

Expressing thanks by showing gifts

Displaying your wedding gifts may be a problem especially if your home is a small apartment. But it is a "gesture of courtesy" and thanks to people who have remembered you to display them a few days before the wedding, and of course if you are having a trousseau tea, it will be a part of the arrangements.

A spare room cleared of heavy furniture with card tables set up side by side is an ideal place for showing your gifts. Or if you can, borrow from your church or women's club boarded tops placed on sturdy trestles.

A white table covering will showoff gifts to advantage, and if hanging to the floor in front provides a convenient storage space for boxes. Your presents will be decorations enough, so you will have no problem in that field.

An effective arrangement is to place gifts of a kind together, smaller ones in the foreground. As an example, you might place silver flatware and hollow-ware in the centre with crystal and china on either side. Some brides prefer to show only one place setting of each. Connect gift lamps and place them so they will softly light the various groups of presents.

One thing you don't display is gift cheques. Write the amount on a small white card with the name of the person who sent it and place it on a tray with other gifts. Don't display duplicates

side by side and don't put inexpensive ones near valuable ones where they will be shown up.

And if you can, leave them on display for a few days after the wedding so that everyone has a chance to see them.

Diamond ring should flatter

For the engagement ring that will look best on you, consider the size and type of your hand.

A diamond that can be worn on any hand is the popular round diamond, often called a brilliant.

If your hand is large, don't wear what is known as a "delicate, old-fashioned ring," even if the diamond is to be small, there are devices—such as a faceted white gold mounting or a wishbone setting—to make the ring and gem look larger.

The capable type hand is flattered by an emerald-cut diamond with straight sides in oblong shape which has a slenderizing effect.

A dainty hand carries well the marquise diamond, a pointed-boat shape.

A too-slender hand will be broadened by a ring in which the centre stone is good sized and has tapered baguettes or small brilliants grouped on either side to carry the design across the finger.



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Charles McKay Photo.

Settle pet problem before honeymoon

Love me, love my dog—cat, parakeet, tropical fish.

It's wonderful when the person you marry accepts your pet without reservation, loving it first because you do and later for itself.

But this isn't always the case. And you shouldn't wait until you're back from your honeymoon to settle the pet problem. It isn't fair to anybody, including your faithful four-legged friend.

A bride should know pretty well by her wedding day how the man feels about animals in general and hers in particular. He has sat at her home and petted—or ignored—her toy poodle for months now.

So discuss it. Will the animal get the affection, attention and care in the new home it has al-

ways had from you? Or will it be in the way—even be objectionable—and perhaps lead to arguments?

If the second case is true, find another good home for the pet before the wedding. You'd have to board him through the honeymoon, anyway, and to shunt him to still another person after you come back would make him feel even more insecure. Animals, like people, want a home they're sure of and someone they can love.

A different kind of problem would arise if you both had pets. Parakeets and fish rarely cause difficulty. But what about a cat and a parakeet? Or what about a dog and a cat—although they aren't always the traditional enemies they're supposed to be?

Time, patience and understanding will usually take care of such situations.

Suppose the newlyweds would like to get a pet, to give their apartment that extra homey feeling.

It depends on the individuals, of course. But they might do well to wait. Young married couples have a habit of living in a world all their own, with eyes only for each other. A brand new animal would likely feel left out and unwanted.



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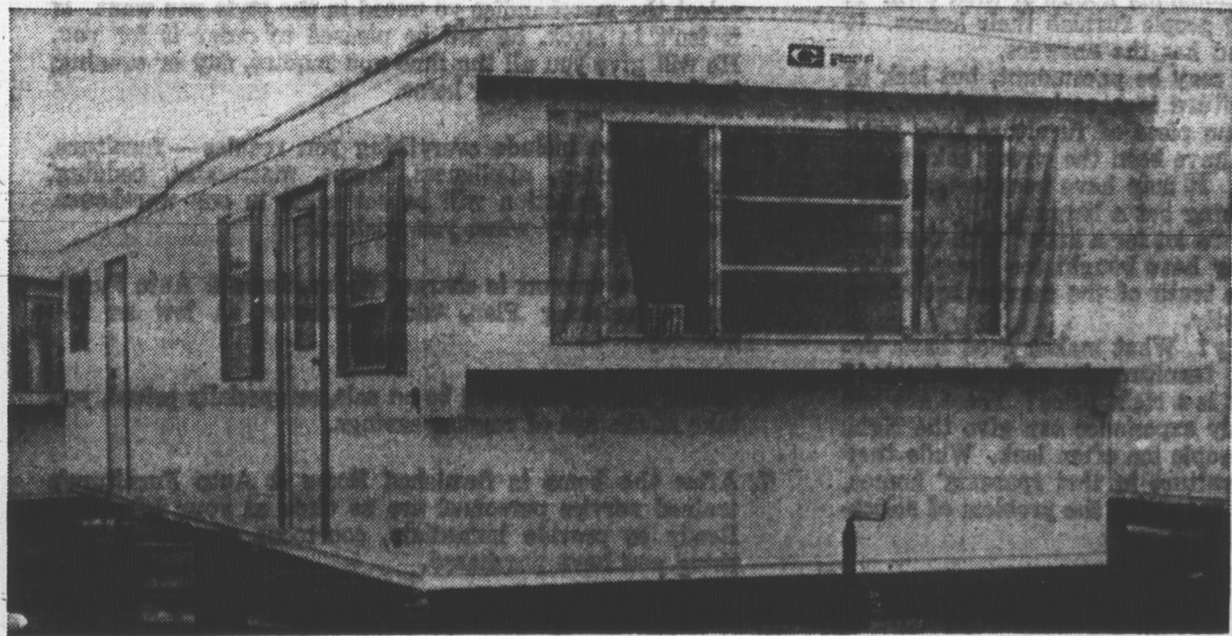
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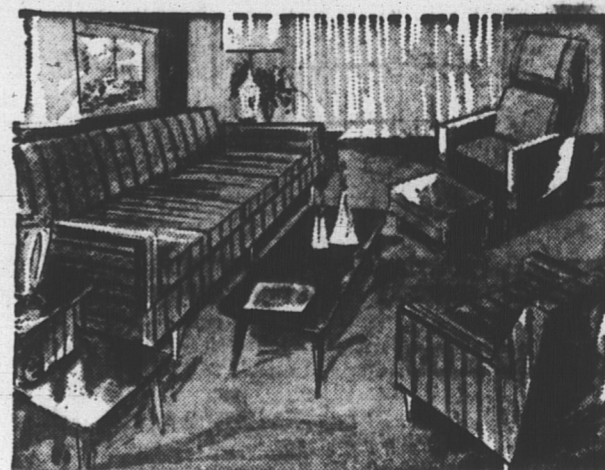
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