

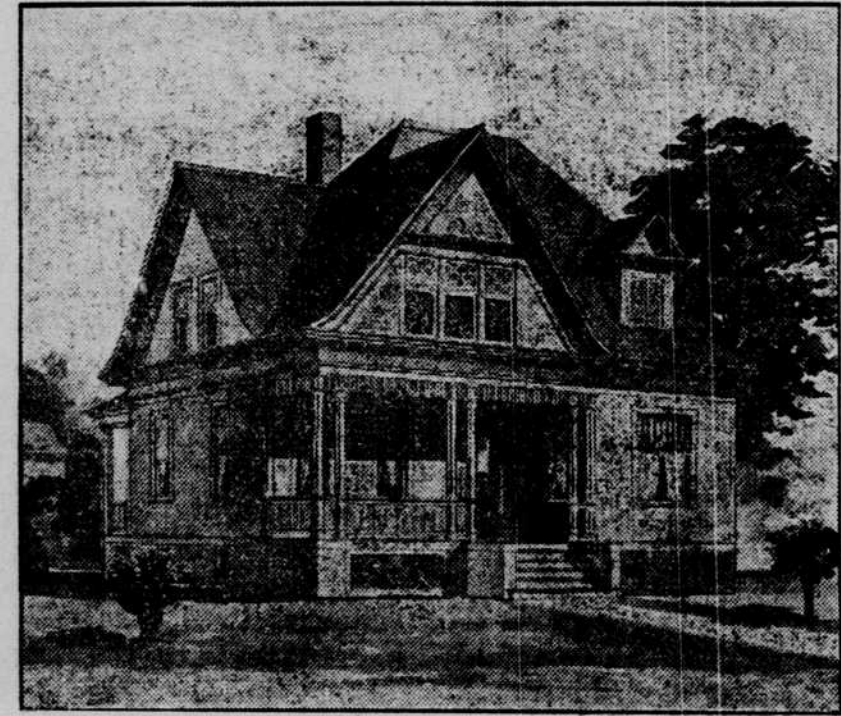
THE AMERICAN HOME

W.A. RADFORD
EDITOR

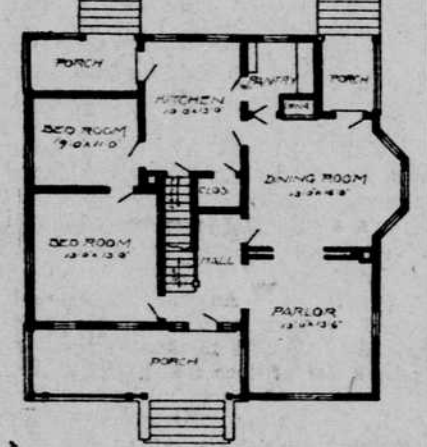
It is often said that we have no American style of architecture, but that need not worry us because we are a nation of inventors. This probably is the very reason why we have no one distinctive style or manner of building. Our inventive architects are continually working for improvement and they are succeeding wonderfully well.

In my experience I have learned that comfortable, attractive houses cost no more to build than the ordinary structures usually seen in towns and villages, the only requisite is to know how to do it. The average American citizen wants a house that is pleasing in appearance, but the exterior must not in any way interfere with the comfortable arrangement of the rooms. While a man takes pride in the outside appearance, his first thought usually is for the wife and her life is spent inside. The good wife has the housework to do, and American husbands are thoughtful, and they are good providers. The most popular houses I ever saw were the most convenient.

Dwellings in older countries are heavier, usually in design, more expensive to build, not so pleasing in appearance, for the same amount of rooms they usually cost more than the ordinary American home. Of course we have many incongruities. Some of the residence streets certainly look very odd. There is room for improvement in every section of the country.



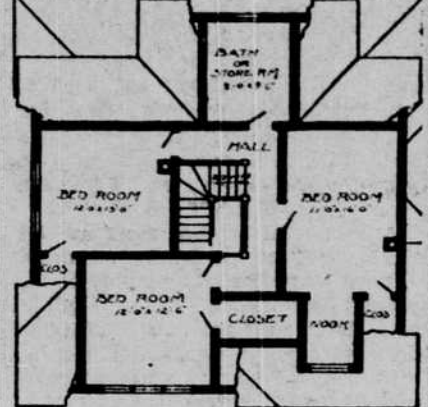
In some of our older villages the struggle for better houses may be read in the houses themselves. Improvements are attempted here and there by adding bay windows, porches or extensions and generally the attempt is a failure because the new construction



Ground Floor Plan.
does not correspond with the old. It is a patched garment, and it shows it. The interior usually is damaged instead of improved. In most cases it would be better to sell the old house for a barn, and build new from the bottom of the cellar up. Repairing an old house always is unsatisfactory.

Even in the newer streets in our best towns there is a wide difference

in the appearance of the houses. Some are very neat and tasty, but others are very poorly designed. It is not necessary to cut up a house into odd shapes to make it look good. Very often a plain square house built in proper proportions, with a porch across the front and without further ornamentation, is more pleasing than a house of many rooms.



Second Floor Plan.
makes a more pleasing home both inside and out than a more expensive house of some fancy design. Such a house except that the porch is built in under the main roof is shown in the illustration on this page.

This house is exactly square, being 36 feet wide and 36 feet long, and it will cost from \$1,500 to \$2,000.

The greater amount of cubic space inclosed by a given length of wall is in circular form; next to this comes the square. For economy in construction, when the amount of room is taken into consideration, no other plan will equal the square house and there are other economies beside that of first cost. A square house means square rooms bunched as closely together as possible, which means that the rooms in such a house are easily heated in winter and that each room may be made easy of access which is another way of stating that there is less work in taking care of the different rooms in a square, compactly built house.

This design admits of a center hall with rooms on both sides. Such houses may be heated by turning all the furnace heat into the lower hall, but I am not saying that this is the best and most satisfactory way to do. If a furnace is put in the cellar of any house, separate pipes should lead the heat to the different rooms.

This is another one-story house with bedrooms finished off in the root garages, which is a great economy if rightly managed. Never in the history of building has this been done to so much advantage as at the present time. The scarcity and high prices of building material as well as the increasing price of coal combine to make such economies necessary and they are not only necessary but they are desirable. True economy is a virtue that should be cultivated.

The greatest need of religions to-day is that they shall make men recognize that they are accountable for their might, their wealth, their intelligence. We need a new science of economics not vitalized by profits. We should quit calling men saints who have amassed great fortunes by robbing Paul and then giving a portion of their riches to charity. They are doing no more than they ought to do. They are just giving back a part of the wealth which many men have produced by their labors.

Results never justify the means. It is written, "thou shalt not steal," and that is for the rich as well as the poor. If the hungry man steals a loaf of bread he is more justified than the rich who steal. Of course, he has broken the law, but when conditions exist that men must steal bread, society is to blame. Animals do not kill and eat each other, but when the passion for power and wealth overtakes men they devour one another. No one has a right to rise on the ruins of humanity.

"Thy kingdom come" of the Lord's Prayer does not refer to a place above the skies, but to a new social condition founded upon righteousness here on earth. No religion is a preparation for Heaven that does not make men better on earth. No man is self-made. We all contribute, and every man should understand he is responsible for his brother. The great trouble with religionists is that they have not lived up to their teaching. The liberalists in religion have not emphasized it. That truth should be reiterated to every man until he acts accordingly. Man should teach by word and deed that every man is his brother's keeper in the fullest sense.

HERO OF PHILADELPHIA KIDNAPING.



Charles Frederick Muth, the seven-year-old son of a Philadelphia jeweler, who was stolen by a man who lured him out of school, was found in a house on the outskirts of Philadelphia, the prisoner of J. J. Kean, a crook, who had kidnaped the boy in an attempt to get \$320 with which to repay a man from whom he had embezzled that amount. The boy had not been harmed by his abductor. Kean was sentenced, the day after his arrest, to 20 years in the penitentiary.

SPIDER EATS BIRDS.

South American Tropic Forests the Home of Insect with Remarkable Appetite.

There has just been deposited in the insect house at the London zoo a specimen of the bird-eating spider, which earns its name by occasionally including in its menu some of the brilliantly hued humming-birds and varicolored lutes of the South American tropics.

It is doubtful whether the silken threads which he spins in profusion constitute his most effective tackle for securing his prey; indeed, it is more probable that the little birds get caught through alighting upon the banana and other leaves, in the twisted folds of which the spider makes his home. The similarity of his coloring to the bark of trees, to which he attaches himself, is also a powerful factor in enabling him to approach his prey.

The silken threads which help to ensnare so many beautiful birds are a serious annoyance to the traveler when riding or driving through the less frequented forests. As they continually strike the face, one is reminded of some fiendish motor trap.

The bird-eating spider is much smaller, although not less ferocious in appearance, than the famous tarantula. The body of a full-grown tarantula is as big as a hen's egg, and on an average it gives from 20 to 40 yards of silk, the weaving of which was expected at one time to prove a very considerable industry in some of

the Australian colonies. The silken output of the bird-eating spider is greater in proportion.

Why Some Unhappy Marriages.
The late Susan B. Anthony once attended a wedding in Rochester, and at the reception she said to the bridegroom:

"If you want this marriage to be a happy one, you must be as kind and tender always as you are now. Never relax for a moment your attitude of loving solicitude. Never relax it, though you find a hundred excuses for doing so."

"Such excuses, believe me, are easy to find. I once knew a young couple whose marriage had not turned out as happily as it should have done. The wife said to the husband one evening: 'Before we were married, dear, you were always giving me presents. Why do you never give me any now?'"

"My love," the husband replied, 'did you ever hear of a fisherman giving bait to a fish he had caught?'"

Why?
At the Hampton (Va.) Indian school, a teacher, in endeavoring to overthrow the Indian belief that the earth is flat, stands still, and that the sun passes over and under it every 24 hours, said, in conclusion:

"So you see that it is the earth that goes around, while the sun stands still."

A tall boy asked:
"Then what for you tell us one story about man in the Bible—I forget his name—a strong warrior—fight all day, but get dark so can't fight, and he says: 'Sun, stand still! What for he say that if sun all time stand still!'"

Ever Triumphant Faith.
A good old English mother had two sons on the sea, captains of vessels. She used to pray mornings, noon and night, for their safety. But there came a time when one son was leaving England for Gibraltar and the other was leaving Gibraltar for England. Now, if the dear old lady prayed that the wind would blow with the son leaving home, it would be a contrary wind to the son coming home. The perplexed woman was at a standstill before the throne of grace; but at last it occurred to her that instead of praying for fair wind she had better pray for a side wind and the side wind was favorable to both captives.

This illustrates how faith comes to our relief.—Rev. Dr. Madison C. Peters.

Chip Off the Old Block.
DeLong—I met your son this morning.

Shortleigh—Don't you think he resembles me—a good deal?

DeLong—That's what. He tried to borrow a dollar from me.

When She Breaks.
"Aren't the running expenses of an auto rather burdensome?"
"No; but the stopping expenses are."—Houston Post.

His Notion of It.
This was how the geography put it:
"Where the pine forests of the south have been cleared away are now to be found flourishing truck farms."

Those Pigeonholed Manuscripts.
Magazine Editor—This is a grand article; noble, glorious! By some renowned writer, isn't it?
Assistant—No, sir; by one Tom Hayseed, of Hayseedville. Shall I send it back?
Editor—No, it's too good to lose. Put it away until he becomes famous.—N. Y. Weekly.

His Picture.
Dibbs (facetiously)—This is a picture of my wife's first husband.
Dobbs—Great snakes! What a brainless looking idiot! But I didn't know your wife was married before she met you.
Dibbs—She wasn't. That is a picture of myself at the age of 20.—Tit-Bits.

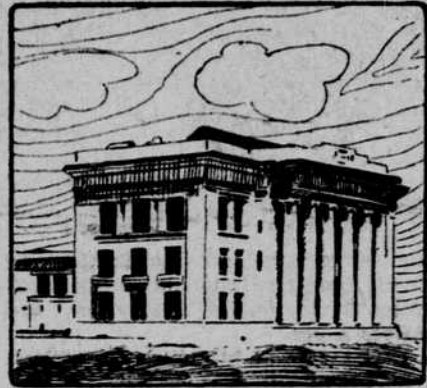
There Be Such Things.
"Do you believe there really is any such thing as a painless dentist?"
"Yes, I attended the funeral of one a few days ago."—Chicago Record-Herald.

FENWAY UNIVERSITY, BOSTON.

Extensive Group of Buildings Which Have Been Built on the Site of an Old Salt Marsh.

What a few years ago was an unsightly salt marsh on the borders of Boston has been transformed under the touch of man into a part of the city's park system and a most charming site for a great group of educational buildings, of which the elaborate and extensive medical school buildings of Harvard university are a part. The site is known as the Fenway, and the group of buildings which have grown up around the spot have been dubbed Fenway university.

Students coming next fall to any one of the schools already in this district



ONE OF THE NEW BUILDINGS OF THE HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL. (There Are Seven in All Connected by Esplanades, and Cost \$5,000,000.)

will be joined for the first time by the prospective physicians who will attend lectures and demonstrations in the new buildings of the Harvard medical school—an impressive collection of marble structures and a noteworthy neighbor to Mrs. John L. Gardner's Italian palace, the New England conservatory of music, Simmons college, Tufts medical college and dental school, and several others.

To this educational community of the Fenway will soon be added the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, housing, besides its immense collections, one of the best known of American art schools, the Boston normal college, giving training to hundreds of teachers; the girls' Latin school, one of the leading preparatory schools for college, together with a number of minor institutions.

The Harvard medical school buildings, themselves the most costly plant

table which was placed at the time when William Waldorf Astor was United States minister to Italy. This tablet simply records the date of the poet's death and his age. Unfortunately, neither is given correctly. He did not die on February 24, but shortly before midnight on the 23d, and he was 25 years and 4 months old, not 26.

At first it was contemplated to confine the movement entirely to American authors, but it was decided to include their English cousins.

Edmund Clarence Stedman, whose efforts to accomplish the object of the movement have been earnest and constant, is the chairman of the American committee, and Robert Underwood Johnson, the secretary and treasurer. Among those on the American committee are Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, Thomas Bailey Aldrich, Mrs. James T. Fields, Miss Sarah Orne Jewett, Mrs. Louise Chandler Moulton, Richard Watson Gilder, William Dean Howells, Hamilton W. Mable, Dr. Henry van Dyke and Booth Tarkington, in addition to the originators of the movement. Americans have subscribed liberally, Andrew Carnegie contributing \$2,000.

Harduppe's Mistake.
Caller—I have here several bills which are long overdue.
Harduppe (desperately)—I am sorry to say that our cashier is out-to-day.
Caller—Oh, well, it doesn't make much difference. I'll call and pay them at some future date. Good day sir.—Tit-Bits.

THE KEATS BUILDING AT ROME.
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PLACING THE FURNITURE.

Arrange in Reference to Use for Which Pieces Are Designed—Points About a Bedroom.

The most comfortable chairs should be placed where there will be a good light for reading, by artificial light, if the room is to be used mostly in the evening, and if it is to be used as a morning room, center the attractions near the windows. A table where magazines or needlework can be laid down should be placed near a chair, not away off in a corner where they have no value. Again, tables should be selected that will not topple over if anyone passes quickly through the room.

A large room is much easier to arrange than a small one, as suitable furniture can be arranged in such a manner that several groups of people can be entertained without the conversation being overheard by those near them.

How many old-fashioned houses have the chairs set in stiff array around the walls, with long sofas on either side, so that a chair has to be drawn up for the occupant to converse with the victim on the sofa. It is not necessary to have to drag chairs around to make the room inviting, and these points should be borne in mind when it is furnished. In furnishing a bedroom we have fewer to consider. The bureau must be where the light is good in the daytime as well as by artificial light. The bed should be placed in such a way that the light will not strike the eyes in the early morning. This is not always easy to arrange, as frequently bedrooms have windows on two or more sides. In such cases it is well to have an extra shade of dark green on the window that throws light on the bed.

Nowadays nobody that knows anything about furnishing fastens their curtains with loops. They should hang in soft, straight folds, and the up-to-date woman shortens her curtains if they have been made in the days when half a yard extra was allowed for looping.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

HOW TO KEEP A HAT NICE

It Must Be as Religiously Brushed as One's Clothes—How to Freshen Trimming.

A good hat should be well cared for, to keep it looking fresh. Not only must the hat itself be brushed carefully, but the trimming must be gone over; bows pulled up into shape, loose petals glued into flowers, and loose threads tightened. Flowers and leaves should be carefully wiped with a soft cloth; when colored flowers fade they can often be touched up with water-color paints and a camel's hair brush. Most hats now have trimming arranged under the brim, and they should always be raised up on a block or stand when put away, to avoid crushing. It is especially necessary to observe this care with a hat having a maline ruche under the brim at the back, says the Rural New Yorker. This material is quite perishable, and is likely to become very "mussy" after a short period of wear, unless handled carefully.

We clean soiled white straw hats with oxalic acid, scrubbing with a toothbrush, and sopping up the moisture with a soft cloth, to avoid staining the straw. The acid burns colored straw, turning it in ugly red, so care must be exercised if cleaning a hat in which white and colored straw are combined.

Copper Waste Basket.
The newest waste basket is a most artistic thing. It is of copper, burnished and polished to a high degree of luster, and showing in the front an inset of jade in large irregular form. The combination of the green tone of the ornament and the ruddy hue of the copper is most effective. One particular waste paper receptacle on this order was originally intended as a glorified coal hod, but a woman whose sense of fitness protested against the introduction of a willow basket in a richly furnished apartment where copper found the proper background, turned the coal hod to new use, and her example has been imitated by other women, who declare that there is an informal aspect about a willow basket that is not in keeping with the furnishings of certain rooms. In these copper receptacles there is an inner box of sheet iron, which is lifted out when the papers are to be disposed of.

LONG MOURNED AS DEAD.
Frenchman Thought Lost on Martinique Visits Surprised and Happy Relatives.

The French papers relate a curious romance. Jean Marie Le Floidec was mourned as a victim of Mont Pelee, for he was visiting Martinique at the time of the eruption. His brother and sister live at Maisons-Lafitte, and the other evening the latter was seated at the piano in her sitting room, when she suddenly found herself clasped in the arms of an unknown intruder, who burst into the room covered with dust and having all the appearance of long travel. Her shrieks brought her brother rushing into the room, and he completed her amazement by falling into the embrace of the stranger. Then the explanations came. The intruder was no other than the brother who for years had been mourned as dead. He had succeeded in getting on board a ship bound for Australia. Thence he made his way to Japan, and during the war with Russia practiced the blockade running with such success that he made a million. This crown of his labors had left him time for thoughts of home and kindred.

Furniture Polish.
From Scotland comes this recipe for furniture polish, which might well be pasted in the scrapbook of every American housewife. All that polish can do to restore old, weatherbeaten household goods this will do, and much more than most put-up preparations can. Here is the formula: One cake beeswax, a cup of turpentine. Put beeswax in turpentine, let melt slowly. Remember that turpentine is highly inflammable, making it better to melt the mixture over a teakettle spout. If a flame is used this must be very low. When cold rub hard on the piece you wish to restore. Then rub with a piece of soft rag to polish.

The Greatest Need of Religions

By DR. EMIL G. HIRSCH.

The greatest need of religions to-day is that they shall make men recognize that they are accountable for their might, their wealth, their intelligence. We need a new science of economics not vitalized by profits. We should quit calling men saints who have amassed great fortunes by robbing Paul and then giving a portion of their riches to charity. They are doing no more than they ought to do. They are just giving back a part of the wealth which many men have produced by their labors.

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