

NEWS OF THE BUSY HOME BUILDERS

PIONEER ROOM IN HIS HOME

Omaha Man Introduces Novelty in House Building.

OLD STYLE IN ITS EVERY DETAIL

One Room in Which the Days of Long Ago Will be Preserved, as Long as Appearances Count.

An Omaha business man who is planning a home to be built on the west side suburban district is going to add some features to it which are novel in this part of the country and which are patterned more or less after the builders of a century ago. One of the rooms in the house will be what he calls his "pioneer's room." It is built in the old style and even the long heavy rafters which span the broad and spacious room are hewn and not sawed. They are roughly smoothed off, but the marks of the ax are still to be seen. There is an old-fashioned fireplace in the room, built in the old style and provided with andirons. There are black pots hanging in all the crudeness of primitive nature.

The room is to be furnished with old-fashioned furniture, most of which is genuine, and really belonged to this man's ancestors. A big table of heavy wood is to occupy the middle of the room. A grandfather's clock will add its dignified ticking to the general air of pioneerdom.

Unabated are the activities of the people who are building up the residence district of Omaha. The city is showing an activity which has not been surpassed by any of the phenomenal preceding weeks. The supply of labor and material continues to be satisfactory and conditions are harmonious everywhere. A consultation of the want columns of the city papers is a good way to judge of conditions in Omaha. It will be noted that the "For Rent" columns are still abbreviated and that the "For Sale" columns seem to grow more extensive every week. It indicates that people are moving to Omaha in considerable numbers and are finding occupation in the steadily expanding interests and enterprises here.

T. O. Perley has nearly completed plans for a handsome residence to be erected in the steadily growing suburban district of West Dodge street. The house will cost in the neighborhood of \$25,000. C. S. Hayward, who is one of the builders in the district, is putting the settlement into the house. When some day he has run barefooted about a rugged and stony Massachusetts farm. The stones were a source of considerable bother to him, for it was considered worth quite a deal to have to gather up the said stones and transport them from the ground. Having raised himself to a position of prominence, Mr. Hayward brought from that same Massachusetts farm a lot of those stones and boulders which were the setting of much of his boyhood life. He is using them to build the foundation of his handsome home.

At the Rome hotel, Sixteenth and Jackson streets, some very fine work is being done in Italian marble. The hotel lobby will be very large and is finished artistically in mahogany and Italian marble. The walls and pillars are wainscoted to a height of six feet from the floor with this beautiful marble. The pillars above that height are in imitation marble. The Alfred Bloom company made the handsome mahogany clear stand which is located at the south side of the large lobby. The same company made the other fixtures of the building.

"The roofs are coming more and more to be used in Omaha buildings," said P. M. Hamling, the tile man. "The roofs are ideal in every way, though they are especially adaptable to a building of permanent construction that is built of brick or stone. A tile roof costs about five times as much as shingles and it will last forever and then can be used again on a new building. This is made in various shapes and in various colors. Many of them are glazed in green, red and make a very pretty appearance. The new First Christian church will be roofed with the green glazed tile, as will also the new home of Mr. DeFord near the Field club."

"There are people in Omaha who intend to build homes. They have the money in the bank and the lots already purchased. They are waiting for the price of lumber to go down. It is true that lumber is higher now than it has been for many years. "But," said a contractor who has erected scores of houses in this city, "the price of lumber will not go lower. I have studied this problem, for it is one of peculiar fascination to me. It is a fact, at every year we are cutting between three and four times as much timber in this country as grows during the year. Areas of timber have been depleted—depleted seems a better word. They have been ruthlessly, and, it seems with wanton waste, stripped of their magnificent growths. And then the sawmills and lumber camps have moved with their fell weapons on to some fresh fields and pastures new. This is the reason why lumber is going up in price, and this is the reason why we cannot look for it to come down again. It will certainly not come down until this government follows the example of Germany and takes a hand in controlling the cutting of timber. This it must do sooner or later, else the entire timber areas will be entirely stripped in a few years."

"Some people think that the introduction of such building materials as concrete and artificial stone will solve this problem and that it will result in compelling the lumber barons to reduce the price on their product. But the introduction of such materials is a mere bagatelle and can produce no appreciable effect on the demand for lumber, which is growing by leaps and bounds in proportion with the increasing population and expanding needs of this country. My advice is to build now, or at least order your lumber now for future delivery."

C. W. Irwin has sold his residence at 124 South Twenty-eighth street to Mrs. Bessie Campbell, formerly of San Francisco, who will make the place her home. The consideration in the transaction was \$4,000.

John S. Bacon, a colored man, will erect an apartment house on the northeast corner of Seventeenth and Cumming streets. This will be for the accommodation of colored people only and the plans are to be drawn and all work done by colored men. The lot cost \$4,000 and the building is to cost \$15,000. Mr. Bacon got his start in life as a bootblack in Sioux City and has amassed his riches by persistent industry and frugality. He has picked out Omaha as the best place for a man of moderate means to invest his money.

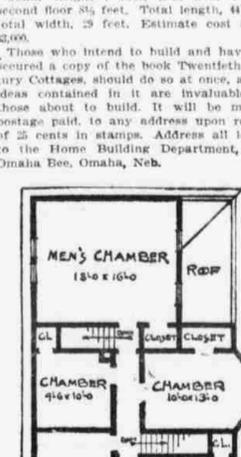
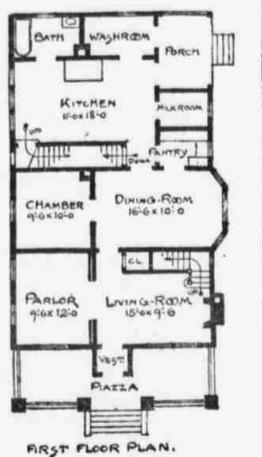
The Dietz Lumber company has just com-

A Twentieth Century Cottage



The interesting and original country home here illustrated is one that we know will appeal to our many rural friends as possessing the advantages of arrangements which will lessen the numerous duties of the housewife and prove a source of enjoyment to all.

The average farmer at first glance would say that this house is too elaborate, but a careful study of material used and cost of construction will prove that it is a home which can be very economically built. The excavation for the cellar in almost any locality will provide sufficient gravel for the concrete mixture for the foundation.



and also for the concrete blocks for the remainder of the building.

A tile is specified, but if this is too expensive we would recommend tin, which would be less liable to catch fire.

A careful study of the interior will show that the architect appreciates the necessities of a country home. The large kitchen opens into a good pantry, which also connects with the dining room, into a milk room, which has a door to the porch; into a good bath room and a large wash room

pleted the furnishing of material for the Union Pacific commissary building at Eleventh and Leavenworth streets and has part of the material on the ground for the Union Pacific's new car shop building and the new paint and wheel shop. The latter two buildings are now under construction and will require 1,000,000 feet of lumber.

"Though five years ago steam and hot water heat were considered luxuries and were installed only in the larger business buildings and the homes of the wealthy, circumstances have revolutionized matters to such an extent that no home of even modest pretensions or store building of any consequence is considered modern without this equipment," said W. H. Wigman of the United States Supply company.

"This business in Omaha is growing immensely. Each year sees an increase of from 10 to 15 per cent, notwithstanding the fact that prices are somewhat higher than previously.

"This naturally suggests the opinion that hot water is fast coming to be recognized as the most efficient method of heating the modern home. It is now being installed in the majority of new houses being erected in Omaha and costing \$2,000 and upward. The same is true of the country, and many a Nebraska farm house is being equipped with hot water heating apparatus.

"The matter of cleanliness, economy and simplicity are in its favor. One jobber who sold from sixty to seventy-five boilers annually five years ago states that he will dispose of 600 complete plants during 1907."

The heating and ventilating pipes in the new Wise Memorial hospital building at Twenty-fourth and Harney streets are being placed by F. M. Hamling.

The latest large out-of-town contract secured by an Omaha firm is the lighting fixtures for the new five-story building of the First National bank of Cheyenne, Wyo. This it must do sooner or later, else the entire timber areas will be entirely stripped in a few years.

The patent roller awning covers on the new Brandeis building are being placed by the Omaha Tent and Awning company.

Mrs. Mary E. Horton is building a home at Thirty-sixth street and Woodworth avenue. It is of cement blocks. August Lind is building a home at Thirtieth and Burt streets. J. J. Jones has nearly completed a home at 1317 West street. All these will be equipped with furnace heating plants which will be installed by the John Husata company.

A large dust collector has been erected at the elevator of the Merriam & Holmquist company on North Fifteenth street. The work was done by R. L. Carter. A second apparatus will be installed this week.

"More people are camping this year than ever before," said a representative of the Omaha Tent and Awning company. "The demand has been great for tents. One of our tents at the lake is attracting considerable attention because it is so cool. The people who live in it say it is the ideal cottage for the lake front."

A man who is building a home in the northwest part of the city has added a feature which is coming into use generally. He has built his refrigerator right into his house. "It takes up no more room than if I left room for it, it

the ice can be placed in the box from the outside without the necessity of the loeman tramping over the kitchen floor. The drain is so arranged that it empties directly into the sewer. The interior of the box is built of white enameled brick, outside of which the wall is of plain brick. The space between the two is filled with mineral wool, which keeps the cold in and the heat out better than any other substance.

A Word for Users of Paint.
OMAHA, July 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: Owners of buildings should realize that it pays to use paint. A building or even a fence, costs money and repairs are expensive. The only way to preserve materials in buildings is to protect it with paint. The weather and the sun then exert their destructive influences only upon the cheap, easily renewable covering.

As with the exterior, so with the interior; paint is cheap, clean, cheerful and easily renewable, and when soiled can be washed; and when, after long service, renewal is desired, a fresh coating makes it new, sweet and bright.

Pure lead begins to undergo chemical change from the moment it leaves the brush and change continues rapidly until it has crumbled from the painted surface. In the course of the decay it is washed off from roofs, houses and fences into the drinking water and is dusted off from doors, baseboards and window frames into the air of living rooms, to produce the sand-fumes of mysterious ailments—the symptoms of lead poisoning.

The better quality of mixed paint are the result of advancing civilization. It is as much out of date today for a painter to mix his paints, by rule or thumb, as it would be for a western farmer to attack a snake with a whip. Every day is done, as far as possible, by unerring machinery, under the eyes of experts and the preparation of paint is no exception to the rule.

Painters object to ready-mixed paints, because they provide free some of the knowledge and time which the painter has for sale. Many thoughtful painters, however, believe in mixed paints and one of them has published his belief that "the twentieth century painter will do very little mixing or preparing of paint in his shop."

A good mixed paint is always better than lead and oil alone, or than lead combined with tinning colors, and it is entirely safe to use.

H. J. PALMER, Manager Myers-Dillon Paint Department.

New Designs for Metal Ceilings.
Among sheet metal products there is, perhaps, none that has advanced more rapidly in favor than metal ceilings. In the beginning no attempt at ornamentation was made, and when used at all either plain flat sheets or crimped and corrugated iron were the only forms available. Within comparatively few years, however, many ornamental designs in metal ceilings have appeared, and it is now possible to finish expensively decorated rooms with artificially designed metal ceilings that thoroughly harmonize with surrounding fittings.

An important feature in ceiling work is a perfect fitting head for a smooth and slightly connection, and this has been carefully perfected in all later designs. At the present time three distinct styles of ornamental ceilings are being produced, Louis XIV, colonial and Italian renaissance.—The Metal Worker.

Cat Terror to Tramps.
Jacob Zimmer, a farmer at Brookdale, N. J., is the owner of a remarkable cat, Bismarck, in addition to keeping the farmhouse free of rats, is a terror to hoboes who come to the village and annoy the farmers.

If Mr. Zimmer happens to be absent all his wife has to do is call Bismarck, point her finger, and the cat will do the rest. The cat will leap on the shoulder of the intruder and claw at the head and face until the tramp is glad to escape.

Bismarck's favorite drink is buttermilk. Instead of licking his paws and then rubbing them over his face, as cats usually do, he takes a pan of water placed at one side of the room by his mistress every morning and will there wash his face and paws.

is more convenient than any ready made box on the market and I think I have made a few dollars on the refrigerator trust, if there is such a trust," says the man. The refrigerator is commodious and a door has been left through which

Fireplaces and Mantels

By Charles James Fox.

Ever since the time when primitive man first protected himself against the cold by building a fire in the center of the floor of his rude dwelling, allowing the smoke to escape through a hole in the roof, the fireplace has been the most cheerful part of the room or dwelling. The pleasing associations attached to them have made hearthstones and fireplaces popular themes in poetry and fiction since the dawn of literature. The mystic charm of the fire has found expression in the emotional religions of many ancient and oriental peoples to whom the hearth was the altar for their votive offerings. Today the old chimney fireplace of colonial times, like the western campfire, a most popular subject for fiction writers who make a studied effort to set their narratives amid pleasing and suggestive surroundings.

The cheerful family associations so closely connected with the fire place are so strong that this feature of the dwelling remains long after its utility as a source of heat has been rendered superfluous by the numerous modern mechanical devices of heating from a central furnace.

As the fireplace is now retained chiefly for ornamental purposes, it should be chosen with this feature in view. It is the one object in the room which is architectural in character and should be so in treatment. Good taste in architecture involves consistent expression both in structure and material. Forms should be appropriate with the uses either direct or indirect in which they are to be put. Material should be selected with an eye for its suitability for the purposes for which it is to be used, and with direct regard for its natural limitations.

Applying these general principles to the architecture of the fireplaces, one sees that fireplaces should be different in different apartments. It is not a question of building a pretty fireplace. It is necessary to have one which is in keeping with the room in which it is placed. Thus a mantel or fireplace which would look well in a hall might be entirely out of place in the living room or bed room. The same is true of the material of which the fireplace is built. A fireplace or mantel should above all things suggest warmth. One aesthetic criticism of the beautiful white marble mantel, so popular in this country about forty years ago, was that marble, and more especially white marble, is cold and consequently not appropriate for the position of the room which is the source of all heat. The most common style of mantel met with in this country today is that made of polished wood. But the natural limitations of wood as a material made its close proximity to the fireplace not only unpropitious, but positively dangerous. Therefore, in older days the fireplace was always separated from the wooden mantel piece by a facing of brick. This did well enough when the mantel was more or less primitive or when it was purposely rough or massive. But when it became a work of high finish the brick was incongruous. To overcome this objection John Low of

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and accurate in shape. The fine polished wood mantel with facing and hearth of the wood would be appropriate here, but as has been said the tendency toward greater simplicity in the general decorative scheme has cut the wood-work down to a couple of traditional places. Known as "terra vitrea," in further response to this desire for greater simplicity the elaborate wooden mantelpieces are gradually yielding to those consisting almost entirely of tile, and having only a small wooden shelf or at least the minimum of columns, mirrors, etc. The tile and faience is by far the most appropriate material for fireplaces and mantels. Faience is a term used to signify the best glazed work of mediæval times, which was made in the Italian city of Faenza. The body of the material is a fine grade of terra cotta. The glaze which covers it is made to form one body with the base by being baked at a temperature of about 2,500 degrees. As a fire resisting material tile and faience suggest warmth, while marble, owing to its extreme durability, offers absolute resistance to the scratches, burns and knocks incident to the care of fires. This is especially valuable for the hearth. Marble hearths, for instance, are easily scratched by poker and tongs. Besides the structural possibilities and appropriateness of tile, its artistic possibilities are almost unlimited, both as to form, shape and color.

Fire-places should be selected with special reference to the use to which the room containing them is to be put. The brick fire-place is appropriate in places of great cheer, and therefore in places of jollity, such as smoking parlors, club rooms and lounging places. The use of tile and faience are appropriate for the use of the "terra vitrea" tile, which is a large, rough glazed tile. In places of precision, of formality, of restraint and of neatness such a fire-place would be out of place. Rooms should have fire-places of smaller tile, neat

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Captain Baxter, master of the Delta, was accompanied by his wife, and they were early forced to establish sleeping quarters on deck. The crew soon had to follow

Reflections of a Bachelor.

When a man smokes cigars he'd prefer a pipe if it were more expensive. Doctors save the lives of many people by not being called to attend them. A girl can make a romance out of eating a Welsh rarebit from a recipe a man gave her.

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