



SUSANNAH

DATING back to the days when our pioneer fathers and mothers were crossing the plains in wagon trains, we have Susannah, the rollicking song, and Susannah, the quilt block. Perhaps the peaked print blocks were from the silhouettes of formidable mountain peaks ahead with stretches of plain before their angular summits. And altogether the Susannah block forms a cross. Don't think those brave imaginative quilt makers would overlook that symbolism, or the tortuous paths that the white squares form when it is all set together with plain white blocks!

This is not an easy block to piece, cut as it is shown, copied from an old pattern. It seems that it would be easier to have print squares like the white ones, and double-sized triangles added to the

center square. But that would be decapitating the mountains and modernizing the prairie trail, and the quilt's owner said hesitatingly, "No, we did it this other way!"

A Susannah block finishes 10 1/2 inches square if seams are added to the above sizes. Seven blocks by eight, or eight wide by nine long may be used for the quilt top, alternating plain and pieced squares.

Material Estimate: Six yards of white with 2 1/2 yards of print is ample for a large sized quilt in this design.

The tulip quilting pattern No. 633 at 20c would be interesting on the plain squares if an easy, rather open pattern is desired.