

# State Better Housing Conference Will Be Held In Portland Tuesday

## Eugene Committee to Attend Meeting, Says T. I. Chapman, Chairman

Plans for coordinating the Better Housing campaigns in various communities of the state will be discussed at the Better Housing conference to be held in Portland Tuesday, Oct. 23, it was announced here Saturday by T. I. Chapman, chairman of the Eugene Better Housing committee.

The conference will be held in the Johnson hotel, starting at 10 a. m. and lasting throughout the day, Mr. Chapman declared. In addition to the Eugene committee, other members of the local committee, J. J. Rogers, Rogers Kimball, Clarence Lombard and Frank Johnson will attend. Louis Waldorf, chairman of the Portland committee, also is expected to attend.

FHA officials from Washington, D. C. and officials from other coast cities are to be present to confer with the Eugene committee and to give them the benefit of ideas perfected at the headquarters, it was said.

"The conference is to be in the nature of an inspirational meeting, with a view to exchanging ideas and methods of conducting Better Housing campaigns in the various communities of the state," Chairman Chapman said.

Following this conference, committees will return to their localities prepared to put into effect plans and work out at the Portland headquarters.

One phase of the Better Housing campaign expected to be featured is a check-up on building needs in the community. It is believed that many home owners would do better to have their homes inspected by a professional person if they had any doubts as to the condition of their homes.

In addition, under the FHA program, funds for these needed repairs and renovations can be obtained easily and with prices of building material lower now than they are expected to be in a few months, it is believed.

Home owners are being urged to check over their property, check the roof, plastering, painting, plumbing and other items that may need attention.

More details of the Better Housing campaign in Eugene will be outlined during the conference in Portland and it is expected more committees will be named for the purpose of furthering the campaign here.

## Housing Survey Of Eugene to Be Conducted Soon

Under an SERA project, recently approved by the Lane county relief committee and believed assured of approval by the state relief committee, a survey of houses in Eugene will be conducted as a part of a master planning project for this city, it was announced Saturday by W. M. Clubb Jr., city engineer.

Purpose of the survey will be to prepare a classification of houses in Eugene, listing the number of duplex apartments, larger apartments, on family residences. The survey also will show the condition of these homes, whether they are modern with basement and other up-to-date items and whether renovation has been undertaken recently.

The survey also will show all new construction since 1914.

Data obtained in this survey will be available for the local Better Housing committee and may be used in the Better Housing campaign here, showing what work has been done and where renovation may be undertaken, it was said.

occupied by families taken from relief rolls.

"Some day we've got to have housing in America where people can pay 25 per cent of their income for a decent place to live," Hopkins declared.

## BIG OPPORTUNITY IN FHA PROGRAMS

Lumber manufacturers see in the Federal Housing Administration modernization campaign the greatest business opportunity since the World War and have launched an intensive drive to secure their full share of the trade.

C. C. Sheppard, president of the National Lumber Manufacturers' association, says in a communication to all members:

"I am convinced that the home modernizing and farm improvement program offer the lumber industry its greatest opportunity for increased lumber sales presented to it since the World War. This modernizing and improvement program will, in my opinion, succeed. Millions of dollars worth of building materials of some kind will be used by the public."

The Capitol City Lumber company, Hartford, Conn., reports that since the establishment of the credit plan their sales had increased from one to eleven a month and should grow to 25. The sales average \$300 each.

The Michigan Retail Lumber Dealers' association has directed its membership to contact their banking and credit houses and urge their active support of the modernization loans as a means of stimulating trade in all lines.

## Relief Homes To Be Built In 12 Areas

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.—(AP)—L. H. Hopkins, relief administrator, said at his press conference today that 12 rural industrial communities, housing from 150 to 700 homes each, would be built immediately with relief funds in different sections of the country.

The administrator disclosed that plans for about 50 such projects have been made at relief headquarters but that money to build all of them was not yet available.

He asserted it had not yet been decided whether the relief-built homes would be sold to the occupants or leased to them, but said that the cost of occupying these houses would be very, very cheap.

Displaying pictures of one of the 12 small houses now being built at Red House, W. Va., he said that the one and the 10-acre tract on which it stood cost only \$1,000. He said 20 more homes were planned at Red House.

Pointing to another project in progress in Arkansas, he said that 20 houses had been built there at a cost of between \$950 and \$1,000. This project is to include 700 homes ultimately scattered over 28,000 or 29,000 acres. Hopkins said the amount normally being laid out for each unit, including farming tracts of 20 to 30 acres, was between \$1,200 and \$1,300.

All the rural communities built with relief labor and relief funds are to be

## Remodel Bathroom With Modern Shower

There's nothing that will start you singing in the shower as quickly as a cheerful, luxurious bathroom. Without going to the expense of building a new one you can now remodel the old room with fir lumber.

This material may be ivory, tile and color panels, and is applied over the old walls, either as a wainscoting or all the way up to the ceiling. Many home-owners have partitioned off a corner of the bathroom and finished the walls, the result being a serviceable and attractive shower.

Ph. S. E. Stevens for piano tuning.

## Property Owners Modernize, Then Resell Homes At Profit

PROPERTY OWNERS—18 bid big pay. Many liabilities have been turned into valuable assets through modernization. The actual examples that follow are typical of hundreds of such cases.

A shrewd Michigan investor bought a dilapidated shack with practically no valuable assets through modernization. The actual cost of the work was \$2,500 on a resale.

In New Jersey, there was a relatively new Colonial house of poor architecture. At a cost of \$6,000, it included two new wings, a new master, shutters and landscaping of grounds. The value of the house was increased \$12,000. The owner sold the house made \$6,000.

Another Michigan resident had a well-known Victorian stunner, completely equipped with the shapeliest

## HOUSES SUFFER FROM NEGLECT CHECK YOUR PROPERTY

New shingles stop leaks. How about your front steps? Are your sidewalks in good order? Repair garden fences in the fall. Has the plaster cracked? Do your windows rattle? How about remodeling the kitchen? Does your porch need overhauling? Let us help you with your repairs or remodeling. We have a complete line of building material at your service.

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## REMODELING INCREASED VALUE 50 PER CENT!



Complete modernization of the old home pictured here not only improved its appearance almost beyond recognition, but also added fifty per cent to the appraised value, according to the owner, L. S. Trainor of Oak Park, Illinois. Because a complete rejuvenation of the house was to be made, the architect and owner decided that permanent materials should be used whenever possible. Thus, portland cement stucco was used for exterior wall finish, and the old front and rear wooden porches were replaced with concrete. In the interior, new floors were added, all the walls were re-plastered, and the wood trim was replaced. New plumbing, new wiring, and new metal casement windows made the old house convenient, comfortable, and truly modern.

only a thin veneer of reinforced concrete and as such it must be treated. It should never be run down to the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12)

## Building Question Box

Conducted by Graham B. Smith, registered architect

Q. We are going to build an English type house, and were thinking of using a stucco finish for the second story until we were advised that stucco would not be satisfactory. Is it possible to use stucco with satisfactory results?

A: Stucco properly mixed and properly applied can and is satisfactory. The jobs of unsatisfactory stucco work we see on every side can usually be traced directly to either poor workmanship or improper materials. The plasterer has long since given up the idea that one could produce stucco work with haphazard methods. The following touches briefly on the necessary steps one should take to produce a finish of lasting quality.

The shiplap, on the exterior of the studdings, should be placed horizontally and not diagonally. The shiplap should be covered with an asphalt saturated building paper lapped and nailed. The stucco fabric or reinforcing mesh should be of a kind and type especially manufactured for this class of work. It should be of proper gauge and weight wire—not just any kind of reinforcing mesh. Do not attempt to get a good stucco job using wood lath on the exterior. It can not be done. Use the metal reinforcement and nails which will hold this reinforcement away from the paper backing. Special nails are made for this purpose and they should be used through the face of the reinforcement, close enough together to keep the metal away from the backing. Apply the stucco in three coats. The first coat must entirely cover the reinforcement on the face side and extend to the paper on the rear. Cross-scratch before it sets up and keep moistened for at least twenty-four hours. The first coat shall set for seven days before the second coat is

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Does your roof leak?  
Is the porch in bad shape?  
Does your fireplace smoke?  
Is your basement damp?  
How about a larger garage?  
Are your floors in good shape?  
Do you need another room?  
Etc., Etc.

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Railroad Blvd. and Grand Phone 426

## SCIENTIFIC STUDY NOW EMBRACED IN PLANNING KITCHEN

Much is expected of the modern kitchen. True to its increasing importance, this room is receiving more attention every day from the standpoint of both convenience and decoration.

The kitchen should have a scientific, compact, step-saving working area, with plenty of cabinets. A rectangular floor space offers the most possibilities. One side should be equipped for the preparation of meals, and the other for clearing away. In this way, work can progress from one step to the next without loss of time or effort.

The sink, at a height of 34 inches, should be central to both the preparation and clearing units, and in a cross position to the stove. On the preparation side should be grouped the refrigerator and food storage space, a cabinet with a working surface, the stove, and a serving surface. The clearing side should have a stacking surface—table or sink drainboard, a drainboard for clean dishes and utensils, and cabinets for dishes and utensils.

There should be a balanced grouping of cupboards on each side. Utilization of the space under the sink, stove and tables will provide compact storage in the smallest kitchen for every necessary item. No storage space should be too high for comfortable reach. Cabinet tops, stove and tables should be at convenient working heights.

In the kitchen cleanliness is an absolute requirement. Sink, stove, cabinets, should all be selected with easy cleaning as a primary consideration. A floor of tile, linoleum, or other easily cleaned materials should be used; and washable walls are also necessary. Never should there be any corners, nooks and crannies where dirt may lodge and resist removal. Kitchen equipment, as well as floor-

ing, wall covering and drapes, is now sold in such a variety of colors that it is possible to develop schemes soft or riotous in effect, as personal inclination dictates.

The logical time to dress up the old kitchen, making it more convenient and a room to be proud of in this era of refrigerator-raiding guests, is now, when loans from \$100 to \$2,000 are being issued for "renovating" by numerous local financial agencies. Unusually easy to repay, these loans are making improvements possible for property owners who would otherwise feel unable to increase the value and conveniences of their homes and buildings.

**TARPAPER UNDER CONCRETE**  
Before laying a concrete floor in a garage, the earth should be covered with two thicknesses of tar paper. This will prevent the concrete from picking up moisture from direct contact with the earth, and hence prevent the garage from being damp and cold.

**Garage Adds Value To Home Property**  
A warm, clean fireproof garage adds value to any property; and it is not difficult to fix up the old garage to have all three of these advantages. Some insulating material stuffed between the studs and rafters and covered with fire resistant wall board or insulating board will keep the garage warm enough for comfortable tinkering in the winter. A cement

**SAFE WIRING**  
Cords under rugs and around walls are one of the most common causes of fires from electricity. They are unsightly and cause much wear on rugs. When remodeling don't fail to modernize your wiring. The cost is low. Ask for estimates. Licensed Electricians.

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## How Will Your House Look Five Years From Now If It Is Not Kept in Repair?

## CHECK YOUR PROPERTY

Is the paint old and worn?  
Is the chimney unsteady?  
Do you have an old-fashioned kitchen?  
Are your closets unhandy?  
Oak floors are a modern requirement.  
Are your walls dark or dirty?

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