



Building and Improvement



BUILDING BOOM IN U. S. LESSENS

Pacific Coast Area Reflects a Total 14 Per Cent Less Than 1925

A reduction of approximately \$200,000,000 in the national building program for 1926 as compared with 1925, is indicated by an analysis of building department reports from 450 cities made public today by S. W. Straus & Co. The 56 cities of the Pacific Coast, comprised in this survey, reflect a reduction of approximately \$75,000,000 from the comparative figures of last year.

Although the Pacific Coast area, as a whole, reflects a total 14 per cent less than that of 1925, many of the cities show gains, notably San Francisco, San Diego and Seattle.

TO RETURN TO NORMAL. WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Methods under which the record-breaking construction activities of 1924 involving expenditure of seven and one-half billion dollars, were carried on are soon to be reviewed by leading builders. This action will take place at a conference to be held at Asheville, N. C., Jan. 24-27, under the auspices of the Associated General Contractors of America.

Prominent among the subjects to be discussed, today's announcement of the program for the meeting discloses, will be: surety bonding practices; awards of con-

tracts to irresponsible or incapable bidders; lien law provisions; methods of financing construction operations; economics of highway construction; use of standard contracts; construction of public projects under the "day labor" system; and prevention of accidents.

"The intensive building activities of the year just concluded have hidden from view the effects of many conditions which would be more obvious in a less hectic period," Gen. R. C. Marshall Jr., head of the conference's sponsoring group, declared. "While no immediate let-down of the furious pace of construction activities is in prospect, the return to a more normal volume of operations is certain to come."

"During the past six years, the construction industry has been busily engaged in meeting the demand for new buildings that was pent up during the war. Completion of the task of satisfying this demand will return the industry to the fulfillment of current needs as they arise."

Construction in Pendleton Heavy

PENDLETON, Dec. 20 (AP)—Building in Pendleton for the first eleven months of 1926 was practically double that of 1925. Total building for the first 11 months of this year amounted to \$165,943.45 as against \$75,574 for 1925.

Gloria Swanson wants to find some nice quiet spot for a vacation. How about the Sequimcentennial grounds?

A SPANISH HOME



By W. W. Purdy

In this home we have a design, in which everything known to home builders and architects that make for convenience has been incorporated.

With its plastered walls, red Spanish tile roof, green blinds, striped awnings, the exterior presents a Spanish influence. From the vestibule one enters a hall, from which circular stairs, with wrought iron hand rail and balusters lead to second story. The floor in the livingroom is lowered about one foot, which with its arched ceiling gives an attractive appearance from the front entrance hall. The fireplace is strictly Spanish design, the rough plastered walls are stippled.

The dining-room and porch are good proportioned rooms. The breakfast alcove is "built-in" between the kitchen and diningroom, and makes a very convenient arrangement.

Next the large owner's chamber, with private bath and two closets. Three good chambers and bath open off a center hall, all conveniently arranged. There is no attic, the ceiling being insulated. There is a full basement with a large amusements room, and fireplace, laundry, storage, boiler and fuel room.

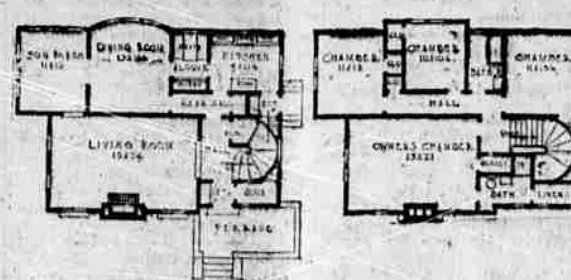
The floors throughout are of oak, hickory being laid over a pine floor in the rear portion, with oak trim first floor, kitchen to pine white enamel, ivory enameled woodwork on the second floor. All plastered walls are tinted.

The cost of this home complete as described is from \$16,000 to \$12,000, exclusive of heating and plumbing.

H. H. COREY APPOINTED

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 20 (AP)—H. H. Corey, chairman of the public service commission, was notified today that he has been appointed a member of the executive committee of the National Association of Railway and Utility Commissioners. The notification came from J. E. Shaughnessy, of Carson, Nev., president of the national association.

Famous fallacies: "When you carry an umbrella, you know, it never rains."



Here And There

MILTON - FREEWATER - New U. P. railroad station depot opened.

TROUTDALE - New Schoolhouse dedicated.

SALEM - Total building in first 11 months of 1926 figured at \$2,802,000, including \$500,000 for highways.

HILLSBORO - Civic club plans \$25,000 community building.

EUGENE - Lane county will build \$12,000 toll ferry for Florence and Glendale.

PORTLAND - Wheel & Rim Service company buys \$15,000 site for factory building.

FORT KLAMATH - New \$25,000 federal hospital for Indian service about completed.

EUGENE - Plans being drawn for \$50,000 Catholic church.

Movie Sidelights

By the Associated Press
"The Boy," one of the youngest cinema stars has just celebrated

his third birthday anniversary. His real name is Malcolm Sabiston, and last year while learning how to talk, he became a principal player in juvenile comedies. He is little more than 2 feet tall and weighs less than 10 pounds.

Impressionistic photography is an example of modernistic influence in the motion pictures. It has been employed in "Sunya," Gloria Swanson's forth-coming production, in which an unusual effect of photographing the mind has been attempted by Dudley Murphy, cinematographer, in filming a sequence of enacted "thoughts" with rhythmic speed. The "thoughts" are those of Miss Swanson as she gazes into a crystal which, in the photoplay, reflects a rapid succession of visions. They are projected so fast that the viewer is left with a sort of sub-conscious background for the main action of the story without themselves deliberately portraying scenes, and they cover in a few minutes what



We are really unloading a carload of Royal coal today—not into the yard but from the car to the consumer. \$10.80 a ton delivered, \$9.80 a ton where you haul it yourself or 40c a hundred where you take it away in sacks and furnish your own sacks.

During the very cold weather a certain party's hot water pipe system froze up. They were burning some of our Royal coal and their stove exploded. Well, the next day one of our customers came in and said, "I would like to get a ton of that high powered coal." It naturally struck me rather funny so I grabbed the receiver and began to give a big spiel to the Observer about our high powered coal. I understood that it scared some people and they thought we were selling black powder in some lump form but it was all a joke. Just ordinary common coal would do the same thing if your hot water system was frozen up. Of course it might not do it so quick as Royal coal has a slogan of being clean and hot.

We are very sorry that we have had to experiment and get several different kinds of inferior coal in order to find out what was really the best. The Royal coal tests 13,285 heat units per pound. That is, according to our information, one of the highest testing coals out of Utah.

We are swamped with orders this morning.

**Claude C. Pratt
Lumber Co.**

"The Poor Man's Friend"
Near Broadway, Phone Main 248
No Sunday Business.

Smith to Alter Brick Building On Depot Street

Only one building permit was issued by City Recorder J. E. Stearns during the past week, Dec. 12 to Dec. 19, inclusive.

W. C. Kelly, contractor, applied for permission to alter and repair a brick business building on Depot street between Washington and Spring, owned by L. C. Smith. Four hundred dollars is the estimate entered on the building permit as cost of work.

BELL RINGS LOUDLY

PHILADELPHIA, A 17-ton bell that can be heard for 30 miles will ring in the new year. It is a memorial to John Wanamaker made in England and has just crossed the Atlantic.

ELECT FAIR PRESIDENT

EUGENE, Ore., Dec. 20 (AP)—E. E. Hoos of Irvine, was elected president of the Lane Fair board, at the annual election held Saturday.

Two of Europe's liquor kings are in this country. Studying American methods of merchandising?

ordinarily would take hours to create. The images often are distorted to signify the troubled mind of the character.

Picture producers say that in buying stories they are attracted by mysterious titles. "The Taxi Driver," for instance, does not mean a dancing taxi cab, nor a person who dances in such a vehicle; neither is it a cab driver who indulges in the new steps. It is a girl in a public dance hall who dances with anybody that pays for the privilege.

Monte Blue says he is going to build a country show-place on Long Island as a resting place. His home in Los Angeles will be kept as a city residence while making pictures.

Dolores Costello and Kate Price recently met on a set and talked over old times. Miss Costello played in several pictures with Miss Price as long as twelve years ago, when Maurice Costello, father of Dolores and Helene, was a screen idol.

John Gilbert and Lew Cody have basement tens in their California homes. Gilbert has equipped his with rapier, masks and other equipment for fencing, while Cody has one room for billiards and another for his corn-beef and cabbage dinners.

Christmas Cheer

---what is Christmas without a tree?
---what is a tree without lights?

We have beautiful decorative Christmas tree sets for only.....\$3.00
Reflectors, 8 for.....50c
Wreaths with center light for only.....\$2.00

AND

**Everything Electrical
La Grande Electric Co.**

1412 Adams Ave.

At Your
Service
with
the



Fred Spaeth

PLUMBING, HEATING and
SHEET METAL WORKS

108 FIR STREET

PHONE MAIN



Very Best
Workmanship
and Material—
Always

READ THE OBSERVER CLASSIFIED ADS

There's freshness and freedom in Oak Floors

Oak Floors are of prime importance in small houses. First, they are most economical because they will outlast the house itself. Then they give a finish to every room not otherwise obtainable. Their sweep of mirror-smooth surface creates an impression of spaciousness which relieves all cramped

of any cramped appearance. There is a Bruce Oak Floor for every type of house; various grades at various prices, and the right grade to fit every need.

Let us tell you more about Oak Floors as related to your individual requirements.

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Phone Main 732 for Service.

Good-bye to shivering!

Let us show you the finest parlor furnace ever built. The new Allen's! New in design—more handsome—more efficient. Has more exclusive features than ever before—among them a handsome glass door which gives all the beauty of an open fire. Heats the whole house. Takes the place of several ordinary stoves or fireplaces. Burns hard or soft coal, coke or wood. Can easily be put in any room where there's a flue connection. No fittings. No radiators or pipes. Easy as furniture to keep clean. As handsomely finished. Come in and see how little money it takes to put this furnace in your home. The balance may be carried over a year of easy monthly payments.

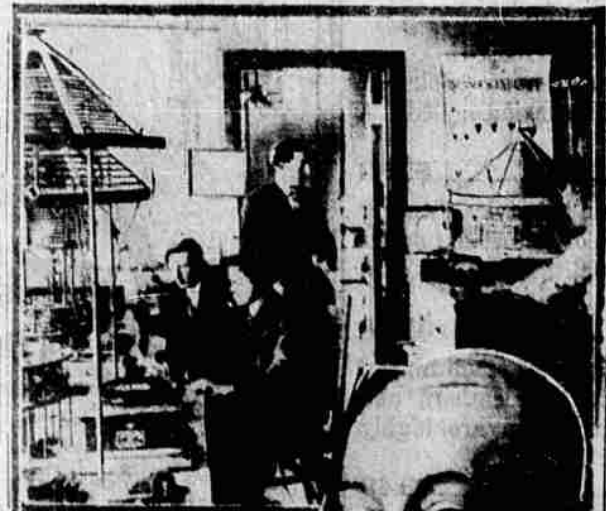


\$15

puts this new Allen's Parlor Furnace in your home—balance in easy monthly payments.

**E. J. Donohue
Furniture Exchange**

FIRST BROADCASTER IS ON NEW JOB



Here is the world's first radio station to broadcast music and other entertainment, and Charles D. Herrold, first man in the United States to hold a broadcasting license. Herrold, who has just left Radio KQW, San Jose, Cal., because of rumored disagreement over its operation under supervision of the First Baptist Church, is shown in the doorway of the first station. Herrold cannot take his KQW license with him because he signed it over when he went with the San Jose church, but he has taken his personality and knowledge to KTAU, operated by the 10th Avenue Baptist Church of Oakland, Cal.

