

ARCHITECT'S HELP CLAIMED VALUABLE

Small Home Builder Needs Competent Advice in Erecting Residence

It is more important for the small home builder to have an architect than for the builder of a more pretentious dwelling, yet the average person believes that the architect's services are unnecessary.

The small home usually represents privations, sacrifices and hardships. The small home owner must save in a hundred ways, deny his family nearly all luxuries, in order to secure the necessary funds with which to build. His investment is, therefore, vastly more important than the investment of the builder of a mansion, for if the small home is poorly planned and built and costly repairs and replacements are necessary, the undertaking may end in failure. Every year countless unfortunate people who have built such homes find the burden too great and lose their homes through foreclosure or are forced to sell at great sacrifice. Such people rarely attempt a second home. They lack the funds and the courage!

The small home builder should make every penny of his money go as far as possible. He should be protected against unscrupulous contractors and dishonest manufacturers of flimsy or poor substitute materials and equipment. But there are things concerning which the average person is ignorant. For this reason the architect is necessary. He will guard the home builder against incorrect construction practices and the substitution of shoddy materials. He will see that the prospective owner receives full value, dollar for dollar, for the money expended.

He will begin with the architectural plan. Thousands of home builders every year select architectural designs because they are charmed by the exterior appearance, yet many attractive designs are badly planned and it is only by careful study that the defects can be ascertained. A dream of loveliness may be too expensive to build, too expensive to keep up, and vastly un comfortable to live in.

In choosing plans for the small home, careful consideration must be given to the economy of space achieved in the floor plan and the general appearance of the exterior elevations. The small home builder cannot afford to select a plan with waste space and unnecessary features. Nor can he afford to decide on a house, however attractive, if there is excessive ornamentation which will greatly increase the building and upkeep costs. Here the advice of a competent architect is invaluable. His practiced eye will see things that the average home builder will never notice.

In selecting the architectural plan for a small house, the family requirements, the climatic conditions, the availability and suitability of materials and their comparative costs should be considered. It is manifestly unwise to decide to build a brick house, if the prospective home owner lives a great distance from the brick markets and lumber is plentiful in his locality, or vice versa. Yet many many home owners have made this costly mistake—costly because a good home can be constructed of any of the available materials and the home can be cheaper if built of materials at hand. Here again the architect's advice may save several hundred dollars.

The architectural plan should provide for the economic use of

labor and such materials as the home owner can afford. Some very good designs are costly to build and these should be avoided by the small home builder, with a limited amount of money to spend.

The architect will plan and design the right kind of home for the small home owner. He will write the specifications for it, let contracts, make payments to contractors and supervise the construction. On the making of payments alone, the experience of the architect is valuable, for this is often a pitfall for the inexperienced home builder.

The competent architect knows legal requirements of buildings, city building ordinances, state building codes, zoning laws, kinds of materials, their strength, adaptability and use. He knows what is best for the site chosen to build on, what kind of ground will safely carry the building, what kind of footings are proper on each kind of ground, the proper materials for construction of foundations, how the remainder of the building is set on the foundation and constructed to withstand wind, rain, cold and heat. He knows two doors and windows should be built and put in place so that they will be tight and windproof, how stairs should be erected, what space they should occupy, how steep they should be to make them both comfortable and safe. He is qualified to advise on the right method of heating a house, what kind of plumbing fixtures are best suited for each particular case, the proper method of sanitation and sewerage disposal, the right way to construct fireplaces, chimneys, how to properly insulate a house, how to keep vermin out of the house, how to construct the roof, and what to cover it with to make all the parts wind and water-proof, and a thousand and one other details that are necessary to make a real home.

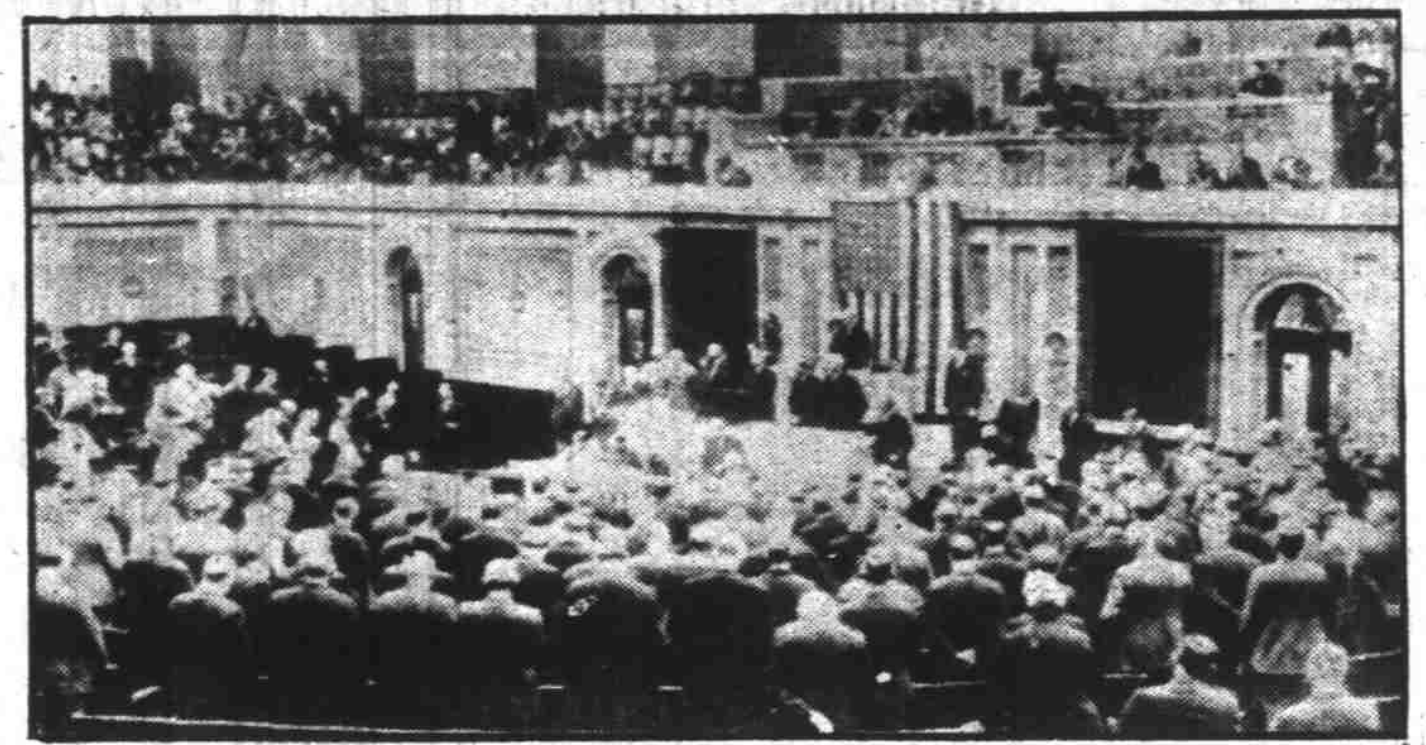
The architect must be able to visualize the needs of the people for whom he is planning, even the smallest cottage. Most people suppose that the plan of a small home is simply the result of following a few "rule of the thumb" that by a few trials and shufflings of mere spaces for rooms, with walls on four sides, and some kind of a cheap roof, a house can be compiled. The sorry truth is that many so called houses emerge from this method, but certainly no correct solution of a home builder's problem is thus achieved.

Every room must have its appropriate size, shape, aspect and relation to other parts of the house. Proper relation of rooms means no waste of time to the occupants when going from one part of the house to another. A saving in steps is a real comfort to the busy housewife. All parts of the house must be properly lighted with sufficient window area; doors must be properly placed so as to leave suitable places for furniture. An architect never studies plans for a home without placing properly the necessary pieces of furniture, and being sure that there is room enough for them.

Now all this may seem simple enough, and it is, was not the inevitable factor of cost ever present to determine the limit of what can be done. This most important item can be controlled most properly by the architect who makes complete preliminary drawings for his client and secures preliminary bids before final construction is begun. The plans made by an architect, complete in detail, show the contractor exactly what is expected of him. The architect eliminates "the extras" so often incurred by the unlightened using poor plans or possibly no plans at all except "their builder's" sketches.

Every little thing in the house should be planned out before hand. Stairs, doors, windows, chimneys, flues, closets, all the thousand and one things that

CONGRESS RECONVENES—FIRST VIEW.



Chaplain Montgomery at prayer in the House of Representatives, Washington, as the final session of the sixty-ninth Congress begins.

Robertta Risks It

MARGARET CAMERON

CHAPTER THIRTY-THREE

Robertta lifted her hand from the box over which she had been stooping and tipped it toward the woods. As the cover fell, five terrified and spitting cats, tails bushed and fur on end, streaked into the underbrush. At the same instant Piggy clipped the lower strands of wire, with a sibilant,

"S-s-sic 'em, boy! S-s-sic 'em!" Yipping the three dogs tore past, to scatter in pursuit of game never resisted by any proper canine.

He cut the remaining lines, pushed Robertta through, and hastily pieced the clipped strands with lengths of wire from his pocket, drawing them loosely into place again. This done, he snatched up his demijohn. Now run! Those pups may be back before long and they'll raise the devil when they can't get in. Hustle!"

They ran downhill for a short distance through cleared woodland, jumped the brook at the bottom, and raced up the slope to the terrace, but stole around its graveled sounding-board to the back of the house, where they listened a moment before crossing the moonlit yard to the woodshed, in the shadow of the stable.

Here they worked swiftly and almost noiselessly, carrying armfuls of wood around the corner of the shed to the back of the barn, until they had accumulated a sufficient pile.

"Now you get behind one of those bushes at the side of the house where you can see both ways," Piggy whispered, and began pouring the contents of his jug over the wood, while she sought the shelter of a clump of leafless shrubs affording an adequate screen in the moonlight. A

few seconds later he joined her. "Yell!" "Fire Fire" Robertta screamed. "Celia! Fire!"

Celia, awake and waiting, heard the call. "Mother!" She shook the dormant figure beside her. "Mother! Fire!"

Now fire, as Robertta well knew when she suggested this coup, was the one thing of which everybody at Birchwood, including her father, stood in terror. Owing to the isolated position of the house, they were dependent upon their own resources for protection, and while the premises were well provided with hose and a large water tank, as well as with portable chemical siphons, nothing could have been better calculated to through the household into confusion.

"Fire?" Mrs. Scott gasped, rolling out of bed. "Where?" "I don't know," Celia breathlessly replied. "Somebody screamed."

Her mother seized a kimono, thrust her feet into slippers, and scuttled down the hall, sniffing for smoke as she ran. From the dining room she saw a glare in the direction of the barn and heard a heavy of shrieking maids tumble down the back stairs into the kitchen. The habit of a lifetime demanded male direction, and she ran out into the yard, screeching for the gardener, whose quarters were over the garage. He emerged shortly with a chemical siphon, and took charge of the situation, dispatching the maids for hose and other siphons.

Meanwhile, Celia, suspecting Robertta's hand in this diversion, slipped a petticoat over her night

dress, wrapped herself in a warm bathrobe, found shoes which she did not stop to fasten, threw a gown over her arm, and ran downstairs to the terrace in front of the house.

"Robertta?" she called. "Robertta?"

There was no reply, and she ran to the side, wondering whether she had been mistaken in the voice she had heard. "Robertta?" Behind the barn she saw the glare of the fire and heard her mother's wild clamor for the gardener. Desperately she ran along the terrace to the other side, and behind the shrub Piggy said: "There she is."

They sprang out and joined her.

"Oh, Robertta! I knew you'd come!" Celia flung herself upon her sister, but Piggy caught her shoulders and spun her around to throw Janet's long coat over the rose-colored bathrobe.

"Don't talk! Run!" he commanded brusquely. "Down the road."

Down the road, accordingly, the three sprinted. Near the highway Celia tripped over an unfastened shoe, staggered and tripped again on a corner of a coat much too long for her, falling heavily.

When they picked her up she cried: "Oh! Oh! My ankle! I've sprained it!"

"Darn!" said Piggy. "I knew something was due to happen. It's been too easy. Never mind. You've got to make it now. Take her on the other side, Bob. It isn't far. Come on, kid, be a sport!"

Winning and sobbing, as much from excitement as from pain, Celia hobbled along, supported by the other two, to the padlocked gate. With some difficulty and delay they hoisted her over it, and Piggy carried her down the road to the hidden car. Over on the hillside the dogs were assailing high heaven with their alarms. "Those pups sound agitated," Grinning, Piggy turned an expert sportsman's ear in their direction before starting his engine. "They must have treed a cat or something."

(To be continued)

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NEW INCORPORATIONS

The West Coast Clay Products, Inc., of Central Point, Jackson county, capitalized at \$50,000 filed articles of incorporation with the state corporation department here yesterday. The incorporators are A. R. McDonald, J. L. Hoffman, J. B. Hannah, O. F. Weiss and A. A. Weiss.

Other corporations filing articles were:

East - Milwaukee Progressive club, Milwaukee, \$300; R. E. Miller, Emma Hansen, George C. Hazelton and Jennie Sanders.

Lincoln County Tug and Barge company, Portland; \$30,000; M. K. Holland, E. F. Phipps and Charles A. Hart.

Perspective Pictures, Inc., Portland; \$10,000; Harvey L. Kay, Fred H. Kizer and H. S. Hammond.

Woodworkers Security Co., Portland; \$5000; Verne Garrett, Carl Hansen and A. C. Hendricks.

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429 OREGON BUILDING

Notice of Intention to Improve Thompson Avenue From the North Line of Center Street to the South Line of Frederick Street.

Notice is hereby given that the Common Council of the City of Salem, Oregon, deems it necessary and expedient and hereby declares its purpose and intention to improve Thompson Avenue from the north line of Center street to the south line of Frederick street, in the City of Salem, Oregon, at the expense of the abutting and adjacent property, except the street and alley intersections, the expense of which will be assumed by the City of Salem, Oregon, by bringing said portion of said street to the established grade, constructing Portland cement concrete curbs, and paving said portion of said street with a six-inch Portland cement concrete pavement, thirty feet in width, in accordance with the plans and specifications hereof which were adopted by the Common Council on November 15th, 1926, now on file in the office of the city recorder, and which are hereby referred to and made a part hereof.

The Common Council hereby declares its purpose and intention to make the above described improvement by and through the Street Improvement Department of the City of Salem, Oregon.

By order of the Common Council the 15th day of November, 1926.

M. POULSEN, City Recorder. Date of first publication hereof is Dec. 8, 1926. Date of final publication hereof will be Dec. 19, 1926. d19

Notice of Intention to Improve Cross Street From the East Line of South 12th Street to the West Line of South 13th Street.

Notice is hereby given that the Common Council of the City of Salem, Oregon, deems it necessary and expedient and hereby declares its purpose and intention to improve Cross street from the east line of South 12th street to the west line of South 13th street, in the City of Salem, Oregon, at the expense of the abutting and adjacent property, except the street and alley intersections, the expense of which will be assumed by the City of Salem, Oregon, by bringing said portion of said street to the established grade, constructing Portland cement concrete curbs, and paving said portion of said street with a six-inch Portland cement concrete pavement, thirty feet in width, in accordance with the plans and specifications hereof which were adopted by the Common Council, on November 15, 1926, now on file in the office of the city recorder, and which are hereby referred to and made a part hereof.

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