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COUNTRY SHORT ONE MILLION DWELLINGS; HIGH RENTS AND COSTS MUST STAY FIVE YEARS

BY RALPH F. COUCH
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

WASHINGTON, April 15.—High rents and high building costs have come to stay for years, President Le Roy K. Sherman of the U. S. Housing Corporation, predicted today.

"There is no reliable indication of a drop," he said.

"The housing shortage now is just as acute as a year ago. It is conservatively estimated that the country now is short about 1,000,000 dwellings. In my opinion it will take at least five years to catch up and get back to normal."

Sherman, as president of the housing corporation, has built 6,000 homes in big cities in all sections of the country. Experts working under him kept elaborate cost sheets in every conceivable angle of the building business.

Sherman has figures showing most minute details of building ranging from the cost per cubic yard to the cost per square yard of roofing, wall building, brick laying, plastering and so on.

Relief Far Off

Furthermore, the housing corporation head has tried to keep in close touch with the building situation in

Strong Women

BY DR. VALENTINE MOTT.



Women and men too are just as strong and healthy as their blood. Vigor and health come with good blood. Without good red blood a woman has a weak heart and poor nerves.

In the spring is the best time to take stock of one's condition. If the blood is thin and watery, face pale or pimply, if one is tired and listless, generally weak, a Spring Tonic should be taken. An old-fashioned herbal remedy that was used by nearly everybody 50 years ago is still safe and sane because it contains no alcohol or narcotic. It is made of roots and herbs and called Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. If druggists do not keep it in tablet form, send 60 cents for a vial to Dr. Pierce's Invalids' Hotel in Buffalo, N. Y.

Oregon Theatre
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The popular
Fred Siegel Stock Co.
Presents
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every big town and city in the country. Here is his verdict.

"Only in Washington does there seem to be even the beginning of relief from the tremendous pressure of the shortage of dwellings that grew up during the war period," he said.

"In Chicago, New York and other big cities the shortage of dwellings seems just as acute as ever."

"The cost of labor and building material holds little promise of going down. The general cost of building has increased from 65 to 75 per cent since 1913, according to accurate cost sheets of experts in the corporation. Their figures have been tested by careful application to the construction of dwellings of almost every variety."

Money Held Up

"Many people who have money to build houses now are holding off because they hope prices will drop. This has a tendency, of course, to keep prices up. To get the nation's housing situation back to normal we must build at a rate calculated to keep abreast of the normal increase in demand for dwellings plus an additional rate which will make up the shortage of 1,000,000 homes now existing. So far as I can see now, we are not building even at a rate fast enough to take care of the natural increase in demand."

"By normal conditions I mean conditions similar to those prevailing in pre-war days when in every big city there was a general exchange of tenants every spring. In some cities it also was the custom for landlords to give one month's rent free to incoming tenants. Such conditions indicate a nearly equal balance of supply and demand. This is normal. It will be at least five years before this condition is restored, I think."

One Hopeful Sign

"There is one hopeful sign that building costs will be reduced eventually. Architects and contractors everywhere are working continually to devise new and short processes of building. They also are experimenting with new materials. Thus many builders recently attended a national convention called to discuss the proposal of building concrete houses which are poured into moulds and can be turned out much more quickly than the average brick or frame house can be completed."

"Another hopeful sign is the combination of representative citizens in many localities to building houses in cooperation, charging a fair rate for the money advanced. Quantity production of this kind makes for economy in construction."

Housing corporation experts have worked out figures showing the comparative cost of erecting in 1913 and 1919 a 6-room dwelling of a model used by the corporation in many cities in 1918. The table reads:

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Net cost of structure | \$2,952.36 | \$4,930.58 |
| Cost of land at \$1,000 per acre | 143.00 | 143.00 |
| Cost of public utilities | 400.00 | 680.00 |
| Contractor's profit and overhead, 15 per cent | 429.55 | 729.59 |
| Architect's fee plus plans and supervision, 6 per cent | 202.23 | 340.21 |
| Total | \$4,117.54 | \$6,832.38 |

Merc Wood Shavings Made
This Hat Which Finds Favor
In Exclusive Fifth Avenue



This beautiful "creation," direct from Paris, is made from good shavings. The hats come in various shades and Fifth Avenue has taken kindly to them. It is expected that they will become popular in these days of high prices. An imaginative milliner predicts that bevels of pretty but impetuous maids will be hanging around buildings under construction in the hope of picking up enough shavings for that spring hat.

Quandary
"What are you going to do with all that homemade creme de Jazz you worked out with sugar and cornmeal and so forth?"
"That's the question!" said Uncle Bill Bottletop. "What are we going to do with it? We can't drink it and it's too expensive to be thrown away."
—Washington Star.

SENATE DEMOCRATS OPPOSE HOUSE PLAN

WASHINGTON, April 15.—It has become known here that democratic members of the senate will not permit the rushing through that body of the Porter-Knox peace resolution, but will insist that ample opportunity be given for debate and amendment.

The plan of democratic members of the senate is to offer as an amendment to the peace resolution the League of Nations covenant, separated from the peace treaty of Versailles.

Senator Hitchcock, acting democratic leader, plans to offer the League covenant as an amendment and to demand a record vote on it so the country may know how many members of the senate are willing to promote world peace by creating a league of nations. In separating the covenant from the peace treaty proper, Senator Hitchcock will make necessary a vote on that particular part of the document brought back by the president from Paris. The program of the democratic leaders, in one respect, is to have a showdown with the irreconcilable element in the senate and to ascertain whether they are opposed to the peace treaty itself or the league covenant.

LEGION POSTS WILL GET 100,000 ARMY RIFLES

The war department is now engaged on plans for the distribution this year of about 100,000 army rifles to American Legion posts throughout the country. Provision was made for the distribution of those rifles, valued at about \$2,000,000, recently by congress.

In addition to the loan of rifles, the bill provides for the sale to American Legion posts of "blank ammunition in suitable amounts for said rifles" and further specifies that the rifles be "obsolete or condemned army rifles" and that the number distributed shall not exceed ten such rifles to any one post.

The American Legion requested these obsolete rifles for use "in connection with the funeral ceremonies of deceased soldiers, sailors and marines and for other post ceremonial purposes." No distribution can be made until some system for handling the loan will have been devised.

Senator Hitchcock expects the vote in the senate on the peace resolution to be very close. He says he has found no support for the peace resolution on the democratic side of the chamber and believes the minority will be about equally opposed. There is also prospect that one or more "mild reservationists" will be present.

But Mr. Hitchcock believes that war should be ended by peace treaties and not by force resolution, and who will abstain for ratification of the peace treaty, will vote with the democrats.

MAYBE SHE WANTED TO BE NEAR BEER

(By United Press.)
EUGENE, Or., April 15.—Miss Madie Gross, 17, quit high school just before Christmas to marry Clyde Beer, local musician.

Divorcing her husband a month ago, Mrs. Beer resumed her high school course.

But Mrs. Beer decided she really preferred housekeeping to high school, so put aside her books once more and married Beer for the second time.

"BRIDE NO. 19" SOUGHT WITH FIVE OTHERS BY CALIFORNIA OFFICERS

LOS ANGELES, Cal., April 14.—"Bride No. 18," as the officers termed her, and a matrimonial form letter were revealed today, according to Richard Hirt, alleged bigamist, who is in a hospital here receiving treatment for self-inflicted wounds.

"Bride No. 18," like five others of Hirt's alleged wives, cannot be found but a telegram from officers at Gateway, Mont., declared she has been

MARRIED TO HIRT WHILE HE WAS USING THE NAME OF HARVEY F. YOUNG

A Fair Guess.
Teacher—in what battle did Gen. Wolfe, when hearing of victory, cry, "I die happy?"
Johnny—I think it was his last battle.—Boston Transcript.

THIS SPRING TAKE

Hood's Sarsaparilla—A Good Blood-Purifying Tonic Medicine.
It is a medicine in which the people can and do have entire confidence as pure, clean and safe.
All the claims made for it are justified by the testimony of the gratifying results attending its use in a multitude of cases of scrofula, eczema, or salt rheum, poor blood, blood-poisoning, catarrh and rheumatism, and of loss of appetite, that tired feeling, and low or run-down conditions common in the spring.
It is not adulterated; it is not misbranded, but honestly labelled. It originated in a physician's prescription and is recommended and used by many physicians today. It has a record of nearly 50 years of wonderful success.
Hood's Sarsaparilla "makes food taste good." Get it today.
If you need a mild laxative or cathartic, take Hood's Pills.

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with 12 records,
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THIS SONORA TROVATORE
with 12 records,
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Other Models \$25 to \$400