

Screen Fills One's Need For Privacy

Have you wondered, sometimes, how you or a member of the family could gain some privacy? We'll all admit that "togetherness" of a family is fine; also, that it should not be all the time.

Psychologists say every human being has need for occasional privacy, and this need is felt even by young babies.

In today's houses and apartments, it's sometimes

difficult to find a spot for doing the quiet things, such as napping, reading a book or writing a letter. Here's where a folding screen can be helpful, because it can be used to partition off a living room corner or a dining space, for example.

A folding screen can be an asset besides the privacy it affords, according to Norma Brown, home service adviser to Masonite Corporation. It can be attractive.

An ideal material for making a screen filling these qualifications is a filigreed hardboard panel especially designed for this usage and room dividers.

Using the perforated hardboard panels with their airy patterns in either cloverleaf or diamond shapes, the home craftsman simply slips them into ready-grooved lumber, fastens them and applies a prime coat and a finish dressing of paint or enamel. The individual sections then are hinged together.



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Observer
GARDEN PAGE

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Builders Aim to Show New Things in Housing

Home-conscious families—adults and children alike—took advantage of sunny skies and cool breezes over the last weekend to visit many of the new models on display all around Detroit.

Louis Hechtman, president of the Builders Association of Metropolitan Detroit, explained that the home builders were putting forth extra efforts during the remainder of September and the first few days of October to acquaint the public with "everything that's new in housing."

"This," Hechtman added, "is our way of observing National Home Month, a countywide promotion effort sponsored by the National Association of Home Builders, of which the 800-member BAMD is one of the largest and oldest regional affiliates."

There are more than 100 models open in this September Parade of Fine Housing. The homes range from modest two-bedroom, all-on-one-floor models, to the more elaborate ranch-type and Colonial houses, and all of them contain the latest furnishings and equipment, much of it developed in the vast research programs of the home builders and the suppliers of materials, appliances and services for modern living.

The Detroit area parade of homes includes, besides the single houses, many new apartments which have been built during the last few months and opened to coincide with the celebration of National Home Week.

Hechtman mentioned, among other advances in research and product development, the improved sound-

conditioning materials which have made privacy a feature of the new apartments as well as improved the livability of single homes.

Greatly improved plumbing systems and more economical and efficient heating plants are being featured by many builders. Builders whose models are being kept open throughout the National Home Month observance report exceptional interest in new-home acquisition.

Hechtman said that the home builders welcomed efforts made recently by the Congress and the administration in Washington to ease the mortgage-money squeeze which the industry has been grappling with for the last eight or nine months.

"I believe we are entering a new phase of home ownership," said Hechtman. "I am sure the government and the various federal agencies, as well as the institutions that provide money through loans for housing, are about to reach agreements that will give us an opportunity in 1967, at least, to make a dent in the tremendous demand there is today for homes in practically all price categories."

Blackboards Are Available For 75 Cents

There's nothing like having a handy blackboard near your kitchen telephone. Any handy husband can make one at minor cost from a piece of Masonite Presdwood obtained at a lumber yard. A good size for a kitchen is 24 by 18 inches.

Have "hobby" round the corners and taper the edges with a file or sandblock. He'll need to drill screw holes in the upper corners so it can be anchored to the wall.

Then he can brush on some slating compound, available at lumber yards or paint stores, and fasten a piece of wood molding to the bottom for a chalk trough.

One handyman found that for 75 cents he had enough material for the kitchen chalkboard plus two more for his youngsters.

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Realtors Meet on Boat Trip

The United Northwestern Realty Association held its first luncheon meeting of the fall series in an unusual location—in the middle of the Detroit River.

The meeting consisted of a guided boat tour of the Detroit waterfront, with Detroit-Wayne County Port Commission Executive Director Andrew Fleming as the guest speaker.

During the two-hour cruise from the foot of Cobo Hall up to River Rouge, Fleming pointed out interesting riverfront sights and narrated the history of the port of Detroit. He explained that Detroit is "only scratching the surface" of its capability in shipping handled.

"Detroit hasn't the adequate facilities to handle its shipping needs," he told the Realtors. He said that ships often must wait as much as a day for berths to unload their cargoes. "The result is that these ships, that would otherwise dock in Detroit, go to ports able to accommodate them immediately," he said.

"To become the port of which we are capable, we need the facilities to handle the ships... till then, smaller cities like Toledo will continue to outstrip us handsomely," Fleming concluded.

A full boat of nearly 60 Realtors were in attendance for the tour, and welcomed this pleasant twist of a luncheon meeting.

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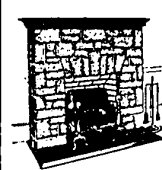
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