



# 1937 is HOME Improvement YEAR

## The Year For Putting Men Back to Work



### Nautical Touch Will Please Son

The boy who is attracted to the sea will be more than pleased with a bedroom that has a nautical touch. The mother who likes an unusual room has full scope here to try her talents.

The Dominion government's home improvement plan clears the way for creating such a room which perhaps cannot be afforded if a cash outlay is necessary. The structural work and the actual decorating of the room may be accomplished with funds obtained from a bank under the terms of the home improvement plan. The loan may be repaid in small instalments.

One room was panelled and the ceiling was beamed. In the panelled wall a bunk was built, leaving the floor space free for the placing of other furniture. A wall paper with a geographic pattern, brightly colored, was hung on the wall behind the bunk, adding a pleasing color note.

The remaining walls were painted a neutral shade. A composition floor, covering, with a compass design in the centre covered the floor. A ship's lantern replaced the regulation electric fixture.

With her own funds, the housewife purchased simple maple furniture. Tones of rust and orange were used in curtains and upholstery.



### Prize Essay Presents Interesting Suggestions

The story of the conversion of den into a combination bedroom and bathroom is told in the following prize-winning essay in the Winnipeg Tribune's Home Improvement Contest. This essay, submitted by Mrs. W. Sadler, of Winnipeg, tied for fourth prize.

This is the story of the conversion of a ten-by-seven-foot den into a bedroom-bathroom at a cost of \$250, borrowed under the Government's Home Improvement Plan. As a result of the change, an arthritic patient who was confined to an upstairs bedroom all winter through inability to climb stairs, can now enjoy the sunny living room, verandah and garden.

"The installation of bathroom facilities constituted the chief problem and expense. In the northeast corner of the room, a cabinet was built (30 inches square) to hold a toilet, the upper part to be used as a cupboard. Alongside this cabinet on the east wall, a small wash basin was installed, with medicine cabinet above and high bathroom stool in front, so that ablutions can be performed sitting down.

"The bath problem was met by the purchase of a four-foot portable bath which is filled from the taps of the wash basin by a hose attachment. This bath is emptied by means of a siphon hose passing through a hole in the baseboard to the catch-basin in the basement.

"As the only window in the room faced the glassed-in verandah on the west, a small casement window was made in the north wall to ensure thorough ventilation.

"The room was next re-decorated in lighter colours, more suited to a bedroom. The dark oak woodwork was given three coats of ivory paint and the dull blue paint on

the walls was covered with two coats of primrose yellow.

"A large single bed across the west wall and small dressing table and stool on the south wall were all that the available floor space would accommodate, so we decided to utilize space under the bed for stowing away portable diathermy machine, electric heater and bath. For this purpose, the bed was raised four inches by means of special rubber tired castors.

"To give the room brightness without decreasing the apparent size, over-drapes were made from hollyhock chintz with a background the same shade as the walls; and the dressing table and stools were given covers of the same chintz.

"The heavy three-light electrolux was replaced by a semi-indirect ceiling fixture of primrose yellow, the same appearing in the shade over the bed-light. The bed and the dressing table will appear smaller when changed from green to yellow to match the walls and meantime the apparent size of the bed is decreased by the use of an organically bedspread.

"A mirror (3 1/2 X 1') was placed vertically under the casement window and facing the door giving an impression of space as one enters the room. Another mirror of similar size was placed horizontally above the bed on the south wall; and all the walls are bright with gay flower pictures, mostly taken from art magazines and framed at the special prices available in the stores this spring.

"Upstairs, the den furniture—desk, tables, bookcases and shelves—fit snugly into the little south room, which now welcomes the student to hours of quiet labour."

### Plan Illustrated at C. N. Exhibition

The "Magic" of Home Improvement was dramatically illustrated at the Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto.

A front of a house was built in the Construction and Engineering Building. Half the house showed its appearance before "Magic" Home Improvement, the other half, the result of re-modelling and painting.

Thousands of visitors thronged this exhibit. Looking at the house they immediately thought of the deficiencies of their own homes, and considered what could then be done to improve them.

They were amazed to find how simply the Home Improvement Plan functions, and what a change a few dollars, prudently planned in improving a building, make in the life of those who own it. This exhibit proved beyond a

doubt that the Home Improvement Plan touches a Canadian problem in housing which has long aggravated living conditions in Canada. This "Before and After" house attracted people's imagination to the inherent possibility of their own homes.

Thousands of people from all part of Canada discussed the Home Improvement Plan with the courteous attendants on duty. The Ontario committee was complimented publicly upon the initiative it had taken, and Mr. Ryland H. New, Provincial Chairman of the Home Improvement Plan, expressed himself as well satisfied with the reception accorded the committee's efforts.

Both are waterproof and both when used as a base or receptor, as the manufacturers prefer to call it, are re-enforced, some with metal rods and some with metal lath. In either case they won't come apart.

The other essential part of the shower consists of side walls and back. The walls have interlocking corner joints that are, proof against even the smallest trickle of water.

### Shower Baths In The Cellar

The first shower bath dates back before any history of civilization was recorded. It was a rainstorm. As soon as mankind began to inhabit the earth it was discovered that that form of shower had certain distinct disadvantages. In the first place it was uncertain—there might be and probably were times when a shower couldn't be found anywhere around for weeks at a stretch. Then there was the question of regulating the temperature of the water, and finding a dry place to dress in private.

Later on—much later on—an individual shower bath did make its appearance. It was a tin affair always grained to misrepresent oak, had a large tin container at the top and a circular curtain hung on a rod. The container was perforated all over underneath and had to be filled, generally by hand. Then the bather stepped into an inverted can at the bottom, drew the curtains around him and pulled the cord. The entire contents of the top container descended almost en bloc and the shower was over.

Today, however, every well appointed bathroom has a shower with perfect control of water temperature by simply pressing on a lever and the bather can stay under the shower as long as he wishes.

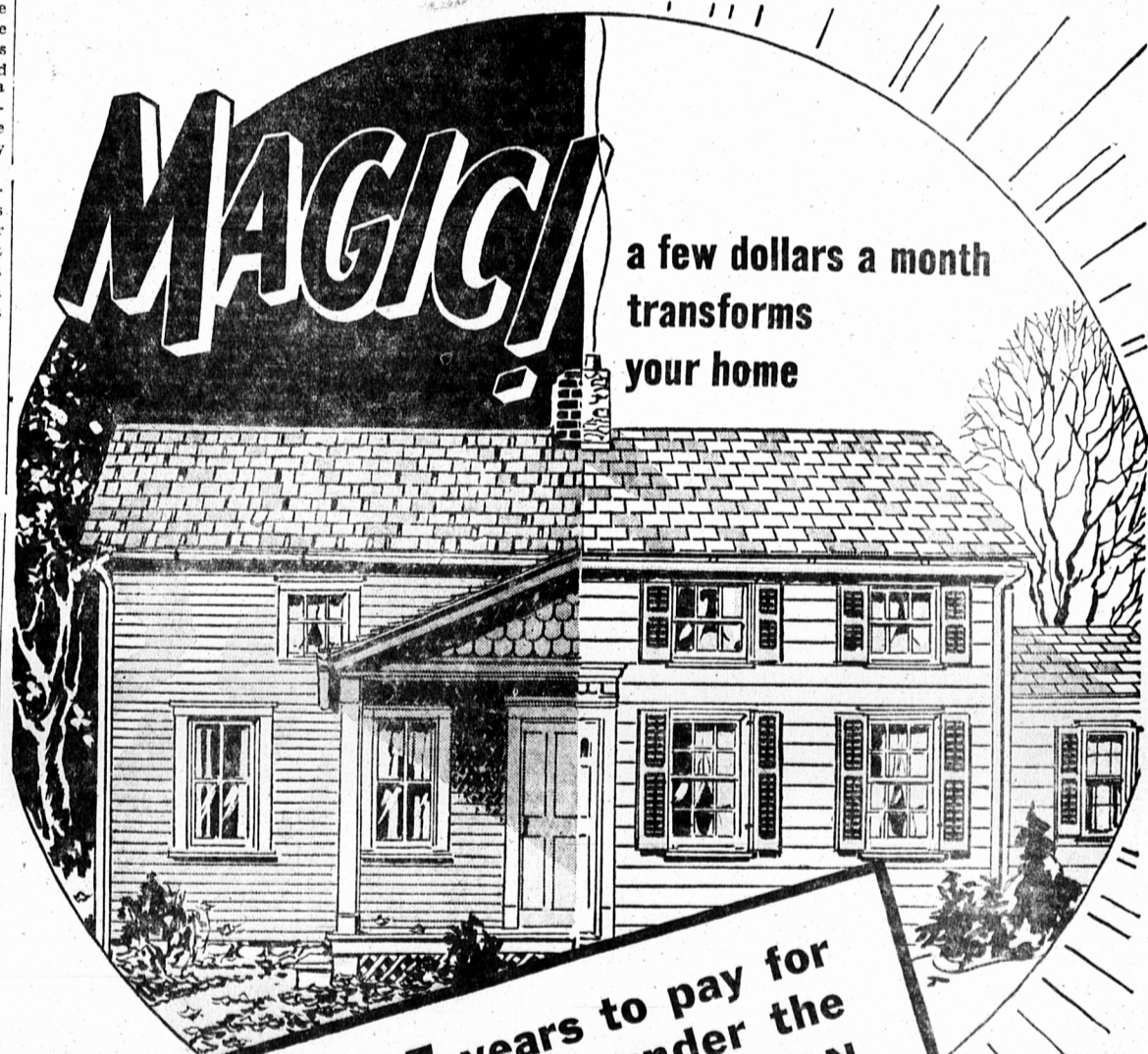
These installations, however, are almost invariably in the bathroom and the desirability of having a shower near the recreation room in the cellar or in the garage has been overlooked although to be able, after working in the garden or on the car, to strip and take a shower without tracking mud and grease up the stairs to the bathroom would save many a sigh of despair and much labor in cleaning up.

Showers for the cellar can now be obtained from several manufacturers. They come knocked down and packed flat so that it is easy to move them through any doorway to their final resting place—and there they can be assembled easily. The type of floor makes no difference because the base is made of tarrazzo which when translated is cement mixed with chips of black marble ground and polished to a non-skid surface. If white limestone chips are used the substance is known as ferrostone.

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(The cost of this series of advertisements sponsored by the National Employment Commission, has been defrayed entirely by public-spirited concerns and individuals, as a contribution towards that "Nation-wide cooperative effort" envisaged by the Parliament of Canada in the National Employment Commission Act.)

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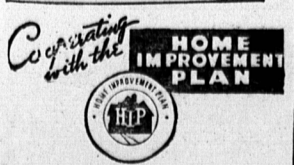
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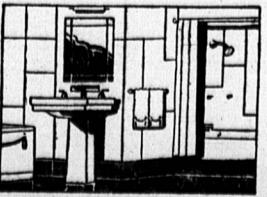


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