



AMID FLYING confetti a happy couple emerge from church. Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Roy Hood, the former Patricia June Curley, daughter of Mr. Joseph Curley. Bridegroom is son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hood, Charlottemtown.

Clair MacKay Photo

a beautiful bride with

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study, check styles

Today's furniture is both functional and easy to look at. The young couple mystified at the thought of buying it, however, should read as much as they can and check stores before deciding.

Generally speaking, furniture may be divided into traditional, provincial, early American and contemporary.

Traditional has a regal air and is often identified by art names of monarchs reigning when the design was created and sometimes named for the original designer. Decoration is generous and characteristics include gilt paint, fretwork, carvings, claw and ball feet and extravagant fabrics. The cabriole leg with gracefully curved knee is a familiar trademark.

LOCAL WOODS

Provincial furniture is the result of the duplication of court designs in local and less expensive woods. It inherits the grace, form and charm of the court pieces but eliminates the lavish decoration.

Early American furniture was built for practical use by hardy pioneers. This once rugged, unrefined style is being translated into casual furniture.

Contemporary furniture is current design with simplicity of line and modern functional qualities. Decoration is usually inherent in the piece.

Six hardwoods are prominent in styles popular today. The first sometimes finished in soft brown and is moderately priced. Maple, naturally white or pinkish brown, is best known for the reddish finish created for Early American.

ARISTOCRATS

Walnut and mahogany are the aristocrats of woods and are widely imitated. True mahogany is imported from Africa, Central America and the West Indies. Philippine mahogany is not really true mahogany. Walnut is used for every type of furniture except Early American. Cherry has become increasingly popular. It is characterized by a rich reddish brown color and an interesting soft-grain pattern. Oak is making a comeback in

the fashion worn of woods, as is rosewood. Teak is a current favorite.

In finishing the natural wood tone is maintained, deepened or lightened. This treatment enhances the natural grain. A final coat of lacquer covers the surface. Some pieces are finished with pure linseed oil.

MOST VENERED

Hardwoods are referred to as "solid," "green" and "genuine." Most furniture you see will be veneered. This permits the use of costly woods for general manufacture. "Solid" pieces are often made of maple. The label "genuine" indicates the use of hardwood for veneers on surfaces and in solid form for structural parts. The word "finish" after a wood name usually means a less expensive wood has been colored to resemble the type indicated.

Good workmanship is very important. Rock a piece to test its steadiness. Check drawers for free and easy motion and look for dovetail joints at front and sides. Check the back panel (this should be recessed into grooves in the upright posts), reinforcements, glue blocks and bottom corners of drawers and finish.

WOOD FRAME

Upholstered furniture is built around a wood frame but reinforced with dovetails and reinforced with corner blocks. Welding is used to form the base for upholstered furniture. The closer the strips, the sturdier the product. Good springing is important for comfort and wearability. No one type of spring construction is superior to all others. In general, the closer together, and deeper the springs, the better. Springs should be tied to each other so that they will not come apart.

The quality and amount of filling materials are both important to wearability of upholstered furniture. Most furniture has a tag attached describing the stuffing. It may be air foam rubber polyurethane or dacron.

Curled or rubberized curl hair from animals is best. Sometimes hair is used with a variety of other fillings.

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