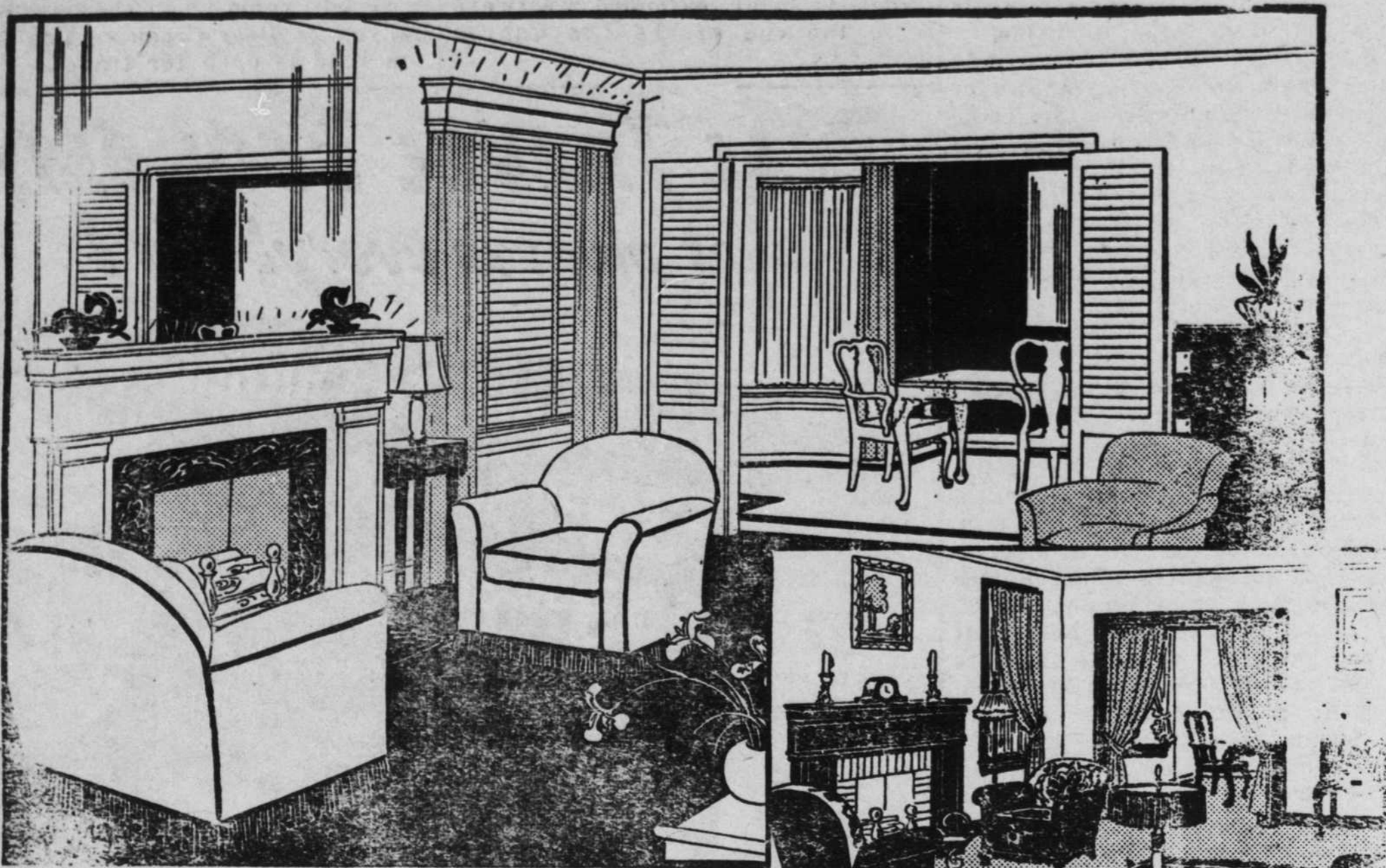


# Styling Your Home With Color New Order of Day



Interesting lighting effects from concealed sources (the frosted glass mantel shelf—the cornices above the windows), well tailored slip covers, trim folding "shutter" doors, large unframed mirrors, repainted dining room furniture, walls and woodwork coated the same smooth paint tint—these comprise part of the magic that has transformed the definitely outmoded room at the right into the modern, inviting room above.

By LONORE KENT

THE gals are wearing their curls higher - more frankly feminine - this year. Coiffures, as the hairdressers say, are definitely "styled." So are the new trains that streak from coast to coast. And so is the container your coffee comes in, your toothpaste tube, your automobile - your alarm clock. It's an era of styling - an era of combining that which is practical with that which is beautiful and then throwing in a dash of what's up-to-the-minute.

Home interiors, naturally, are prominent in this big parade - and here's where the fun comes in. You can buy your "styled" coffee can at your grocer's, your styled toothpaste tube at the drug store - but you can't very often point to a whole styled home interior in a store and say to the salesman, "I'll take that one. Wrap it up."

In your own home - unless you can employ an interior decorator - it's up to you to be your own stylist. The trends of the times, as they apply to home interiors, must be translated by you in terms of wall and woodwork colors, floor coverings, draperies and accessories. And what a kick there is in doing it!

The most important factor, of course, is color. And it isn't any special group of colors that are high

style, mind you - it's the distribution you make of them that plays such an important part in revealing whether a room is styled in the modern manner or not.

There is a decided drift toward painting the woodwork the same color as the walls. Frequently alcoves and niches are coated in a color different from the rest of the wall. More and more frequently, one or two walls of a room are painted in one tint while the remaining wall surfaces are coated in a harmonizing hue. Ceilings, too, are often getting the spotlight with interesting color treatment.

The term, "a styled room," of course doesn't apply exclusively to a room that is furnished with so-called "modern" pieces. A room, for instance, that contains lovely Eighteenth Century furniture, comfortably and conveniently arranged, harmoniously color-schemed, adequately lighted and uncluttered with too much pattern or too many accessories, is just as modern and just as well styled as any other.

To the careful observer it is apparent in most modern rooms that all possible tricks are employed to create the illusion that the smallish room is larger than its actual size. Favorite devices are: large unframed mirrors, smoothly painted plain-color walls, room-size rugs,

Venetian blinds. The blinds, incidentally, with their vertical tape and horizontal slats seem to lengthen walls and heighten ceilings.

Well tailored slipcovers are a great aid in modernizing upholstered furniture - as is paint for pieces that are not as young or as beautiful as they once were. Furniture of the less expensive type can easily be made to fall in line with the current craze of blond woods and light finishes. Such pieces coated in light tint and then antiqued with green liquid in which raw umbers are used look especially effective against richly colored walls.

With the aid of the Property Improvement Plan of the Federal Housing Administration so many home owners are transforming their rooms from uninteresting outmoded places into delightful and comfortable interiors in which they can take great pride. The FHA plan makes it possible to have repainting done, electrical wiring installed, structural changes made and to pay for it monthly, out of income. It's certainly a convenient way to bring your home up-to-date. No place, after all, can be the source of more enjoyment and satisfaction than your own home, as modern, comfortable and harmoniously colorful as you can make it.

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