster of France are repeated in a pillow set in the chair.

The choice of the winning Oak Hall room was unanimous among the three contest judges. We asked Mary Kay Overholt, Neva Petersen and Thomas Lawton, what they liked about this particular room. Here are a few of their comments:

"This room has original ideas," said Miss Petersen. "Polly and Nancy didn't copy the typical collegiate room filled with stuffed animals and nick-nacks. Instead, their room is furnished with things reflecting their own personality — items they really enjoy keeping and using. Color — browns and beiges with accents of red and aqua — are effectively used to produce a quiet relaxed atmosphere. These women have applied the art principles."

"I particularly enjoy the travel posters," remarked Mrs. Overholt. "They lend such an air of mystery to the room with their bright poster color and suggestion of far away places. The furniture is simply arranged, too, so the room is not cluttered. And the use of laquered driftwood and painted bottles of interesting shapes adds a personal touch."

"They don't have a bulletin board at all," reported Mr. Lawton. "And there are living plants in the room," he said.

Mr. Lawton says he enjoyed the tour of rooms a great deal. "I certainly never before realized what coeds keep in their college rooms," he laughed.