

**"MAKES BETTER RAILROADS."**

Western Writer Pays Tribute to Railroad Magnate as Builder-Up of the Country.

Mr. Edward H. Harriman is on a trip to Europe. Ordinarily there would be nothing added to this announcement beyond an exhortation to Emperor William to chain down his railroads and to other monarchs to put their crowns and other valuables in the safe at night. But Mr. Harriman is going off on a pleasure trip, and so many mean things have been said about him that it will not hurt any to change the tune a moment while he is out of the country and not able to take any advantage of the lapse from the cold attitude of severity that is usually used in mentioning the name of Harriman.

Of all the great railroad men developed in this generation, E. H. Harriman is easily the biggest and the best, says a writer in the Hutchinson (Kan.) Daily News. The head of a railroad company, under the rules of the game, must work for his stockholders, whether it is for the advantage of politicians, shippers or consumers. It is his job to do the best he can for the interests entrusted to his care. Harriman is not only a financier, but he is a builder and an operator. Lucky is the town, city or community that has a Harriman road. He insists on a good roadbed, level track, safe track and the convenience and comfort of the traveler and the shipper. The Harriman roads are noted as the best in the country. When Harriman gets hold of a one-horse or played-out track and right of way he proceeds to put it in first class condition. He does not raise the rates of fares, although he doubtless charges "a plenty," but he insists that enough of the funds go into real improvements to make a railroad. And that is where he stands ahead of a good many others and why Harrimanism is not such a bad thing as some people have been led to think. He makes better railroads, and there is more need for improvement that way than there is in some others which are being discussed. So far as we can see, he believes in giving every interest along his road a fair deal.

He is a public benefactor from that standpoint. He uses his power fairly. He is a great man, and as good or better than the ordinary citizen who looks upon him as the personification of the money power, seeking whom it is y devours. He is a strong man in the financial world, but that should not be against him, when the financial world is the object which most of us want to reach. He is a good American and he spends his money on American railroads, not on foreign titles, race horses, old editions or other bad habits. If he is not perfect—and we don't think he is—he is no exception to the rule and is worthy of the praise of his fellow citizens for the good he does and has done.

**Laughter a Series of Barks.**

Laughing is barking, say the scientists. The neck and head are thrown back while a series of short barks are emitted from the throat. However musical the barks may be, they are barks. The laugh begins with a sudden and violent contraction of the muscles of the chest and abdomen. But instead of opening to let the air pass out of the lungs, the vocal cords approach each other and hold it back. But they are not strong enough to exercise such opposition for more than an instant, and the air, which is under pressure, promptly escapes. As it does so it makes the vocal cords vibrate producing the bark. This obstruction and liberation of the air expelled from the lungs repeats itself again and again at intervals of a quarter of a second. There are thus in a hearty laugh four barks a second, and if continued, they go on at that rate as long as the air reserve in the lungs holds out. The empty lungs must then fill themselves, and this interval is marked by a quick gasp for breath, after which the barks are renewed. The barks occur in series with gasps for breath at intervals.

When laughter is violent, the entire body participates. The upper part of the trunk bends and straightens itself alternately or sways to right and left. The feet stamp on the floor, while the hands are pressed upon the loins to moderate the painful spasm.

**Interviewing the Professor.**

"So you don't think Mars would reply, even if we did send signals?" "I am almost convinced that there would be no response," answered Prof. Thinkum, adjusting his glasses. "Then you don't believe that Mars is inhabited?" "On the contrary, I think it extremely probable that life similar to our own exists on the sister planet." "But you don't give those people credit for intelligence equal to ours?" "Yes. I am inclined to credit them with even greater intelligence than we display. There are many indications that they have a civilization older than ours, in which case they should have too much sense to fool away their time on any such impractical proposition."

**The Way He Did It.**

Jenkins—Well, sir, I gave it to that man straight, I can tell you. He is twice as big as I am, too, but I told him exactly what I thought of his rascally conduct right to his face, and I called him all the names in the dictionary, and a lot of others as well. Studds—And didn't he try to hit you, Jenkins? Jenkins—No, sir, he didn't. And when he tried to answer back, I just hung up the telephone receiver and walked away.



**EASTERN LEGEND OF THE TEA**

First Brought Balm to Man in the Fifth Century, A. D., on Shores of China.

Tea, says an eastern legend, first brought balm to man long ago in the fifth century, A. D., when the son of a powerful Indian rajah first stepped from his boat on to the shores of China. The young man was possessed of a desire to live in religious solitude. His food was to be the nuts and roots and herbs of the forest; his drink, the cooling-running water of the streams.

Among his strict vows was one that he would never thereafter close his eyes. But so great was his exhaustion that he fell asleep in spite of himself when he reached the shade of the row of trees that bordered the coast. And great was his sorrow when he awoke. To punish himself for having broken the vow, he slashed off his eyelids with his knife, and cast them on to the ground. The next day he chanced to pass by the spot where he had succumbed to sleep. What was his surprise to see, in the spot where he had thrown his eyelids down, a strange bush growing. Radma tasted the leaves. He found them deliciously fragrant. Then, to his joy, he learned that by simply chewing these leaves he could readily keep awake, no matter how great his fatigue. And this quality of stimulation from sleepiness tea has always retained, the legend concludes.

**LABYRINTH PUZZLE.**



A boy started from New York to visit St. Petersburg (in upper left-hand corner), Paris (in upper right-hand corner), Peking (lower right-hand corner) and Egypt (lower left-hand corner). Can you follow his travels and find where he stopped? The black line indicates the road he followed.

**EVERY FLAG HAS ITS STORY.**

Others Talk, as Was Done by Signaling During the Civil War, by Making Motions.

Every flag that a country uses tells a little story of its own. Thus, Old Glory, with its 13 stripes, told of the nation's beginning; when Washington first unfurled it at Cambridge it had the English cross on its blue field, but later it was replaced by a cluster of stars, which keep a tally of the number of states of the union. Corps, division and brigade flags also tell a little story of their own. But the real talking flags are the signal flags.

Signal flags talk by motions. A key or code is constructed in accordance with which these motions are made and interpreted; it is like a long-distance deaf and dumb alphabet. The flags are given bright colors mainly that they may be distinguished against different backgrounds and can easily be distinguished by the person to whom they are addressed. For instance, a white flag, even though it had a red center, could not easily be seen against the sky as a background. In such a situation a black flag was necessary.

These talking flags of the signal corps were much used during the civil war, sometimes in reporting the movements of troops either of the north or of the south. They were, indeed, the invention, in 1854, of Surgeon Myer, who became first chief signal officer of the United States army.

**LITTLE ITEMS OF INTEREST.**

In a Canadian horse race recently third place was won by a jockey 103 years old. He has ridden in more than 6,000 races.

On the west coast of India are found oyster shells six inches in diameter and so transparent that they can be used as window-glass.

As shown by the camera, a flash of lightning is made up of innumerable small flashes, each one following the other by an almost imperceptible period of time.

When the body of a starving animal, including man, loses two-fifths of its substance, the inevitable result is death.

The flesh of the small shark, commonly known as dogfish, is said to be extremely palatable and more nutritious than beef.

In Tasmania no person under 13 years of age is allowed to smoke in a public place.

Camels can carry a load three times as heavy as can horses.

Lemon trees in Sicily bear as many as 20,000 lemons a year.

**MAY'S ROSE GARDEN.**



Dear little May in the garden stood And spoke to a rosebud near: "I think you just the loveliest thing. A perfectly sweet little dear."

"You're only a wee tiny bit of a bud. But you'll be a big rose some day. And I'll come to see you quite often then. Whenever I'm out to play."

"But no one shall pluck you from off the stem. You shall live your whole life, you see. To its very end and enjoy yourself. For this garden belongs to me."

And the rosebud smiled and nodded low, And said: "You're a rosebud, too. And I shall enjoy a long, long life. If it gives any pleasure to you."

**MOTHERS FOND OF OFFSPRING**

Every Animal Gives Proof of a Wonderful and Beautiful Love for Her Young.

We have all seen instances of the affection and care which most animals give to their helpless or nearly helpless offspring. The cat spends nearly all her day coiled up in some quiet, cozy corner with her family of kittens, and when she leaves them for a few minutes, to stretch her limbs and seek some refreshment for herself, the least squeak of one of her children will bring her back to its side.

The hen struts about the farmyard surrounded by her chicks, and at the least appearance of danger the brood runs for shelter under her wings.

When the lamb in the field strays from its mother's side she is soon alarmed, and shows her fear by her anxious bleating, which does not cease until the lamb returns to her. And thus it is with nearly every animal, tame or wild. Each gives proofs, if we could only see and understand them, of a wonderful and beautiful love for her young.

This motherly care is not quite like the ordinary friendship which one animal may have for another. A cat and a dog may be good friends all their lives. But, though the cat loves her kittens before all things while they are young and weak, later on, when they are sufficiently grown in size and strength to take good care of themselves, her affection gradually dies away, and she becomes indifferent to their wants. Sometimes she will even drive them away from her.

Another feature of this parental love is what might almost be called its unthinking strength. The mother animal feels her affections so strong that she cannot restrain them, and she often bestows them upon the strangest animals, along with her own young ones, or when she has been deprived of her own offspring.

A hen will hatch ducks' eggs, and take the same care of the ducklings which she would have taken of her own chickens. A story is related of a hen taking charge of three young ferrets for a fortnight. They were placed in her nest because their own mother had died, and she took to them at once and nestled down over them just as if they had been chickens. They were too helpless to follow her about, as chickens would have done, and she had to sit with them almost the whole time. She combed out their hair with her bill, just as she would have preened the feathers of chickens. The ferrets were fed by their owner, and they were taken away from the nest before they were old enough to do the hen any harm.

An even stranger instance of this misplaced affection on the part of a parent has been seen at a railway station recently, according to the newspapers.

A cat in the freight shed had three kittens, which she was bringing up in the usual way. Soon after the kittens were born some of the railwaymen found a young jackdaw and put it with them. The cat made no objection, but received the bird kindly, and gave just as much care to it as to the kittens.

The workmen fed the bird, while the cat took every other care of it, and even washed it, in its turn, with the kittens.

**THE ROLLING MARBLE.**



Take a marble and place it on a smooth surface, the top of a table will do. Ask some one to cross their first and second fingers and place them on the marble as shown in the illustration, says Popular Mechanics. Then have the person roll the marble about and at the same time close the eyes or look in another direction. The person will imagine that there are two marbles instead of one.

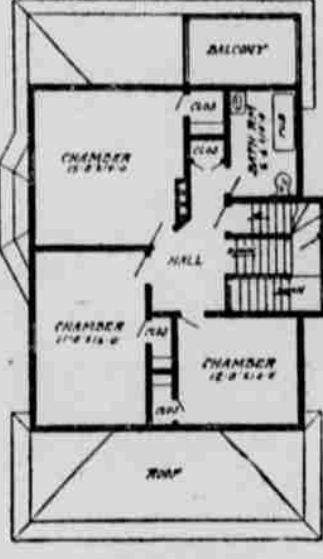
**THE AMERICAN HOME**  
W. A. RADFORD  
EDITOR

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 24 Fifth Ave., Chicago, Ill., and only enclose two-cent stamp for reply.

The most economical house to build and to occupy afterward is nearly square, of medium size, full two stories in height, with a good deep cellar and an attic big enough to act as a buffer against heat in summer and cold in winter. Such houses give more room, according to the size of the foundation and roof, than any other design.

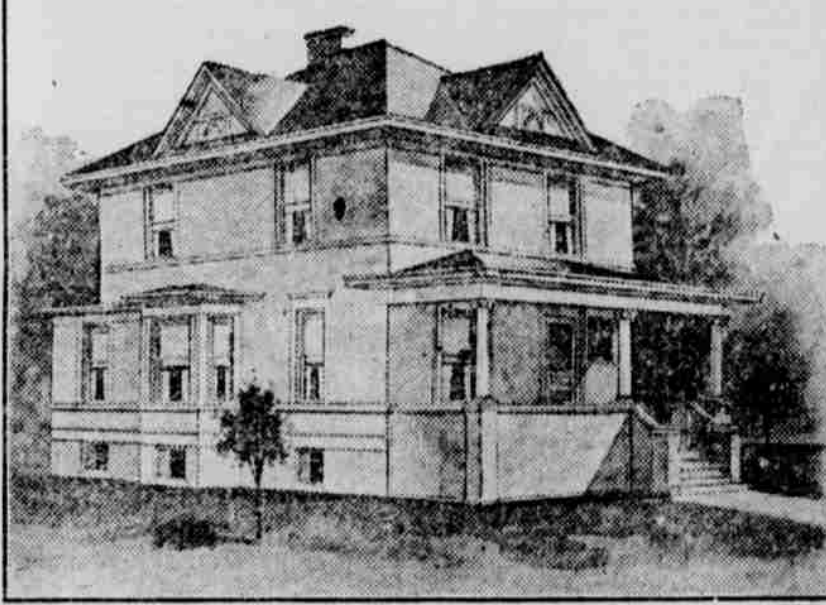
The house here illustrated is typical of this style. It is 31 feet wide by 38 feet from front to rear, proportions that work to good advantage. There are certain geometrical combinations that work to a disadvantage in a square house but are easily overcome when you add a few feet to the length.

One of the difficulties is the stairway, which interferes with the proper laying out of the rooms in every short house. Stairways in dwelling houses have caused more gray hairs and sent more architects to early graves than any other feature in house building. There was a time when a rough ladder fashioned with an ax answered the purpose. It was made with the trunks of two trees for sides and sections of smaller trees for rounds. There was a hole through the upper floor and usually an effort was made to place the opening where the roof was high enough so you could miss hitting the knots on the rafters with your head. From that time to this stairways have grown in com-



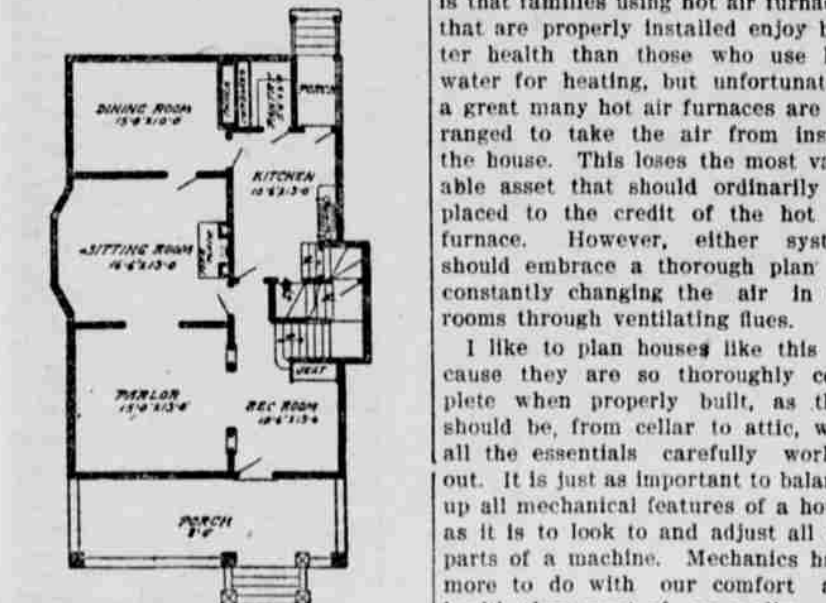
Second Floor Plan.

plexity until we think we have them about perfect.



This plan provides a projection which holds about half of the stair landings. The projection also offers an excuse to work in four windows for light and for general effect. The lighting of a modern stairway is another recent improvement on anything that former generations were familiar with.

This arrangement is a combination affair going up from the kitchen and from the front hall and down from the kitchen to the cellar. On the second floor the going up to the attic



First Floor Plan.

and downstairs is equally good. The stairway looks well and it is very convenient and satisfactory.

A house built in this manner has another advantage and that is in heating. It is so compact that from one to five tons of coal per year, may be saved as compared with the amount required in some old-fashioned loose-jointed houses that are no more roomy or offer no more accommodation. Whether you heat with steam, hot air or hot water, you must burn coal enough to get what heat you need, but the heat needed varies greatly in different houses.

Under this house is a splendid cellar that is as light as some of the best rooms in houses built a dozen years ago, when small, narrow windows were in fashion. In a basement like this you can place a modern

**YOU NEVER KNOW YOUR LUCK.**



She—Yes, they are engaged. I know she refused him twice, but the third time he proposed she accepted him.

Her Husband—Served him right.

**STARTED THE TEARS AFRESH**

Thoughtless Act of Little Eben That Reminded Sorrowful Widow of Her Loss.

Mr. Jefferson had not been altogether an exemplary husband and father, but he possessed certain engaging qualities which secured him many friends and made his death the cause of sincere mourning to his widow. "Mis' Jefferson, she's done broke up over Eb'nezer's being took off fr'm pneumonia," said one of the neighbors.

"She sutt'nly is," said another. "Mournin' round de house all de time, she goes. Why, day befo' yist'day I was thar helpin' her, an' she only stop cryin' once, an' dat was to spank little Eben for takin' m'lasses out'n de jug right into his mouf when her back was turned."

"When she spanked him good an' set him down, she say to me: 'He makes me t'ink ob his pa so much I can't bear it!' and bus' right out cryin' agin.'—Youth's Companion.

**ITCHED FOR TWELVE YEARS.**

Eczema Made Hands and Feet Swell, Peel and Get Raw—Arms Affected, Too—Gave Up All Hope of Cure.

Quickly Cured by Cuticura.

"I suffered from eczema on my hands, arms and feet for about twelve years, my hands and feet would swell, sweat and itch, then would become callous and get very dry, then peel off and get raw. I tried most every kind of salve and ointment without success. I tried several doctors, but at last gave up thinking there was a cure for eczema. A friend of mine insisted on my trying the Cuticura Remedies, but I did not give them a trial until I got so bad that I had to do something. I secured a set and by the time they were used I could see a vast improvement and my hands and feet were healed up in no time. I have had no trouble since. Charles T. Bauer, Volant, Pa., Mar. 11, 1908." Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston.

**Singular and Plural.**

"Whenever she gets to thinking how much they're in debt it affects her nerves."

"Huh! the way it affects her husband is singular."

"How singular?"

"Just singular, it affects his 'nerve.' He tried to borrow a hundred from me to-day."—Catholic Standard and Times.

**Use Allen's Foot-Ease.**

It is the only relief for Swollen Smarting, Tired, Aching, Hot, Sweating Feet, Corns and Bunions. Ask for Allen's Foot-Ease, a powder to be shaken into the shoes. Cures while you walk. At all Drug-gists and Shoe Stores, etc. Don't accept any substitute, sample sent FREE. Address, Allen S. Olmsted, LeRoy, N. Y.

**Got His Answer.**

Uncle—You are a very nice little girl to ask me to have more soup. Now why do you want me to have it? Niece—So you won't eat so much of the chicken as you did last time.—Flegende Blatter.

A feeling of security and freedom from anxiety pervades the home in which Hamlin Wizard Oil is kept constantly on hand. Mothers know it can always be depended upon in time of need.

Every one should consider himself entrusted not only with his own conduct, but with that of others.

There are imitations, don't be fooled. There is no substitute! Tell the dealer you want Lewis' Single Binder cigar.

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For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle.

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