

BETTER HOMES

BUILDING RECORD UNDER LAST YEAR

Number of Permits Same But Financial Condition Is Much Less

The Building record of the past year is somewhat under the record of January 1924, as indicated by the reports filed with the city order. The number of permits issued for the respective months remain the same, but the amount of money involved falls short during the year of 1925. The record shows that during the past month 26 permits were

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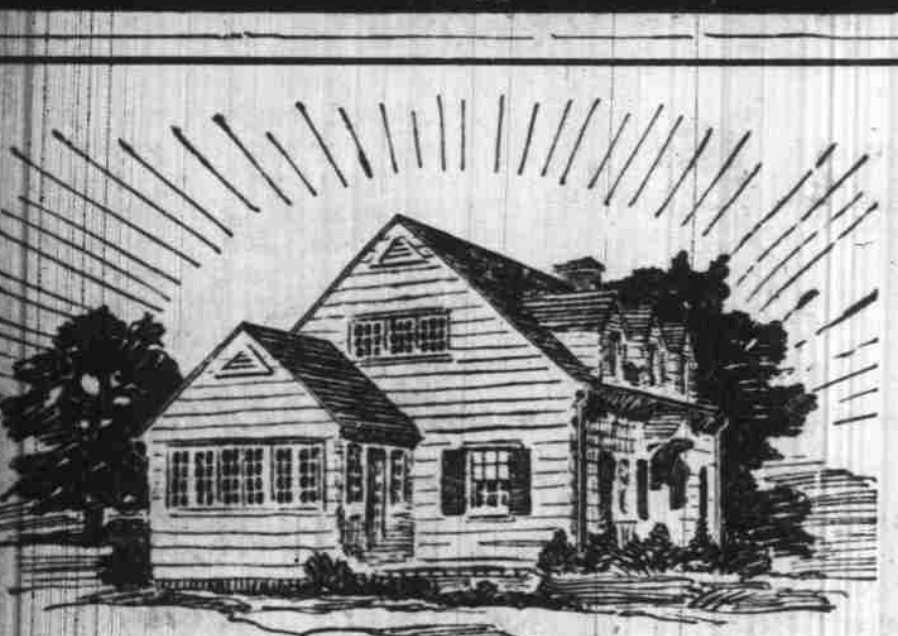
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issued to erect new dwellings amounting to a cost of \$59,750 and one permit was issued to erect a store and dwelling costing \$5,450. Thirteen permits were issued to erect a store and dwelling costing \$11,250. Consequently the forty permits for building purposes for the past month totaled a sum of \$76,450.

During January last year, 26 permits were issued to cover the erection of dwellings totaling \$70,960 and one permit for a brick store building costing \$40,000. In addition to the three permits issued to alter and repair buildings amounting to \$1,150. The 30 permits covered an expenditure of \$112,050.

Official Organ of Salem Realtors Reaches Many Men

L. H. Roberts, Salem Realtor, has received an inquiry from a resident of Bill, Wyoming, who desires to settle in Oregon. The man related that he received a "List" from agents of the Great Northern railroad company during the past month. The list is published by the Marlon-Polk Co. Realtors, who are members of the Multiple Listing Bureau.

Inquiry is made about the topographical features of the Willamette valley, the schools of Salem, the kind of soils, and ends his letter with the statement that he intends to visit Salem during the coming summer and plans to settle in the Willamette valley.

THE \$15,000 HOME AND THE GIRL WHO WON IT, AND THE WINNING ESSAY



Julia S. Groo of Portland, Oregon, the winner of the Home Lighting Contest in which 2,000,000 children took part and the \$15,000 home that will be built for her in Portland.

(There has been a great deal in the newspapers about the \$15,000 home and the girl who won it; but the following is the first article that includes the winning contest):

A \$15,000 Electrical Home, finished from top to bottom, built on her own lot in Portland, Oregon, will be the prize that Julia S. Groo will receive for her essay as first prize in the International Home Lighting Contest just concluded. Miss Groo, a winsome maid of 18, was adjudged winner from among two million school children in the United States and Canada who entered the contest, of which a million submitted essays for the prizes.

Local contests were held in 4784 communities and the 45,000 winners of these contests had their essays submitted to the International judges for the eleven grand prizes, of which the home was the first. The other prizes were ten scholarships of \$300 to \$1,200 and 1600 distinguished essay medals and were awarded to children scattered over a wide area.

Besides the essay, the contestants were obliged to make lighting investigations and thoroughly study the subject of Home Lighting. Their essays were supposed to tell how they would light their home, giving the specifications of wattage for each room.

The international judges of the Home Lighting Contest were William McAndrew, superintendent of schools, Chicago, Ill.; Mrs. William Brown Meloney editor Forbes Magazine; Sarah L. Rhodes, principal, P. S. No. 28, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Geo. D. Shephardson, professor of electrical engineering, University of Minnesota; George R. Anderson, professor of illumination engineering, University of Toronto, and M. H. Aylesworth, executive manager of the National Electric Light Association, representing Franklin T. Griffith, presi-

dent of that association, who was unable to be present.

Miss Groo's essay that won the prize follows:

"A Well Lighted Home"

"We do not keep a horse and buggy simply because our father had one. Instead, we use the new and more serviceable means of travel. The man in the office, the factory manager, the contractor, all continually strive to find labor saving devices. They do away with antiquated apparatus and replace it with machines for increasing output. Greater production by the individual is a demand of the times.

"Yet when these same men reach their homes the thoughts of advanced methods and convenience seem left behind. They retain lighting equipment which was probably considered the best when it was installed, but which is now obsolete because of the developments in the industry and the knowledge of proper lighting learned from experience and investigation.

"Careful thought was given to the lighting of our house and has resulted, I believe, in our having a well lighted home. It is well lighted since each fixture was selected to provide sufficient light where it might be needed. A center light gives general illumination, while portable lamps placed by easy chairs for reading and sewing bring the light directly where desired. A shade in harmony with the fixture and the room covers each bulb, but all are dense enough to prevent glare, or eyestrain. Some are glass, some are silk, and some are parchment, each being adapted to its surroundings. The basement shades are metal.

"Small bulbs are used in decorative lamps to prevent annoying bright spots; frosted bulbs, where there is a possibility of their being seen with discomfort. Portable lamps are placed on each side of the mirror on the dressing tables and brackets on each side of the

bathroom mirror to illuminate the feature on both sides, thus avoiding shadows. The shades prevent a bright light from being reflected into the eyes.

"Each room has bulbs in excess of one watt per square foot, and, since the walls are light, very little light is absorbed by them, thus avoiding the necessity of larger bulbs.

"The center fixture in the living room has two 150 watt bulbs. There are two floor lamps and one table lamp, each containing two 40 watt bulbs. The brackets over the mantel and two small decorative lamps each have a 15 watt bulb. Four single convenience outlets permit rearranging the furniture.

"A fixture with four 40 watt bulbs hangs 26 inches above the dining room table, while 15 watt candles are at each side of the buffet. A double convenience outlet is under the table and another by the buffet.

"Our kitchen is lighted by a 150 watt ceiling fixture with a 40 watt lamp over the sink. Appliances may be attached to a double convenience outlet.

"Each of the two bedrooms has a 40 watt lamp at the head of the bed. The three double convenience outlets make rearrangement of the furniture easy.

"The two 40 watt brackets by the bathroom mirror furnish sufficient light. The 40 watt center fixture is unnecessary because of the smallness of the room. The double convenience outlet is for appliances.

"The basement has 40 watt lamps in the trunk room, in front of the furnace and at the coal pile. A 100 watt lamp is over the laundry tubs. A double convenience outlet is available for all appliances. Two 40 watt lamps should be placed over the work bench to prevent shadows on the work.

"Our long hall has a 40 watt ceiling fixture and a 40 watt bracket."

Says Good Farms Can Be Sold

Editor Statesman:—

Good farms prices at their true value will soon be in demand, but not for speculation, as speculators can hardly be expected to invest in land as long as there is so much agitation from every source, telling the public that the farmers are still living on, or depending on government aid. However, the farmers who did not lay aside their better judgement and speculate and get heavily in debt during the exceedingly prosperous years of the World War period, can now handle their farms prosperously, and very few of this class of farmers are offering their farms for sale. These are farmers who save up their surplus money received from high war price farm products to tide them over the lean years, which any carefully thoughtful person could not fail to anticipate, as a natural result

which would follow the extremely high prices caused by the tremendous destruction of all kinds of farm products, due to the sinking of vast numbers of ship loads by the submarine warfare.

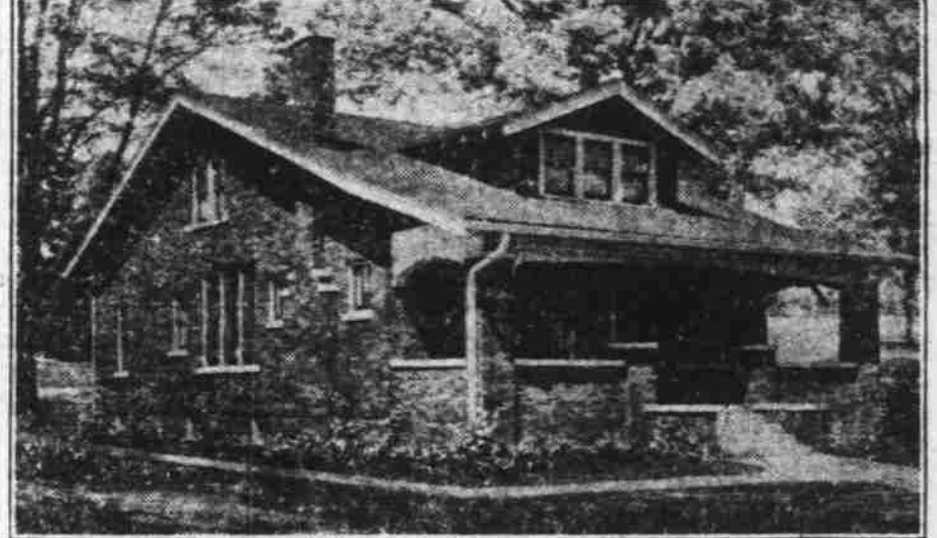
Well, some will say that the farmer who was so thoughtless as to not lay by and save his income while the opportunities were so unusually favorably is not deserving of much sympathy.

Now this view of the matter, I think, would be unjust due to the fact that practically all the people engaged in the various industries and occupations during the peak of world war prices, seem to have been terribly intoxicated with a mania for speculation. So why should we criticize the farmer alone? I am sure the farmer is far more deserving of our sympathy than those of other occupations who still had an opportunity to quickly reimburse themselves, due to the high scale of wages, and the still higher prices maintained for all kinds of manufac-

tured goods, while the farmer's products suddenly dropped to a price far below the cost of production, while the price of what he had to buy, with the high priced labor and excess profit added into its cost; all tended to impoverish the farmer to such an extent for several years during the period of low prices for farm products, that it was no wonder the farmer began to stagger under the load and ask for some kind of relief, and while the farmer still has to pay excessive prices for his farm machinery, and all other factory goods, he can now make good with the greatly advanced prices paid for all farm products, and many who left the farm during the period of farm depression, are now turning back to the soil once more, as the surest and best way to obtain a permanent home and steady employment.

I am sure I cannot speak too highly of the wisdom of this class of converts, when I see so many unemployed persons who left com-

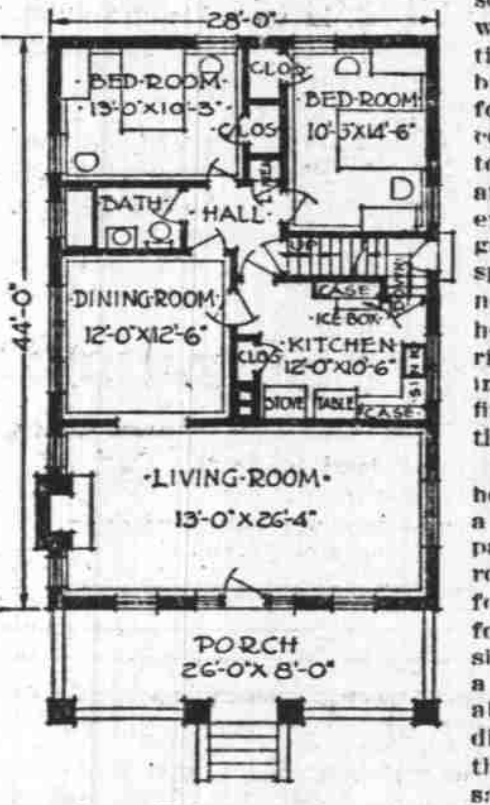
CONSERVATIVE YET DISTINCTIVE



THE ARDILA—DESIGN A630

"Typically a clean cut American home" would be a fitting description for this pleasing design. There are many of us ordinary mortals who insist on having all our possessions express individuality and yet remain within the lines of con-

servatism. This home, the Ardila, strikes the prospective owner at once as of that quiet yet nevertheless artistic type. Then, too, this home can be built economically by taking advantage of our native building material—common brick.



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More and more people throughout the country are turning to good construction in the details of their homes. The contractor who slipped up anything to sell at a profit is being relegated to the past. It is interesting to note that along with this public opinion for

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think that before the close of the present year, that the farms now occupied by good, active economical farmers, will show such good results, with good crops and high priced products, that speculators will begin to turn to farm investments as the safest and best investment for money, and will be willing to invest in good land at its true value.

I shall endeavor to discuss what I mean by true values on land in a later article, if the editor will approve of the articles enough to allow space.

WELLS TALLMAN

After Seeking for Ideal City; Man Settles Here

R. C. Davis, recently of North Dakota, has purchased the Rollin K. Page home at 300 South 24th street, through the firm of Childs & Bechtel, for a consideration of \$6500.

Mr. Davis states he has been three years looking up a city for a permanent home and schools in the west, and is satisfied Salem is the right place with its future. At present he is president of the First National bank of Belfield, N. D., and expects to make other investments here later, and bring his interests to Oregon.

Few famous men are modest and retiring. They never from the spotlight duck; And up to the time of going to press We've heard none say, "I owe my success, To one continued streak of luck."

C. W. Robinson in court, "It is true that the accused has murdered his father and his mother, but, gentlemen of the jury, I ask you to remember that he is only a poor orphan."

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 A. B. KELSEY, Manager
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