



Streamlining

in Local Fashion

*Adelaide Richardson brings
the newest in household conveniences
from a trip through Ames homes*

THERE'S no place like home—for ingenuity. Many Ames home owners can say this with a real feeling of satisfaction, for in the past year a number of new conveniences to make home more unique have been added to houses. Some of these time-and-work savers have been conceived by the owners themselves, while others are the products of architects.

Before entering any one of these homes, one must ring the door bell. Among those who have installed door chimes are the J. A. Schulzes. Theirs are unique in that one chime rings for the back door and two chimes for the front door, saving time for the housewife who detests those distracted extra steps to the wrong door.

Banished is the cold front entrance with the chilly, dank clothes closet. Weatherstripped doors have done the good deeds of keeping out cold wintry drafts and providing wraps with the necessary warmth to keep rayon linings from becoming sheets of ice.

Turn to the right or left, whatever the case may be, and notice the living room. The T. R. Aggs, by wiring completely around their baseboard, have inserted convenience outlets about every two or three feet.

The H. H. Knights have completed their new home with double windows which means that there are solid sheet glass pane, pane divisions and solid sheet window all-in-one. There is a metal strip around the window frame set in rubber, which enables one to remove the storm window. The housewife can now clean her windows in one smooth sweep and the man of the house may wipe his hands of all distasteful storm window putting-up and taking-down. Another advantage of these windows is that since there is no air space between the inner window and the storm window, no frost forms on the panes. These windows lock with a master key.

To go with their new windows the Knights also have something new in the way of drapery lining. Since most of the dirt comes in contact with the lining, they have used glazed chintz to shed the dirt that is usually absorbed by the conventional tan lining. This chintz, too, is flowered and makes a very nice appearing drapery from the outside.

In the kitchen comes the idea of putting a small mirror inside a small cupboard door and keeping a few toilet articles handy. Homemakers are keeping their spirits and their appearances up with this arrangement.

You might like to glance at the study, lounge or general "reclusion" room. The J. A. Schulzes', in natural knotty pine, is almost soundproof—at least enough to keep any piano pounding from bothering while entertaining guests. The doors to this study are birch covered and there is no molding in the room.

The Clifford M. Simons have decorated their kitchen by putting open shelves high above their sink. This is their way to add color to a kitchen. Put a few bright dishes, bowls or plants there and you will be surprised at the difference it will make in your kitchen.

Another home uses small, plant-filled glass shelves on either side of the kitchen windows in place of curtains. These shelves give the effect of curtains without shutting out the sunlight as most curtains do.

A new treatment of linoleum-covered work space in the kitchen is in evidence at the A. N. Schanche home. The linoleum is brought up in one piece to the height of about four inches on the wall. The dirt that wedges into little cracks in the kitchen has this way been avoided. Little compartments under the sink to hold soap and brushes are found in the home of the Clay W. Staffords.

Now you are ready to go upstairs. When you get to the second floor in the Knight home, you see a telephone compartment which is devoid of any sign of a telephone. Investigation shows that there is a portable telephone which may be hooked in the den downstairs or here in the hall. Speaking of telephones, in the Stafford home the phone in the upstairs hall has a small door behind it which opens into a linen closet in the bathroom, making comfortable access to the telephone.

In the bathroom, too, is a steel medicine cabinet that may be easily cleaned. Look a second time at the lavatory. It has something under it that looks like a cupboard, and it is flush with the floor with no tiny, impossible spaces to be cleaned. The Schanches have put linoleum on their bathroom wall around the tub for easier cleaning and longer lasting bathroom walls.

The more houses built, the bigger are closets planned. Two double closets that open like French doors have been built in the Agg's home. There are drawers on the lower right side of each closet and ample room for all clothes and shoes.