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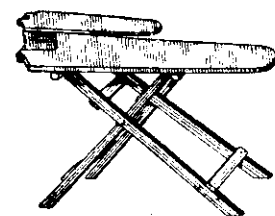
Illustrated over Furniture, Toys, Embroidery, Tapestry, etc.



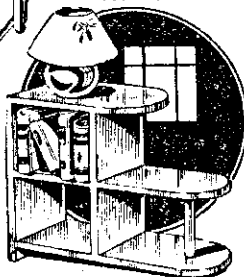
U-BUILD-IT Kit Sets come to you with all necessary machined parts, hardware, etc., enabling anyone without previous experience to assemble these articles.

PANELLED DROPSIDE COT. Attractive, with many desirable features, including panelled ends to exclude draughts... easy moving... drop side... stat bottom... closely-spaced bars. Measures 3ft 6in x 2ft x 2ft 3in high. **Price 70/-**

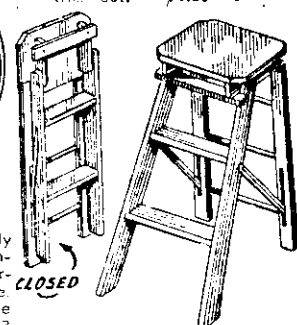
KAPOC MATTRESS, in quality Ticking to fit this cot. **Price 54/-**



IRONING BOARD (Folding). With movable sleeve-board. Widely spaced legs 3ft 4in x 12in wide. **Price 37/6**



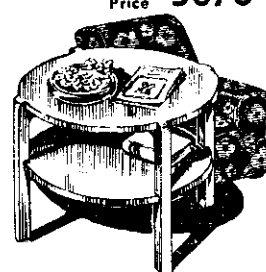
END TABLE. A particularly handy kit set in quality timber. Ideal for those favourite books and lamp shade. Great asset to every home. Measures 24in x 10in x 23in high. **Price 36/6**



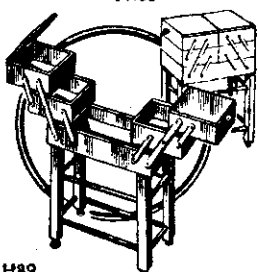
STOOL STEPS. A comfortable kitchen stool and a handy pair of steps combined. Easily assembled in 30 minutes. 25in high. **Price 17/6**



ROCKING HORSE. Strong durable inside or outside play toy, swung on strong metal hangers. Size 40in long. **Price 40/-**



ROUND TABLE. Attractive occasional table with extra room on centre shelf and a spacious top at a convenient height. Measures 20in diameter, 22in high. **Price 37/6**



"SEE-ALL" SEWING BOX. Complete with castors. Very popular kit set. Accurate machining and drilling—easily assembled in one pleasant evening. Size 16in x 8in x 24in high. **Price 52/6**

KIDNEY-SHAPED DUCHESSE. Practical use and appeal. Economy and pleasure of assembly. Three commodious shelves hold ample. Draping not supplied. 35in long, 30in high. 17in wide. **Price 62/6**

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A Country Like Home

UN-MEXICAN ACTIVITIES —PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

MEXICANS can usually take efficiency or leave it alone: they don't seem to write books about it and their mural decorations don't include efficiency slogans. Even amongst officials there are only two classes who aspire toward that sort of efficiency, common further north, which intrudes on other peoples' lives and makes an infernal nuisance of itself through being conscientious about regulations. These classes are the newly appointed official and the official who has just had a rap over the knuckles from his boss. They may do some fiendish things while the seizure grips them, but they usually recover quite quickly.

Those of us who stayed a year or so at La Rosa usually encountered at least one example of this frenzy, but Andy Grouse, the upholsterer from New Hampshire, had a brisker few minutes than the average.

Andy was usually known as Big Andy, to distinguish him from Little Andy, a young and highly nervous Florida cracker who was practically illiterate, had pacifist principles, and collected guns, when he had the money. He was as tall as Big Andy, but carried less authority and spoke softly, except for an occasional tantrum. Big Andy seldom spoke softly and when he laughed at meal times, which was often, the lid of the soup tureen rattled. He was unusual for an American, in that he was neither a Republican nor a Democrat, but a member of the American Labour Party, an unheard of minority group which has existed for a long time in a few back rooms in the New England States. The members read widely and argue busily and know far more about economic conditions than the members of Congress do, but as Big Andy used to remark, with a colossal bellow of laughter: "Congressmen get elected and A.L.P. members never seem to get to be Congressmen." They never even got sub-poenaed by McCarthy's merry men, which was a pity, in a way. One thing that always gave McCarthy trouble was a crisp, logical argument.

Andy was good at his trade. He said he'd even upholstered a piano for an eccentric old lady in Maine. He made a good living, and liked to play drums at local dances, except for polkas which he just had to dance, but his home life wasn't happy. As his children grew up his wife went back to her old job of nursing in a mental hospital, and sometimes was only home at weekends. Andy packed his tools into his chunky station wagon and came south. He had enough capital to buy land and he spent a lot of time exploring Southern California looking for a place to settle.

On one of these trips he set off from La Rosa with three passengers, all men, to cross the border at Mexicali, 85 miles east and make his way from Calexico and El

Centro, west through the desert country again. He liked the desert, and thought he might one day find a desert place with a good well.

However, this time he was back at La Rosa by mid-afternoon, bellowing raucously. They'd been stopped at a place called Rumarosa, just before the road dives down into the Mexicali Valley, by three privates, a general, and something that seemed to be a Red Cross nurse (Mexican style). "Never again!" Andy bellowed, taking off his shirt and gesticulating at his upper arm, "not another cent does the Red Cross get out of me. Do you know what the so and so's did...?"

It was an uproarious story. Not much English was spoken on the Mexican side, and no Spanish from the American vehicle, but it was easy for Andy and his passengers to see that they had to get out. The three privates presented their bayonets and the general opened the car door and put his hand on his gun butt. So they got out, and the Red Cross woman, who seems to have been the frenzied official in this case, advanced on them with a hypodermic needle. Andy dodged round the general, but was brought up short by a bayonet, and had to talk fast to avoid being stabbed twice. When they had been shot full of whatever vaccine it was, they were told that all Americans approaching Mexicali were being treated so. It was necessary for their health. Andy had strong views about vaccination, and did his best to suck out whatever had been shot in. The Mexicans got back into their army jeep, saluted politely, and drove off toward Mexicali, taking no notice of any of the other cars in the vicinity.

"I guess they'd done their day's work," Andy said. "Probably only had one lot of vaccine, and we struck it."

The frenzy was over, very likely, and the Red Cross had saved the region from a disastrous epidemic of Americans.

—G. leF. Y.



"The three privates presented their bayonets..."