

Building and Improvement



BUILDING SLUMPS AS WINTER COMES

Only One Construction Permit Taken in Here Since Nov. 13

New construction in La Grande has taken a decided slump—the usual winter period of inactivity in reference to new projects being responsibly, contractors say—this November nears the end.

During the first two weeks of this month, many building permits—some for fairly expensive residence buildings—were taken out but between Nov. 13 and Nov. 27 not a single permit was issued. Saturday R. G. Hanning applied for permission to alter and repair a one-story dwelling house on Y between Ash and Birch, estimating the cost of the work to be about \$700. This is the only permit issued since Nov. 13.

Up to Nov. 1 total value of per-

mits in La Grande were more than \$320,000—the biggest figure for any year in the city's history with the exception of 1924.

From reports of plans being made for next spring construction, building is scheduled to resume its activity before many weeks have passed, possibly before the winter season has ended.

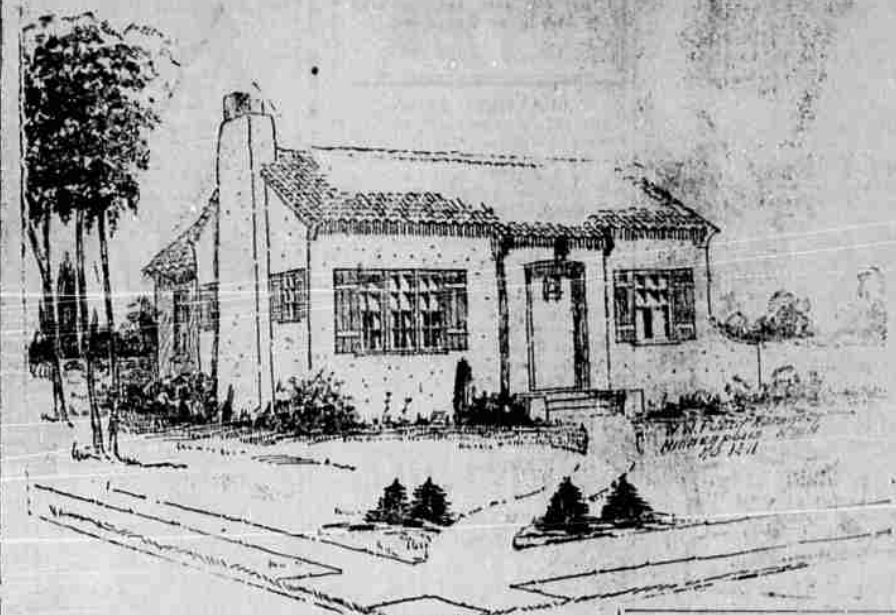
NATIONAL CONDITIONS
CHICAGO, Nov. 29, (Special)—With building permits in the 500 leading cities of the United States during the last six months only slightly less than two and one-half billion dollars, the nation's winter building program will, from present indications, be of such magnitude as to absorb all available labor in the building craft. While a number of wage readjustments outside the larger cities are being made on the basis of slight increases, the building situation generally is well stabilized and free from disturbing elements.

These facts represent the consensus of reports submitted to S. W. Strain & Co. from all parts of the country and made public.

Labor conditions in the building industry were summarized as follows:

1. Wage scales have reached a peak, and any attempt to boost wages in the spring will be met with resistance by the building public. Some slight adjustments of wages may be made in smaller cities, however.
2. Despite numerous reports,

A SPANISH BUNGALOW



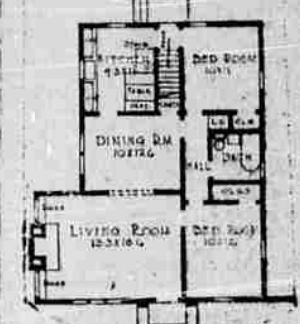
There has been no concerted action for the forty-hour or five-day week.

3. Jurisdictional disputes have practically been eliminated in building labor circles because of the excellent work of the National Board of Jurisdictional Awards.

4. There is no shortage of men in the building craft with the exception of bricklayers and plasterers, of which there seems to be a present deficiency in numbers, amounting to approximately 20,000 men.

5. Tranquility is assured between builders and the building craft generally, despite some difficulties yet unsettled in San Francisco and Cleveland.

In the Pacific Coast cities builders report that labor conditions appear to be normal, with a plentiful supply of competent labor to supply demands. These cities include Vancouver, Seattle, Portland, Oakland, Los Angeles, Stockton, Sacramento and San Diego, and the smaller cities along the west coast. In San Francisco a carpenters' strike called last April to enforce a closed shop demand has curtailed to some degree the city's building program. But now builders there say the strike has waned and the city's program of building is progressing along without any difficulty. It is reported that the desire of the affiliation of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America to counteract some of the aftermath of the San Francisco strike led to the selection of Los Angeles as the 1927 convention city for the American Federation of Labor.



By W. W. PURDY

In many sections of the country the Spanish type of architecture is very popular. The home illustrated, of simple lines, is most effective with its white cement plastered walls and red Spanish tile roof. Blue green shutters being the only ornament. The plain gable roof makes this a very economical roof on which to lay tile.

A study of the floor plan, will reveal a plan of five rooms; all of which are fair sized, with good wall space and cross ventilation. There is no attic, but the ceiling is insulated.

The built-in breakfast alcove in the kitchen will appeal to most people contemplating building a small home. Breakfast, lunch and sometimes the dinner is served in the kitchen.

There is a full basement with the usual laundry, furnace room, fruit and storage rooms. Note the convenience of the basement stairs to the rear entry.

The woodwork throughout is of birch, stained a walnut, with oak floors waxed. The walls in the kitchen and bath are painted, bedrooms papered, and in the living and dining room, rough plaster is used and stippled, producing a very unique effect. The ceiling of the living-room is arched. Bath floor and wall is of tile.

The cost of this attractive little bungalow is placed at \$5,000 to \$6,000, according to the locality in which it is to be built.

BOY SHOT IN LEG

EUGENE, Ore., Nov. 27, (AP)—Joe Gilmore, 14, son of the city recorder of Eugene, was accidentally shot in the leg yesterday while hunting ducks near Eugene.

Here And There

CLATSkanie — Plans are being drawn for \$150,000 apartment.

MYRTLE POINT — Plans tak-



There are some poor people trying to make a living cutting and drying standing pine trees up into 16 in. wood. They are hauling it in here and rickling it up for \$2.00 per cord. There are a lot of people around over town that have Poplars and old worn-out Chetwicks that they would just as soon haul their own wood in. So in order to help the man that is cutting it and the poor who want to haul their own can come and get this wood at the same price we paid for it. If we deliver it we will have to have about 30¢ a rick or \$120 a cord.

We are just unloading a car of big lump coal this morning and finishing unloading a car of shingles. We have some cedar in now that ought to be bright in making up cedar chests.

This is Blue Monday and the clouds are hanging so low I guess I will quit plowing in my rd and get busy selling our many orders.

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