

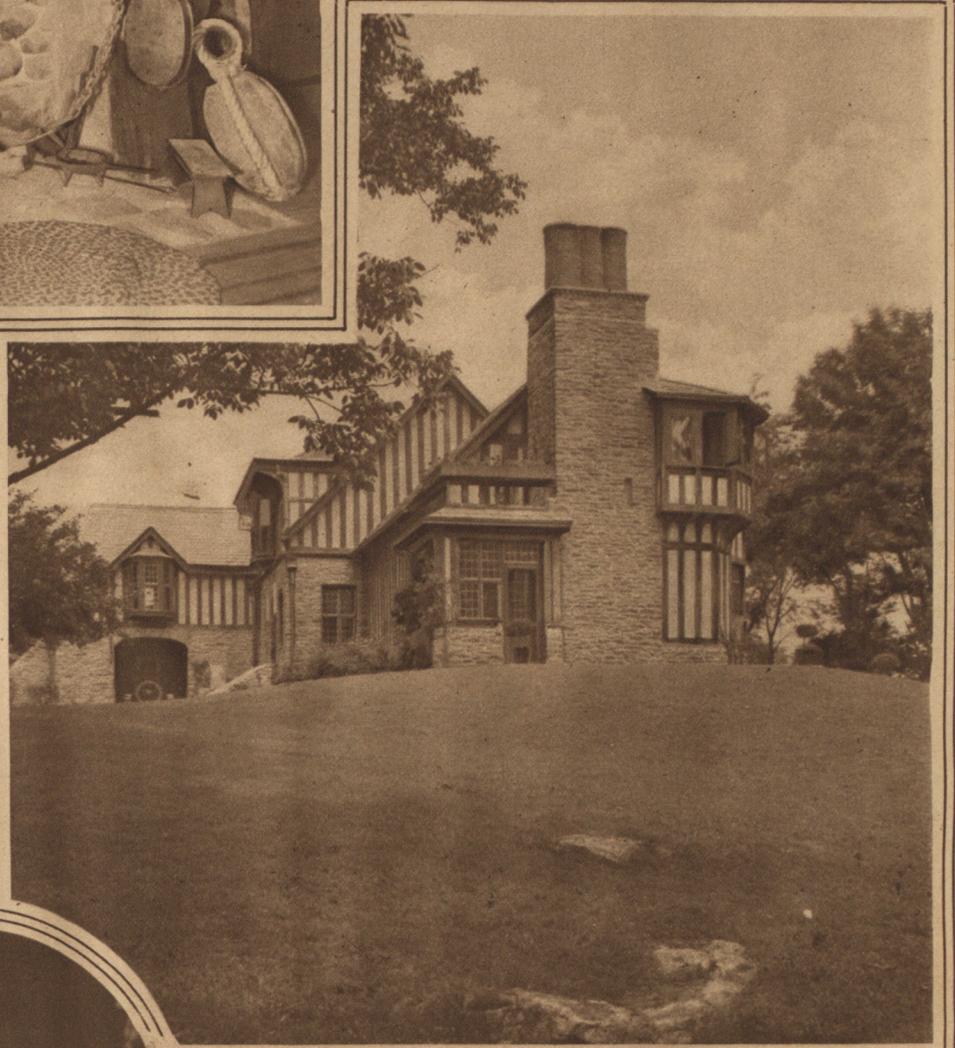
"At Home" with Briggs

Some intimate pictures of the wonderfully different country home of the creator of those famous pen pictures—"The Days of Real Sport," "Ain't It a Grand and Glorious Feelin'," "Oh, Man!" etc.

Photos by John Wallace Gillies.



The billiard room fireplace, pictured on the left, is made of an old rudder that weighs a ton, and rests on two ship knees. It makes a convenient place for guests to carve their autographs on on those occasions when Briggs stands on his front porch and yells: "Oh, Skinnay, come on over!" and gets a little crowd of the Kelly pool people together for a little game. The big pulley is an old "cutting in" block such as was used for hoisting whales in the good old days.



The much talked of big fireplace in Briggs's living room with the "minstrel" gallery above it. The heavy beams are of wood from wrecked schooners gathered up down Perth Amboy way. There are nearly a hundred tons of ship timber in the house—all over a hundred and fifty years old.



Briggs decided to build his house like no house had been before, and put the finishing touches in this chimney. One of its unique features is a secret stairway winding up from the billiard room in the basement to the second floor, so that his slipping up to bed in the wee sma' hours might disturb no one.



Claire Briggs, the cartoonist who

makes Tribune readers smile 365 days a year, handles golf sticks with the same finesse as he does his drawing pen. Every night, when the old timber gate to the left swings shut after him, out there in the wilds of New Rochelle, he has that grand and glorious feeling of forgetting folks clamoring for funnies and getting home. On the right, a corner of the capacious Jacobean living room showing the ancient beams and the floor of rough-hewn ship planks over three inches thick and forty feet long. He only laughs when you ask him, but an establishment so quaintly complete in every other detail ought easily harbor a ghost—the wraith of some old salt come out o' nights to swap yarns.

