



Real Estate & Building



An electrically operated scraper for removing rust from steel, especially ships' plates, is an English invention.

Klamath Falls Gets Honorable Mention In National Building Report; Other Cities Decline

Although some of the Pacific Coast cities report marked increases in building activity during February, the majority of these cities and the Far West area, as a whole, show a reduction, according to the Pacific Coast Section of the National Monthly Building Survey of S. W. Straus & Co.

Among the California cities reporting notable February increases over the comparable figures of last year are Alameda, Bakersfield, Beverly Hills, Glendale, Palo Alto, Pomona, San Bernardino, San Leandro, San Mateo, Santa Monica and South Gate. Noteworthy increases were also made in Lewiston, Idaho; in Klamath Falls and La Grande, Oregon; Reno, Nevada; and in Hoquiam, Longview, Vancouver, Wenatchee and Yakima, Washington.

Official reports from 93 cities comprised in the Straus survey show

a total of 12,387 building permits issued during February involving aggregate construction costs of \$35,473,616. This figure is 13 per cent less than the total for February of last year and is 6 per cent less than the record for January of this year.

Los Angeles issued \$8,542,370 in building permits during February, a reduction of 21 per cent from the February record of 1925, but showing a 22 per cent increase over January's figure. In the Los Angeles metropolitan area, 16 municipalities report a total of \$12,023,984, which is 5 per cent more than for January, but 13 per cent less than for last February. Exclusive of Los Angeles city, this area shows a gain of 18 per cent over the record of February, 1925.

San Francisco issued \$4,711,886 in building permits during February, 8 per cent less than in January, but 21 per cent more than during February of last year. In the San Francisco Bay area, 13 municipalities report a February total of \$8,720,055, which is 12 per cent less than the January figure and 3 per cent below that of last February.

Oakland's February record of \$3,062,466 in building permits issued is 5 per cent more than that of January, but 13 per cent less than the February figure of last year.

Portland, with a February total of \$2,502,090 in building permits issued, shows a 24 per cent gain over the January record, but a reduction of 28 per cent from February of 1925.

Seattle reports \$2,346,300 in February building permits, a 53 per cent reduction from the January total, but showing a gain of 14 per cent over last year's February figure.

San Diego's February total of \$1,293,205 in building permits issued shows a 3 per cent gain over the January figure and a gain of 25

per cent over the total for last February.

The city of Vancouver, British Columbia, issuing \$792,485 in February building permits, reports a 19 per cent reduction from January's total, but an increase of 72 per

cent over the total for last February. The seven municipalities of the Vancouver metropolitan area report a February total of \$1,556,405, which is 3 per cent greater than the January figure and 25 per cent above that of last February.

A motor truck designed in Germany, street sweeper and fire engine combines the duties of a snow plow, street sweeper and fire engine of the pumping type.

Stucco Overcoat Cuts Upkeep Costs On Frame Residences

Spring is the usual season for repainting. But the need to re-paint the whole house every two or three years is a large item in the maintenance cost—and authorities agree that the average expenses of upkeep equal the total cost of the house in forty years.

So economy is one of the main motives in the practice of "ver-coating" an old frame house with stucco. If the structure is in good condition, this can be done inexpensively. All that is needed is to see that the siding is nailed down tight, then nail on a reinforcing fabric, and finally apply the three coats of stucco. The first two parts of the job can be done by the householder himself, reducing the labor-cost to one single item, the plasterer's bill.

Can the average home-owner afford this? Well, it costs two and a half times as much to overcoat a home as to re-paint it. But paint must be renewed every two or three years, while stucco lasts indefinitely. So stucco overcoating is economical. It saves its own cost by eliminating painting within eight years and then continues to save during the rest of the building's life.

Next to economy, the greatest advantage of overcoating is that it greatly enhances the value of the home by raising it from the class of an old frame house to that of a new stucco building. The stucco also reduces the fire-hazard, makes the home more weather-proof by sealing up all cracks, and affords a high degree of heat-insulation.

Nor does it require any sacrifice of beauty. There now are on the market several types of stucco into the finish-coats of which mineral colors are ground at the factory. This affords a range of color ample to meet anyone's taste. And the use of a prepared colored material eliminates the chances of impermanent and non-uniform coloring such as is likely to result from home-mixed materials.

Only one precaution need be observed, aside from the selection of the proper stucco, in overcoating an old frame house. That is, the right reinforcing must be chosen. Permanent satisfaction will be given by a strong steel fabric which is crimped so as to be self-furring. This eliminates the need of special lath or backing for the stucco.

Germ-Proofing The Woodwork

Much has been written about germs and their depredations on health. As every one knows, some germs are entirely harmless and for their predominance we have to be thankful. But the other kinds are floating around in sufficient quantities to be a menace to health and happiness. Everything possible should therefore be done to cripple their activities.

Unfinished woodwork is a natural breeding place for germs and vermin of all kinds, says Dr. C. D. Holley, Director of Research of the Acme White Lead and Color Works of Detroit, Mich. The pores of the wood and also the cracks in it absorb moisture and here, in the presence of certain organic matter, the germs propagate. Particularly is this true in dark corners, where neither sunlight nor air can carry on the work of purification.

A sure way of eliminating much of this danger is through the liberal use of paint and varnish. Both of these products seal up the pores and fibrous construction of the wood. They give a hard, smooth surface that is unabsorbent. Not only that, they give surfaces that are much easier to keep clean.

Nor are these the only advantages of paint and varnish. While germ-proofing the woodwork, they beautify it and add to its longevity. Wainscotings, mop board, quarter-rounds, doors, windows, particularly floors, and in fact all the woodwork in the interior of the house, will serve indefinitely if properly maintained.

And that means refinishing before an actual necessity.

Dull or dingy looking woodwork, woodwork whose former finish has begun to flake or check, is always an eyesore. It can be cleaned only with much hard work and even then its original beauty and lustre are far from being restored.

Many home owners figure that it costs them nothing to maintain their woodwork in this way. They figure that what they invest in the material and in the labor of their don't do the job themselves is more than offset by what they save in future repair costs.

LONE PINE

Clyde and William Banks were in Klamath Falls Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. August Andrew and family and Mrs. Galarneau and family attended church at Merrill Sunday morning.

R. F. Heasley called at the Fred McKendon ranch Saturday.

NEW YORK.—Because as Doris Stevens puts it, she is the first woman elected to political office who has not posed with a broom or a cookbook in her hand, the National Women's party has sent its congratulations to Mrs. Bertha K. Landes, mayor-elect of Seattle.

An Iowa man is the inventor of a cage to be hung from a window sill to permit a person to wash a window in safety.

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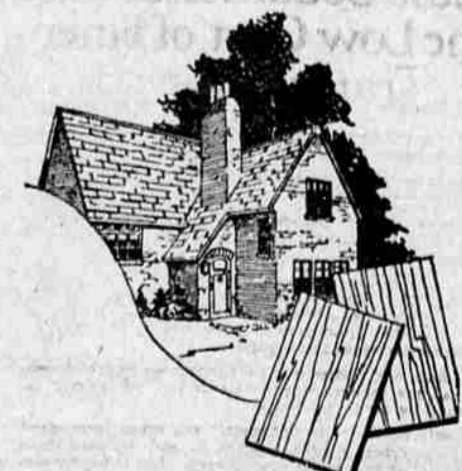
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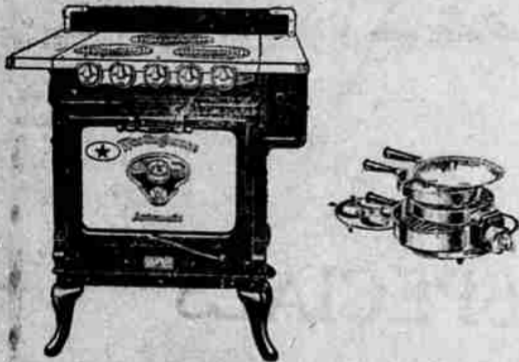
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