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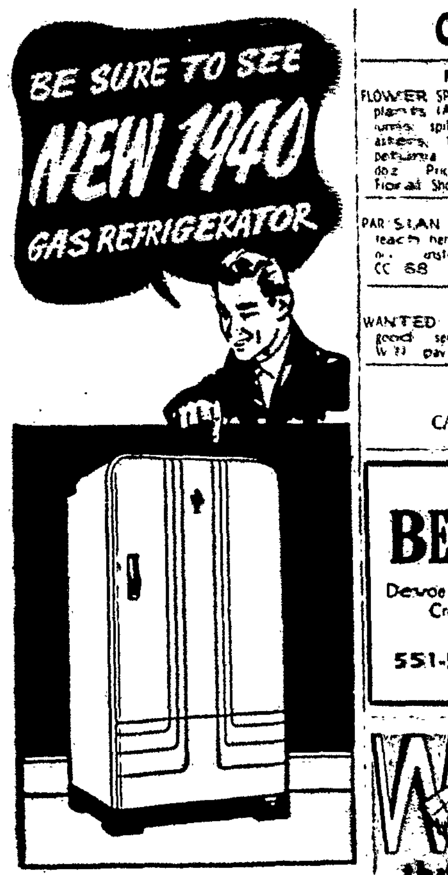

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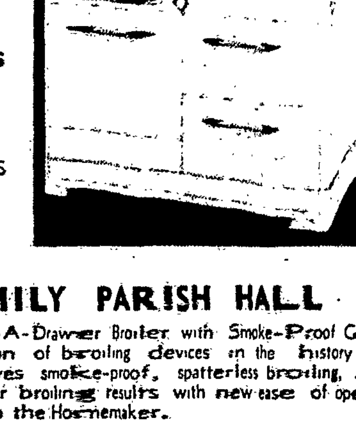

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Get Most For Your Dollar

Spend Wisely For New Home

The building or buying of a house involves for the average person a large investment and one for which he is entitled to good construction and full value for every dollar expended. Most people plan the purchase of their houses many months in advance reviewing past experiences, posting themselves on features of design, consulting with other owners and then weighing all the evidence.

Home building is a fascinating undertaking in which careful planning and consideration for features of enduring worth will yield large returns in the form of lasting satisfaction. To build these values into a home is not too difficult. It is a mater of selecting, through proper design, the features that secure these values and then of taking care that they are properly installed.

The key to a well built low-cost home is an efficient shape, an efficient floor plan, a minimum of time-consuming and expensive detail, and adequate equipment.

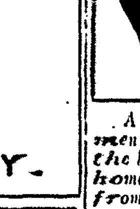
A fairly large home built of a durable but inexpensive type of construction, such as wood, and equipped with sound, medium-cost, necessary accessories, will cost less and give greater satisfaction than an elaborately planned small house built of an expensive type of construction with expensive mechanical equipment.

The first consideration should be a good shell, and the home-building project should be approached from a shelter rather than a "gadget" viewpoint.

Costly bathroom fixtures, kitchen equipment, light fixtures, wall decorations, heating facilities, the cost of landscaping, laundry equipment, and the cost of accommodations for your automobile will very often spell the difference between building and not building.

Modern mechanical conveniences are highly desirable, but fortunately they are not necessarily an integral part of a building. Garage facilities can be added to the homestead subsequent to its construction at no increase in cost. It seems logical, therefore, to give serious thought and consideration to the things we can do without when the attempt is made to balance the cost of a house and the family budget.

Plan for the body of your home first . . . then add refinements as the budget permits.



The Putterer's Corner

For Men Only

A column devoted exclusively to men who like to "putter" around the house making minor repairs to home and furnishings. Gleaned from reliable sources.

A piece of sandpaper pasted across the back of a picture at the bottom will keep it straight on the wall.

To stop creaking hinges. Rub lead pencil into the crevices.

Remove match marks from wood by rubbing with lemon. To draw a rusty nail or screw apply a hot poker to the head till heated through. The nail will then come out easily.

To drive nails into hardwood easily, dip the ends into lard or tallow.

Sticky varnish can be dried with a coat of benzine. In three or four days it will be ready for another coat of varnish.

Sure death for insects is a strong boiling solution of alum water. The proportion should be two pounds of powdered alum to three quarts of boiling water.

Cleaning Stone Walls

Before painting moss-covered brick or stone, wash with water to which has been added 2 per cent of carbolic acid and follow with an application of plain water with a stiff brush. The growth should come off easily under this treatment.

Screen Privacy

During the Spring and Summer when window screens and screen doors are used privacy may be obtained by painting the screens with a thin coat of white paint. In the daytime this will prevent vision from the outside, while those within may still look out.

Inspect Hardware

Locks, bolts, hinges, and window fastenings of the home require occasional inspection. Loose fixtures should be tightened, and broken ones should be replaced. If the hardware has started to rust, sandpapering and refinishing will lengthen its life and improve its appearance.

Repainting Screens

In repainting old wire cloth, it will be necessary to first scrub the screen with a brush, using soap and warm water. Rinse with clean water and allow the screen cloth to dry thoroughly. Then apply one coat of good screen enamel, using only a little enamel on the brush at a time. Paint the screen from one side, using up-and-down brush strokes, from right to left, and diagonally. Go over the other side of the screen with a dry brush in the same manner, or use the new applicators now available at your paint store.

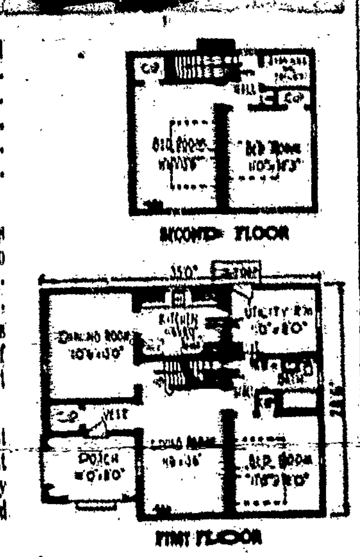
A clothespin bag made on a coat hanger will slide easily along the line.

A Farm Home From New England

This exterior is traditional New England farm huse architecture, but the interior arrangements are strictly according to the modern requirements of the up-to-date housewife.

An attractive feature of this home, which is adaptble to suburban living, is the location of one of the three bedrooms on the first flor. This eliminates the necessity of stair-climbing for at least part of the family.

Simplicity, with dignity just stands out in this excellent model adaptable to almost any location, out in the open or hid in the trees.



SECOND FLOOR

FIRST FLOOR

As A Woman Sees A Home

HISTORY OF THE PLANNED KITCHEN

By DOROTHY CASTLE
Catholic Courier Home Service Editor

From a very limited and humble beginning, the planned kitchen, built of factory finished units has become the universal ideal of the housewife because it meets a pressing need; and meets it fully. These units, caring for every conceible particular need as well as for the general and usual ones, do not have to be fitted into the kitchen of any home old or new by compromise methods. Constant research, here as elsewhere, has made them universally adaptable regardless of the shapes, sizes, and peculiarities of individual kitchens.

The story of how the planned kitchen rose to its present estate is one of great interest to today's housewife. We spoke, a moment since of the humble beginnings of this movement which has so revolutionized housework by sparing "Mrs. America" the staggering volume of unproductive effort which she formerly had to put forth in order to accomplish her kitchen work. It all began, really, when women first demanded that something be done about the outmoded, mistaken and, I fear, wholly male concept of the pantry.

PANTRY A HOLD-OVER

The pantry, as we found it built in houses even recently, was a holdover from the days when any dwelling of middle-class people, instead of being designed properly to serve its function as a small house was designed simply as an abbreviation of a larger house. It was thought that in order to appeal to its prosepective buyers such a home must include, in miniature, every salient feature of the truly arge home. One of these supposedly desirable features was the pantry.

Now the pantry has, unquestionably, a very genuine and proper place in a very large home, a home where food storage must be considered for a corps of servants as well as for the family With not one but several domestics to handle the storage and preparation of this food, the matter of step-saving needed no more attention under these circumstances than it received; which in truth was none whatever. In homes of this size, also, the waste of space occasioned by the lack of any facilities in the usually large kitchen save those immediately concerned with the actual preparation of food was a negligible factor. Not so today, nor for some time since!

Even before World War 1 the change was noticeably under way. Homes, even of the well-to-do, were shrinking in size and "Mrs. America's" kitchen was becoming pretty universally a place where she toiled alone. Poor "Mrs. A" was beginning to discover that the amount of chasing back and forth between pantry and sink, stove and refrigerator (which often meant going out on the back porch) required in the preparation of a simple family meal, let alone anything special, was enough literally to run her ragged. Therefore, she availed herself more and more, of a useful item which had been on the market since just after the turn of the century: the kitchen cabinet.

Although it was without semblance to the present sectional units, this was the first forward step in bringing together storage and work areas. It was, in actuality, merely a work table fitted with cupboard or drawer units below and with cupboards or shelves extending above it. This paved the way for the most important development in kitchen history—sectional units, whose origin and growth we will discuss next week.

Prefabricated Sash

The recent development of a prefabricated wood window sash in which there is a ventilating unit makes window conditioning simple and practical. Double glazing the windows of a house automatically reduces the amount of fuel needed for satisfactory heating, and this saving pays for the double sashing expense in about three years.

COMMON BOARDS MAKE ATTRACTIVE PANELING

Some of the most different, newest, and best looking interior rooms in the small, but smart new homes going on the market today have inexpensive wood walls produced from low-cost common board. Their use takes a home out of the "just another house" class and they may be installed at no more cost than a good plaster wall covered with paper or paint.

Common boards in most species of wood seldom cost more than 10 to 12 cents per foot, but when installed and finished to the builder's taste they are far richer than wall paper.

There are scores of ways to apply board or sheathing-type paneling and the cost varies but little. It may be applied horizontally, vertically, or a combination of these two methods may be used. A wood wall can easily be applied over existing plaster in homes.

Common boards intended for interior decoration are customarily milled with a moulded edge to produce an attractive joint between boards. Since much material is being made for this purpose there are a variety of "stock" milled edges. Special patterns can be run in most any shape, but at a slightly higher cost than stock material.

If you are building a new home, include at least one wood-walled room. If you already have your home, apply your next repapering budget toward a wood-wall installation in at least one room.

Silencer For Gurgling Pipes

The sound of waste water gurgling through the soil pipes between the partitions is objectionable to most home owners and need not be tolerated.

The noise is overcome by insulating the soil pipes with a pipe covering.

Sweating pipes in the basement sometimes prevent use of that space as recreation room, work shop, or laundry. Cold water lines covered with nonsweat insulation will not drip. Soil pipe insulation has to be done before walls are closed and plastered, but dripping pipes are easily reached and may be corrected.

NEW CASEIN PAINT SPEEDS DECORATION

If you want your interior finishing completed in double quick time, try using the new casein paint which comes in dry powder or a thick paste form, is mixed with water rather than oil, and when dry can be washed with a sponge and neutral soap without damage to the surface.

This paint is self-sizing, and gives a two-coat "hide" in one application. It passes all important government specifications in its class.

Walls and woodwork finished with casein paint have a high light reflecting quality. It comes in white, pastel shades, and in deep tempera colors for producing brilliant and vivid modern effects. Each application dries in 40 minutes to a velvetry flat finished which will not crack, peel, or discolor.

Lenders Give Information To Prospective Home Owners

Many potential home owners may be depriving themselves of the satisfaction of occupying a home of their own due to unfamiliarity with the procedure of acquiring one under the Insured Mortgage System of the Federal Housing Administration. Private lending institutions approved by the FHA will provide information and advice on the FHA home-financing plan.

WOOD PRESERVATIVE

Wood coming in contact with the soil or within 18 inches of the ground should be treated with a preservative meeting Federal specifications, according to the Technical Division of the Federal Housing Administration.

Dress Up Lot For Summer

Seats, Tables, Trellis Help

The average residential lot contains around 7,500 square feet of land and the average small residence occupying a lot of this kind uses about 700 square feet—thus, only about one-tenth of your land is actually used for living quarters.

Having paid for the other nine-tenths of your lot, why not see that it is put to as productive work as the part where the house stands? In other words, extend your living activities to all you own by making your lot a "summer living room."

Even in the most rigorous climate there are at least four months of the year during which the "out-of-doors" department of your homestead can be used if it is equipped so that you want to use it.

Fence Is First Step

The first step is naturally the construction of a fence all around the side and the back of the lot . . . This makes you feel slightly more private and as if you actually owned a bit of good weather and sunshine.

The arrangement of an open air "room" will suggest itself, but it is always well to keep tables, seats and trellises in little groups in corners and shady spots . . . in much the same way a table, chair and lamp are grouped in front of the fireplace for winter living.

Garden furniture is usually constructed of light members, with the result that the total amount of material in any particular place is not very expensive.

Fittings Make 'Living Room'

If simple designs are selected, and they really look better than complicated garden ornaments, most any householder is capable of filling the garden with interesting items which are really the furniture of a summer living room out of doors.

Your local lumber dealer can be very helpful in showing you how to plan, build and arrange your garden pieces. If you are going to build a trellis ordinary stock furring strips are all that are needed to produce any of the designs which can be built in one hour in the basement.

Furniture Not Hard To Make

Garden seats require a little more work, but they are not too complicated for the handyman. If it is essential to use curved pieces they can be cut by the millman for very little cost. Similarly a small amount of professional bandsaw work will produce curved parts for gates.

No special millwork or expensive material is needed for picket fences. The pickets generally used can be cut with a handsaw from square-edge boards, although most of them may be purchased ready-made.

It is surprising how a few changes can add to the charm of your out-of-door area. The time is ripe to get out the old hammer and saw, buy some lumber, and produce some decorations for the garden.

WALLPAPERS COME INTO THEIR OWN

This Spring, all through the land, in quiet farmhouses on leafy roads and in smart city apartments, June brides-to-be are humming "O Promise Me" and planning their new homes.

It's exciting business, too! Whether the home is to be a brand new Cape Cod cottage or a country house mellowed by a hundred springs, today's brides have a wealth of material to choose from for decorating interiors. Gone are the old notions that slid a sort of uniform on every new house—oatmeal paper in the living room, something with grapes in the border for the dining room, bath all white, and so on!

Gone, too, are other problems faced by the mothers of today's brides. They had to decide, once for all, where the mirror and Uncle Jethro's picture would hang, because, after a few months of sunshine, the paper would fade so they could not be moved!

Today's bride profits by recent discoveries of scientists, and triumphs of artists. She can choose Imperial wall papers, sold by Gamrod-Harmon, in gay, whimsical patterns and exquisite pastels, serene in the knowledge that Imperials are sun-fast, and actually washable.

Add A Library To Living Room

There is not often room in the modern small house of today for an old-fashioned dignified library as a separate room. The combined study-sitting room or bookish living room has replaced the old-time separate library.

In a study-sitting room, bookcases have a decorative as well as a practical value, and the artistic effects possible in such a room are many. Bookshelves in a living room, placed in proper relations to a fireplace, give an impression of height and dignity to the whole room.

Built-in bookcases and bookshelves will add charm and color to a room.

BEDROOM LIGHT NEEDS

"Adequate lighting", in a bedroom means sufficient light by the bed for reading, softer lighting for general over-all illumination, and good light for the dressing table.

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