

Some Light On Lighting

By CYNTHIA KELLOGG



LIGHTING STRIP above the abstract canvas by Ellsworth Kelly in the foyer (like that along the window wall in the family room, opposite) can be hung on wire from the ceiling. It consists of a wooden board with a lighting strip fixture fastened on the reverse side. Strip can be plugged into a wall outlet, but an electrician should be consulted.

OF all the interesting elements in the apartment pictured here, the lighting is of first importance. The apartment is the home of Richard Kelly, who used it as a laboratory to try out some of the modern lighting theories in which he has pioneered. The general plan includes three elements: "perimeter" lighting (fixtures at cornice and valance level that reflect general illumination from walls and draperies); "focal" lighting (lamps for reading and working), and "brilliant" (spot lights on pictures plus a "drapery of light" to add glamorous touches).

Normally, Mr. Kelly would have followed the modern method of recessing the lighting into ceiling and wall surfaces. He was thwarted, however, by the fact that both, as in many New York apartments, were architecturally unsuited to such treatment. So he devised two fixtures that have the appearance and

efficiency of built-ins. (These ideas may appeal to those who, because of the high cost of built-in lighting or the fact that they rent quarters, cannot recess their illumination into background surfaces.) One fixture, as in the foyer (left) and the family room (right), simulates the cornice and valance type of lighting. The other utilizes the light pole, an electrified metal strip usually placed vertically between floor and ceiling. Mr. Kelly screwed several of them to the ceiling and fitted them with fixtures for reading and for lighting of paintings, as shown in the library (below).

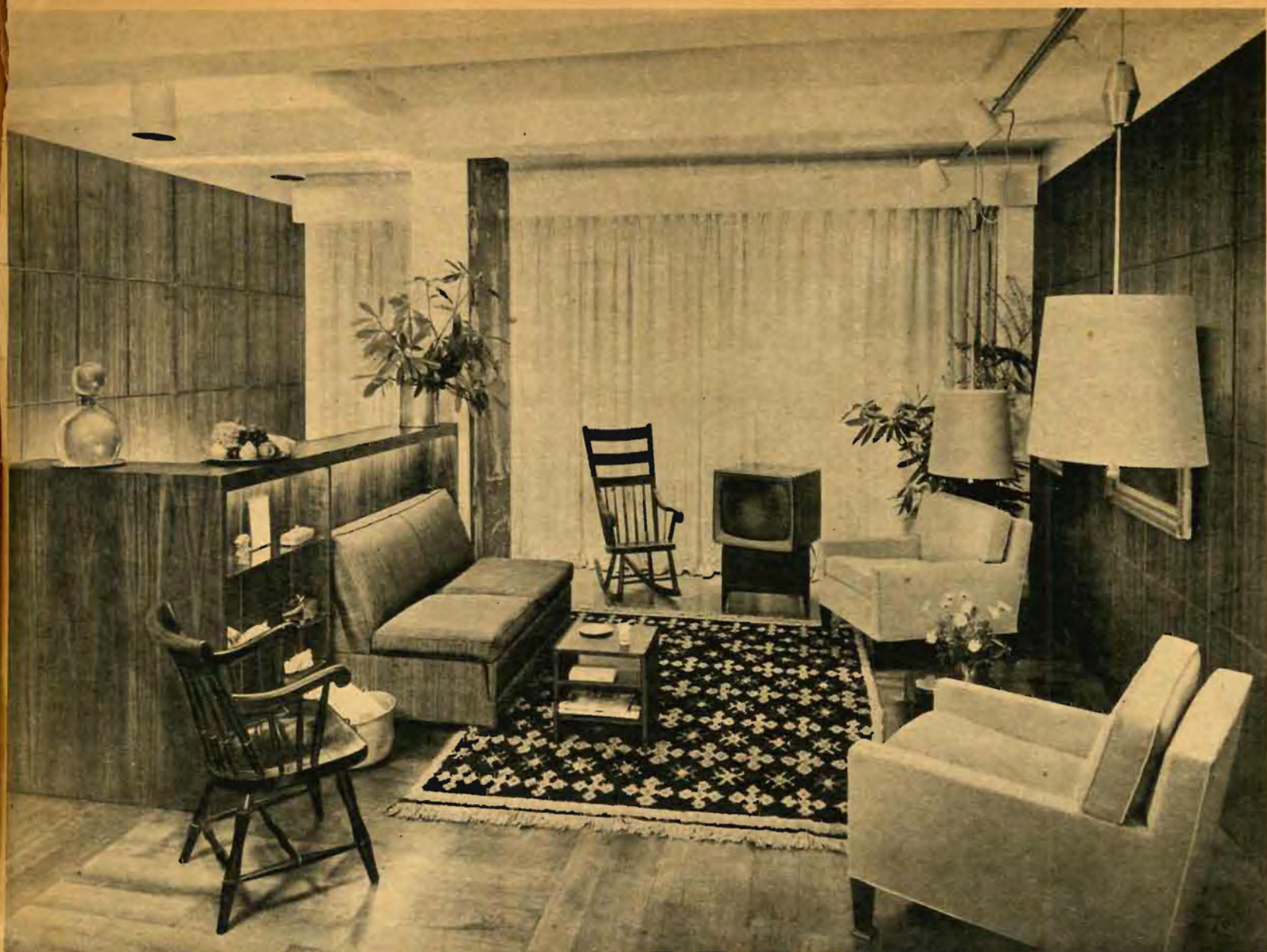
According to Mr. Kelly, a carpenter can handle the wood strip for the valance-cornice fixture; an electrician the installation of this fixture and the light poles. The electrician should also check the wall outlets, to which both of these fixtures can be connected.



ILLUMINATED DRAPERY throws a radiant net of tiny lights across the living room windows at night. The drapery is a loosely woven material, pierced with minute bulbs that are secured to electrified brass strips on the fabric's reverse side. This experimental, but fire-safe, lighting device may be ordered from Edison Price. Louvered strip, top left, is the shielded underside of a lighting cornice that illuminates a picture wall.



CEILING FIXTURES in the library take the place of portable reading lamps and also illuminate the pictures. Installation consists of four Lightolier electrified aluminum poles screwed to the ceiling to form an open square, and fitted with shaded lamps for reading and spotlights for the pictures. The adjustable hanging lamps can be raised, lowered, and like the "spots," moved along the poles to suit the individual's convenience. Fixtures, Marie Nichols.



VARIETY IN LIGHTING— Family room, divided into a sitting area (above), dining corner (below right) and kitchen (below left), hidden behind the sofa-room divider, has many types of lighting. General illumination is furnished by a lighting strip hung above the window draperies. For reading, light tubes are set under the top of the room divider above the sofa, and lamps are suspended from a ceiling track over the chairs. Spot lights on the track illuminate paintings on the wall (right); other "spots," hooded in metal cylinders, direct light onto the kitchen sink and stove. Finally as a decorative touch, lighting is built into a niche that displays flowers in the dining area. Walnut kitchen-dining wall and divider, by David Miller.



The New York Times Studio (Alfred Wegener).