

Home Builders See Costs Of New Dwellings Going Higher

NEW YORK (UPI) — The average cost of building a new home appears to be heading higher.

And this despite some reductions earlier in the year in construction costs and a belief in some quarters that contractors would have to hold the price line to maintain their volume.

The current housing letter published by the Housing Institute lists five reasons for expecting moderately higher quotations on private one-family homes:

1. Building material costs are increasing slowly, but steadily, and this trend should be maintained in the coming months.
2. Labor costs in the building industry are extremely high and

show no signs of leveling off.

3. Land continues to become more expensive.
4. Interest rates continue high, a factor which raises building costs because the contractors have to pay more for credit.

Negligible Overhead

5. There is little overhead in the home builders' field. In this connection the housing letter notes that since builders are under no pressure to maintain operations in the face of narrow profit margins, they will not build homes without adequate incentive.

Overall building material prices early this year showed a gain of 23 per cent over last year, it was noted.

Labor costs were listed as fol-

low: average hourly earnings among all building contractors, \$3.17 an hour; general contractors \$2.94; plumbing and heating \$3.39; painting and decorating, \$3.29; electrical, \$3.66; other related trades, \$3.22 an hour.

The letter finds that there is no longer the large amount of land in desirable locations available at reasonable prices as was the case immediately following World War II.

"Builders have either to pay much more than was the case previously, or go farther and farther away from urban areas, if they are going to build in any volume."

Sees No Slowdown

The housing letter doesn't believe there will be any actual slowdown in housing even if no housing measure passes Congress this year, because there already is something like \$4 billion in federally authorized projects in the works, with many still in the planning stage and actual construction some years off. Lack of legislation this year would disrupt planning on future projects, the letter holds.

So far this year, private residential construction is up 31 per cent compared with a year ago, and public residential construction shows a rise of 40 per cent.

Overall building is up 15 per cent. The only significant decline is one of 25 per cent in private industrial building.

DREW PEARSON SAYS:

Main Ike-Nikita Problem Will Be Creating Trust

(Editor's Note—Drew Pearson today continues his diagnosis of the problems facing Eisenhower and Khrushchev.)

Washington — Georgi Zaroubin, former Russian ambassador to the United States, used to remind his staff that Soviet officers were once given a special section in the Pentagon in Washington, guarded by their own Red Army troops, from which they could send their own coded messages to Moscow without monitoring or other interference by the United States.

Ambassador Zaroubin, who was more friendly to the United States than most people realized, cited this as an illustration of how closely the USA and USSR had worked together during the war, and how mutual trust prevailed at that time.

For there is no trust between Russia and the United States today. The propaganda machines of both countries have been pounding away at each other so hard and for so long that there is profound distrust; plus fear that commitments, if made, will be broken. And if we are to begin a period of peaceful competition, or co-existence, as Khrushchev indicated in his recent foreign affairs article, there has got to be trust in each nation's commitments. This is the only alternative to war. It's important to remember, however, that trust did prevail during the war, and has been attested to by such hard-boiled statesmen as Winston Churchill and Adm. William D. Leahy, who sat in on the Tehran, Yalta and Potsdam conferences.

Russia Kept Its Word

"Fears expressed by many," Leahy wrote in his memoirs, "that Russia would make a separate peace with Germany, particularly when we were unable to mount a second front in 1943, have proved unfounded. Russia had kept every military agreement made before then."

But as the war neared its final stages, suspicion began to creep in. Significantly it was generated

Nikita Plans Senate Meet

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev may visit the Capitol to meet members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee during his Washington stay but it appeared unlikely that he would address a joint session of Congress.

It was disclosed, meanwhile, that Khrushchev would use one of the government's luxurious 707 jetliners for his travels around the United States. President Eisenhower recently used one of the planes to fly to Europe. Khrushchev chose the 707 over his own prop-jet plane.

Inform sources said the State Department and Soviet officials still were considering the possibility of Khrushchev dropping by the Capitol.

Such a visit probably would take the form of a short, late afternoon meeting with members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. No decision has been reached, the sources said Friday. J. William Fulbright (D-Ark.) has told the department his committee would be glad to invite Khrushchev to have lunch or to visit informally if U.S. officials saw any merit in the idea.

Present indications are that Congress probably will have adjourned by the time Khrushchev arrives Tuesday morning. This would obviate the question of whether the Russian leader should address Congress—a issue most lawmakers would like to avoid.

Roosevelt's Death

The suspicious exchange of correspondence continued through March and early April right up until Roosevelt's death on April 12.

His death helped restore some degree of unity among the three chief allies, but only temporarily. Suspicion continued and grew more bitter.

It is impossible at this point in history to ascertain which side was most to blame. Historians will probably debate this for years to come. To this observer, who closely followed this difficult period, there was considerable fault on both sides. Stalin and the Russians, suspicious by nature, knew that before the war, the Cliveden set in London, with many followers in the United States, had done its best to foment war between Germany and Russia.

At the same time, Harry Truman, who in his memoirs frankly admitted his own inadequacy in coping with the crisis following FDR's death, also suffered from an inferiority complex. He too was suspicious.

So suspicion and distrust on both sides was compounded, with the question of a powerful and possible belligerent Germany the basic cause of that suspicion.

How the distrust grew and the means by which Eisenhower and Khrushchev may remove it will be the subject of future columns.

EOC Assembly Date Is September 26th

An assembly to welcome new students at Eastern Oregon College here is scheduled for Saturday, September 26, according to the local Chamber of Commerce and Retail Merchants Association.

The schedule was incorrect as listed in the Observer Friday concerning the assembly date and time of registration for freshmen students.

Safety Of Bus Students Left Up To Drivers Of Vehicles!

CHICAGO (UPI) — The National Safety Council today put the safety of the 11 million students who ride school buses squarely in the laps of bus drivers and the authorities that hire them.

The council, commenting on the deaths of seven children in a bus-train collision at Oakland, Md., Thursday, listed a three-point program to safeguard school bus passengers.

Above all, the council said, "schools should have a person with direct authority for establishing and administering a safety program for school bus drivers."

The three-point program included:

1. Selection and training of school bus drivers.
2. Inspection and preventive maintenance of school buses.
3. Establishment of legal standards for the behind-the-wheel performance of school bus drivers through driver licensing.

"Further," the council said, "each school bus should have a patrol boy—a monitor—to keep discipline among students, thereby allowing the driver to concentrate on his No. 1 job—driving."

No one had been declared responsible for the Oakland crash. A Baltimore and Ohio passenger train slammed into a stalled school bus containing 26-28 children. The seven killed ranged in age from 8-16. Nineteen other students were injured, 11 seriously enough for hospitalization.

The council issued this notice to parents of children who ride school buses:

1. If your child rides a school bus, make sure he doesn't indulge in horseplay on the bus.
2. See that he gets to the bus stop on time so he won't have to run.
3. Remind him of the importance of keeping his head, arms and hands inside the bus.

State Education Board To Meet

SALEM (UPI)—The State Board of Education will meet here Sept. 15-16. Superintendent of Public Instruction Rex Putnam announced Friday.

A joint meeting with the State Board of Higher Education is also scheduled at 2 p.m. on the 16th.

School district reorganization, programs for gifted children, cooperative speech and hearing centers at the University of Oregon and Portland Extension Center and approval of courses at Central Oregon Community College are all on the agenda.

SUMMERVILLE BRIEFS

Mrs. Hug Will Teach School

SUMMERVILLE (Special) — Mrs. Dale Hug of Summerville is teaching the third grade in Central School at La Grande, while her husband is finishing his senior year at Eastern Oregon College of Education. His mother, Mrs. Ray Hug, is cooking at the Central School again this year.

Miss Joyce Billerbeck spent the weekend in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Billerbeck of Summerville. She attends business school in Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Patrick of Summerville took their daughter, Carol, to Roseburg. She will teach the fourth grade in the elementary school system.

They visited in John Day and also at Gold Beach. They went on to Portland to spend a few days with their daughter, Charlotte who attends beauty college. They returned home on Friday.

Weekend visitors in the Cliff Patrick home are his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Patrick from Twin Falls, Idaho, and his nephew, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Patrick of Texas. They all attended the trap shoot at Imbler on Sunday.

Brother, Father Visit

Weekend guests in the home of Elma Tuck were her brother, his wife and two daughters, Mr. and Mrs. John Logan of Glenbrook; and her father, Bob Logan of Monroe. The John Logans returned home Sunday and her father will stay for another week.

Miss Rosalee Tuck spent the weekend in the home of her mother, Mrs. Elma Tuck. Rosalee attends Kinman business school in Spokane, Wash. She returned to school on Monday.

Miss LaVonne Tuck and Joan Berryman of LaGrande, spent the weekend in Portland where they attended the Centennial celebration. They returned home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Wiseman have moved back to Portland, where Joan teaches in the Park Rose grade school. Mrs. Keith Glenn accompanied them to Portland for a few days.

OBITS

United Press International
SARANAC LAKE, N. Y. (UPI) — Ernie Burnett, 75, composer of the popular song "Melancholy Baby," died Thursday.

BOSTON (UPI) — Hassoldt Davis, 52, an explorer and writer, died Thursday.

GREAT NECK, N. Y. (UPI) — Dr. Leo M. Taran, 57, a heart specialist died Thursday.

HOLLYWOOD (UPI) — Funeral services were pending today for silent screen actress Jane Britton, 63, who succumbed to an apparent heart attack in a Hollywood rooming house. Miss Britton's body was discovered Friday.

Water Skiing Claims Teacher

ROSEBURG (UPI) — Vernon Bonebrake, 33, vice principal of Roseburg Junior high school, died today at Douglas Community Hospital from injuries suffered Thursday in a water skiing accident on the North Umpqua river.

Bonebrake received a fractured skull when he struck a tree as he ran into a bank on the river. According to Douglas County Coroner Dr. C. H. Babbitt, Bonebrake was skiing behind a boat operated by Walter Buss, another teacher, when he struck the bank.

American Churches To Conduct Peace Drive During 'N' Visit

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The widely divergent hopes and fears aroused in the U.S. religious circles by Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev's approaching visit will be reflected in special prayers offered in thousands of American churches during the next few days.

Although all of the intercessions will be designated "Prayers for Peace," there will be considerable differences in emphasis.

Some church leaders strongly endorse President Eisenhower's attempt to "thaw" U.S. Russian relations. They will stress the hopeful aspects of the Khrushchev visit, and pray for a fruitful outcome.

Others vigorously object to bringing the Communist dictator to America. They fear that Americans may be taken in by Khrushchev. Their prayers will dwell on the suffering of captive peoples behind the Iron Curtain, and the need for Americans to be resolute in their resistance to Red tyranny.

Hopeful Theme Is Dominant

The hopeful theme is dominant in a special prayer written by the Rev. Dr. Edwin T. Dahlberg, president of the National Council of Churches, and distributed to local churches of 33 major Protestant and orthodox denominations to be read at services tomorrow.

An altogether different view of the Khrushchev visit is taken in calls to prayer issued by two leading Roman Catholic Cardinals and by some Protestant conservatives and fundamentalists.

Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, has urged the 1,500,000 Roman Catholics of his city to participate in a "Holy Hour of Prayer for our Beloved Country" on Monday, the eve of Khrushchev's arrival.

In announcing the special prayer hour, Cardinal Spellman said:

Compares With Pearl Harbor

"Our blessed America is again facing a crisis no less menacing than that day of barbaric betrayal at Pearl Harbor when the honor, the security and the salvation of our country were treacherously endangered."

Richard Cardinal Cushing, Archbishop of Boston, has called for a special Novena (nine days of prayer) beginning when Khrushchev sets foot on American soil Tuesday. Cardinal Cushing referred to Khrushchev as "The Butcher of Budapest," and said that the U.S. government, by

inviting him here, may help to "canonize Communism."

Protestant clergymen throughout the country also have been receiving letters urging them to take part in a nationwide "Day of Prayer" Tuesday. This proposal originated at a meeting held in Washington on Aug. 20. Participants in the meeting included the leaders of "For America," "The American Coalition," "Americans for Constitutional Action" and several other right wing patriotic groups.

Official name of the island on which Haiti and the Dominican Republic are located is Hispaniola.

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GO AHEAD! PASS IT! NOBODY'S WATCHING.

But note this: nearly 42,000 men, women and children will die in traffic accidents this year, if the present rate continues—wiped out by stop-sign passers, traffic-light beaters, speeders and other potential murderers.

And thousands of drivers will wind up with the brutal knowledge that they killed someone on the street or highway.

You save about 10 seconds if you don't stop at a stop-sign. What can you do with those 10 seconds when you pause to think about it?

Traffic deaths can be halted if everyone does just this:

FIRST—Drive safely and courteously yourself. Observe speed limits and warning-signs.

Where traffic laws are obeyed, deaths go DOWN!

SECOND—Insist on strict enforcement of all traffic laws. Traffic regulations work for you, not against you.

Where traffic laws are strictly enforced, deaths go DOWN!

THIRD—Work through your church, PTA or civic group for extra policing where needed, better street lights and signals, and a school safety program.

Where people work actively for safety, deaths go DOWN!

FOURTH—Call on your local or state safety council for help in promoting better laws and uniform enforcement.

Where everyone understands the law, deaths go DOWN!

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