

Help For the Man Who Wants to Build

Earth Modeling For Good Garden And Home Grounds

By The Architects' Small House Service Bureau of the United States, Inc.

Soil is the foundation of your garden. Before you plant a blade of grass, before you have finished your grading, cast your vision over the soil that is going to surround your home and make the foundation on which the garden will be built. Are you going to have it slope evenly one way? Can you mold it so it will give you two levels on your small home grounds, and thus produce an effect which will tend to make the grounds appear more spacious? Earth modeling can go a long way toward giving a garden the grounds charm of another way. It is the medium in which the plant materials grow. We think of this function of garden earth more often than we think of soil as part of garden design. But this phase of soil as a growing medium must not be overlooked.

We think of fertility as a matter of chemical content primarily. But of equal importance is the mechanical condition of the soil. The availability of the chemical plant food in a soil is often directly dependent on its mechanical qualities.

Open sandy loam is probably the best all-around growing medium. The soil bacteria so important in certain chemical actions required by the feeder roots are taken care of in this open, sandy loam.

Chemical constituents can be added easily to garden and lawn. Over night the nitrogen, phosphorus content of a soil may be brought up to the required amount. But the mechanical condition is often neglected altogether. Quite often soils will be found to be good in mechanical conditions right from the start. But very often, too, the earth of the basement will be dumped on top and then there is a question of adding something to the friable, open, earthy ground necessary for perennials and shrubs.

Important Chemicals

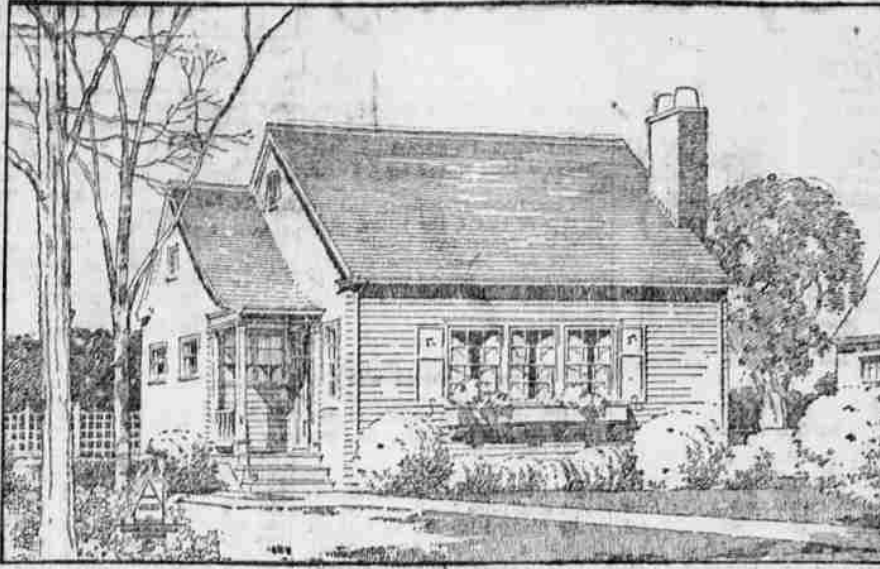
There are 15 chemicals necessary for plant growth. Of these nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium are the three most important. Normally these chemicals are present in the soil. But these three are generally used up in greater quantities.

The nitrogen can be added through barnyard fertilizer, ammonium sulfate or ammonium nitrate. Phosphorus is a large part of bone meal. Potassium is found in wood ashes. Nitrogen causes leaf and stem growth while the other two tend to stimulate flower and fruit growth. With good mechanical condition in your garden soil you can probably add these in small quantities several times a season and get almost an ideal mechanical and chemical growing medium for your plants.

Garden soil is a lowly thing. There is nothing spectacular about it. Most of us take it as a matter of course. But it is the foundation of a good garden and home grounds.

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The Modern Smallest House



These Three Rooms Planned For the Maximum Efficiency

MOST of the small houses of three rooms that one sees are not very well planned. The builder of this type of house has had to get along with arrangements that were not satisfactory, particularly because they do not give him enough living space.

The man that builds a three-room house wants nearly as large a living room as is typical of a five or six-room house. Here is a plan that recognizes that fact. It is a charming little house, one that will look well in any modest neighborhood, is inexpensive to build and yet has an arrangement of space that will reduce the burden of housekeeping to a minimum. Additional rooms may be gained in the attic by building a stairway over the stair to the basement.

The plan separates the living room from bedroom, bath and kitchen by a hallway, a sign of good planning.

If the living room is faced to the west or south, it will receive a flood of light. The triple window across the front insures this, also giving the room an unusually distinguished quality, which is added to by the beautiful fireplace and bookcase.

The kitchen has a very pleasant glimpse through wide casement windows. There is space here for four or five people. A larger table can be set in the living room.

There is a bedroom of good size, with broad windows for cross ventilation and a good closet. Additional sleeping accommodation may be arranged by providing a couch bed in the living room or through simple rearrangement of the plan by incorporating a closet bed.

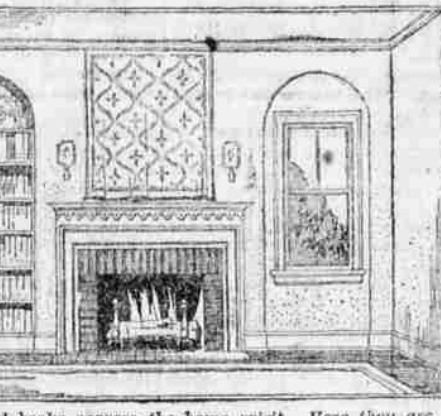
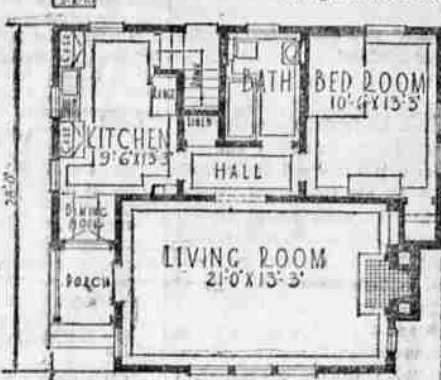
Construction: Wood frame, exterior finish narrow siding, roof of shingles.

Finishing: Should be faced to take advantage of light and wind.

Lot size: Approximately 40 feet.

Complete working plans may be obtained for this and other designs shown in this series. For further information see editor's note.

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Fireplace and books express the home spirit. Here they are in pleasant combination. The arch of the bookcase is recalled from the windows.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Working drawings and specifications for the house shown above may be secured at moderate cost through the Home Building Editor of this paper. The service is rendered to our readers through co-operation with the Architects' Small House Service Bureau. The Bureau is controlled by the owners and has the interest of the United States Department of Commerce. Questions from our readers regarding home building will be answered at no charge by the technical department of the Architects' Small House Service Bureau. Address the Home Building Editor, enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

What You May Want to Know About Building

Questions addressed to this paper will be answered by the Architects' Small House Service Bureau of the United States, Inc. Enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

Q—We are remodeling our home. The place was on wood lath and is coming off and we wish to replace it with shingles or siding. If we use shingles, should they be wood, asphalt or asbestos? If we use siding, should it be wide or narrow?

A—A choice between shingles or siding must be left to you. This is purely a matter of taste. Both have fine appearances, especially when high grade materials are used and they are well stained or painted. If you use shingles, we recommend wood shingles, edge grain, cross-cut from end to end and well secured with copper or zinc coated nails. If you decide on siding, use redwood, cypress or cedar. Wide siding would probably look better. If you use 1 1/2 inch material, or wider, be sure that it is at least three-quarters of an inch thick at the butt.

Q—If a house is built without a basement but with concrete foundation walls, how deep is it necessary to lay them? Is it necessary to lay tile under the wall for drainage? Would the floor beams decay quicker in this house than in one with a full basement?

A—Foundations must run down below frost level. Otherwise they will heave and throw the building out of alignment, crack plaster and so on, walls may be cracked. Footing must be at the side of the footings—not below them—should be used if the soil is damp. The floor beams will not rot if the top soil is removed and 30 inches clear space is allowed between soil and the under side of the joists, and openings are left in the foundation wall for ventilation. It will be necessary to thoroughly insulate on or between the joists to keep your floors warm. Insulate the rest of the house as well, save fuel and be more comfortable.

Q—Is it the nature of stucco to continue to crack? Our house, finished at the end of fall, is developing many cracks. What is the cause? Any suggestions for repairs will be appreciated.

A—The cause is, no doubt, faulty construction. This may be in the wall lath or the foundations, improperly applied metal lath, or the use of other kind of lath, stucco put on in coats that were too thin or too rich in cement, or not properly cured while setting. Only an inspection will bring out the facts. We advise you to have a competent stucco man look over the walls, tell what is to be done.

Q—What is the best time of year to buy a lot to be used for a reduced price? How will I know that the title is clear? Have I a right to have the deed examined without having made full payment?

A—Ordinarily the best time to buy a lot is at a period in the year when people are not in the market for them. Winter is a good time. Before buying a lot have the title inspected by a competent attorney. He will inspect the abstract of title and all the recorded transactions in which the lot is involved, and render an opinion on which you can act. Do not be misled to contract to purchase unless a clear title can be shown.

WILLIAMS CREEK CELEBRATION IS ENJOYED BY ALL

WILLIAMS CREEK, Ore., July 6. (Special)—The community picnic and celebration of the Fourth at Williams proved a very enjoyable occasion. A parade was formed near the Methodist church, headed by Bill Johnson as Uncle Sam and master of ceremonies of the day on horseback, and Victor Sparlin as an Indian brave with quiver and arrows, also on horseback; then came the Liberty Bell float with large bell and two colonial gentlemen in knee-breeches, long-tailed coats and cocked hats. Then little Jerry Sparlin as Uncle Sam and little Hazel Larimore as Liberty. The Sunday school float covered with roses and filled with Sunday school scholars, and last but by no means least a bride and groom of the nineteenth century, Clem Hodget, groom, and Alfred Larimore, bride, and the flapper of the twentieth century, Tom Walker, and a clown, of course, for the kiddies. Mr. Vahrenwald, besides several cars decorated with flags and lanterns, a beautiful dinner was served at noon and in the afternoon races of all kinds, a mail-driving contest for ladies, cracker eating contest by four boys with their hands tied behind their backs, and a baby show, all babies between the ages of 15 and 60 years.

All present pronounced it a very enjoyable day. Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Hurrell, family of Coquille came over Wednesday to visit Mrs. Hurrell's mother, Mrs. Addie Pierce, and brothers Archie and Harold Pierce.

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HORSES BEAT CAR TO TOP OF TABLE ROCK YEARS AGO

TABLE ROCK, Ore., July 6. (Special)—An automobile was driven to the top of Table Rock Tuesday, June 25, without mishap, but the return trip was very difficult and dangerous. This reminds old-timers here that many years ago parties living here put into crops a portion of the open land on the summit of the lower Table Rock and the farm horses hitched to the wagon made daily trips up and down the steep sides of the mountain. So at least in this accomplishment the car has nothing on the patient horse.

Several from here attended the Grange meeting at Rogue River Monday night.

Apple and pear thinning will be finished here about the middle of the month.

The Wilson-Neaton hay hauling crew will begin work Friday at the Davis ranch in the Agate district.

Miss Jessie Southrook was one of the parties in an automobile collision on Bear creek bridge near Central Point Sunday afternoon.

The Fourth of July was ushered in here a little previous by the small boys with firecrackers, which was celebrated as long as the fireworks held out.

Crews at the Moore orchard laid off from work Wednesday and Thursday to fittingly observe Independence day.

The population of the community was pretty well depleted Thursday, people going in almost every direction to celebrate or attend some family function or seek out some cool and shady spot to spend the day.

Glen and Claude Wilson write to home folks that they are getting along fine working in the harvest fields back in Kansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hurrell of Portland arrived Thursday afternoon and will spend a two weeks' vacation in the Rogue River valley with relatives and friends.

WILLOW SPRINGS HOME ENTERTAINS ON FOURTH

WILLOW SPRINGS, Ore., July 6. (Special)—Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Burkholz entertained with a porch supper on the evening of the Fourth. After the feast the guests enjoyed the fireworks on the lawn. These present were the Dalburns, Packer and Elden families.

Frances Parker, who is staying with her grandmother, Mrs. H. B. Atkinson in Grants Pass, spent the Fourth at the home of her parents here.

Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Stone, formerly of this district but now living at Bend are in town guests at the Clyde Robinson home. The Robinsons and their guests spent the Fourth at Trout Creek.

Ernest Harris has been visiting for a few days with his mother, Mrs. W. H. Harris. Ernest is now working in Seattle and will finish his college course at the U. of W. this coming year.

ALLEN REAPPOINTED HORTICULTURE BOARD

SALEM, Ore., July 6.—The state board of control has appointed Howard Merritt of Eugene as a member of the state board of horticulture to succeed C. A. Clark of Salem, who has resigned. A. Allen of Medford and H. H. Westphalen of Elsie were reappointed.

McMinnville—School district No. 40 to erect one-story school building.

WILLIAMS GRANGE HOST TO POMONA FOR BIG MEETING

WILLIAMS CREEK, Ore., July 6. (Special)—Josephine county Pomona Grange met with the Williams Grange No. 899, Saturday evening, June 29th. Two long tables were under the trees. Active supper Grange was called to order by Mr. Holbrook, worthy master of the Pomona, and 19 were installed.

Rogue River Grange was represented by Worthy Master W. A. Johnson and a large number of members, and Prudale by M. Hughes, worthy master and a large delegation.

After the business session the evening was turned over to the lecturer and a delightful evening followed.

The program included: Piano solo; address, "The Grange, Its Importance and Its Growth," by Mr. Rose; "Cooperation," by J. E. Smith from the Grants Pass chamber of commerce; reading, "A Game of Checkers," by Mrs. Rose; talk by Mr. Howell, county agent, "Obnoxious Weeds," their destruction," read by Mrs. Hughes and Mrs. Hamilton.

The next Pomona will meet the 10th Saturday in August with the Deer Creek Grange.

Mrs. George Fields went to Grants Pass Sunday morning to meet her niece, Mrs. Bonah Breeds of Oakland, Cal., who is here to spend the summer with her aunt.

Mrs. Ted Edinger and little son Ted, Mrs. Reed and little daughter Elmerita, Mrs. E. Olson of Grants Pass and Miss Ruth Brodson of Milton, Ore., visited with Mrs. Roberts Friday and Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Holzhauer and children drove over to Dorris, Cal., Saturday evening to be present at the school reunion anniversary of Mr. Holzhauer's parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Newman drove to Portland Saturday, returning Tuesday. Their daughter, Mrs. Lewis and little daughter returned with them for a visit.

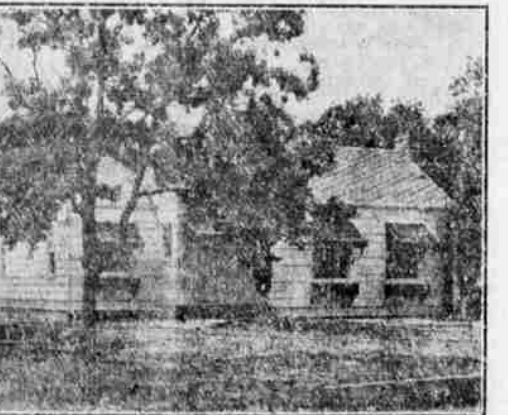
Mr. and Mrs. Sam Lettchen and little daughter Venus and N. E. Froyd spent Tuesday evening in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Lettchen.

Mr. and Mrs. John Pence and

children and Earl Coughle came over from Klamath Falls Wednesday evening to visit their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Coughle, and to spend the Fourth. They returned to Klamath Friday.

Rev. Philip Heasley was able to be removed from the hospital one day this week, but is still very ill.

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