

### Construction of Walls Important To Building

By HENRY J. WINGATE  
Nationally-Known Architect and Engineer

The prospective home buyer or builder should always look closely at wall construction because it is one of the four principal elements in determining whether a structure is well-built. The others are foundation, floors and roof.

There are 3 basic wall types: wood frame, masonry veneer over frame, and solid masonry. They are used singly and in combination. Frame walls are most widely used because they are lowest in cost; but masonry veneer, including brick, stone and stucco, is a close second. Solid masonry is rarely found except in the most expensive houses.

Wood frame is essentially a system of vertical wood studs, covered on the outside by sheathing, which in turn is covered with building paper and then siding.

Well-seasoned lumber should be used and the wall should be as rigid as possible. Unseasoned materials will shrink and cause cracks. Studs of 2" x 4" material should be spaced no further apart than 16", center to center, and secured at the top by two 2x4's nailed together as a plate to support joists for the second floor or rafters for the roof. Each corner should be braced by nailing 1 x 4's or 2 x 4's diagonally across the studs. Sheathing may be boards, plywood or rigid fiber board nailed to the outside edge of the studs. If boards are used they should be placed diagonally for added rigidity.

Choice of siding depends on desired design effect. Materials include: wood clapboards, wood shingles, composition shingles, or metal shingles or clapboards.

Veneer walls are merely one course of brick, stone or stucco applied to the outside of the sheathing.

Hollow walls must be fire-stopped to prevent spread of flames through these natural flues. This is done by placing short lengths of lumber or gypsum block between the studs or by filling the space with fireproof mineral wool insulation.

In a house of average construction there is only an inch or so of lath and plaster and about the same thickness of sheathing and siding between the living quarters and the outside temperature. Hence, the hollow space should be insulated to retain heat in winter and exclude it in summer. This is best done by fastening batts or blankets of fibrous insulating material, such as mineral wool, between the studs as the house goes up. In existing houses nodulated insulation may be blown into wall spaces to provide the necessary protection.

### Three New Uses For Canvas Shown In Magazine

Introducing a new function for canvas, as well as providing bright splashes of color for the outdoor terrace, the Maynard Buechler home in Orinda, California, designed by Architect Frank Lloyd Wright, will be featured in an article and on the cover of the July issue of Sunset magazine. Landscape architects Herbert Mick and Joseph Spanier cooperated to work out the experiment in canvas screens. Overhead canvas panels partially shade the terrace while the screens provide protection, privacy and color.

The screens are made of rectangular pieces of brightly-colored canvas which were fitted with grommets and laced to a movable frame of half-inch pipe. The frames measure five by six feet and have 22-inch legs. One man can move a screen easily. The panels may stand alone or may be used together in almost any shape, providing roofless rooms or half-open patios for summer sun. Photographs and construction diagrams accompany the article in the July issue of Sunset.

VA estimates that before the GI Bill expires in 1957 about 2,000,000 additional homes will be bought by veterans, who will pay \$4,500 to \$10,000.

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### Two-Bedroom Brick Home Creates Comment



By Dean H. Robinson

This is a lovely two bedroom brick home that has created an unusual amount of favorable comment wherever it has been built. It has only six corners, and, therefore, is economical to build as well as beautiful. It is designed to be placed near the front of a lot, for those who like a large backyard, which can be landscaped and arranged for the greatest amount of outdoor living.

You enter the living room, and while you do not have a vestibule, you do have a closet to the left for the storage of coats and umbrellas. Immediately upon entering you are struck with the spacious look of the living - dining area which shows a modern open planning influence.

The large fireplace has a tile hearth with book cases on both sides.

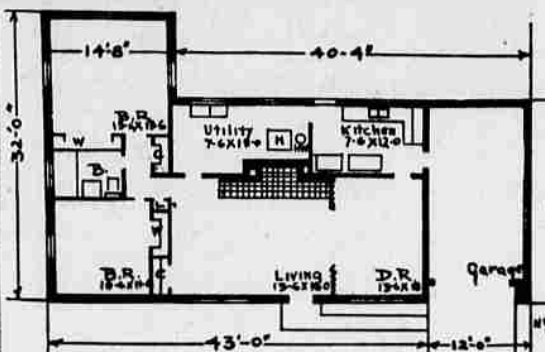
The dining area can be separated from the living area by modern folding doors which can be closed into a recess in each wall and be entirely out of sight, or extended completely to separate these two areas, or left part way open to provide a pleasant decorative touch.

You will note that you can enter directly from the garage into the kitchen, which keeps a great deal of dirt from being brought into the living room and is the other reason besides economy why the front entrance vestibule has been eliminated. There is also room at the end of the garage for a closet.

The kitchen is very modern and compactly designed with the idea in mind of saving as many steps as possible for the busy housewife. Directly over the sink is a large picture window with room on the sill for potted plants. The range and refrigerator are directly opposite the sink and the other work surfaces. Leading directly into the kitchen is a service door from which, if you turn right, you would go immediately into the utility room where there is a furnace, hot water heater, laundry tubs and plenty of room for sorting counters, washing machine, drier and mangle. You can, if you choose, go directly from the utility room into the living area or into the kitchen which would save steps when answering the doorbell.

The two bedrooms are exceptionally well planned. One of them has three windows looking out in three directions, and the other has two windows so that there is lots of cross ventilation in both rooms. Each room has a large wardrobe closet with sliding doors which eliminates the space ordinarily occupied by the swing of the hinged door. Furniture can be placed almost any way in these two rooms. There is a large linen storage closet opposite the bathroom entrance. The bathroom can be entered from either bedroom or directly from the living room.

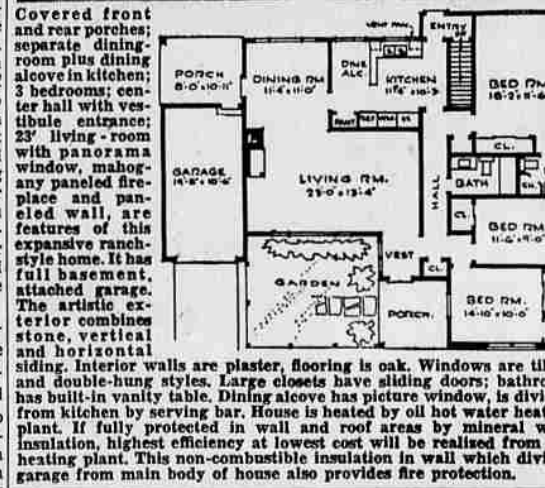
This small home has been designed for use with radiant heating which eliminates the cost of the basement. However, if the basement was desired it could be included and would add additional space for a recreation room and laundry in this area. The stairs could descend where the furnace and hot water heater is shown in the utility room, and the utility room could be made into a cozy den. Cost of constructing the house, however, as the plans show, would be less than if a basement were included.



Complete building plans and specifications are available for only \$5.00 per set or 3 sets for \$10.00, and there is a portfolio of 60 Small Home Designs in this series which sells for only \$1.00, and also a beautiful full color book of Home Designs entitled "Prize Winning Homes" which sells for \$3.50 per copy. The building plans or the Portfolio or Prize Winning Homes book may be obtained by sending check or money order to the Scale Model Home Planning Co., 423 Lafayette Building, Detroit 26, Michigan.

There are 1204 square feet or 9632 cubic feet in this home.

### Sweeping Lines, 3 Bedrooms



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### Avoid Heavy Feeding of Lawns In Spring, Fertilize in Summer

By JOHN H. HANLEY, Ph.D.

A few wild rumors . . . (if there is anything to them) may mean the release of the man of the house from one of what we like to pretend is the most onerous of all household duties . . . mowing the grass! The rumor has it that some fellow up in the state of Washington has discovered a way to keep his grass thick and green while, at the same time, reducing the rate at which it grows upward . . . hence reducing the number of times he has to rattle the mower. Let us all hope that man pursues his work further, perfects it, and lets us all in the business. In the meantime, you and I will just have to continue relying on two chief activities to assist us, namely, (1) to use the lower-statured grasses like the bents and fescues and (2) Avoid heavy feeding of the grass in early spring, concentrating on the June or July period for the application of the heaviest amounts of fertilizers. See what we are getting at? Why put all that fertilizer on in March or April, when the lawn needs it far less than it does as the dry season approaches? The fact remains . . .

### Good Ventilation Aid to Comfort In Summertime

Here are a few simple ways to reduce the sweltering summer heat and humidity in your home, suggested by the Construction Research Bureau, national clearing house for building information:

Close windows and doors in early morning to keep in cooler night air.

As sun mounts, drop awnings, close shutters, where rays strike house.

Pull down window shades or Venetian blinds to bottom of window if you have no shutters. Open windows one inch at top to let heat on shades escape.

At nightfall, open all doors. Open windows from both top and bottom. Open door to basement, and outside cellar door, so cooler night air can be circulated throughout the living quarters.

Operate large propeller-type electric fan in attic, placed near attic window or other outside opening. Fan will force warm air outside, allowing cooler air to flow up through house from basement. An opening must be provided in second-floor ceiling so air can get through, if attic stairway does not already provide one.

Every new or old home should have adequate, built-in ventilation, such as attic windows or louvers, ventilation holes in outside cornice, or ridge ventilators. Basement air circulation should be provided by windows, vents, grilles or air ducts.

Home-purchase loans to date in 1950 are 41% ahead of first 4 months in 1949.

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### "Oregon Soils Need Great Lime Amounts" Says Soil Conservation Expert!

Following is copy of news item in the OREGON STATESMAN July 6, 1950

Nearly a million acres of western Oregon crop and pasture lands needs lime and lots of it.

That statement is from the Oregon State college extension soil conservation specialist, who adds the annual loss of lime throughout the area in question, 940,000 acres, exceeds 180,000 tons. Loss accumulates from leaching by heavy rains and that used by growing crops.

On the other hand, the tonnage of agricultural lime applied as a fertilized material has approached 80,000 tons annually the past two or three years—far short of the drain.

Lime Loss Large

To build up a desirable lime content in western Oregon soils immediately would require the use of 1,500,000 tons. Then, with annual applications totaling current losses — 180,000 tons, and twice what is being applied now—the need for this important plant food element would be realized, it was stated.

Lime is an essential plant food material on many western Oregon soils because it corrects soil acidity, making it possible to grow legumes and other soil building crops. Use of lime also makes it possible to obtain better results from the use of other fertilizers, particularly phosphorus carriers.

Big Crops Take Lime

Increasingly heavy use of nitrogen fertilizers, the specialist points out, also increases the need for lime. Greater yields remove more lime from the soil, and the most popular nitrogen carriers aggravate soil acidity.

For example: one ton of agricultural lime is required to neutralize the acid effect from the use of one ton of ammonium sulphate.

Results from use of lime are more permanent than from the use of most soil materials. Application of one and one-half tons of lime per acre, for instance, should continue to give results for a period of six or seven years.

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