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## A Simple Home-Like Interior

The exterior of Guide House No. 10 speaks so eloquently of cosiness rather than of austerity or magnificence that one is forced to plan a very home-like and informal interior rather than an

and informal interior rather than an imposing one.

As both of the main living rooms are brilliantly lighted a cool color scheme will be best in keeping with their requirements, so it would be well to finish the walls of both the living and dining rooms in a dull putty grey, with silver grey woodwork, a color more nearly fawn than pure grey. In the living room a plain two-toned old blue rug would be pretty, with eeru scrim curtains and over-curtains of cretonne in old blue and putty grey. The big wicker or grass chairs with which this room could be comfortably and inexpensively furnished should have cushions made for them, some of the cretonne like the curtains and some of plain old blue lines.

curtains and some of plain old blue lines.

A pretty rug for the dining room would be a mixture of putty orey, brown and old blue, with plain blue lines over-curtains at the windows and fumed oak furniture.

In the downstairs bedroom and kitchen where there will not be the same use of relieving color the wall color would be better to be warmed up to a soft buff tint with the same silver grey woodwork thruout. Upstairs putty grey walls for the ball and front bedrooms and old rose for the back bedrooms, where less light enters, would make a pleasing combination, with ivory woodwork. In the rose bedroom ivory furniture would be attractive with rich brown or mahogany colored furniture in the front rooms.

The question of curtains is one which has given readers so much trouble that the following suggestions have been prepared for their guidance:

#### The Curtain Question

"How shall we curtain our win-dows" I the writer is asked, over and over again, by earnest seekers after beauty in their homes. Perhaps if we consider the object of curtains it will help us to solve the problem.

In the evolution of home building and

In the evolution of home building and furnishing the primary object of nearly every feature of architecture and every article of furniture was utility, with beauty as an incidental factor. The obvious utility of curtains is to serven the family life from the inquisitive gaze of the passer-by. Incidentally they contribute to the beauty of the home. contribute to the beauty of the home in two ways. They soften the brilliance of the light, making it more restful to the nerves, and by the use of over-curtains they enable us to introduce lovely hits of color into our rooms. The use of curtains is not so great in the country as in the city, since there are so few passers by, and farm homes are generally set well back from the road, but they are just as important a factor in making the home attractive.

#### Charm of Small-Paned Windows

In the country then the question of curtains becomes almost entirely a matter of beauty, the point to be de-

eided being, how much curtaining a given window requires to make it beautiful. It depends largely upon the window and the view therefrom. A group of windows with the upper and lower sashes divided into small square panes is so pleasing in itself and throws such pretty chequered shadows on the floor that it seems a great pity to conceal its charm under a closely woven curtain. The writer would advise in this case using simple curtains of madras, cretonne or casement cloth, in a color that makes a pleasing contrast with the wall. They should be made with a valance, running across the top of the window or group of windows and two or four curtains hanging straight down to a little below the level of the window sill, and drawn well to one side to reveal the beauty of the window except when the brilliance of the sun light demands more shadow in the room, for comfort's sake.

#### Treatment of Different Types

The group of windows with large un-broken panes or the single large win-dow, with the small sash across the top-and a very large plain bottom sash is another matter. When the window or windows frame a very heautiful view they may be treated after the method-described above, the view being incor-porated into the scheme of the room as a nicture, though this "freatment is they may be treated after the method described above, the view being incorporated into the scheme of the room as a picture, though this "treatment is complicated in this country by the fact that for a large part of the year the view will be a big stretch of dead white, a difficult thing to fit in with certain color schemes. Usually windows of this description are more pleasing when curtained with fine serim or net in cream or ecru color, with or without over curtains as the owner prefers and the pocket-book permits. Pure white curtains are very seldom a success, the exception that proves the rule being in white or blue rooms, where white is the only choice, and rooms in the paler shades of rose and green where white or cream are equally acceptable. For all the darker color schemes, such as tan, brown, olive green or putty color, cream or ecru curtains are infinitely to be preferred.

The best authorities on decoration deprecate the use of lace curtains, in expensive or otherwise, strongly recommending simple curtains of net or serim. In choosing patterned materials for over-curtains the inexperienced person will find it a safe guide to select only such a material as has somewhere in the design, either background or ornament, the exact shade of the wall. This rule if followed absolutely will prove almost a certain guide to beauty, for the materials are usually designed by people with genuine artistic ability, so that if they have introduced the color of the room into the design the whole scale of colors in the material is likely to be harmonious with the room.

While there is no absolute guide to heauty in this particular, this comes as near to being an infantible rule as anything one could recommend in the whole business of house decoration.

### House and Barn Catalog

A large number of the house and barn plans which have been described in The Guide in the past six months have been purchased by our readers. Many, however, have written to say they are going to build but would wait and see all the plans before selecting. In order to complete the service we have been giving our readers on house and barn plant, we have collected them all and published them in book form. This catalog will contain all the articles describing our ten house plans and a decoration scheme for each. The four barn plans are also featured in the varialog. The catalog also contains articles on lumber and its uses, roofing materials, how to use concrete, heating and lighting systems, interior finish, water systems, and paints and painting. In addition the catalog also gives the names of many firms who can supply the materials for constructing houses, and barns. No such complete catalog has ever been issued by any farm journal. It will be mailed free on request to any reader of The Guide.

Farm Buildings Dept., Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg

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