Because of local building practice and living customs, basements are not included in these houses. This makes the provision of storage space quite important, not only in attics and closets, but also in kitchen pantries. But we have not gone to the extreme of trying to include service pantries, and butlers' pantries are conspicuous by their absence in T.V.A. houses. Rather, we have provided adequate, well-arranged space designed to meet the requirements and methods of food storage to which the people are accustomed.

Electric house heating simplifies the basement problem. At first thought, the idea of electric heating for these low-cost houses seems too ambitious, too luxurious—perhaps pampering; but after all the costs are weighed one discovers that, as compared with ordinary house heating systems, electric heating has definite economic advantages in addition to the greatly increased comfort. For instance, installation costs are much less than those required for boilers, piping, valves, gadgets, radiators, ducts, and registers; and complicated and expensive labor is avoided. There is also the matter of space, every cubic foot of which in a house costs money; when the usual cumbersome heating equipment is installed it means either that more room must be added for this purpose or that less room is available for other uses. For one thing, a radiator not only uses the actual space it occupies but also renders surrounding space practically useless, particularly the space above it. Further, for an efficient heating plant of the customary type a basement must be provided for the boiler and for fuel; service drives and alleys must be installed for delivery of fuel and for ash removal. With electric heating much of this expense is made unnecessary.

Electric heating produces no soot, smoke, or ashes. The expense and wear and tear of cleaning and renewing rugs, curtains, and other house furnishings is, of course, greatly reduced. Walls and woodwork require painting and decorating less frequently; clothing does not get so grimy; and outdoor painting and upkeep costs are also much lower.

Electric heating is also more flexible. Each heating unit is separate and self-contained and may be snapped off or on in any room at will without affecting any other portion of the heating system.

In our near-southern climate outdoor living may be enjoyed for a longer period of the year than in the North; therefore, open porches are another characteristic and practical feature of Valley houses, and most of them have at least one porch and sometimes two. Usually these are placed on the side or rear of the house to insure privacy and are so related to the various rooms that they may be used either for living, dining, or sleeping purposes. Our porches are screened and may easily be glazed in winter if desired.

It is neither an anachronism nor a merely sentimental gesture that provides fireplaces alongside of electrical heating units in T.V.A. houses. Fireplaces are traditional in Valley houses, and the psychological effect of an open fire is well known to all of us. "Taking off the chill" is a mental process as well as a physical one. But aside from all this, the fireplaces in T.V.A. houses actually supplement the electric heaters during the coldest spells, and on crisp mornings and evenings a small open fire often makes other heat unnecessary, thus aiding in conservation of electric current.

A novel feature of the Norris houses was the development of a special type of shower bath which is used in place of a tub in most of the houses. This consists of an aluminum shower stall with a high ledge across the bottom of the opening and a stopper for the floor drain, thus forming a footbath or a basin for bathing small children. Brackets on the side walls of the stall