

A GYPSY PARTY FOR HALLOWE'EN

BY RUTH PLUMLY THOMPSON.

Hallowe'en is above all a merry and madcap sort of night, a night for peering into the mysteries of the future, what could be more appropriate for Hallowe'en than a gypsy party? Surely, when it comes to light-heartedness and mysteriousness the gypsies are kings and queens of the human pack, as they are of the fortune-telling art. Gypsy costumes are so easily made, and gypsy acceptance doubly sure. For the girls, a vivid headscarf, full skirt, bracelets, earrings, and necklaces; for the men, head kerchiefs, fierce mustaches, bright sashes and knives.

A barn is the finest place for the party, and have plenty of gay lanterns, autumn leaves, stacks of corn, and grinning pumpkin heads. Your invitation might be in prose or the following small verse:

Gypsy hearts and heels are light,
Be a gypsy for to-night.

What the future has in store
Gypsies know—that's what they're for.
Fun and fortunes, music skipsy,
So come along and be a gypsy!
(Time and date).

(Come in gypsy costume and wear as many cheap ornaments as possible.)

Give each girl a bright balloon to be tied by its ribbon to her ankle. The gypsy coming through with her balloon unpunctured for the greatest number of dances (and everyone is privileged to try and step on the balloon) should be rewarded by a string of onions or other gypsy delicacy. Lead off with a grand march, awarding prizes for the best costume; or the prizes might be for the best gypsy dance, giving each couple in turn a try and making it plain that funny steps are the only requirement.

After the first dance or two take all the boys aside and tell them that a real gypsy can steal anything, explain that a count will be taken at the end of the evening and the gypsy having in his possession most bits of ribbon, jewelry, or handkerchiefs will be made chief of the band. Impress upon each the importance of keeping the matter secret. At a convenient opportunity tell the girls the same thing.

Before the party, hide enough bright bits of tin so that each guest may find several pieces. Then tell them they must find the silver to cross the gypsy's palm. Whoever finds the first piece shall have his fortune told first, and after that each in turn shall be led out to a dark tent, where some clever person will spin out thrilling fortunes for everyone present. Have only a dim lantern in the tent, and several dummy ghosts or scarecrows might enliven the host to the fortune teller's.

Just before refreshments, line up all the gypsies for a search, and crown the boy and girl having the most stolen trifles King and Queen of the band. Give them a real gypsy wedding—that is, make them jump over a broomstick together and run the gauntlet of the whole line of merry-makers. Then auction off the stolen trifles and make each person bid in his or her belongings with peanuts or pop corn.

A real gypsy favor will be given to the party by serving refreshments in a nearby field or grove from gypsy vans decorated with gay posters and curtained in the approved gypsy fashion. Have several gypsy camp fires. The fragrance of real coffee boiling

and chestnuts roasting will put everyone in a good humor. From the vans hand out the cider, nuts, fruit cake, apples, and other delicacies that go to make a regular Hallowe'en feast. Even "hot doggies" might be added.

If you cannot manage real wagons, you can easily rig up make-believe ones. It might be fun before the party breaks up to have the sheriff arrest on horseback and arrest the wagon camp, or Simple Simon and the Man might arrive together. Simple Simon would have a huge pail and fishing lines for each gypsy. Floating in the pail would be walnut shells with fortunes in them, securely glued together but with a picture book protruding between the halves. Fishing for these fortunes is jolly good fun.

A grab bag for the girls will tell them the occupations of their future husbands. Wrap up and drop into a big bag enough articles for each girl. A lump of coal may be drawn by one proud miss, signifying that her husband will be a miner. A pen would point to a journalist or writer, a pill bottle, a doctor; a tiny pack of cards, a gambler; a hammer, a carpenter; a tiny set of farm tools, a farmer; and so on.

The fortunes to be hidden in the walnut shells are suggested here:

A song will change your whole career
And someone else's too,
So in the proper time and place
You'll know just what to do!

You're going to have a lively time,
From now on. Take a minute
To rest and ponder on this rhyme,
For soon you will be in it!

As sure as a pumpkin is skin to a pump—
When good luck strikes YOU
It will come in a lump!

The whole thing in a nutshell is this:
You're too bashful.

Two's your lucky number,
And Tuesday is your day,
Two people think too much of you,
Two bills are on the way.

When the snow flies you will hear
Jolly news from someone queer,
Someone queer but very kind.
Keep this little thought in mind.

Think twice before you speak, old dear—
Upon the homeward way,
An awful lot depends on how
You think, and what you say.

Your life to us is partly sealed
But fate will take you far afield.

For a talented body
You are surely the oddest,
Stand up for yourself
You're entirely too modest.

This is the season, as every nut knows
To come out of your shell so
C'mon out!

Luck in many shapes and sizes,
Lots of sunshine and surprises
Are tucked up for your future use—
My! You're lucky as the deuce!

Not in this month—not in May,
But sometime, somehow, some way,
You'll get what you're wishing for,
Maybe less and maybe more!

"Glads" and Cannas.

Just as soon as the tops are killed, bulbs and cannas should be dug. Digging gladiolas is a very simple matter, with spading fork carefully lift bulbs, shaking off loose dirt. This is better done when ground is dry. As you shake off the dirt you will note many little bulblets. These, if properly cared for, may be grown into full-sized bulbs and each one will be the same in color, type and so forth, as the mother bulb.

After shaking off the most of the dirt either break off, or with pruning shears, cut off the stalk close to the bulb and put bulbs and bulblets into shallow boxes or trays to dry for a few days. They dry best if put outside on sunny days where sun and air can cure them thoroughly. After they are dry they should be cleaned. You will find upon the bottom of the bulb, the dried up remains and roots of last year's bulb. This may be removed by a quick twist and at the same time remove all the bulblets. If, where you planted one bulb last spring, there are two or more, break them apart. It is in this way and by the production of bulblets that "glads" multiply themselves. Do not worry if your bulbs are not as large in size as some that you see. Those about one to one and one-quarter inches in diameter are the best, provided they are thick or, in the terms of the grower, high or high-crowned. The large flat, thin bulbs are the old worn-out ones. If your bulbs are named varieties, keep each variety separate, including the bulblets.

After all have been cleaned they are ready to store for winter. They keep best if put in boxes not over four inches deep and piled lightly so that there may be a free circulation of air. They should be kept in a cool dry place where the temperature will stay as near forty degrees as possible. A good vegetable cellar is an ideal place for bulb storage. The bulblets are best stored in jars or boxes of dry sand. They are so small and the spark of vitality is so tiny that they keep bet-

ter if stored in sand rather than exposed to the air.

After bulbs are all dug, the ground should be thoroughly spaded and left lying rough and uneven. The action of frost and snow will be of great benefit to the soil, especially if inclined to be heavy. Never plant "glads" in the same place more than two years in succession; it is well to plant them in a different place each year if you have the room. If your soil needs manure, fall is the time to add it, spreading it over the ground and spading it in; by planting time it will be so decomposed that it will not harm the bulbs.

Cannas should be dug and all the soil shaken or washed off. They should then be broken up into their natural divisions. A careful examination will show where this is. They must be thoroughly dried, the old stalks cut off close to the roots when they are dug. They keep best if stored in a warm dry place, in a box of dry sand. They are very easy to carry over the winter.

I Store Flower Bulbs.

I find that practically all of the summer-blooming flower bulbs, such as gladioli, cannas, dahlias, caladiums, tube-roots and tuberous begonias, can easily be kept over winter for planting again next spring.

My rule for harvesting is simple. I dig them up and cut the tops off a few inches above the bulb as soon as early frost has blackened or killed the foliage. Afterwards may be too late. A hard frost may strike down to the bulb.

I dry the bulbs off in the sun or in a shed and then store them in shallow boxes in a frostproof cellar. Glads, dahlias and cannas will keep well where potatoes will, if there is no frost. But tuberous begonias, caladiums and tuberous should be kept in a slightly warmer place—say 40 degrees or more—and covered with sawdust.—F. F. R.

Keep to the Right—is more than a traffic suggestion.

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"See here, Nicky, if you thing to eat when snow ground you must do your part helping to lay in the supply of food. Get to work at once!"

Nicky knew Daddy Squirrel meant exactly what he said, so he set to work gathering nuts. But every now and then when he was pretty sure his father and mother weren't looking he would stop work and cut up all kinds of capers, such as kicking up his hind legs, rolling over and over, and hopping straight up and down just like little boys will do when they feel full of mischief. Chippy and Flippy would have to run behind trees and laugh until they nearly cried at Nicky's antics. Then to help their little brother along they would drop a handful of nuts every now and then in his knapsack.

Before long Nicky whispered to Mother Squirrel that he was tired and wanted to rest for a little while. Oh, no wonder Nicky was tired, but certainly not from work. So Mother Squirrel said: "Very well, Nicky. Sit on this stump while we go deeper in the wood."

No sooner were Daddy Squirrel and Mother Squirrel and Chippy and Flippy out of sight than Nicky dropped off to sleep. When he woke up he was as hungry as a bear, so he thought he would take out a nut and eat it. Now what Nicky should have done was to hunt for nuts, instead of eating the ones in his knapsack, but he was lazy as well as naughty. He took out a nut, cracked it and ate it. It tasted so good that he ate another and another, until he had actually eaten every single nut in his knapsack. But Nicky was too full of nuts to care very much what he had done.

Well, when Daddy Squirrel and Mother Squirrel and Chippy and Flippy came back from the deep wood, never a word did Nicky say about his empty knapsack. He just scurried home ahead of them, saying to himself: "To-morrow I will get up early and go out and fill my knapsack brim full of nuts."

But the next morning when Nicky hopped out of his little bed there was a deep snow on the ground, and he knew he could not find any nuts. Now Daddy Squirrel and Mother Squirrel and Chippy and Flippy were telling each other how thankful they were that they had gone nutting the day before, and they began to store them very carefully in the pantry.

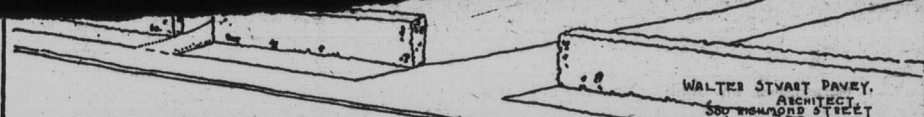
At last, Mother Squirrel picked up Nicky's knapsack, and when she discovered it was empty she was surprised she did not know what to do. Poor Nicky had to confess that he had not gathered many nuts, and the few that he had gathered and the ones his sisters had given him he had eaten. He was dreadfully frightened because he knew there was no foolishness about Daddy Squirrel, and he ran and hid under his bed.

Daddy Squirrel said: "Nicky must have a lesson. He is growing up to be a spoiled, careless and lazy squirrel. Something must be done." So he thought and he thought and he thought, and after a while he said: "I have it! For a whole week Nicky must crack the nuts for each meal. No one must help him. That will teach Nicky a lesson."

So for a whole week Nicky cracked the nuts for the family, and on the last day he said: "Daddy Squirrel, I have learned my lesson. There is a time for work and a time for play. May I play now with my sisters?" "Certainly," said Daddy Squirrel.

To freshen butter that has been packed or become rancid, place on stove and melt slowly until it is oil. Drop slice of lightly browned toast in it. Let set a few minutes, then put in warm milk (separated milk preferred) and churn until smooth (about ten minutes). Butter will be fresh.

There is no season when such pleasant and sunny spots may be lighted on and produce so pleasant an effect on the feelings as now in October. The sunshine is peculiarly genial; and in sheltered places, as on the side of a bank, or of a barn or house, one becomes acquainted and friendly with the sunshine.—Hawthorne.



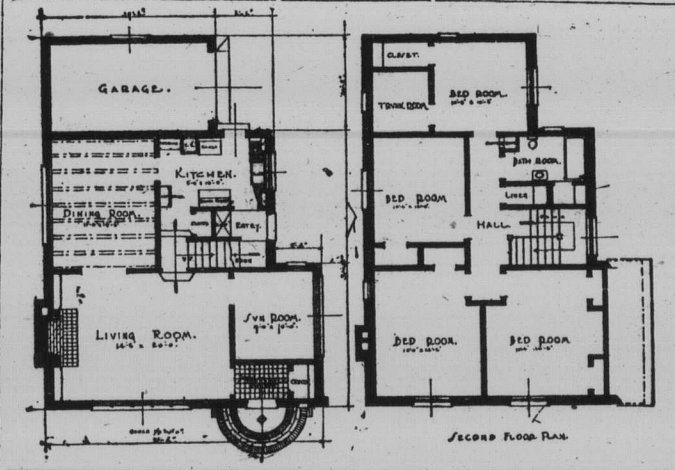
KINSHIP BETWEEN DESIGN AND DETAIL

By Walter Stuart Pavey, Architect

What a delightful picture to have in one's mind when one thinks of "home." Purely from a building viewpoint, of course. The high peaked roof and the little "eye brow" window which snugly goes over the chimney pots; the chimney pots; the canopied entrance with old fashioned wide battered door and iron hardware.

There is a particularly good opportunity here to illustrate the "kinship" between design and detail. This home is of the English cottage type and referring again to the chimney pots, if you will place a piece of paper or your finger over them you will find the result rather surprising. From an architectural aspect it is best described as an error of omission.

Other interesting details are the



shutters, window box, and small latticed window at the right of the entrance. These, and also the entrance door, are painted a robin egg blue creating a very charming contrast with the yellow tone of the stucco walls.

Construction has been very carefully considered to combat the vagaries of our "temperamental" climate. The walls are 2 in. x 6 in. studs covered on the outside with wire lath and then plastered with a coat of cement. On top of this is applied two coats of magnesian stucco, yellow in color as already mentioned. On the inside of the wire lath, between the studs, is a back plaster coat of cement. This is followed by a waterproofing coat of asphalt. A building board product is next applied to the inside of the studs and then plastered. In between these two walls, the space between the studs is filled with granulated cork and the same material is used between the roof rafters. The result is comfort the year round—warm in winter, cool in summer.

Readers desiring further information regarding the plans and specifications for this house should communicate with the architect direct. Address, Walter Stuart Pavey, 380 Richmond St., London, Ont.

GAMES FOR AUTUMN EVENINGS

A stunt party requires very little preparation and could be carried out at any time or any place where enough people have come together. If the party is given in October, use Hallowe'en decorations, with witches, owls, black cats and Jack-o-lanterns in evidence. The prizes and refreshments should also suggest Hallowe'en.

A Corking Contest is not so easy as it appears to be. A hat is placed upside down on the floor, and about six feet away place a yardstick on which contestants kneel in line. Each contestant is given three corks, which he tries to throw (one at a time) into the hat. Owing to the lightness of the corks, it is hard to gauge the throw.

A Soap-bubble Contest might come next. For this hang an embroidery hoop in a doorway, provide soapy water and clay pipes and see who can, in a given time, blow the most bubbles through the hoop.

A Stunt Contest comes next. The company is divided into two sides, both of which are allowed a few minutes to take stock of their resources. They then draw lots to see which side should perform first. The other side then starts to count slowly, "one," "two," "three," up to ten. If some member of the other side has not started to give a stunt by the time they count ten, one point is gained by the counting side. If some one starts to perform, however, they have to stop counting. They then take their turn to put on a stunt, while the other side starts to count ten. The stunts include any kind of possible entertainment from doing an athletic stunt to singing a solo or "speaking a piece."

After ten minutes of this, the side having the most points is declared the winner.

The Laughter Test might follow. The men are lined up in a row facing the audience. The first test is to determine the musical quality of each one's laugh, each one laughing in a musical a tone as he can muster. The audience votes for the best one. Next, the men are lined up as long as he can without taking breath. The next test is for shrillness, and the last for the most contagious laugh.

ants are asked to kneel on one end of it and then push a cotton ball (with which each one has been provided) to the other end of the sheet, using their chins as propellers.

Initial Stunts are funny, too; each guest is given a piece of paper on which he is asked to write his initials. The papers are then collected, mixed up, and passed around again. Guests are then asked to think of some ridiculous stunt, the words of which begin with the letters on the papers they hold. These are written on the papers, adding brief directions for their performance. When every one has done this the papers are again collected, sorted out and passed to those whose initials are written at the top. The owners of the fatal initials are obliged to obey the orders written on the paper. "Chester Gray," who may be rather shy, is ordered to make "cute gestures," and Della White may have to do a "duck waddle," much to the amusement of the crowd.

For an Odd or Even Race have the guests count off "one," "two," etc., as for gymnasium work. The odd numbers form one line, the even numbers another, then, with shoulders high, arms outstretched and finger tips touching, the lines are measured, the longest line winning.

In a Pie-Tin Race contestants balance pie-tins on their heads as they run across the room and back to the starting point. When a pie-tin rolls off, the contestant has to drop out of the race.

A Basket-Ball Stunt requires a large clothes-basket placed in the centre of the room. One after another the guests are blindfolded, placed six feet away from the basket, given a ball, turned around three times and told to throw the ball into the basket. Those who miss have to perform forfeit stunts.

Matching Partners for supper is the last stunt. The hostess hands a slip of paper to each guest. On each man's slip will be written directions for the stunt he is to perform. On each girl's slip will be found a description of what one man is to do. For instance, one slip will read "bray like a well-known animal until your partner comes." On a corresponding slip given to a girl is written "You will know him by his bray." At the signal every man has to do his stunt and continue

doing it until he is claimed by his partner. The following stunts will suggest others: "Stand on one foot"; "Nod your head and yawn"; "Sing a solo"; "Make a low bow"; "Cry until she comes to wipe away the tears."

Shift the Perches.

It is a well-recognized fact that many pullet flocks get into a diseased, non-productive condition in the fall as a result of lack of fresh air in their laying quarters.

Pullets are brought in off the open range from fresh-air colony houses and placed in crowded laying quarters, and unless every possible step is taken to insure the ventilation of such permanent quarters it will not be long before the pullets will come down with colds, which are apt to develop into canker, chicken pox, roup or other diseases.

Recent tests have shown that faulty conditions are more apt to persist at night when the pullets are on the perches in the daytime.

Roosting conditions at night can be much improved if the poultryman will move the dropping boards and perches about a foot or two toward the front of the house, merely sliding the dropping board ahead and removing the last perch at the back of the house and placing it at the front of the remaining perches.

This will allow the birds to approach the perches from the front as well as the rear, but best of all the new arrangement will allow sufficient area for the air to circulate around the dropping boards.

My Homemade Mash.

My laying mash is mixed in about 400-pound lots and with home-grown feeds at present prices costs only about \$32 per ton. We use three and one-half bushels of ear corn (ground), one bushel of bran and is much cheaper), one-half bushel wheat, three bushels oats and one-third hundred-weight of meat scrap, all ground together to the consistency of medium corn meal.

It cost 70 cents, or 10 cents per bushel for grinding. Would use meat scrap but have plenty of fish. Hens lay well the whole year with this mash. The records for the past five months show our flock of Rhode Island Reds nine eggs above the standard, or 61 eggs per hen, since November 1st.—A. G.