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EXPERIMENTAL FURNITURE DESIGN IN THE 1920S

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- A competition brief in 1924: new furniture for workers' apartments: "reconstructible" (i.e., collapsible and transformable) insofar as "the proletariat room, given the current apartment crisis, cannot boast of spaciousness." This furniture was also to be sturdy small in size, multipurpose, cheap, hygienic, beautiful, "Soviet" in its general appearance, comprehensible to the amateur carpenter and, at the same time, capable of standardization and mass production. (Lavrentiev, 143)

- In the late 1920s, research into the processes of everyday living was dominated by ideas of function and rationalization. It was felt that if the communal dwelling could be properly designed with a well-developed network of social functions, everyday life could be totally reconstructed and practically all processes extended beyond the confines of the apartment. (Lavrentiev, 146)

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Alexander Lavrentiev, “Experimental Furniture Design in the 1920s”, The Journal of Decorative and Propaganda Arts, Vol. 11, Russian/Soviet Theme Issue 2, Winter, 1989.