

THE PROBLEM OF TOWN HOUSING

Sound Planning From the Start Is Necessary.

GOOD HOMES AND PROSPERITY

The Majority of Towns Are Too Slow to Recognize the Problem When It First Presents Itself—Beauty Cannot Be Grafted on Rotteness.

Almost all well directed efforts to advance our social standards center around homes, religion, education and play. When these fall and when accident, incompetence and injustice overtake people we have to develop philanthropies, settlements, child helping societies, courts, probation, police and medical charities, says Edward T. Hartman, secretary of the Massachusetts Civic League, in the Survey.

We are in this country slow in arriving at a proper understanding of the housing problem. As a rule, "our town has no housing problem." Did you ever hear of a mother who waited till her boy was ready for the juvenile court, the hospital or the insane asylum before she admitted that she had a boy problem? Did you ever see a manufacturer recognize a factory problem only after his building was burned down or ready for the junk heap? No; the mother and the manufacturer both recognize their problems at the start.

Our towns and cities refuse to recognize the real, the constructive problem, and even after the damage is done they too commonly introduce palliatives instead of removing the cause.

The problem is present when every house is built, when every street is laid out, when every bit of plumbing is set up, when every sewer is laid and when every water connection is made. It is the problem of making communities.

For many years we have had in Massachusetts a succession of short lived organizations to improve the ap-



A GROUP OF YOUTHFUL MILL WORKERS IN A MANUFACTURING TOWN.

pearance of towns. They have died mainly because beauty cannot easily be engraved upon rotteness.

Bad homes are responsible for a large percentage of the immorality which the churches are trying to cure; they are responsible for a large part of the sickness which the hospitals, dispensaries and nurses are trying to cure and for much of the poverty the charities are trying to cure. The housing problem—that is, the constructive problem—is one of the biggest items in home-making.

The economic aspects of the housing problem are serious. Towns get, as a rule, what they bid for. That is, if force of circumstances brings a large number of people to a town the quality of these people will depend in large measure on the kind of homes which are offered to them. If the people have to content themselves with abandoned dwellings, outbuildings and inferior homes they will be an inferior type of people, because self respecting people will not live in such homes.

On the other hand, the town has to meet the problems of education, police, courts, jails and hospitals. The people who are willing to live in bad homes are the people who keep the remedial institutions busy and who do practically nothing to help maintain any institutions.

But when attractive homes on well planned streets are offered self respecting people will come, the taxable values of the town will rise, and the per capita demand for all the remedial institutions will be decreased.

It is well, too, not to overlook the economic values of the aesthetic and social aspects of the problem. The money values of civic art and of a civic conscience were never so fully recognized as at the present time.

It is not enough, either, to develop good homes. They must be maintained in a good condition. This calls for an active local health authority. Every town must have a good law, the efficient endorsement of which will give the town what it needs in the way of houses, and a bond of health that will see that houses are always kept clean.

The housing problem in its proper aspects confronts all towns. The community will rise as the quality of its homes rises, and it will go down as the quality of its homes goes down.

OREGON CITY RESTAURANT and OYSTER HOUSE
Serves Meals, Lunches, Short Orders
OPEN DAY AND NIGHT
J. Mann, Prop.
8th St. Near Main OREGON CITY

THE TOWN NEWSPAPER.

Stand by your town newspaper. If there is anything in your town worth talking about, ten chances to one your little town paper had a hand in putting it there, and if there exists any unsightly or unsavory nuisance twenty chances to one it will stay there until your town editor sees it or smells it and wipes his pen on the town board's breeches. If anybody beyond the walls of your little burg ever learns that there is such a place as Peaceville it will be through the town oracle.

Every village gets its money's worth in the village newspaper. It's the wagon that carries all your good things to market. It ought to be kept in good repair. In many cases it would pay to grease it, paint it, keep its running gear in shape and shelter it at the public expense.

Stand by your town newspaper. It's the guardian and defender of every interest, the forerunner and pioneer of every advance movement and the sturdy advocate of law and order. Take it away and it would not be six months before the town would look as if it had been doped. Business would drag, society would yawn, and grass would grow between the cobles.

Long live the town newspaper!—Virginia Industrial Magazine.

DENVER'S NEW METHOD OF STREET LIGHTING.

Ornamental Trolley Poles Used to Carry Light Wires.

An interesting group of views, showing the street lighting of Denver, has been published by Denver Municipal Facts in connection with a short history of the ornamental street lighting system.

When it was first suggested that a multiplicity of wires and poles could be avoided by providing combination trolley and light poles, the idea seemed to a number of the people consulted as not worth experimenting with. In working out this problem Denver had to be original, as no city could be found that was using such a plan.

Sixteenth street was the first one lighted from the trolley poles. A similar plan, with a different design and appearance in each case, was later used for Fifteenth and Seventeenth streets. The art commission selected the style of poles to be used, and the street car company furnished them, while the light company helped to perfect the plans. The general effect, looking up or down these broad streets, is that of two long, straight lines of brilliant, but not flaming light.

The city pays for the lights on the streets referred to. In four other sections of the city merchants and property owners have put in ornamental lighting at their own expense, using the trolley pole plan. On three of these streets the merchants are also paying the cost of current.

Denver considers the brilliancy of her lights one of her greatest advertisements. During 1911 the city paid \$109,867 for street lighting. Besides the lights installed by merchants, there are now 2,421 arcs and 1,050 fifty candle power lamps on the city streets and boulevards. The estimated cost for 1912, covering 2,478 arcs at \$60 per year, 1,110 fifty candle power lamps at \$28 per year and the lighting of the welcome arch, is \$180,600.

An Interesting Advertising Fable. This fable is printed by a Kansas newspaper for the benefit of its advertisers and those who ought to be: "In a certain hamyard there were two hens, one of which when she laid an egg cackled because she knew she had a good thing and wanted others to know it. That hen believed in advertising. And many were the breakfasts her enterprise supplied. When the other hen laid eggs she disdained to cackle. 'What's the use?' she said. 'Everybody knows I lay eggs.' And she cackled not. One day the owner of the hens by accident discovered the nest of the noiseless one, and it was full of eggs, but they were too old to use, and immediately he cut off the head of the hen that refused to be 'modern' and advertise."

Give Them a Place to Play. Plenty of room for dives and dens. Plenty of room for the running sores. Plenty of room for the prison pens. Gather the criminals in!—But never a place for the lads to race. No; never a place to play!

Plenty of room for shops and stores—Menom must have the best. Plenty of room for the running sores. That rot in the city's breast. Plenty of room for the lures that lead the hearts of our young astray. But never a cent on a playground spent. No; never a place to play!

Plenty of room for schools and halls. Plenty of room for art. Plenty of room for tea and balls. Platform, stage and mart. Proud is the city—she finds a place For many a lad today—But she's more than blind if she fails to find A place for the boys to play.

Give them a chance for innocent sport. Give them a chance for fun. Better a noisy plot than a court. And hush when the harm is done. Give them a chance. If you stint them 1912. Tomorrow you'll have to pay A larger bill for a darker fit. No give them a place to play.—Dennis A. McCarthy.

Croupy Coughs and Wheezy Colds
The quickest simplest way to rid the children of dangerous croupy coughs and wheezy stuffy colds is to give them Foley's Honey and Tar Compound. It gives almost instant relief and stops a cough promptly. It soothes and heals. Contains no opiates. For sale by Huntley Bros. Co.

Sheep for sale—150 ewes coming with lamb January 1, will sell in lots to suit purchaser. Also fresh cows for sale. F. E. Parker, Oregon City Rt. 3, Maple Lane.

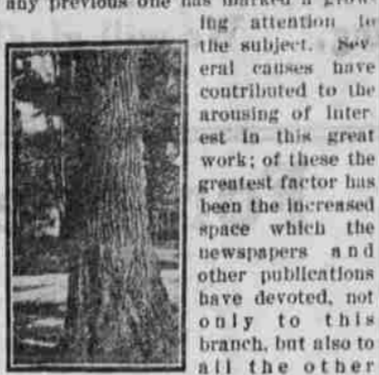
FUNDAMENTALS OF TREE SURGERY

Most Important Branch of Modern Conservation.

GREAT CARE IS NECESSARY

Removing Dead Limbs, Treatment of Diseased Trunks, Trimming and Filling of Cavities All Attended to by the "Surgeon."

Hitherto tree surgery has been too much localized. It still is confined to a very small percentage of the cities which need it, but this year more than any previous one has marked a growing attention to the subject. Several causes have contributed to the arousing of interest in this great work; of these the greatest factor has been the increased space which the newspapers and other publications have devoted, not only to this branch, but also to all the other branches of forestry, says E. M. Swiggert, city forester of Ocala, in the American City.

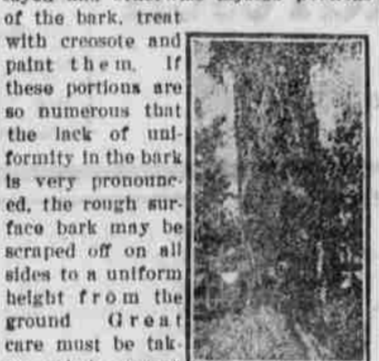


THE TREE AS IT SHOULD BE.

By tree surgery is meant all of the physical operations necessary to make the tree under treatment as nearly a perfect tree as possible. Tree surgery includes the removal of dead branches, the scraping of the tree trunks where necessary, the filling of cavities with concrete and shaping the tree in general.

In removing limbs the all important point to remember is that the limbs should be sawed off squarely, so that whatever remains of them will be entirely within the trunk and the freshly sawed surface flush with the bark of the tree. When limbs are removed in this way the surrounding bark will usually completely cover the wound in time. All such wounds should be either treated with creosote and then painted or simply painted with black asphaltum paint. It is always safer to treat with creosote before painting.

Authorities differ as to the extent to which tree trunks may be scraped without injury to the tree. A safe rule to follow is to scrape all the decayed and otherwise injured portions of the bark, treat with creosote and paint them. If these portions are so numerous that the lack of uniformity in the bark is very pronounced, the rough surface bark may be scraped off on all sides to a uniform height from the ground. Great care must be taken not to scrape down to the green growing or cambium layer of the inner bark.



SUFFERING FROM NEGLECT.

Trees draw up the largest share of their food material through this layer, and to cut into it would be partly to girdle the tree—a certain method of killing it. All cavities in a tree, large or small, should be carefully scraped out, treated with creosote and finally filled with concrete and sealed with a plaster of paris. The edges of large cavities are sometimes squared off and the concrete put on in such a way as to resemble one of the way a dentist fills a tooth.

Pruning may be defined as the right way to trim trees either to better their shape or to increase their vigor. When trees are to be trimmed for either of the above purposes pruning is a better word than trimming, which denotes a method little better than butchery. Some trees, such as many of the evergreen trees and some of the hard woods—broad leaved or deciduous trees, as they are variously termed—are trees which have a distinctly recurrent habit—that is, have one main trunk from which all the principal branches spring. Trees of this type ought never to be pollarded or, in other words, have their main stem clipped, but some of their branches if so numerous on one side of the trunk as to give the tree an unbalanced appearance may be removed. Evergreens used for hedges may be clipped at the will of the owner because used for special purposes.

The time to have trees treated is when they need it. The late fall and early spring—except in the case of the maple, which bleeds profusely in the early spring—are considered the best times to care for trees, although one point in particular makes summer a good time, and that is the case with which dead limbs may be seen.

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When in Portland, be sure to call and inspect for yourself this wonderful closet

PROTECTION FROM FIRE.

Water Supply For Sprinkler Systems Should Be Quickly Available.

The water supply for sprinkler systems is variously provided by elevated tanks or reservoirs, by pressure tanks, the city water pipes or fire pumps. Good protection requires that at least two separate and independent sources of water supply, properly checked against each other, be provided for each system and that at least one of these be automatic—that is, continuously ready for immediate operation without the intervention of any human agency.

The elevated or gravity tank, if at a sufficient elevation, of good size, and if properly safeguarded against freezing, forms a good, reliable primary supply. A connection from the city mains may be better if ample pressure and an adequate volume of water are instantly available.

The pressure tank is a closed steel tank, usually placed in the upper story or on the roof, filled to about two-thirds of its capacity with water, and the balance with air under 75 to 100 pounds pressure. The object of the air is to force the water out of the tank under heavy pressure, the proportions of the compressed air and water being such that all of the water will be forced out of the tank under sufficient pressure to supply the sprinklers on the topmost line. This tank forms an excellent primary supply, owing to the heavy pressure available at the start, but it is not as reliable as either the gravity tank or the connection to the city mains, as it requires close supervision in the maintenance of the air pressure.

Fire pumps are not satisfactory as a primary supply, as in order to be of any value they must be automatic in their action, and the regulators necessary to effect this are too often out of order. Fire pumps, however, form an excellent secondary supply. In addition to the regular water supplies, all sprinkler systems accessible to public fire departments should be equipped with one or more steam connections to enable the public fire department to force water into the system. Whenever practicable a system of outside control over the water supplies by means of post indicator gate valves, located well away from the buildings, should be provided.—Engineering Magazine.

RADIUM IMPROVES GEMS.

Interesting Discovery Made by a German Scientist.

The latest experiments made with radium confirm the statement that it has the property of changing the color of precious and semiprecious stones. The change is effected merely by contact exposure to radium salts, and the gems which give the best results are sapphires. A young German chemist is said to have secured sensational results from this discovery. He recently purchased several varieties of sapphires and placed them in a box with a small quantity of radium bromide. The transformation of the stones after about a month's exposure is described as follows:

| ORIGINAL COLOR | NEW COLOR |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| White or uncolored | Opalescent yellow |
| Blue | Emerald green |
| Violet | Sapphire blue |
| White colored | Opalescent ruby |
| Inferior dark colored | Deep violet |

The chemist visited the jeweler from whom he bought the stones at an average price of 1s. 8d. a carat and asked what the jeweler would offer for the parcel. The jeweler, suspecting nothing, even after close examination, offered 47s. 6d. a carat for all the stones, with the exception of the small but exquisite ruby colored one, for which he said he was willing to give no less than £20 a carat.—Chicago Tribune.

Sand and Gravel.

One of the important industries in the United States of which comparatively little is written is the production of sand and gravel. In 1911, according to a report just issued by the United States geological survey, the production of sand and gravel amounted to 65,846,959 short tons, valued at \$21,158,583. The production of sand of all kinds was 40,253,977 tons, valued at \$14,438,506, and that of gravel was 25,592,982 tons, valued at \$6,720,083. The production of glass sand was valued at \$1,547,733, an increase over the figures for 1910; the sand used for building in 1911 was valued at \$7,119,286, a slight decrease as compared with 1910. The production of molting sand in 1911 was valued at \$2,132,469, a marked decrease as compared with 1910. The production of all other sands in 1911, such as sand for grinding and polishing, fire sand, engine sand and filtration sand, was valued at \$3,043,912, an increase of over a million dollars in value as compared with 1910.

Height of Mountains Varies.

The discovery that the Elbow tower in Paris varies in height according to the temperature of the air elicits a still more remarkable piece of information of the same sort. It appears that Mount Everest, still believed to be the highest mountain in the world, varies in altitude from time to time as much as 800 feet. During the daytime the snows will often melt to that extent on the summit of the mountain between sunrise and sunset. On the other hand, often between sunset and sunrise the mountain will regain 300 feet in a single night. Therefore the figure given in the geographies of 29,002 feet for Everest's altitude is a mere rough average. Colonel Barrard, who has made a study of the subject, says that the officers of the Indian survey place the mountain somewhere between 28,700 and 29,150 feet in height and decline to guess any closer.

Notice for Bids.

Gladstone, Ore., Dec. 9, 1912. The School Board District No. 115, Gladstone, will receive sealed bids up to December 18 for plastering and finishing the west half of the school building. Said board reserving the right to reject any or all bids. For further particulars see H. O. Paddock, E. P. Carter, or Hugh Hall, Trustees, Estella Salisbury, Clerk.

Card of Thanks.

The undersigned extends hearty thanks to neighbors and other friends who showed kindness and rendered assistance in any way during the illness and at the funeral services of the late Mrs. Melissa Blackman, our mother. A. W. Ballz, Julia Ballz.

RUBING IT IN.

It may be true, says a Missouri editor, that the circus takes a whole lot of money out of town, but look at the mail order houses—they don't even give a parade.—Kansas City Star.

Good Advice For Any Town.

The board of public works should begin a general and thorough cleaning up of the city from one end to the other. Every street and alley should be looked after and the premises thoroughly inspected everywhere. It would not only be better in the way of cleanliness, but it would give the city a still finer appearance, and quite likely the work might result in preventing a large amount of sickness. At the same time the sidewalks should be put in the very best shape possible, every foot of them inspected and orders to repair given wherever needed.

Longer School Term Adds to Treasury.

The city of Tacoma, Wash., will secure an additional \$10,000 for its schools by keeping them open for another week next year. The school term will end June 23. The schools opened on Sept. 3. Washington state pays 9 cents a pupil for each day the pupil spends in school. Tacoma will thus secure the sum of \$10,000.

Commission Saves Money.

According to the estimate made by the city commissioners of Guthrie, Okla., the amount of money required to run the city during the past year is \$10,000 less than it was under the aldermanic form of government. The commissioners have just finished making their estimate.

YOUNG MEN!

Pabst's Okay Specific

DOES THE WORK. YOU ALL KNOW IT BY REPUTATION. PRICE 52

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Price 50c The Box of 50 Caps
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