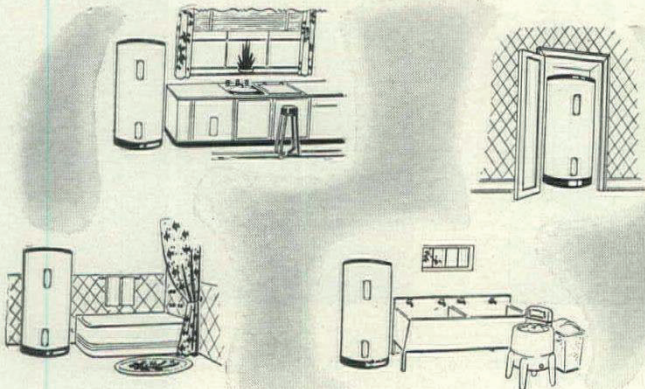


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technician and artist to weld his two talents in a vocabulary that will appeal alike to the architect, the camera addict and the layman. The book is elaborately, almost extravagantly produced in a most un-Scribnerlike fashion. It is expensive, but in design and production, a better buy than most at the same price. M. S.

SIMPLIFIED PERSPECTIVE. By William Wirt Turner. The Ronald Press Co., New York, N. Y. 231 pp. Illustrated. 6¼ x 9¼. \$5.

In this, his fourth book, Professor Turner, who is head of the department of engineering drawing at the University of Notre Dame, sets forth the rudiments of perspective in a thoroughgoing but comprehensible manner. It is definitely beginner's material, leading the student from elementary principles to the more advanced aspects of perspective drawing. Particular emphasis is put on the need for reasoning powers as opposed to mimicry or memorized routine. The author attempts to relate various methods and approaches so that the student will be able to solve his problems through logic. The text is amply illustrated by drawings and photographs, all labeled with explanatory notes on construction and reason. Each chapter is concluded with a review exercise. M.S.

CARPENTRY FOR THE BUILDING TRADES. By E. A. Lair. The McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., 330 W. 42nd St., New York, N. Y. 170 pp. Illustrated. 9¼ x 6. \$2.50.

with explanatory notes on construction and reason. Each difficult to understand. It would be equally useful to many a harried house owner. Although assuming that the reader knows how to drive a nail and keep his thumb out of the way, it nevertheless supplies a wealth of not-too-technical information on the building (or repairing) of small residences and frame houses. Subjects investigated include framing, rafter framing, roofing, siding, lath, plaster, trim on windows and doors, glass, insulation, timber grading and specification. It should be understood that this is not a volume of household hints, but it would come in handy if the hen house roof happened to cave in. M.S.

CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATES AND COSTS. By H. E. Pulver, McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., 330 W. 42nd St., New York, N. Y. 647 pp. \$6.

Wistfully, in the preface to the second edition of his masterful book, the author notes that he has made every effort "to bring up to date the information concerning wages and prices." However, no matter how titanic the effort, omniscience on this slippery subject is hardly possible today. At the moment *Construction Estimates and Costs* looks much the same and appears as authoritative as the earlier edition. More than half the diagrams have been redrawn and typical estimates revised to keep pace with soaring wages and prices. But if the grain market is any barometer, Mr. Pulver will soon need and get the heartfelt sympathy of this reviewer. M.S.

EXHIBITIONS

The fifth exhibit in the series currently featured at the House of Italian Handicrafts, 217 E. 49th Street, concentrates on furniture for outdoor and patio living designed by Ignazio Gardella and Ernesto N. Rogers of Milan and Fabrizio Clerici of Rome. The functional severity which we have come to take for granted in modern furniture is here combined with a Latin whimsy which is not unpleasing after a decade of German-

(Continued on page 166)

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inspired austerity. There is, for example, a floor lamp as simple and flexible as the Kurt Versen designs for General Lighting Co. It consists of two movable lamps with conical shades mounted on a slender rod; but the base of this severe piece of lighting equipment is a modular form, of irregular polished marble. For no clearly defined reason except the obvious one of contrast, the combination is extremely effective. An Italian interpretation of America's sectional-flexible-reversible fad, is a group of small tables with marble triangular tops which can be combined to make larger tables. When all six of the basic units are put together the result is a big, hexagon-shaped table for dining. These pieces are from the



Milan group of furniture. Perhaps the most startling item in the show, however, is from the Rome group. It is a combination aviary and shelf unit shown in the patio project by Fabrizio Clerici. Glass boxes designed to contain live birds are stacked in a modular frame alternating with space for bric-a-brac and flowering plants and given a surrealist touch with an antique oboe out of which curl a few brown tree roots. Considering the grimness of life in Italy today, this is a pretty macabre fancy. But the humor with which it has been executed perhaps excuses its obvious extravagance. In a more practical vein are the series of wool and hemp scatter rugs, graceful pottery and glassware and a handsome glass-topped teawagon with brass and steel base (see cut). The overall impression of the collection is one of restrained elegance—a welcome quality and one not found in most contemporary furniture. Prices, of course, are to match.

The exhibit runs through May and sales inquiries can be made through the House of Italian Handicrafts, a non-profit outfit founded by Dr. Max Ascoli. E.B.

FRENCH TAPESTRIES

A second European importation to hit the American market this month is the exhibition of French tapestries shown by the Associated American Artists galleries. Large and impressive, both in design and craftsmanship, these hangings are similar to the ones shown at the Metropolitan Museum last winter.

(Continued on page 170)