

Secret of Color Scheme Shown by Simple Rule

Application of Knowledge Regarding Relation of Different Colors Insures Harmonious Effects.

The teacher of a grade school and a group of pupils, boys and girls of and 10 years, were going through the galleries of the Chicago Art Institute. They stopped before Jules Breton's "Song of the Lark," the well-known picture in which a French peasant girl stands looking upward toward the sky as the blood-red sun rises behind a patch of verdure. Everybody knows it.

"You see the red sun and the green," she said. "Can one of you tell me why the red and the green harmonize so well?"

No answer.

"Now tell me the primary colors that all other colors are made from."

"Red, blue and yellow," came in chorus.

"Now, what is the green made from?"

"Blue and yellow," came the answer from two or three.

"That's right," said the teacher. "When a color is made from two other colors—primary colors, we call them—it harmonizes with either of the others and with their mixture. Here's the secret of why the red and the green go so well together. The red likes the green. Not every shade of green, but the dark green in the picture."

"The red likes the green."

Color Secret.

Right in those five words the teacher told the secret of color combinations. It's ridiculously simple, isn't it, and still it's the principle that all artists and decorators work on—from designing a gift card to the beautifying of a great building. Let us take a look into their plan and perhaps we can work out a rule for any homemaker to go by in working out a color scheme for her rooms.

It isn't often that the primary colors, red, blue and yellow are used pure in home decoration. They are too strong—too intense.

But if we make a diagram of the primary and the secondary colors that are made by mixing the primaries, and then follow up the rules used by artists and decorators in combining them, we may get at a plan for homemakers to form their own judgments as to what is right in color. Primaries are marked P and secondary S. Violet—S.

Red—P Blue—P

Orange—S Yellow—P Green—S

Between the primaries are the secondary colors that they produce—orange from red and yellow, green from blue and yellow, and violet from red and blue. Now we have the basis to work on.

The pure secondary colors are made from equal combinations. If more of one color is used than of the other, the resulting shade is "grayed" and "graying" is one of the tricks in color combinations. Another is by "keying."

"Keying" Colors.

By "keying" colors we bring them into harmony by mixing with some other color that they "like." Red and yellow are not harmonious in their

pure state, but by mixing them with blue, a complementary color, we get violet and green, which make a good combination.

Then by following the same process from the secondary colors through to the intermediates, which are not properly colors, but shades, we get the same results. If we put green and orange side by side, we find they are not harmonious. But if we mix them, in varying proportions, we get olive of different intensities, for in olive we have the red and yellow of the orange and the blue and yellow of the green. It's like choosing roads which lead to a common center. If we mix green and violet we get slate,

which contains the red and blue of the violet and the blue and yellow of the green. In the same way, violet and orange make maroon. By making a sort of a map, as it were, of the colors and their derivatives and visualizing them with colored samples, the homemaker may check up on the advice given by the painter or wallpaper salesman. Or she may make combinations for herself with a case of water colors, always keeping in mind the shades which "like" one another—that is, shades which have primaries in common. If she will follow color combinations found in plants she will not go far wrong.

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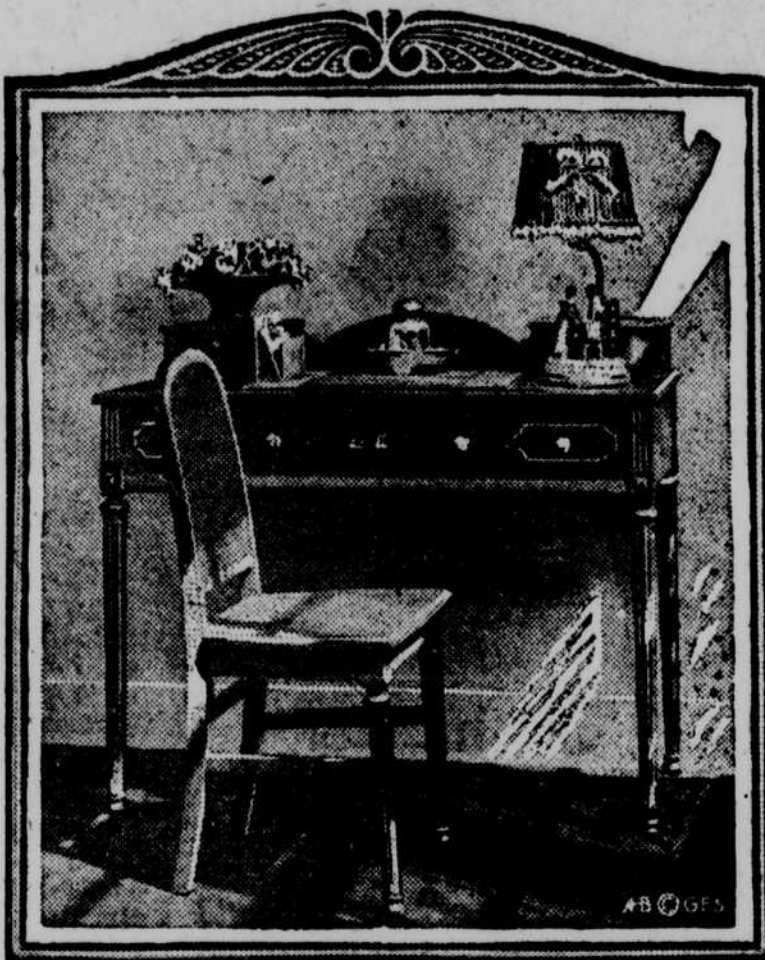
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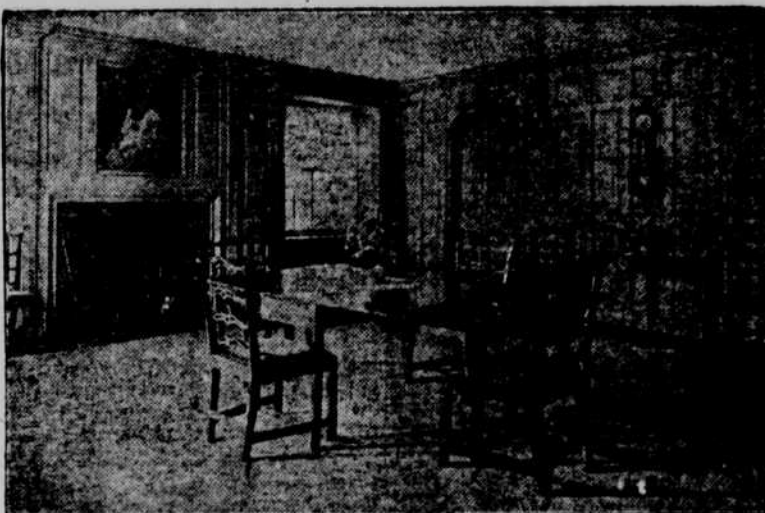
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The Writing Desk



Writing desks are always useful pieces of furniture and in almost every room there is a place for such a delightful one as this.

Restful Dining Room



The above illustration shows the dignified effect of restraint in furnishing the dining room.

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Wall Furniture Is Easy to Find

Cabinets Offer Points of Advantage in Setting Off Interior of Home.

Finding wall furniture is not difficult, for the American mind runs in the same channel, and big furniture, such as davenport and long tables, are two of its fetishes. Therefore, one will find them, anyway, or the

less usual soft, daybed, settee and settle.

When it comes to cabinet bookcases, or a big variety in decorative cabinets, the choice is limited. So many homes have built-in bookcases and the cabinet is an uncommon treatment, becoming more known now, however, because of its adaptation for the phonograph. Particularly would I advise cabinets. Utility, mystery, charm, individuality, beauty they offer. They are Chinese, Japanese and period pieces. When the lacquer, brilliant red, or snappy black and gold, if usable at all in one's scheme, they fairly sing.

Commodore Desirable. Equally as desirable are com-

modore, big console-like pieces, purely decorative and not to be confused with the purely utilitarian piece of the same name, now relegated to the limbo of things past in the march of progress and of plumbing.

The commode of Heppelwhite, Adam or Sheraton design is a thing to make one almost willing to forswear food, if one is an artist, for it is the essence of beauty in color, design and proportion! Like the flower, its reason for being is beauty, but like the perfume of flowers it, too, may serve madam's beauty. A mirror placed above it may be its excuse for being, if excuse one desires. As a place for crystal candlesticks, it

may also serve, but one must beware of gilding the lily.

Similar to it in top surface of straight line at the back and curved front is the console. The latter, however, is tablelike rather than solid. It, too, may have a mirror above it in the tiny hall, or hold vase, bowl or candlesticks. Its most unique use is in pairs.

Love Seat Useful.

Of the rarer variety of wall furniture is the high, flat-backed love seat, the double seat, that is, for lovers, but single for dowager-like ladies.

There are flat-backed chairs meant for against the wall or in line with it. (Copyright, 1923.)

Good Furniture Means Better Furnished Homes

"It takes a heap o'living in a house to make it a home," writes Eddie Guest, the Detroit author. And it takes only a little common sense in the selection of furniture to make that home better furnished according to the American scale. Sentiment surrounds the furniture in the home as well as it centers on some particular spot or locality in which that home was built. In fact, sympathy for good furniture means better furnished homes and the treatment of that furniture.

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We must vacate, and to vacate we must close out every article regardless of loss. This is your one greatest furniture buying opportunity.



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