

Old Chest Not Only Useful but Can Keynote a Room

By EDITH B. CRUMB

MR. W. T. seems to think she is abused because she has to include in her household furnishings an old chest which she has just recently inherited.

From her description of it, I would say that it is an American Empire chest in tiger maple and cherry. It has three small drawers across the top, one drawer back of a molding front (really concealed), one very deep one and three shallow ones.

Frankly, I cannot sympathize with Mrs. T. To my mind, she is in the fortunate position of having a fine old piece of furniture around which to build a room, or which may be a room's odd piece that will serve many purposes and in the long run prove to be a very good friend, indeed.

A chest is one of the most accommodating pieces of furniture

we have. It may be used in hall, living room, library, breakfast room, bedroom or kitchen.

Mrs. T.'s chest is one of the larger ones that would only be appropriate for living room, dining room or bedroom; but as one of the important pieces in a dining room scheme, it would be lovely.

BECAUSE IT IS of maple and cherry it allows for an interesting grouping of furniture.

The table in the group might be of cherry, drop leaf style—not too delicate in design, however, for the Empire type is a heavy one and does not mix well with delicacy. Rope or turned legs, of which there should be eight, would be appropriate and the table leaves should be almost floor length.

Chairs for this might be of maple; Hitchcock style would be a good choice, with the seats either wooden or rush.

For a server, a small sewing table with two drawers and drop leaves might be used effectively.

AS A BACKGROUND for these furnishings, wallpaper in rust brown and tan is suggested—the design, a small repeat one similar to that seen in old trunk lining papers. The woodwork may match the ground of the paper or, if it is pine, have a honey finish.

The floor covering might be a large oval braided rag rug in hit-and-miss effect. At the window there might be sash curtains (straight, one pair for the upper and one for the lower) of white organdie, voile, balloon cloth or some other sheer cotton material, trimmed down the front edges and across the bottom at the inner edges of the hems with two-inch bands of bright blue ground percale with a small calico design.

This percale could also be used for the covering of pads for the Hitchcock chairs, with the seams finished with self ruffles.

Mrs. T. should search shops for some opalescent sandwich glass knobs for this chest, as these were probably the original drawer hardware.

Brass candlesticks, old blue and white pitchers, sugar bowls and handleless cups may be arranged on the top of the chest.

Is This You?

IT WAS JUST one of those empty lots that happen for the express benefit of American youngsters. There were two of them, a batter and a pitcher. When you're a kid, it only takes two to make a ball game.

They were pretty evenly matched, too, though the slugger looked fourteen-ish, and the pitcher old and important for his possible nine years. The little kid's seventy-odd freckles shone in the afternoon sun.

Three times he wound up. Three times he stopped, and gently caressed the ball. You knew by the determined expression that he was going to burn one through.

"Let's go," hollered the batter impatiently, swinging his bat around.

HIS WORDS were lost to the young man on the pitcher's hill. For at this crucial point, a little charmer had paused to watch the game. The little boy blinked. This was the kind of girl you read about in books. She couldn't be real. But there she was, pink bonnet, yellow curls, and big blue eyes, wide and artful.

Freckles gulped, and gulped again. The little girl was smiling at him.