

FURNITURE'S NEW LOOK:

All that's best in the modern home is displayed at the Earls Court Furniture Exhibition. Manufacturers aim at beauty combined with easy working, which adds up to a contented housewife. After washing up, ironing. The kitchen table converts to a two-level ironing board, an idea which looks like being quite popular. Imaginative use of colour is one way of getting new rooms for old. There are still plenty of drab kitchens, not to mention lounges which don't altogether delight the eye. So now for almost a touch of magic; the transformation scene. To replace the old, down comes the new. First, a kitchen any woman would love, followed by a brightly decorated lounge.

For the additional guest, when the spare room's full, there's an armchair which converts into a bed in no time at all.

Something from the past, Queen Victoria's railway coach, drew everyone's attention at Earls Court. When it was built for the great Queen, 90 years ago, it was the last word in luxury on wheels. When the new gas lighting was installed the Queen said she preferred oil and candles but in the day coach, as in the bedroom, gas won in the end. The coach gives us a glimpse of Victorian ideas of comfort, at the ultra modern furniture exhibition.