

# HOLLOW WALLS BENEFIT SEEN

Brick, Tile and Occasionally  
Concrete Now Used in  
Construction

Various kinds of hollow walls of dampness from poor construction apart from the frame wall which is always hollow. The others are of hollow tile, of brick masonry, and occasionally of concrete units. The advantages that are claimed in each case have mostly to do with increased warmth in winter and added coolness in summer.

Probably none of these surpass in any feature the ideal types of hollow walls of brick. U. S. Bureau of Standards tests have shown these walls to be the strongest, the most fire resistant and to resist lateral thrusts. Experience has proved them to be savers of labor, brick and mortar, and the cheapest of them all.

These ideal walls are laid with all or part of the bricks on edge. The hollow type presents a face with the brick laid flat, as in any other brick wall, the inner veneer being laid on edge. This type can be laid in any type of bond and with any kind of mortar joint. You can obtain the same facade effect as with any other kind of brickwork.

**Types of Construction**  
The all-rolok wall in Flemish bond has all the brick laid on edge in alternate headers and stretchers which makes an exceptionally strong wall with a maximum hollow interior of four inches. These two are the types most used in small home construction. Other all-rolok types are twelve inches and up in thickness used chiefly in commercial structures.

Walls of this type may be used in basements, for partitions with a single thickness of brick only, and for any general purpose that brick walls are usually put to. The all-rolok wall in Flemish bond makes an especially attractive garden wall, of exceptional strength, and is cheap to erect.

Walls of this type and for this purpose are standing in England after 200 years of service. Some of them are of the serpentine type.

**Brick Lasts 6000 Years**  
Looking today over the rapidly increasing list of synthetic building materials one is constrained to believe that the manufacturer of a permanent material is laboring under a decisive handicap. Seemingly it is no longer a question of how well one can build his home but how cheaply he can build it. Service isn't being taken into consideration as of old.

Common brick has a service record in the ruins of Mesopotamia of close to 6,000 years. Little more or less than this is to be found in the ruins of the old temples in Palestine which figured in the most stirring incidents of the Biblical period. They likewise appear in Egyptian ruins and yet farther to the east in the Indus valley of India, older, it is held, than any of these others.

**Brick Quality**  
But service and the possibilities of service no longer appear to count with a great many home builders. Price is paramount. Particularly so with the speculative builder who, more often than otherwise, doesn't worry about what may happen to the house after he sold it. So the synthetic materials are always to be found in this type of house.

There are yet a fair proportion of prospective home builders who insist upon considering long life one of the prime factors in their formulas of values. They do not build for this year or the next so much as for the future, expecting to enjoy their home to the utmost so long as they occupy it, to pay out just as little as possible for the upkeep, and to find a ready sale for it when they are ready to let it go.

**Any Brick Is Good**  
That type of home builder will not only find common brick a very moderate priced material but one that offers him a wonderful variety of color tones and a mellowed tapestry effect in the walls that no other material will duplicate. It is the color effects that are adding so tremendously to the growing popularity of common brick as an exterior wall material.

Don't hesitate to buy any brick that pleases you for your prospective home. Don't worry about its porosity or its possibility for the absorption of water. Don't fear that if you take this brick or that you will have damp walls. There isn't any brick offered on the market today for exterior wall construction that will ever offend in that respect.

**Brick Not Absorptive**  
This idea that bricks absorb water and produce a damp wall is a fiction advanced by the competitors of brickwork. It hasn't any basis of fact except that occasionally a brick house shows evidences of dampness from poor construction, not in the brick work itself, but in the fitting of windows and doors. Poorly fitted windows are the chief cause.

No brick or burned clay is ever sufficiently porous to permit absorption to the point of damp danger. Whatever water penetrates a brick wall goes through the mortar joint. Any mason contractor of experience will tell you that, and at the same time he will tell you that even the mortar joint is not going to absorb enough dampness to cause you any trouble.

**Word With Authority**  
The last word in authority on construction and materials used in home building is probably the American society for testing materials. This body has a committee, known as committee C-2, which has direct supervision of all tests. That committee recently reported on this question of water absorption by bricks and mortar joints as follows:

"There appears to be a wide-spread belief that the percentage of absorption of individual bricks is a governing factor in the ability

## Bright, Cheery and Roomy "Tuncia"



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**C**ONSIDERATION should always be given to the promise of cheerfulness in the selection of the plan of your next home, for unless it is bright and cheery you are not going to be satisfied with it. And no condition is more distressing than to find your home disappointing after you have been years in saving the money to build it. You can always find furnishings to meet your taste, and among these you can pick and choose to your heart's content, but it is not so easy to have changes made in a home once it has been completed. See first of all that your plan provides well placed and ample windows. Make your home cheerful.

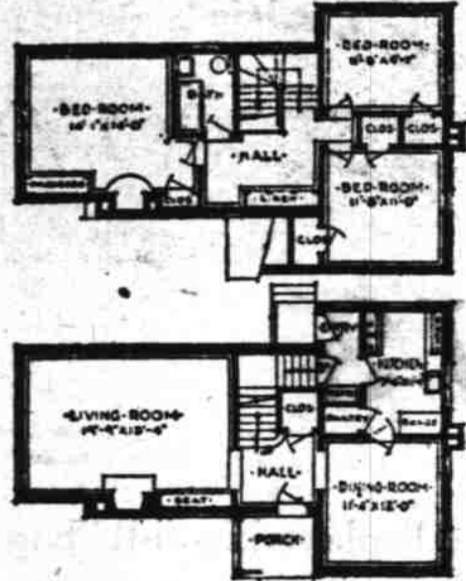
Built in the form of a T this modified English type home is so designed that this very essential quality is imperative. You will hardly dress this home so that it would not be bright and cheery. Every room has two open sides at least where windows can

be placed to the best advantage. The living room has windows on two sides and at the end and an open grate that is certain to be a much appreciated feature in the cool evenings of early autumn and the uncertain days of late spring. Yet there is ample wall space for pictures.

One enters from a protected porch into a small and cozy hallway from which the stairway leads to the upper floor. At the right is a convenient closet for wraps, beside the open doorway to a dining room of unusual possibilities.

Beyond is the kitchen, large, well equipped, with adjacent pantry and convenient service porch. The arrangement is exceptionally good on this floor.

On the upper floor are three sleeping rooms, each well lighted, with ample closets, and of good size. One of these is an exceptional room not bright and cheery. Few small homes offer two open sides at least where windows can



The Common Brick Manufacturers' Association, Cleveland, Ohio, can furnish complete drawings for this design. Lead on brick construction sent upon request.

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## COOLING HOME MADE SIMPLER

Electrical Science Proving  
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Just Turn Switch

By the simple turn of a switch, homes will be cooled in summer as they are heated in winter as the result of new developments in electrical ventilation.

What electrical science has achieved in cooling and air-conditioning theaters, public schools, hospitals and office buildings, is to be applied to the home in providing the comforts of ideal air

conditioning. It has been conclusively shown that this brief is erroneous. On the contrary, a certain amount of absorption in the brick assists in obtaining a better bond between brick and mortar and therefore a more watertight joint. Any water penetration in brick masonry undoubtedly passes largely through the mortar joint and not through the brick. This committee has always felt that if absorption percentage has any significance it is as a possible measure of that quality of brick masonry known as durability.

conditions in all seasons regardless of the climate outside.

Already the electrical scientists have developed compact air conditioning units for the home and are striving to bring down the costs of installation and operation to make it an everyday practicality. On a smaller scale than on big building jobs, they have hooked up powerful little ventilating fans with electrical refrigeration and the household furnace so that any temperature and humidity desired, with a slight motion of air, can be obtained. In several cases where these installations have been made, exhaust fans also are used in kitchens, basements and attics to carry out odors, dampness and excessive heat.

**Changes Made**

A system for mechanically controlling air conditions in the White House recently was installed at the suggestion of President Coolidge while systematic air conditioning is provided in the homes of such famous persons as Edsel Ford, J. P. Morgan, Joseph Pulitzer, Samuel Insull, Senator Reed, H. L. Mencken, T. H. Maytag, A. A. Busch, Mme. Amelia Gall-Curci and others. Many new apartment buildings in Chicago, New York, Cleveland, Detroit, Buffalo, Boston, Milwaukee and other cities are being provided with air-conditioning or mechanical ventilation and land-

lords are featuring it for sales appeal.

Torrid temperatures reported throughout practically the entire United States this summer and particularly the suffocating heat experienced in the large cities have stimulated renewed research in the subject of home cooling. In addition to the activities of the research laboratories of several ventilating and furnace manufacturers, several of the most famous universities in the country are conducting experiments and studies.

"A broken step is as bad as a broken resolution. A fence that needs repairing seems to look like a beggar asking alms."  
—says Practy Cal.

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## SUMMER IDEAL TIME TO PAINT

Popular Conception Redecorating Should be Seasonal Held Error

By Helen Martin

The summer season is an ideal time to repaint a house, with many reasons in its favor. A general idea prevails that spring and fall are the painting seasons, but in this people are much in error. Painting is by no means seasonal, but on the contrary should be done whenever a house is in need of it—provided weather conditions are suitable. (Even cold weather, when dry and comfortable to work in is about as good as any other for painting, so long as the wood is dry.)

**Summer Weather Ideal**  
As for midsummer, there is really no better time for exterior painting. For the climate is warm, dry and all that could be asked. It is generally agreed that painting should be done when the thermometer registers 40 degrees or above. This is due to the fact that when the temperature is low the air deposits moisture, which, with excessive variations in temperature, is at the bottom of most paint difficulties. This moisture, also present in rainy and foggy, as well as in cold weather, condenses on the surface of the wood and interferes with good results.

This being true, there is a good opportunity in the summer time to take advantage of the temperature and the unusually long stretches of clear weather, when the days

are also longer and brighter and more inviting to outdoor work. Of course an unexpected damp spell may occur at any time of the year, but the summer weather is more dependable than that of either spring or fall.

**Painters Available**

There are a great many other practical reasons that recommend painting in the summer months. The painters you may have in mind to do the work are more likely available then, and the work is apt to be done with extra care and conscientiousness, whereas in the more popular painting seasons of spring and fall, everybody wants his home painted at once, necessitating rushed work. Incidentally it is sometimes impossible to obtain a painter's services during the fall rush. If you delay work until spring, when your house needs paint now, the loss through weathering will be considerable.

Then, there is the matter of convenience. Painting in the spring or fall is more difficult for the household in general, because these months are usually full of activities—the children finishing preparing to return to school, entertaining that must be done, and getting ready for the summer vacation.

**Convenient For Family**  
During the summer everything is quite different. There is little or no activity to cause inconvenience in repainting, either inside or out. Most of the family are vacationing at this time, or are able to spend the day fishing or swimming or doing any number of the outdoor things that are possible only in warm weather. Interior painting, such as floors, walls, and woodwork, is bound to cause some inconvenience at a time of year when all the rooms are needed and great numbers of people are going in and out, but in the summer

months meals can be served on the porch, which quite naturally turns itself into a living room.

Thus, in the summertime the whole house, both inside and out, can be painted with little or no trouble to anyone, and at a saving of time, energy and, no doubt, money. When a great deal of extra care can be given to painting work

as is possible in a dull season, the finished job naturally lasts longer than one that is hurried through or subjected to interruptions and delay due to the vagaries of the more temperamental seasons, and this feature alone saves money.

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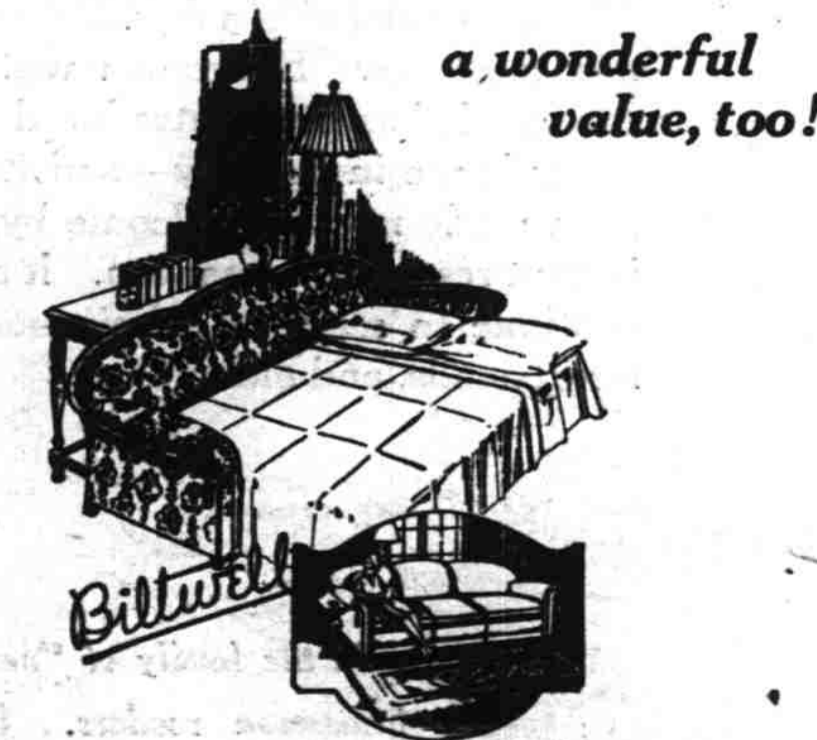
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