

ACROSS THE *Editor's* DESK

The Picture on the Cover: No danger of Monday-morning blues with such a blithe breakfast nook or room-corner to add zest to your cereal and coffee! It almost gives you the feeling of dining outdoors, with that trellis, seen thru the window, bringing the garden so pleasantly close. Yes, the homelikeness and skillful handling of colors are what make this room-corner so inviting and gay... Moreover, it's part of the color feature which begins on page 20.

►►► We've all heard a lot of talk about good lighting and good seeing and how they affect good health—and I'm sure we all agree. But "Light Where You Need It," which appears on page 16, is the most down-to-earth illustration of how to acquire good lighting that I've ever seen. See if you don't agree. The nine pictures shown were done by Christine Holbrook, home-furnishings director of the magazine, and Mary Webber, nationally known home-lighting specialist.

►►► What does home mean to you? Johns-Manville, one of America's great building-material manufacturers, will announce a contest April 1 offering \$10,000 for the best letter on this theme.

By coincidence, one of you has written us: "To me a home isn't just a piece of property. It's a personal thing. I can't feel at home within someone else's four walls, from which I may move, or may be removed, anytime. To own my home is such a deep-seated feeling that it amounts to instinct. My home is such a part of my life that I love every stone and piece of lumber in it."

Love of home—your own house, I mean—grows with the years and with the string of memories associated with it, don't you think? It doesn't depend on whether the house is small or large, unpretentious or pretentious. So long as you own that house and the ground on which it is, affection depends on memories—perhaps the incidents connected with buying or building the house; the children that grew up, or are growing up, in it; the plantings that you make about it, the things you build into it, the family love that's nourished in it, the rustling of new green leaves on an old, well-loved tree beside it.

►►► "The house of moderate cost is not only America's major architectural problem, but the problem most difficult to her major architects," says Frank Lloyd Wright, whom *Time* terms "the greatest architect of the Twentieth Century."

Mr. Wright states a fact which *Better Homes & Gardens* has emphasized since its beginning 16 years ago and which it will continue to emphasize year in and year out, decade after decade. Take a look at page 14 in this issue, if you want to see what I mean.

Everywhere thruout the country builders, architects, manufacturers, and now other magazines are hoisting their flags for the small house, with great satisfaction to *Better Homes & Gardens*. We're glad to see this inevitable endorsement of what has always been one of our editorial objectives.

Forthcoming issues will continue to show you other small houses. Many of them will be *Better Homes & Gardens* bildcost gardened homes, which means that plans for them will be available to you for moderate cost. And they'll be worked out for you by the country's outstanding architects—or as Mr. Wright describes them, "major" architects.

Any good architect can design a good house costing \$10,000 or more, but you must have an unusually skillful architect who walks head and shoulders above those in his profession if you wish an excellently designed and soundly constructed and soundly planned house for less than \$5,000 or \$6,000. That, as Mr. Wright says, is a "major" problem. He'd like to solve it, he says, with satisfaction to himself; we'd like to solve it with satisfaction to you.

►►► After having been banished by interior decorators as a thing of ugliness about 20 years ago, the rocking-chair, according to one of America's great newspapers, is finally coming back into American living-rooms. Well, I don't know about that, but one of my associates says that it's bound to come back if you step on one in the dark.

Happy Easter and Happy Springtime!

Editor

IN THIS ISSUE

Furnishings for Your Home	
Light Where You Need It	16
Curtain Calls	18
At Home With Soft Colors	20
Planned for Miss Sixteen	34
My Sewing Nook	54
A Brush Plus Paint Equals Magic	76
Tommy's Room Is Washable	134

Better Gardens	
How to Tie Your Beds to Your Lawn	24
The Quickest Garden	26
Fairies Live in This Garden	32
I Can't Resist a Vegetable Garden	45
First Aid to Turf	50
We Grow Iris From Seed	58
Answering Spring Garden Questions	63
Starting Tuberous Begonias	64
Lupines Are Lovely	70
Gloxinia Stages a Comeback	74
The Diary of a Plain Dirt Gardener	112
There's Contentment Here	138
Along the Garden Path	154

Building and Remodeling Ideas	
Ten Minutes From Hollywood	14
White Walls in an Orchard	48
The Question Before the House	52
Camera Shorts	56
It Was Shorn of Bric-a-Brac	60
Three Wings in Harmony	109
Have Your Picnics at Home	124

Better Foods	
SO Good Meals	36
Cakes and Character	40
Cooks' Round Table:	
Chocolate Cakes	41
Egg Recipes	42
Contest (Great-Grandma's Cake)	96
Confessions of Good Cooks	98

A Number of Things for the Family	
Across the Editor's Desk	4
From Fairyland (Frontispiece)	4
It's News to Me!	10
Good News! We All Get a Break	13
Washington in Bloom!	28
He Has Collect-itis	30
For Our Feathered Friends	68
The Man Next Door	84
Among Ourselves	106
Back Talk!	118

How to Manage the Home	
Kitchen Energy-Savers	38
April Wool-Gathering	46
Safe at Home—But ARE You?	80
Watch Those "Children's Diseases"	88
We Parents	91

Cover Photograph by Charles Kuoni

MEREDITH PUBLISHING COMPANY

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Home Offices: 1714 Locust Street, Des Moines, Iowa. Manuscripts submitted to the magazine must be accompanied by postage for their return, else we cannot be responsible for them.

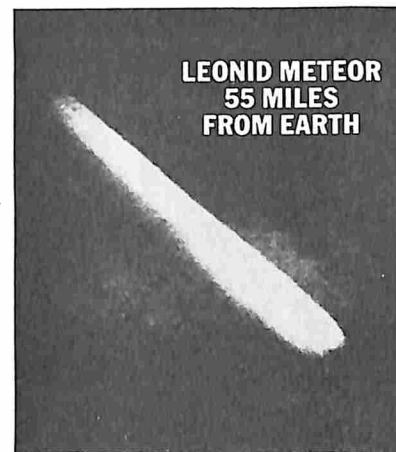
Advertising Branch Offices: New York City, 420 Philadelphia, 133 South Twelfth St.; Chicago, 333 North Michigan Ave.; Detroit, 5-145 General Motors Bldg.; San Francisco, 100 Bush St.; Los Angeles, 1212 Lincoln Bldg.; Atlanta, Georgia, 619 Grant Bldg.

Subscription: United States and Canada rates, one year, \$1; two years, \$1.50; three years, \$2. Other countries, \$1.50 a year. At newsstands, twentieth of the month, 10 cents a copy. Entered as second-class matter at the post office in Des Moines, Iowa, by Meredith Publishing Company, United States and Canada. Trademarks for *Better Homes & Gardens* have been registered in the United States and Canada.

Change of Address: Report any change of address to the Editor, Des Moines, Iowa, rather than thru your local post office, giving old address as well as the new, and allow five weeks for the first copy to reach you.

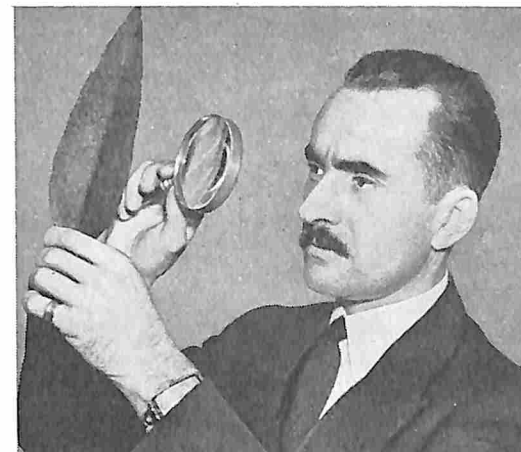
Born in a Meteor's Burst...Story of Metal

THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO, a savage found a fallen meteor—broke a piece from it—beat it into a crude spearhead. Thus began the Iron Age! Read how Plymouth treats metals today—to give you the brilliant performance and economy of "the car that stands up best!"



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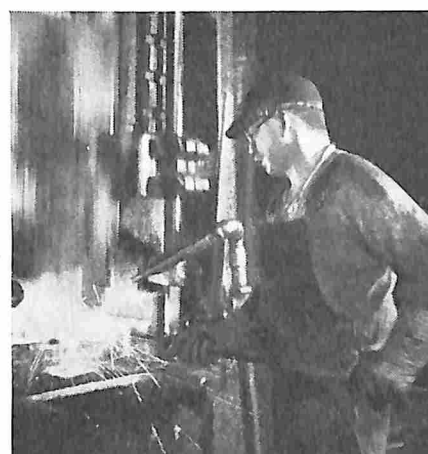
2 4000-Year-Old Spearhead found in Egypt. Today, Plymouth scientists produce special alloys just as precisely as a pharmacist mixes drugs. Example: Plymouth's super-hard pistons.



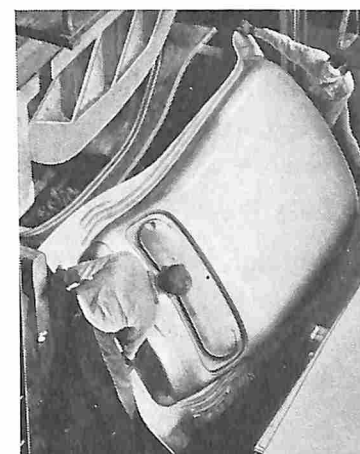
3 This Electric Arc turns metal to vapor—shows all its elements! Plymouth's flexible, Amola steel springs resulted from such advanced metallurgy.



4 Bronze that's 1/3 Pure Oil! Here's a Plymouth bushing made of marvelous Oilite. It looks like solid metal...but under pressure, oil oozes out! Plymouth had them first among low-priced cars.



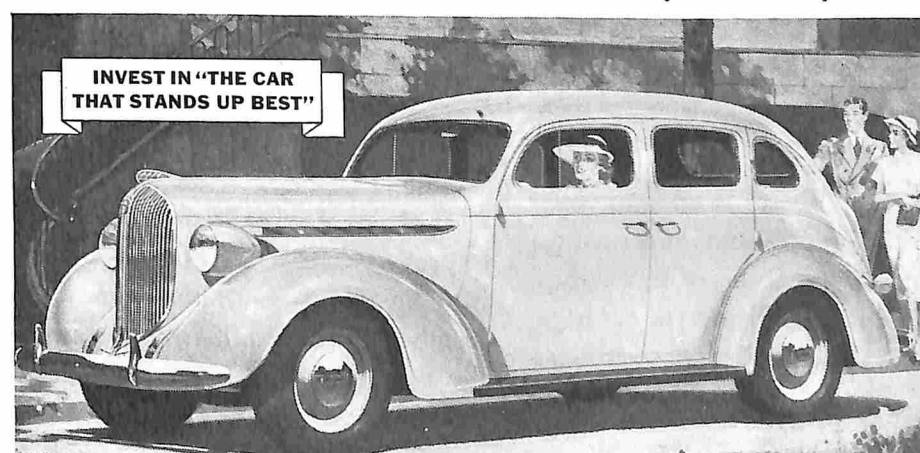
5 Fine as a King's Sword is this steel crankshaft. It resists strain and vibration...has 4 main bearings...helps make Plymouth "smoothest."



6 Plymouth's All-Steel Body is formed into beautiful lines under pressure of 3 million lbs. The body is safer—and quieter.



7 "Meteor" Heat Makes Safer Bodies. This worker is welding a joint. Pioneering in metals made Plymouth one of the first cars with a Safety-steel body!



8 1938 Plymouth De Luxe 4-Door Sedan with Trunk delivers in Detroit for \$815—other models as low as \$645—including Federal taxes. State, local taxes not included. See a Dodge, De Soto or Chrysler dealer. Plymouth Division of Chrysler Corporation, Detroit, Michigan. TUNE IN MAJOR BOWES' AMATEUR HOUR, COLUMBIA NETWORK, THURS., 9 TO 10 P. M., E.S.T.

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