

Profit, \$50—But Houses Are Built

Hammer's Cheerful Song Assures Homes for Vets

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(This is the third of a series describing how American ingenuity is helping to solve one of America's biggest problems—the G.I.'s No. 1 headache—the housing shortage.)

WASHINGTON.—Have you been in York, Pa., lately? It's a big little town of 50,000 population in southern Pennsylvania with a hinterland of rich farm country, of the famous Pennsylvania Dutch, where tables groan with seven-sweet-and-seven-sour dishes, as good victuals as you'll find though you wander the world between hors d'oeuvres and baked alaskas from pole to pole and back again.

York is a busy place, a place of bustling industries whose products are known from coast to coast. It is also a town which can lift its eyes from the plowshare and the forge to think, simply and soundly, about caring for its own. It's a town of ingenuity.

Walk out to the Midland avenue section with me. You come upon a batch of clapboard houses—



Baukhage

they line both sides of the street for a whole block—in various stages of completion. One group of workmen is finishing the grading on lots; another hauls plaster into a house; still others unload door frames across the street, and put the finishing touches to the roof of a house being built for a veteran.

Go a little farther downtown and you come to the Elm street houses—neat, obviously new, two-bedroom bungalows which have just been sold to veterans for \$5,250 each.

On the other side of town, in Park Village, you can drive for blocks through winding streets flanked by new houses, partly completed houses, excavations for houses, and everywhere the cheerful song of the hammer and the saw, the lap of pouring concrete, the thud of the pick in the deep soil.

When the lights go on at night, you will notice that a great many of the old-fashioned, three-story row houses in downtown York are lighted from top to bottom. You'd guess that a lot of people were living in those houses. You'd be right. The buildings have been converted into small apartments.

It looks as though York is getting itself pretty well housed. A glance at the figures confirms just how well the town is doing. In 1946 York

built 613 new houses—100 per cent more houses than were ever built in any previous year of the city's history. In addition, Yorkites added 481 new dwelling units by converting old houses into apartments.

Of course, this didn't just happen. It was made to happen by a great many local people determined that York's veterans would have a place to live.

The big drive got under way last year when a survey showed that one out of every three York veterans was living doubled up with friends or relatives in dilapidated old buildings in need of major repairs, or in trailers without standard plumbing facilities. That's the way it was in York a year ago when Mayor John L. Snyder appointed an 18-member emergency housing committee.

The committee's decision was that York should be able to provide 1,200 new units in 1946; another 1,800 this year. They called a meeting of every one concerned with housing; asked each builder to stand up and tell the group how many of the needed houses he would build in 1946—until the pledges met the quota.

Shortages of materials were a serious threat to this undertaking, but York builders had accepted their quotas and were determined to build houses. When they couldn't find the scarce materials near home, they went to Buffalo, to Ohio, to Hagerstown, Md.

Members of the housing committee pitched in with enthusiasm. One of them came back from a Sunday drive with two kegs of nails in his car—bought on the spot when he discovered a little country hardware store that had some. Someone else found a millwork concern in a nearby town which had some door frames for sale.

To keep prices down, local builders voluntarily cut profits. One went so far as to take a profit of only \$50 per house on a large group of veterans' houses.

Because converting to apartments is quicker and takes less materials, York also undertook a campaign in this direction, aided by the Chamber of Commerce, the local housing expediter, banks, press and radio.

In 1946—a year when shortages brought building programs in many communities to a dead stop—York built twice as many houses as had been produced there in any previous year. York's goal for 1947 is 1,800 new living units. The folk in York aren't promising anything—they aren't talking about what they're going to do. But in the first four months of the year—with the building season just getting under way—they've filed over 1,100 applications to build houses.



SCHOOL AT NORTHERNMOST OUTPOST . . . There seems to be no evading the traditional "three R's." These little Eskimo residents of Point Barrow, northernmost outpost of the United States, are learning them at the Point Barrow school (background) from American teachers. Point Barrow, a little village covered by snow the year around, is the center of extensive oil explorations started by the navy in 1944.

NEWS REVIEW

Big 4 Parley Is Failure; Wheat Pact Is Delayed

MOSCOW MEETING: Little Accomplished

After seven weeks of wrangling, the foreign ministers' conference at Moscow ended in a state banquet.

Results of the parley were extremely disappointing, even to those whose expectations had been small. It had been hoped that a treaty for Austria would be worked out, but even preliminary agreements could not be reached. The more important matter of the German treaty suffered the same fate, as expected.

Secretary of State Marshall bluntly blamed the Russians for obstructing the negotiations. He charged that the Soviet delegation had "widened rather than narrowed our differences."

Principal points of controversy were the definition of German and Austrian assets which the Russians want as reparations and the disarmament and demilitarization plan, known as the "four nation treaty."

Almost the only proposition accepted was one, introduced by Russian Foreign Minister Molotov, that all German prisoners of war in Allied hands be returned to Germany by December 31, 1948.

Failure to complete the Austrian treaty means that occupation troops of the four powers will remain in Austria for several more months.

WAR CRAFT:

Garsson Case Again

A new move in the drawn-out war contracts graft case of Representative May and the Garsson brothers will be May's testimony in his own defense. His lawyer, Sawyer Smith, told the court that it is untrue that the 71-year-old Kentucky politician profited from deals between the Garsson munitions plants and Cumberland Lumber company. "Andrew J. May will take the stand and explain to you how every dollar of that money was spent, and how not one cent went to Andrew J. May," the lawyer asserted.

On trial with May are Henry and Murray Garsson, head of the war materials syndicate, and Joseph Freeman, the Garsson agent in Washington. The government prosecutor contends that May received \$5,000 outright from the Garssons and two checks for \$1,000 each for "intervening with war department officials" in behalf of the companies.



H. Garsson



M. Garsson

WARNS OF SURPLUSES

Strong Farm Program Urged

WASHINGTON.—Expanded consumption and adjusted production are the major points of a strong farm program recommended by Edward A. O'Neal, president of American Farm Bureau federation, in testifying before the house agriculture committee.

"It would be folly to assume that we will not have burdensome surpluses of farm produce again that may wreck farm prices," O'Neal warned.

In endorsing reciprocal trade principles, the farm leader declared that "agriculture more than ever needs an expanded volume of foreign trade to absorb its output."

Although describing the farm legislation since the early '30s as "the

greatest cooperative endeavor between farmers and the government," O'Neal criticized "a tendency to develop centralized control of these programs from Washington." Instead, he urged transfer of larger authority to state extension services as a means of effecting savings in costs and providing greater service to the masses of farmers.

O'Neal informed the house committee, which is considering a long-range farm policy, that his organization has not come to final conclusions on the subject, but he read this statement:

"We recognize the desirability of full agricultural production, but agriculture cannot maintain full production if industry is going to

maintain rigidly high prices by cutting down production and applying monopolistic controls, or if labor is going to insist upon maintaining rigidly high wage rates and to continue such increases in wages without regard to productivity, and to enforce such rates with scarcity policies which discourage consumption and throw people out of work and onto relief rolls.

"It is this approach which leads to economic chaos.

"Farmers believe in an economy of abundance and stand ready to join with industry and labor to achieve maximum production and maximum employment through price policies and wage policies which are geared to a maximum level of consumption."



AS THE lid of a new baseball season is pried off, it seems to be about time that Ford Frick, president of the National league, and Will Harridge, president of the American league, did something about the umpire situation.

We are referring to the matter of umpire baiting—including profanity, invective and shouted insults from too many managers, and too many players, who use umpires as alibis for their own mistakes or dumbness. We agree 100 per cent with Wilbur Wood, sportswriter, that such actions in the future should be suppressed under drastic penalties.

It has been said that umpire baiting has a big crowd appeal and that it is now an accepted addition to the national game. We don't believe this is true. It may have its appeal to a few, inclined to the mucker side, but not to the mass of spectators, who go out to get their thrills from a hard fought battle on the field, not to hear a salvo of billingsgate directed at some man in blue. If this has become a tradition, then it is a tradition that should be ended.

Fight and aggressiveness are a big part of the game, but they should be directed against the opposing team, not against an able arbiter, whose average of ability is too often well above the average of the ball player's skill.

Umpires today are carefully selected and well trained. Their record for honesty in the last 40 years surpasses any other record in sport.

Proud of Profession

They have an amazing pride in their work, in calling each play as they see it. Pride in their profession is something that not all managers and ball players have. Many have—but too many do not. Otherwise, many more ball players would be in far better physical shape both before and during the baseball season.

The managerial or player squawk is usually an alibi, either for lack of physical skill or a cover-up for missing brain cylinders. No smart fan ever falls for this corny hokum, this attempt to shift the blame.

The umpire's decision is final. A dozen profane Babels can't change it. Right or wrong, it is the way he saw it. And the umpire is in the spot to see it better than anyone else. He is certainly in a far better spot than howling fans, 150 to 200 feet from the play, looking on at deceptive angles.

A short while back, we asked several National league umpires what managers and what teams gave them the least amount of trouble.

The vote came for Billy Southworth, formerly of the Cardinals now directing the Braves, and Eddie Dyer of the Cardinals.

Cardinals Don't Argue

Neither Southworth nor Dyer will stand for any such rowdy tactics. And what team has been the most aggressive outfit in baseball for the last 10 years? You know the answer. The Cardinals. But they take out their aggressiveness in hustle and scrappiness on the field. Their opponents are the other teams—not the umpires.

No umpire ever heard Walter Johnson make any sort of kick.

"In a sudden lapse, I called a pitch that almost split the plate a ball against Walter Johnson," Billy Evans told me. "Johnson never even frowned. I apologized later for my mistake. 'Yes, I knew it was a strike,' Johnson said, 'but we all make mistakes.'"

I was sitting on the bench with Ted Williams. He went to bat with two on and took a third strike. No squawk.

"Was that a good one?" I asked him.

"Yes," Ted said. "It cut the outside corner by an inch. It fooled me. It was a swell pitch."

That's the way baseball should be. The great majority of the big names in the game are that way. They don't have to throw their alibis at the umpire. Cy Young, Mathewson, Alexander, Johnson—four of the greatest of all pitchers, never had any umpire trouble.

If ball players want to show their aggressiveness, why not score from first on a single to center to win a world series, as Country Slaughter did? Or run bases as the Cardinals did?

Rare in Other Games

What fun can a crowd get from seeing a swarm of players surround some umpire, holding up the game, howling about a decision that won't and can't be changed? They don't see anything like this happen in football, an even more rugged competitive sport. They rarely see it in any other game.

Umpire baiting isn't aggressive. Too often it is cowardice, and this also goes for the stands, where the odds are only 30,000 to 1.

The umpire can take care of himself. Being human, he will make his share of mistakes on split-second or split-inch decisions.

Grape and Leaf Doily to Crochet



5384

HERE'S a crocheted doily to treasure—cleverly designed around a center arbor hung with five-inch bunches of round grapes and big three-inch crocheted leaves. Completed it is 20 inches and is wonderfully easy to do. Nice as a dining table centerpiece in ecru or white.

To obtain complete crocheting instructions for the Grape and Leaf Doily (Pattern No. 5384) large detail of leaves and grapes, send 20 cents in coin, your name, address and pattern number.

Due to an unusually large demand and current conditions, slightly more time is required in filling order for a few of the most popular patterns.

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Enclose 20 cents for pattern.
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Traveled Around World On High-Wheeled Bicycle

In April, 1884, Thomas Stevens left San Francisco to ride around the world on a high-wheeled bicycle, a feat considered impossible at the time as few persons had yet learned to handle this tricky contrivance, even on a paved street, says Collier's.

While Stevens traveled by boat across the Atlantic, Pacific, etc., he pedaled his way over 13,500 land miles, through the United States and 11 other countries from England to Japan, and arrived back in San Francisco in December, 1886.

Dogs I've Known...

by Jimmy Barlow



Frolicky Fritz Eats well, acts well, is well—on a basic diet of Gro-Pup Ribbon. These crisp, toasted ribbons give him every vitamin and mineral dogs are known to need. Economical, too. One box supplies as much food by dry weight as five 1-lb. cans of dog food! Gro-Pup also comes in Meal and in Pel-Efts. For variety, feed all three!



WNU-13 19-47

Watch Your Kidneys!

Help Them Cleanse the Blood of Harmful Body Waste

Your kidneys are constantly filtering waste matter from the blood stream. But kidneys sometimes lag in their work—do not act as Nature intended—fail to remove impurities that, if retained, may poison the system and upset the whole body machinery.

Symptoms may be nagging backache, persistent headache, attacks of dizziness, getting up at night, swelling, puffiness under the eyes—a feeling of nervous anxiety and loss of pep and strength. Other signs of kidney or bladder disorder are sometimes burning, scanty or too frequent urination.

There should be no doubt that prompt treatment is wiser than neglect. Use Doan's Pills. Doan's have been winning new friends for more than forty years. They have a nation-wide reputation. Are recommended by grateful people the country over. Ask your neighbor!

