

Community Building

Haphazard Growth of Cities Being Checked

It was only a decade or two ago that haphazard growth was a chief characteristic of the typical American city. Today the order has become, to a large extent, carefully regulated development. When city planning first was talked about in this country it was regarded by the general public and by perhaps most city officials as ideal and impracticable. By many it was connected with the "city beautiful" idea and was not taken seriously by matter-of-fact business men who believed that the expansion of a city was something that would have to be left to take care of itself.

How that condition has been changed is indicated in an annual survey published by the City Planning Quarterly, official organ of the American City Planning Institute and the National Conference on City Planning. In this it is shown that both city planning and zoning have made remarkable progress in the last decade. "At last," it is said at the outset of this survey, "there is no state nor any one of the 60 largest cities in the country to be reported entirely lacking in some form of city planning or zoning work." Reports of activities were received from nearly 500 cities and towns, 140 of which contained populations of less than 5,000. It is not simply the big city, but the smaller center as well, that has become interested in regulated growth in the interest of the comfort, convenience and general welfare of inhabitants.

Good Taste in Design Point of Importance

The bungalow has come in for a great deal of discussion of late years, being assailed by many authoritative sources, and defended by others. The principal influence clearly defined in the bungalow is oriental, being traced in the United States to California, and thence to China, Japan and India. The oriental *pavilion* is the father of the bungalow. It permits a great freedom of action, and the confining of the operations of the household to one floor or to one floor and only a few rooms above. Because of its foundation size, the one-floor bungalow is more costly than the semi-bungalow which has two stories.

With the possibility of following practically any type of architecture in home building, there is no reason for ugly architectural design, and it should be borne in mind that even the most modest and economical dwelling can be correct in line and color and that no matter how limited the purse good taste can be developed and entered into the humblest of homes.

As Ruskin says: "We require from buildings, as from men, two kinds of goodness: first, the doing their practical duty well; then that they be graceful and pleasing in doing it; which last is itself another form of duty."

Spare the Tree

Destroying trees that ornament the roadside, even when they are removed in order to widen the thoroughfare never fails to bring a pang to those with a love for the beautiful in nature. When the trees have been planted by individuals and have attained their normal growth the blow has additional force and clashes between property holders and county officials are of frequent occurrence, especially when the latter go about their work with an execrable ruthlessness. Sometimes it is a community that is affected and concerted action either modifies the destruction or averts them entirely.—New York Herald-Tribune.

Be Sure Plans Are Right

In the building of your house, first be sure you are right and then go ahead." Know as much as you possibly can before you design your house or buy your materials or start in to build! Then you will be sure your floor plan is what you want, your materials the sort you desire and can afford to pay for. In every way all this will increase your joy in your home.

Good Materials Pay

It pays in the long run to buy the best materials. Your home is too important an investment to endanger its future value and incur risk of expensive repairs by stinting on materials. Considering the chances you take, the difference in cost between good materials and cheap ones isn't worth considering. Better to postpone building the garage or sun porch, or some other part that can be added later.

Use Restraint in Planting

With the exception of the shrub border, which may be used along the street and the property lines, the planting of the public portion of the property should be very restrained.

Small Town's Opportunity

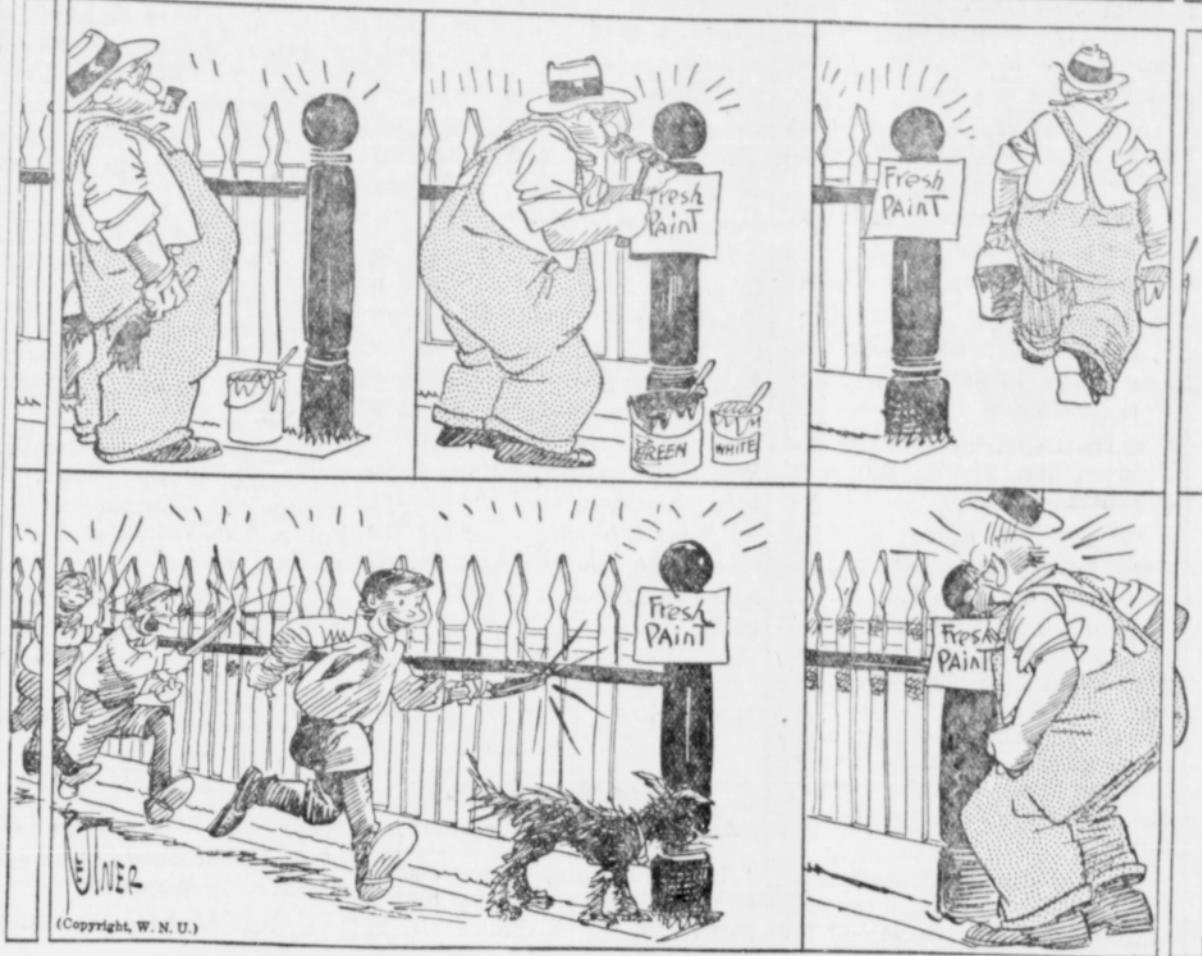
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Small Town's Advantage

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OUR COMIC SECTION

Our Pet Peeve



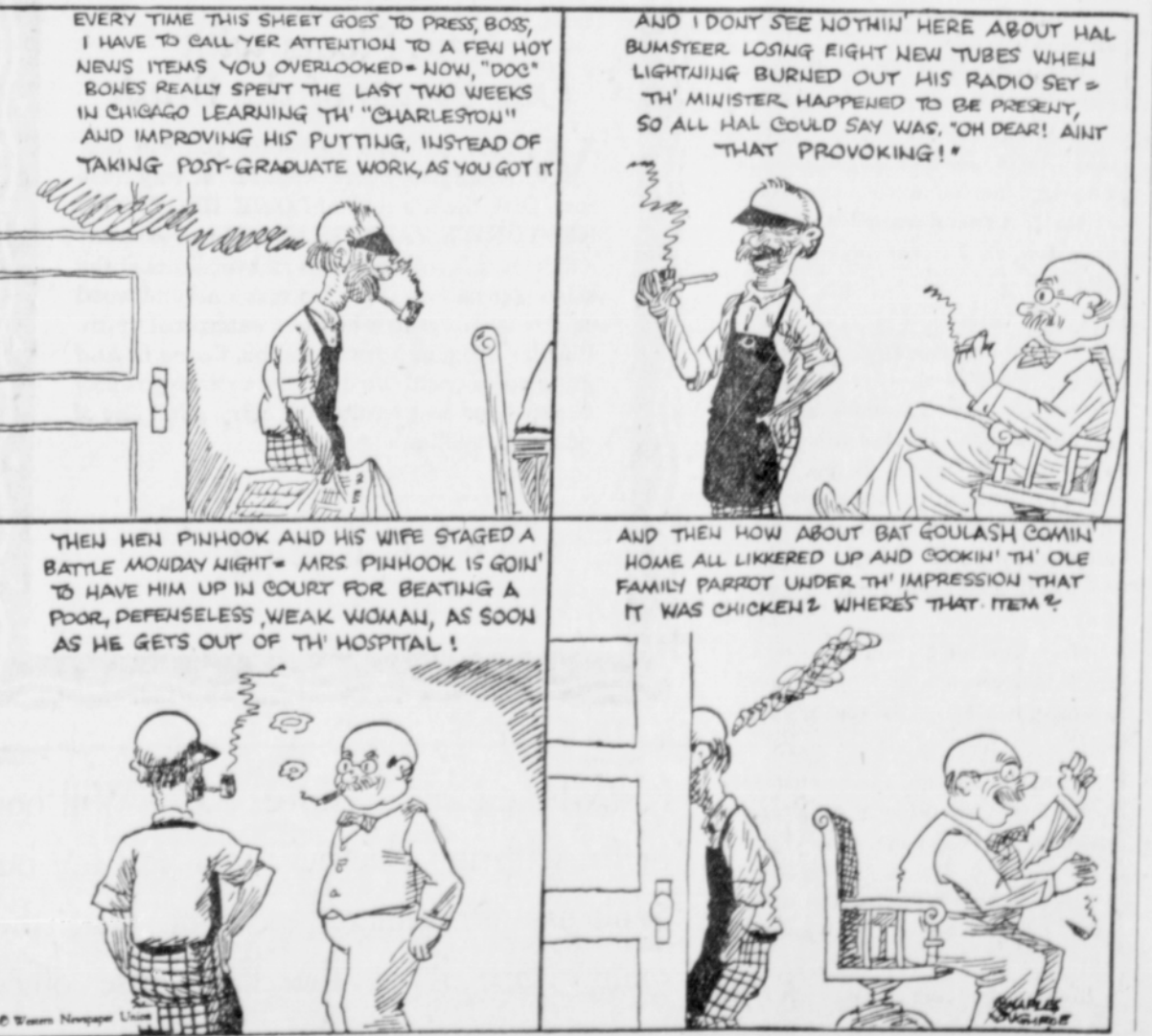
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