

American Country Homes

Arthur C. Clausen, Architect.



"The problem of relieving the congestion of population in large cities," which we read so much about now-a-days consists merely in providing proper transportation facilities and inducing people who have the means of living out in nature's realm, where all is quiet, peaceful, healthful and pleasant. Man is an out-of-door creature and the more time he can spend in his natural element the healthier and more successful he is. The joy of being transported in a few minutes from the heart of a smoky, noisy, odoriferous city business center with its continual nerve racking, money making strife and nothing but business, business everywhere to a quiet country home surrounded by trees, flowers, the aroma of the forest and the recollections of boyhood can only be appreciated by experience. The relief and rest it gives to a busy overworked mind soon becomes a business asset. The habit of leaving all business cares at the office is easily acquired when the change is so marked. No matter how many milestones one has turned the spirit of youth soon returns to the man who can overlook the little inconvenience of the going and coming and build his home in a suburban, even primitive country location and live as close to nature as conventionalism will allow.

While the actual profits in health and incentive to endeavor to the owner of such a home are large, they are really little compared to the advantages for health, morality and pleasure which a country home offers to the children. Constant contact with the sights of evil which greet a child on every hand in a large city can not improve its morals and are sure to lead to evil imaginings which may or may not be the seed from which will spring future iniquity according to the child's training and personal power to resist temptation, for temptations will surely come to a city child. A large city has been likened to a sponge which continually soaks up a mixed population of varying morals, lead a drop of black impurity be taken up and it will percolate through the entire contents leaving its darkest and deadliest strains in certain places, but affecting the whole to some extent. A child raised in the country, in a moderate attractive home, with everything bearing the stamp of simplicity and genuineness will grow up with that simple frankness, natural honesty and genuine sincerity and charm of manner, to say nothing of good health, which forms the nucleus from which all our great men grew up to sturdy, robust manhood. Lincoln, Garfield, Grant were all born in country homes of primitive rusticity. In the primitive homes of America "Are rocked many cradles which our nation would preserve for centuries as sacred, if we only knew which ones they were."

MR. CLAUSEN'S BOOK

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30 chapters, 200 illustrations and a thousand facts on the planning and designing of every kind of home. It covers a wide range of subjects, including the planning of bungalows, suburban and city homes, letting contracts, choosing materials, proper design of entrances, windows, fireplaces, etc. Price, postpaid, \$1.00. Address, Arthur C. Clausen, Architect, 1128-27-28 Exchange, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Integrity, perseverance and a good constitution are the prime factors of success. If a man is healthy and honest (has no mental cobwebs or entangling alliances with his conscience) he will be persevering and perseverance ensures success. Success is the "pay dirt" you get for digging. Lack of contamination will tend to raise the morality and integrity of a country raised child above the average city child and constant outdoor recreation is a certain fiscal panacea. A child with the above prime factors as a natural part of his character will not grow up lacking opportunities, he will create them.

As a city grows the tendency to live in closer quarters, even to housing a dozen families on a lot formerly occupied by one, becomes more marked. This results in a commonplace manner of living, which soon becomes a habit. The incidents of each day's life vary but little. The reason is that many people live a humdrum existence year after year and never think to take a day off and get acquainted with nature in her natural environment. If they did they would realize how much of real, delightful, healthful living is possible within easy access to any busy center and move from their cramped, uninteresting abodes (you can hardly call a flat or tenement a home) into the free open country, where neighbor greets neighbor each morning with a kindly smile and all is joy and sunshine. We often hear complaints from young married couples on the ban which rental agents place on children in flat buildings. It is really a kindness to children. Children abhor restraint. It dwarfs them mentally and physically, and they would be placed under too much unnatural restraint in a flat. A complete home in a space hardly wide enough for a dog to wag his tail. I have been told that some people have to go out of doors when they want to smile because they live in a flat. ("I know not how the truth may be; I tell the tale as 'twas told to me.")

Flats serve their useful purpose as a temporary dwelling to people just starting out in life, who must, for financial reasons, confine themselves to the most modest manner of life possible, but it is folly to waste the opportunities for the true enjoyment of living by spending a lifetime as a cliff dweller in one of those human kennels, a flat.

One of the advantages of building in the country from an architectural standpoint is the fact that a country home is essentially all front. Very often what we usually term the front of the house faces the most desirable view, while the approach by driveway is from the opposite side, making it necessary to make one side as attractive as the other. This means a home in which one takes more pride and consequently gives more care to than is given to the rear part of a house on a congested street with a "city front" that is square, covered with useless ornament and generally uninteresting. There are few homes in the city in which a guest is permitted to inspect the back porch, and it is just as well that they do not, for the average back porch does little credit to the owner's taste. The "all front" effect of a country home is therefore but another example of the genuineness of country life. Here the "lie" on a "city front" which leads one to believe that the elegance is but the index of what further examination would reveal is impossible, for the country home is seen too much in perspective to make one side elegant and another plain without exposing the sham. Some people build the front door of mahogany, with gold-plated hardware trimmings, and use a cheap grade of wood for the interior finishing. This is not right and is plainly an effort to deceive the general public into believing the home more elegant than it is in order to outdo the neighbors. A front entrance should be attractive as a mark of welcome to guests, but it should be appropriately so and not lead to unpleasant surprises. Homes which contain lies will give to the world that kind of children. The greatest influences in the making of a child's character are heredity and environment. Then give to your children the best environment that your means will afford. Take them out into the bosom of nature, where simple things, simple lives and simple ways and manners are always the most appropriate. Build a simple home with the "front yard" all around it; let them invigorate their bodies with healthful recreation in nature's pure ozone, untainted by the poisons of city contaminations with disease and moral iniquity, that they may grow up to be noble, manly men and virtuous women and call you blessed.

Mr. Artesian "Piped," but Judge Forgives

Steve's "First Offense" on Charge of Superirrigation is Allowed to Pass by Court.

Mr. Steve Artesian was not well when he appeared in police court. He had a headache. The evidence against Artesian was that he was not what his name implied. He had sounded other depths than wells and had tasted other drinks than come from artesian sources. Further than this, it appeared he had got beyond his depths. "First offense" was the factor found by Judge Crawford in Artesian's favor. The prisoner was found not guilty and told to "drill."

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Patrolman Pimple Sustains Sprained Ankle in Effort to Prevent Accident.

Officer C. P. Pimple in an effort to stop a run-away team at Fifteenth and Harney streets last night, fell and twisted his ankle badly. He was taken to the station and the injured member was dressed by Police Surgeon C. H. Feppers. The team which was almost come to a standstill at the time was caught by several bystanders with but little effort.

Elevator Burned at Huron. HURON, S. D., Dec. 31.—(Special Telegram)—G. D. Smith's elevator, operated by Windhorst & Steel, was destroyed by fire last night. Loss on building, \$4,000; on grain and contents, \$1,000; partly insured.

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Take for example Griffin & Smith's addition, not far from the Field club district. The southwest corner of Poppleton avenue and Thirty-fourth street sold for \$1,700 in 1907, in 1909 for \$2,300, and in 1910 for \$2,500. The northwest corner of Thirty-fourth street and Woolworth avenue sold for \$3,200 in 1907 and for \$4,700 in 1910. This is a gain of \$1,500 on \$3,200 in a little less than three years or about 50 per cent per annum.

In the same addition a lot on Woolworth avenue between Thirty-third and Thirty-fourth streets sold for \$1,000 in 1907 and for \$2,750 last year.

In Oakhurst addition a lot on Thirty-third street between Pacific street and Poppleton avenue was bought by a man in 1908 for \$1,250. Eighteen months later he sold it for \$1,750. Another lot, fronting east on the boulevard between Pacific street and Poppleton avenue, sold for \$1,300 in 1909 and less than a year later for an even \$2,000. So much for this part of town.

Take an example from the retail business district: September 3, 1908, E. A. Cudahy bought the northwest corner of Seventeenth and Douglas streets for \$5,000. The property is unencumbered and is 65x125 feet. October 10, 1910, just thirteen months later, Dr. Harold Gifford bought the property paying \$67,500 for it. Mr. Cudahy's profit was \$22,500 on an investment of \$5,000. Comment is superfluous.

Going to another part of the city one finds that in Sulphur Spring addition, several lots between Leavenworth and Emmet and Sixteenth and the railroad tracks sold in 1907 for \$600 each. Recently they sold for \$1,100 each. A lot in Patrick Place, on Ohio, between Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth streets, sold for \$600 in 1907; in 1910 it fetched \$1,500.

A business lot 22½ feet by 110 feet on Twenty-fourth street, one block north of

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Trade Calendar for 1911

That it may prove of value to you, to know the system, or dates, we use for annual trade events of the New Year, we shall publish from time to time this trade calendar, including the opening dates of our annual January sales. Clip this calendar that you may refer to it, and keep posted on all these big money-saving January Sales.

Linen Sale Tuesday, Jan. Third
Furniture Sale Tuesday, Jan. Third
Ladies' Suit and Coat Sale Tuesday, Jan. Third
Men's Clothing and Shoe Sale Saturday, Jan. Seventh
Undermuslin Sale Monday, Jan. Ninth
Embroidery Sale Monday, Jan. Ninth
Men's Shirt Sale Saturday, Jan. Fourteenth

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OMAHA AFTER WOOL GROWERS

Large Delegation Goes to Portland for the Next Convention.

DELFELDER IS TO HELP OUT

President of the National Wool Growers Association Accompanies the Omaha Delegation to the West Saturday Noon.

President J. A. Delfelder of the National Wool Growers' association will pull hard for Omaha for the next convention of the Wool Growers' association. Mr. Delfelder, who was in Omaha Saturday morning, left for the west at 12:30 p. m., with the Omaha delegation enroute for Portland, where the wool growers meet January 3.

"Omaha has a good chance to get the convention," said Mr. Delfelder. "It is sending a strong delegation to Portland and its prospects seem good so far as one can tell in advance."

Mr. Delfelder was accompanied by his wife who is a bride of six months. He comes here from Washington, where he and Dr. Wilson of Douglas, Wyo., another big wool raiser, have been consulting relative to the prospects for a tariff commission and possible changes in the wool schedule.

Dr. Wilson spoke in vein similar to Mr. Delfelder. The Omahans who must compete against Denver and Chicago for the convention include representatives of the Commercial club, the South Omaha Live Stock exchange, Omaha hotels and commission men. The party will include A. F. Stryker, J. M. Guild, Rome Miller, Will A. Campbell, F. Castle, Everett Buckingham, Will Wood, Joseph Shoemaker, William Farrar, Charles Bogue and Ed Cahow.

Omaha goes before the convention with many excellent arguments. The Omaha wool market has expanded wonderfully and the great wool warehouse has been full of thousands and thousands of pounds of wool all year, inasmuch as 1910 is really the first year of the wool warehouse operation, a better showing could not possibly be asked.

The steadily growing importance of this city as a primary wool market is a fact which cannot but fall to impress the delegates to the convention.

Our wish for everyone is

A Happy New Year

and may it be one of great prosperity.

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