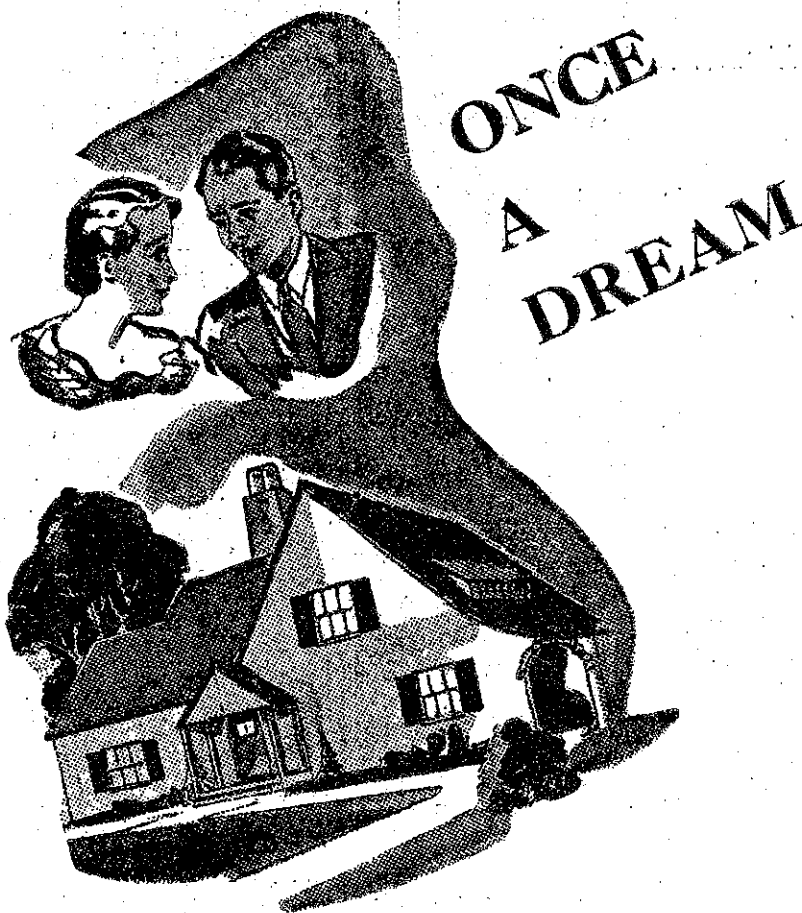




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TO clean pearl buttons, wash them free from all dust, and dry thoroughly, then give the entire surface a coating of colourless nail varnish, or a natural shade if you wish them to have that rich, pinky look. Set them down carefully to dry, away from any heat, and when they are ready they will have the delightful lustre of new buttons.

TO make a good duster, take two yards of butter muslin and sprinkle a few drops of liquid paraffin on it. Roll up tightly and keep in an airtight tin for a day or so. This will dust and polish beautifully and the constant use of the duster is a protection against moths and other insects. The liquid paraffin should be renewed occasionally.

Planned Lighting

(Continued from page 41.)

the table cloth. The floodlit flowers were the only illumination in the room and cast a friendly, intimate light around the table.

Family vases are coming down from their pedestals in the antique corner cupboard, and being turned to modern use as table lamps. All you need to transform them is a special fitting you can buy from any electrical shop, consisting of a bulb holder to fit the top of the vase, a length of flex, a frame and a shade.

When choosing a shade, remember that shiny silks are apt to look "cheap" by day. Parchment and bakram make inexpensive and excellent shades.

Wrought iron is newer than wood for standards, but of course, a little more expensive. If you have an old brass standard, paint it to match your shade.

For colours, deep cream and most of the buffs and yellows are good. Rose is apt to absorb light unless it is lined with white. Any bluish shade will have a depressing effect.

Some of the loveliest shades are made of glass, tinted and patterned. A shining North star or a big Man in the Moon in the children's room will be a real Aladdin's Lamp.

Bathroom Pride

(Continued from page 43.)

floor is not practical, since it soon becomes shabby and patchy. Cork matting, although comforting to bare feet, is difficult to keep clean in a bathroom.

For the general scheme, green is, perhaps, one of the best bathroom colours. Scarlet discreetly used with white or cream is a good second.

Fresh-looking cretonnes are good for curtains. Keep the colours gay. Flower patterns should be small and very simple.

Bathrooms in old houses are more difficult to rejuvenate. How to make them attractive is often perplexing. The answer is good paint. Several coats of good white paint and a final coat of enamel will transform a small dingy bathroom.

Avoid bizarre "effects." You will grow very tired of fishes eternally swimming round the frieze. The keynote should be efficiency and simplicity, combined with a good colour scheme.

Finally, keep your bathroom spotless. Splashed windows, drab towels and a smeary bath will spoil the most exotic bathroom in the world.

No Skeletons

(Continued from page 44.)

exactly what you want at a glance.

Very deep cupboards should be lighted inside. A tiny sixteen candle-power bulb will save much groping and consequent bad temper.

Glass-fronted cupboards for china or glass or for any other interesting collection. These can be brought in units and added to when required. They are dust-proof, and in modern woods extremely decorative.