

'METAL TYPE' FABRIC HELD LIGHTING NEED

The development of the glass-walled home has created a need in the field of lighting for "metal type" fabrics that will diffuse, transmit and reflect light adequately, Richard Kelly, lighting consultant, declared last week.

At the monthly meeting of the Residence Lighting Forum Mr. Kelly outlined the problems in lighting modern homes that had fewer "vertical surfaces" to reflect, diffuse and transmit light. Glass walls and open planning require a new technique in lighting that is causing more dependence on fabrics, he asserted.

Fabrics of metal wires when used in curtains or draperies create a medium through which light is better transmitted than through a glass window, Mr. Kelly said. This, he added, is because glass will produce a glare and will not reflect light to other objects in a room so well as this kind of material.

Carpets woven to reflect light, and materials that shield light from one side and reflect it from the other, were cited as other ways in which fibers might be used to meet the needs of lighting.

Mr. Kelly also discussed the psychological effect of lighting on a person, declaring that a dark ceiling and lighting below would "be reassuring" and would make an atmosphere "less formal."