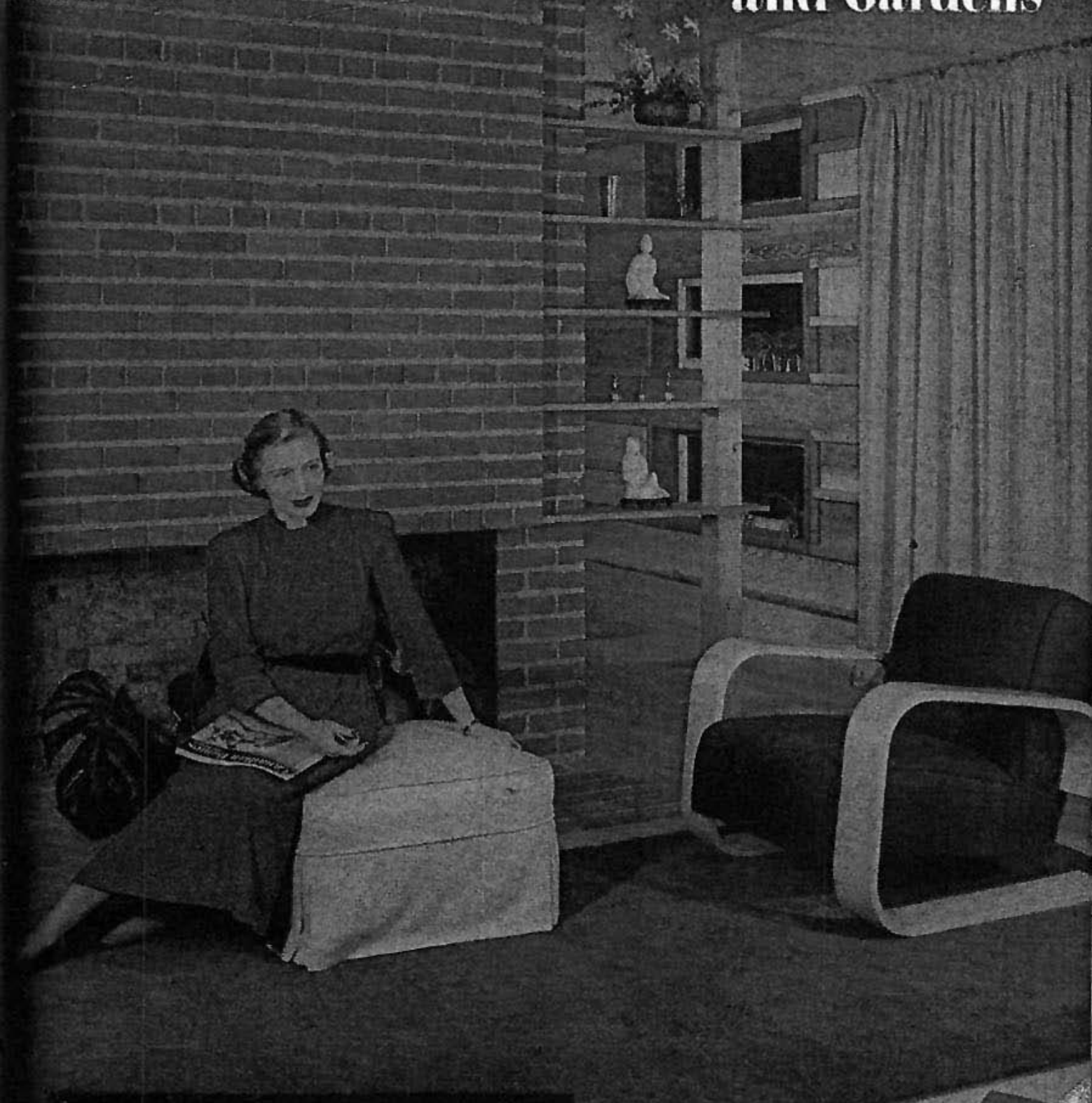


Canadian Homes

and Gardens

MAY 1950 25c



HOUSE ON STILTS

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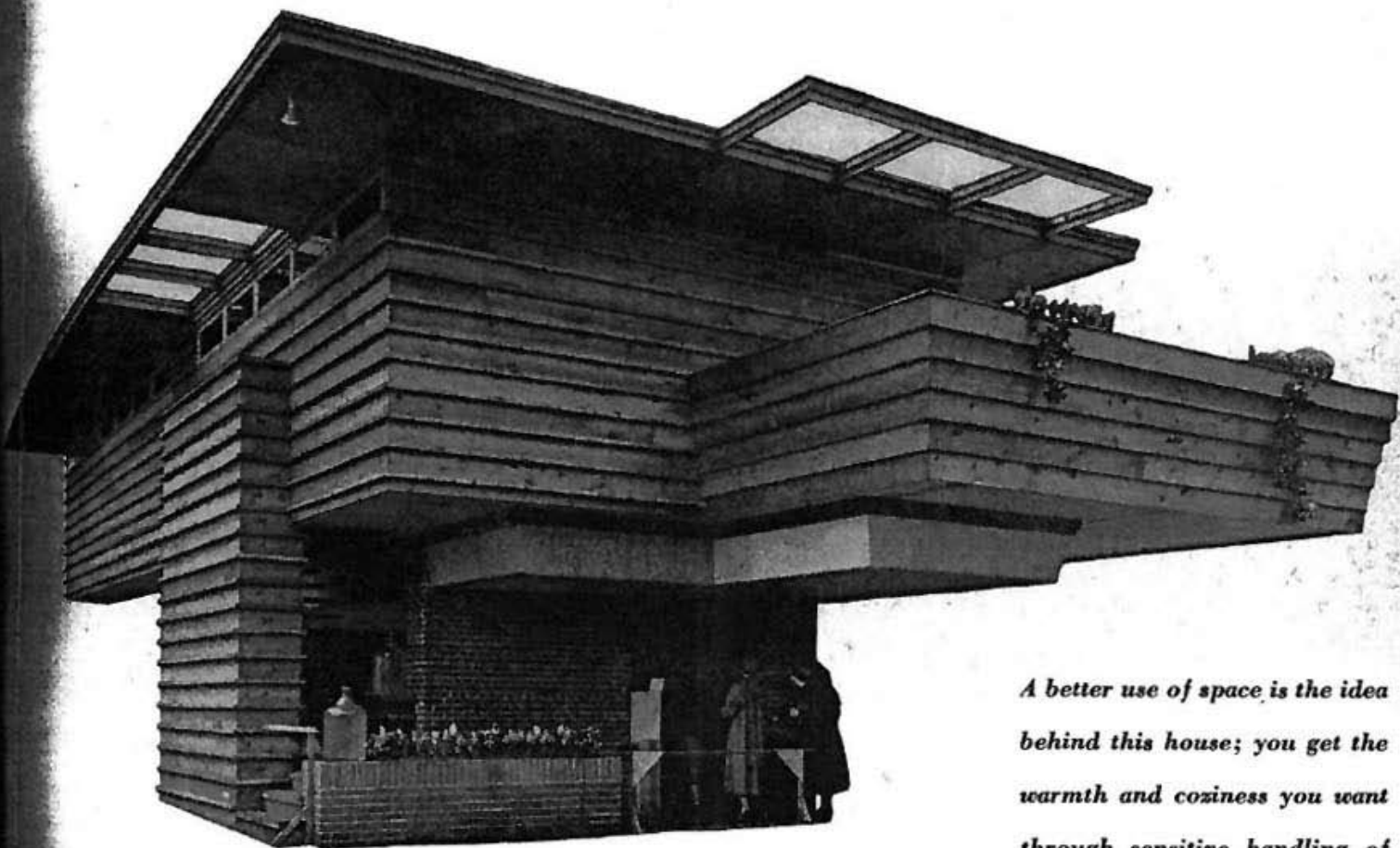
HOUSE ON STILTS

"Build off the ground and save the price of your building lot." "Prices go rock bottom as houses go sky high." Ah, we thought, a new approach to the building problem. But no, says Fred Hollingsworth of this house on stilts. "It's up in the air," he says, "because the Bay wants to park cars under it."

It was as simple as that. Eric Allan wanted to build a model house planned for the Capilano Highlands subdivision. Hudson's Bay was to decorate it for practical comfort-conscious Canadian living. To keep the house within visiting distance it was built right in the Bay parking lot, a mere half block from busy main city thoroughfare.

The funny thing is that's the way you get a good house: you plan it around the cir-

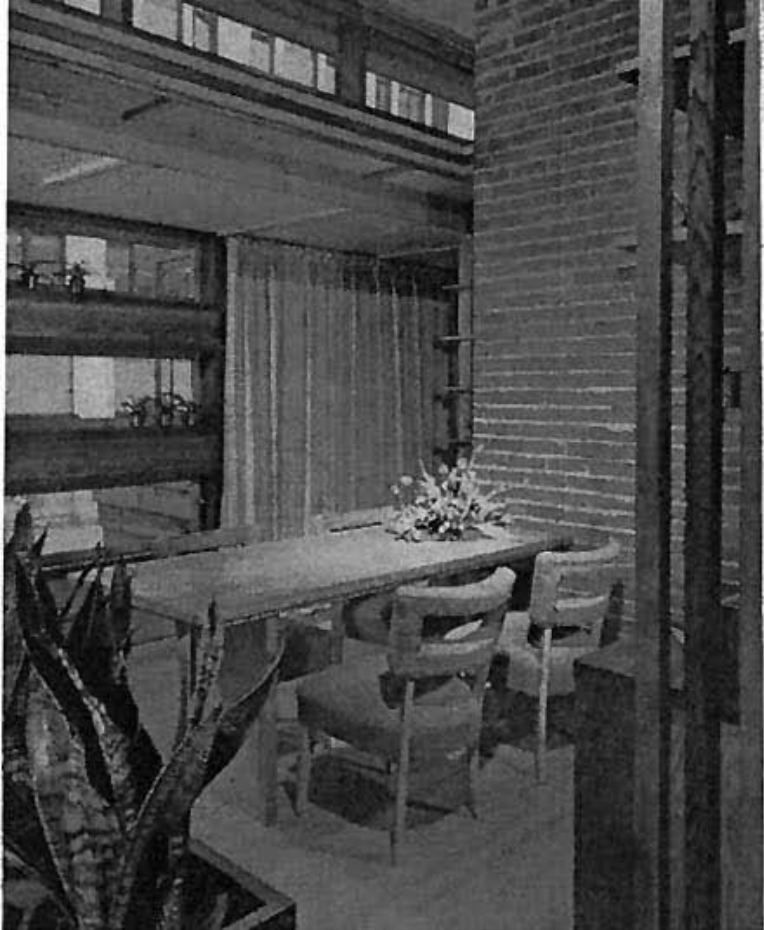
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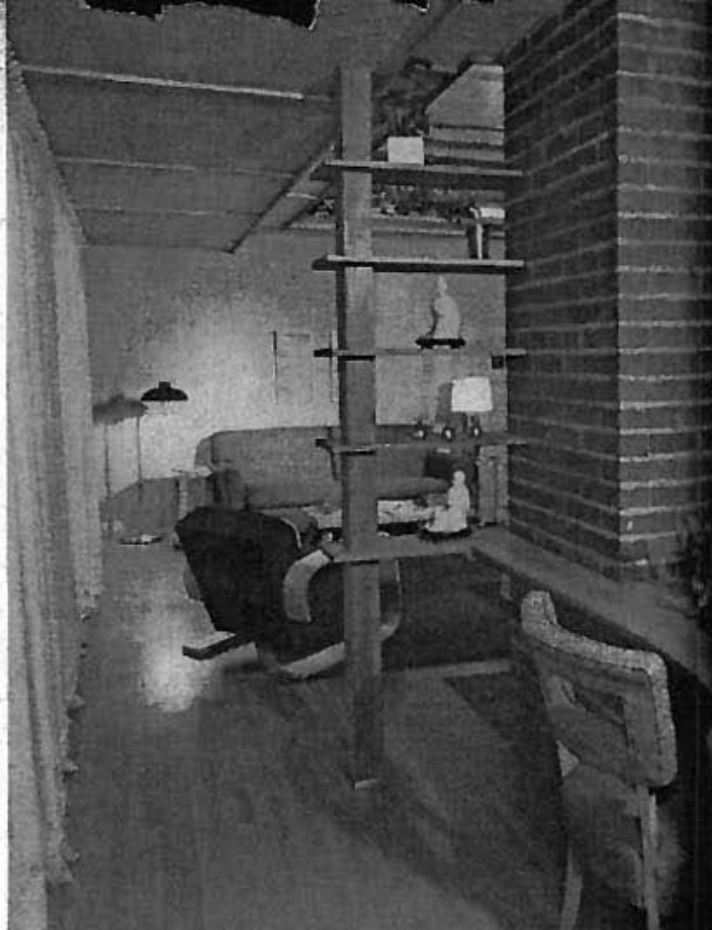
Photographs by Graham Warrington

A better use of space is the idea behind this house; you get the warmth and coziness you want through sensitive handling of your materials and your colors





Dining room seems completely separate with its table built into back of fireplace; curtain wall continues into living room; copper planting box at lower left edges stairs to utility room; chairs, textured emerald green.



Here you see curtained wall as it continues along entire garden side of house; note how living room is well separated yet eye carries entire length of combined room; draperies are heavily textured citron yellow.

HOUSE ON STILTS

continued from preceding page

Sky-bungalow lessons for your own scrapbook: color can create the atmosphere you wish; cedar and plywood are easy on care and upkeep; built-ins save space and furniture

circumstances of the needs and the location. The Sky Bungalow, as the model house was called, solves its own problems well and probably yours too. Just imagine it on a rocky hillside, or a lot with an "attic view." "Shoot it into the air for a better view." "Try it on a hillside and save leveling and excavating," says Eric Allan who plans to move it eventually into Capilano Highlands. What's more, you've a house with the space of a basement without the expense of heavy concrete walls and a floor. The area under the house gives you space for a carport, serves as a rainy-day play yard for the children and provides excellent drying yard. One of the blocks even contains your heating and laundry facilities.

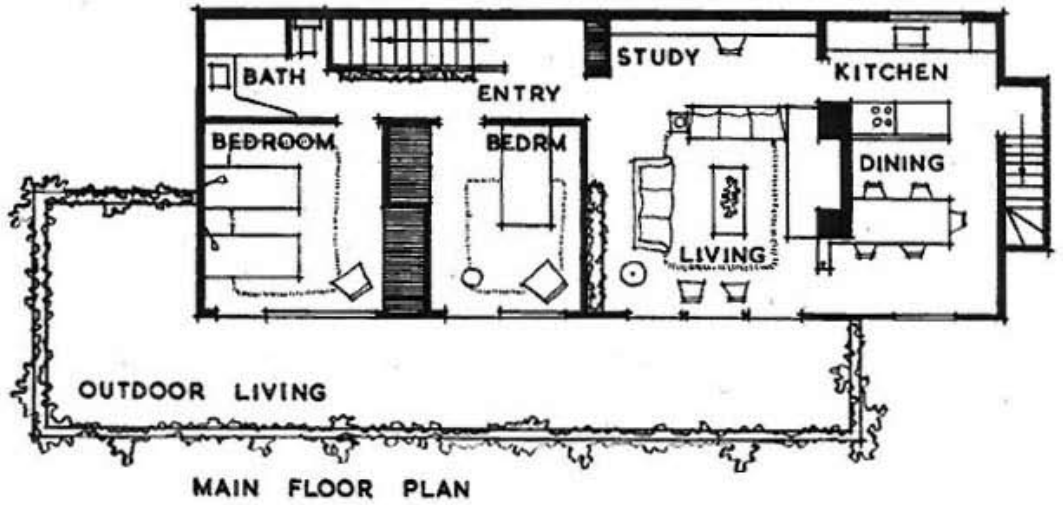
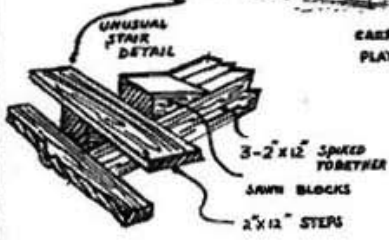
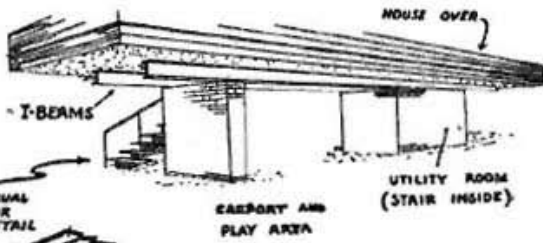
When we walked around the "Sky Bungalow" we discovered another advantage. The major rooms have full-length windows—which on your lot would face southward. By building on stilts you keep other people from looking in as freely as you look out. The only peeping toms now are the inquisitive feathered crew! You have all the light and openness from full-length windows and the privacy of a mountain top.

Perhaps most remarkable about the Sky Bungalow is its warmth. We've rarely seen anything that deserves more the word "modern." Yet most of us want coziness in our homes, and contemporary design, however breathtaking, must give it to us if we are to part easily from our Cape Cods and Colonials. The Sky Bungalow does!

Maybe it was the natural fir plywood and warm cedar walls, or perhaps the red brick fireplace wall. At any rate, we felt it would be a pleasant place in which to live. Canadians understand the warm golden glow of natural wood, the reddish-brown of brick, the alive spring colorings of green and yellow, and like to live with them.

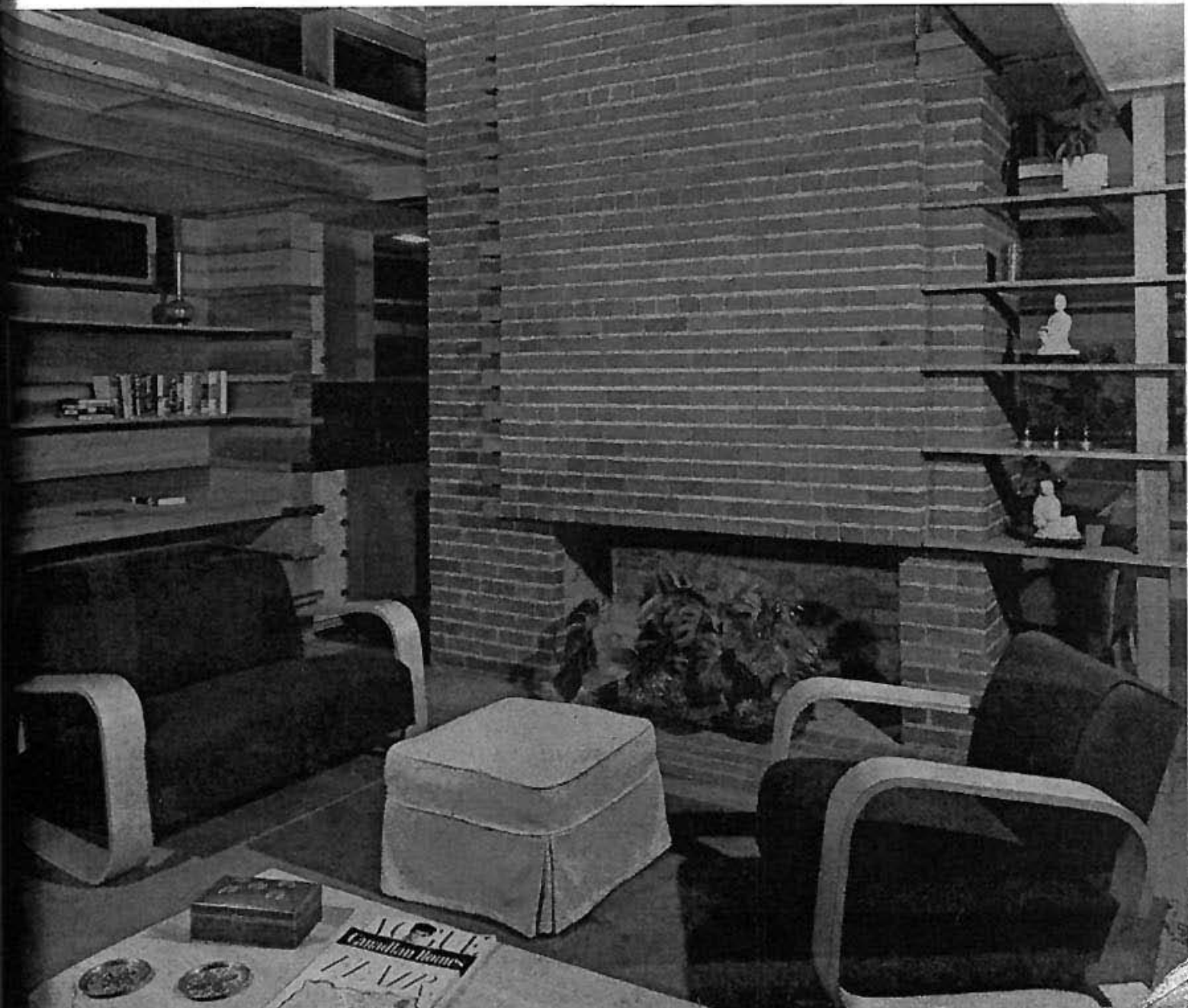
The decorating staff of the local department store which supplied the furnishings were stimulated by Hollingsworth's sensitive feeling for color and texture. The colors

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The Sky Bungalow floor plan shows how to make good use of space within the rectangle; stairs at right lead to utility room in support-

block; note space-saving cupboard wall between bedrooms; shot below shows living room and study wall with built-in desk and shelves.



HOUSE ON STILTS

Continued from preceding page

brown chesterfield and heavy-textured citron yellow drapes in the living room blend perfectly with the cedar shelves and fir plywood. Little Chinese Kwan Yins beside the fireplace and pieces of Indian brass on the limed oak coffee table add accent spots of interest.

This sense of unity in color and texture is carried throughout all the rooms, and is achieved with a variety of shades of greens, yellows and browns. Chocolate-brown corduroy bedspread in the master bedroom with golden-yellow drapes figured with chocolate brown leaves, for example. Add this to blond oak furniture, oak floors, and heavily textured rugs and you will know some of the color-texture harmony which prevails in the modest two-bedroom "Sky Bungalow."

We found members of the Women's Committee to the Vancouver Symphony Society guiding people through the house and answering questions. What a variety of questions there were!

Why wood walls instead of plaster? Why clerestory windows over the central living area? Some of the questions were easily answered. The value of the clerestory windows was obvious because the living room is bright and livable on dull spring days. The wood walls reduce annual decorating costs and provide easy maintenance.

One question stumped the committee members at first. The kitchen area is open to the dining and living areas in this house to give greater feeling of space. But how was the housewife to keep the living room from smelling of bacon and eggs, and fried fish?

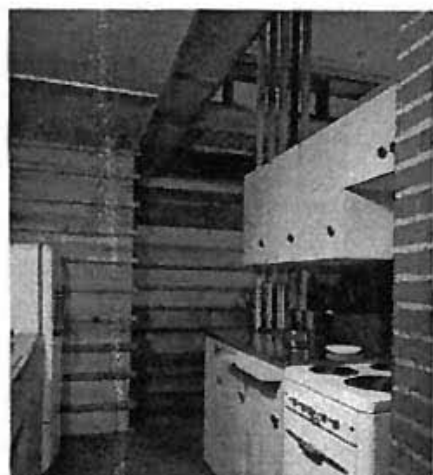
A little grey-haired woman who came to look at the wonders of the new generation gave the answer to that one. "Hmmp!" she said, "You can't keep cooking smells out of a small house by closing the kitchen doors anyway. Buy one of these new deodorizers and spray it around when you're through cooking. Works fine." (We would add that any good housewife today knows the value of an exhaust fan in her kitchen.)

We went into the kitchen to think it over, and found an innovation in sink design that really appealed to us: a stainless steel sink and drainboard unit, and a stainless steel working counter with rolled over rim and nary a screw hole to catch the dirt. One wipe of the dishcloth and the counter is clean.

Design by Fred Hollingsworth, Sharp and Thompson, Berwick, Pratt for Eric Allan, Capilano Highlands; plywood and lumber, H. R. MacMillan; decoration, Hudson's Bay; reported by J. Woodworth, Vancouver, B.C.



Kitchens get more pleasant every day! Here you have cedar boarding with horizontal strips continued from rest of house; cabinets are fir wiped with yellow; pulls are chrome.



The open kitchen does away with the constant migration to the spot while hostess puts last touches on dinner; counter tops are stainless steel; exhaust fan dispels odors.



Walls of living room are fir plywood left natural to be wiped or painted later; floor is oak. Rug is emerald green; chesterfield a-coppery cocoa. Swedish-type chairs, chocolate brown; ottoman

citron yellow. Philodendron grows in planting shelf at clerestory and you have indirect lights there too. These windows give light and air circulation but leave glass areas to warm sunny side of house.



Bathroom squeezes into 40 sq. ft. with walls of fir plywood and cedar boarding with horizontal stripping; roll rubber flooring used is dark green; likewise counter and sink.



Embossed plywood in this bedroom; furniture, limed oak; broadloom, grey; draperies, golden yellow with chocolate brown and grey; bedspread avocado green, chair, leopard.



Cedar with horizontal stripping used again; broadloom is warm copper tone; bedspreads chocolate brown corduroy; draperies are citron living room; windows open to balcony.