

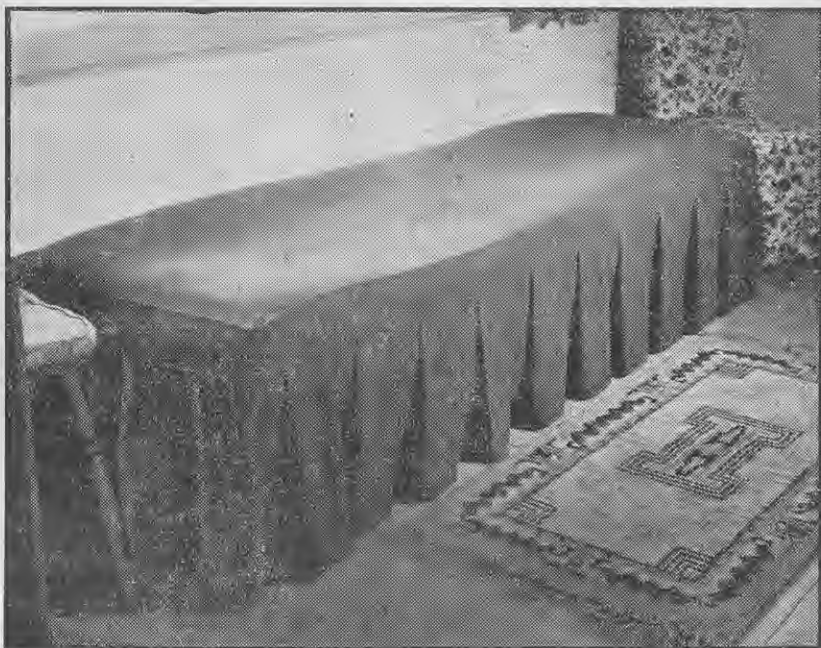
A Home-made Divan-type Seat

By EVA TOPPING,
Rural Sociologist, Auckland.

FOR a window, sunporch, kitchen, or small living room in which an upholstered settee looks too large, a divan-type seat is a useful piece of furniture. Such a seat can be used as an extra bed, for a convalescent or for an afternoon nap, and is more comfortable to lie on than a settee. Most homes can find a use for a seat of this sort, and this article describes a neat and comfortable one made from materials which are usually fairly easy to obtain on a farm.

THE framework for the seat is 16in. high, 2ft. wide, and 6ft. long. The seat part is made of strong fencing wire, or heavy sheep netting can be used as illustrated. The sides are of 4in. x 1in. timber and the legs of 4in. x 1½in. The wire is stapled on to the frame and the edges covered with 1½in. moulding so that no ends are exposed to catch on the cover or clothing.

The timber should be planed and sandpapered to a smooth surface and the legs stained, varnished, or painted.



Two carriage bolts, set in as shown in the illustrations, make the legs quite rigid.

Padding for Seat

A single-bed mattress can be used for padding the top. One which has become too thin for a bed will serve very well, as the bed size, 2ft. 6in. or

3ft., is too wide for the seat and will have to be altered to fit; the surplus stuffing can be used to make the mattress thicker.

Measure the required width, 2ft., and put in a row of pins to make the new edge. Cut along the top of the ticking, leaving a good turning, about 1in. wide. Break off the extra filling and push it over into the mattress, spreading it evenly so that the new surface will not be lumpy. Take the outer edge of the mattress cover and pin it on the marked line; oversew, using close stitching and heavy cotton (No. 24) or linen thread. Turn the mattress over gently to avoid disturbing the loose stuffing, and take up the extra ticking on the under side to correspond with the side already done. Oversew as before, making the corners neat and quite square so that the outer cover will set well.

The photograph of the corner shows what the altered mattress should look like.

Making the Cover

Materials for the cover will be found in the soft furnishing lines: Cotton tapestry, cretonne, linen, and chintz are all suitable, though velvet types and richer materials would make a more sumptuous article. Haircords, casement cloth, cotton prints, and gingham make serviceable, easily-laundered, and less expensive coverings which are quite in keeping with the usual interior decorations of sunporch, bedroom, or kitchen-living room.



The framework of the seat.