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THE HOME BUILDERS PAGE

The Practical Side of the Cupboard

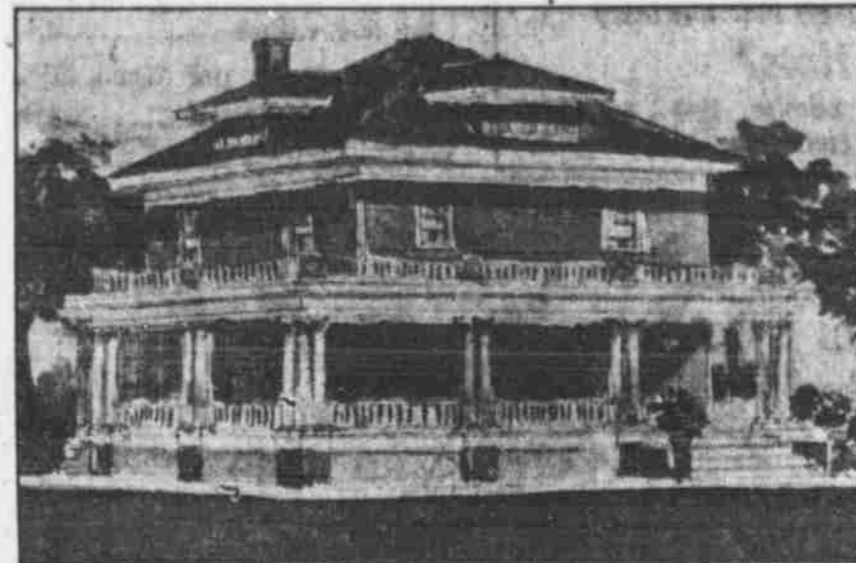
Arthur G. Clausen, Architect.

HERE are a number of things needed frequently or infrequently throughout a house which are of such a nature that they will not serve ornamental purposes, such as couches, easy chairs, tables, musical instruments, light fixtures, etc., but which should be conveniently obtainable at any time when needed.

To provide a place for such articles, cupboards have been created. Cupboards are of various sorts and planned according to the uses for which they are intended. Starting with the reception hall, a hall seat with a hinged top lid is often used as a convenient cupboard in which to keep rubbers and other rainy day apparatus. In the living room or library are built-in bookcases which are one form of cupboards in which are kept the books. In the lower part of the bookcases there should be provided a row of drawers in which to keep magazines, newspapers and other things needed about a library which do not present as ornamental appearance as the books. Well kept books are real ornaments, in fact they are often used solely for this purpose, and for this reason they should be protected from the dust which through sad infrequency are invariably gathered upon them if they are not protected. The best way to do this is to provide glass. Clear glass is preferable to leaded glass, for the books alone are ornament enough. All bookcase shelves should be adjustable, in fact every cupboard in the house containing shelves should have adjustable cleats on each side and the backs of all cupboards should be sealed.

In the dining room cupboards are usually provided either in the form of a china closet or a sideboard. Since the latter is mostly for ornamental purposes, a great deal of cupboard space which is provided in a built-in sideboard should be planned with some attention to its requirements. There should be at least two shallow small drawers and one wide shallow drawer, the wide drawer for dories and centerpieces, the narrow drawers for napkins and silverware. The silverware drawer should be divided off into compartments for the various kinds of silver. There should be at least one wide shelf concealed by a wooden door in which to keep tablecloths with as few folds as possible. The rest of this sideboard can be divided into cupboards or drawers for various purposes in a manner giving the most pleasing appearance.

When a china closet is provided, it is best to have it against the wall which divides the dining room from either the pantry or kitchen, with wooden panel doors on the pantry or kitchen side, and glass doors on the dining room side. The drawers underneath the counter of the china closet should also run clear through and have handles at both ends. This makes it possible to place things in the closet from the kitchen or pantry side and take them out from the dining room side, which saves many steps. Pantry and kitchen cupboards should either extend to the ceiling or else have a slant roof built over the top of them above the line of convenient reach, so that the top of the cupboards will not become a catch-all or resting place for dust. The slant roof makes it easy to dust off and gives finish to the top. In most cases it is best, however, to run the cupboards to the ceiling. While it must be admitted that this does not look so well, kitchen and pantry cupboards are not for ornamentation, and the upper part of the cupboards, which should have separate



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drawers can be used for many things not needed every day. For example, fruit jars, after their contents have been taken out, can be placed into upper cupboards, there to stay for many months until canning season comes again. They are entirely out of the way and their destruction is less probable than if they were jostled about on shelves used for other purposes.

Kitchen and pantry cupboards are divided into two parts, the lower part being below what is called the counter, the counter being placed from thirty inches to thirty-four inches above the floor, according to preference, thirty inches being the standard table height and best for short women. Below the counter there should be drawers of several sizes and cupboards containing shelves. Above the counter it is best to leave an open space of about eighteen inches which makes a convenient table top handy on which to set things and especially when entertaining, these counter tops prove very convenient. The cupboard above is placed on iron or wood brackets as well as being secured to the partition behind. All kitchen and pantry cupboard doors should be wood doors, never glass, for obvious reasons.

In a cupboard, below the counter top, there should be provided at the most convenient location, preferably just near or under a window, built-in flour bins. Under the sink board a bottomless sliding door containing small brass rods on which to hang towels is very convenient. On these towels can be hung down and the doors are out of the way while drying. The wash stand and chiffonier and other furniture of this nature are really intended for cupboards on casters, designed to serve

an ornamental as well as useful purpose. In addition to these, however, some cupboards are also provided. For example: In the bathroom there should be a small medicine cabinet which is usually located just over the lavatory and contains a mirror door in front. The shelves in this cabinet should be adjustable so that they can be arranged according to the height of bottles put in it. The medicine cabinet should never be placed on the outside wall of a frame house in cold climates, for when the doors are closed, the contents within will invariably freeze.

When a linen room is provided, cupboards should be placed to open shelves, and in this

ceiling, being divided into three sections: the lowest section containing either drawers or cupboards, according to preference. The upper section, up to six and one-half feet above the floor, should have one set of drawers, and above that another set of drawers which can only be reached by a chair or ladder, and which will be used for the storage of off-season wearing apparel. Cedar linen cupboards are a very splendid thing, and are vermin proof, provided that no varnish is put upon the woodwork. It is also a good idea to seal the entire room, floor, walls and ceiling with cedar flooring, left smooth, but unvarnished. When clothes closets are large enough to contain a cupboard full of sliding drawers, such a cupboard should be made as follows: In the lower part provide several deep drawers for old and new shoes. Above these draw up to five feet high, place a row of wide shallow drawers. The drawers should not be less than three feet wide and preferably four feet wide, and very shallow, not more than three inches deep inside. These drawers are intended to contain but a few garments laid out full length in each drawer, such as skirts, trousers, and other wearing apparel which should not be folded. Flating but two or three garments in each drawer makes them easily obtainable, without disturbing a great deal of clothing. Above these drawers should be placed large cupboards, to be used as hat boxes, but the writer will frankly admit that he is at an utter loss to state just how large a woman's hatbox should be. Each woman must, therefore, decide this point to suit her own preference or requirements. It is suggested, however, that a hatbox four feet square would probably be the most advisable since it could be arranged inside to contain hats of any size that fashion might require.

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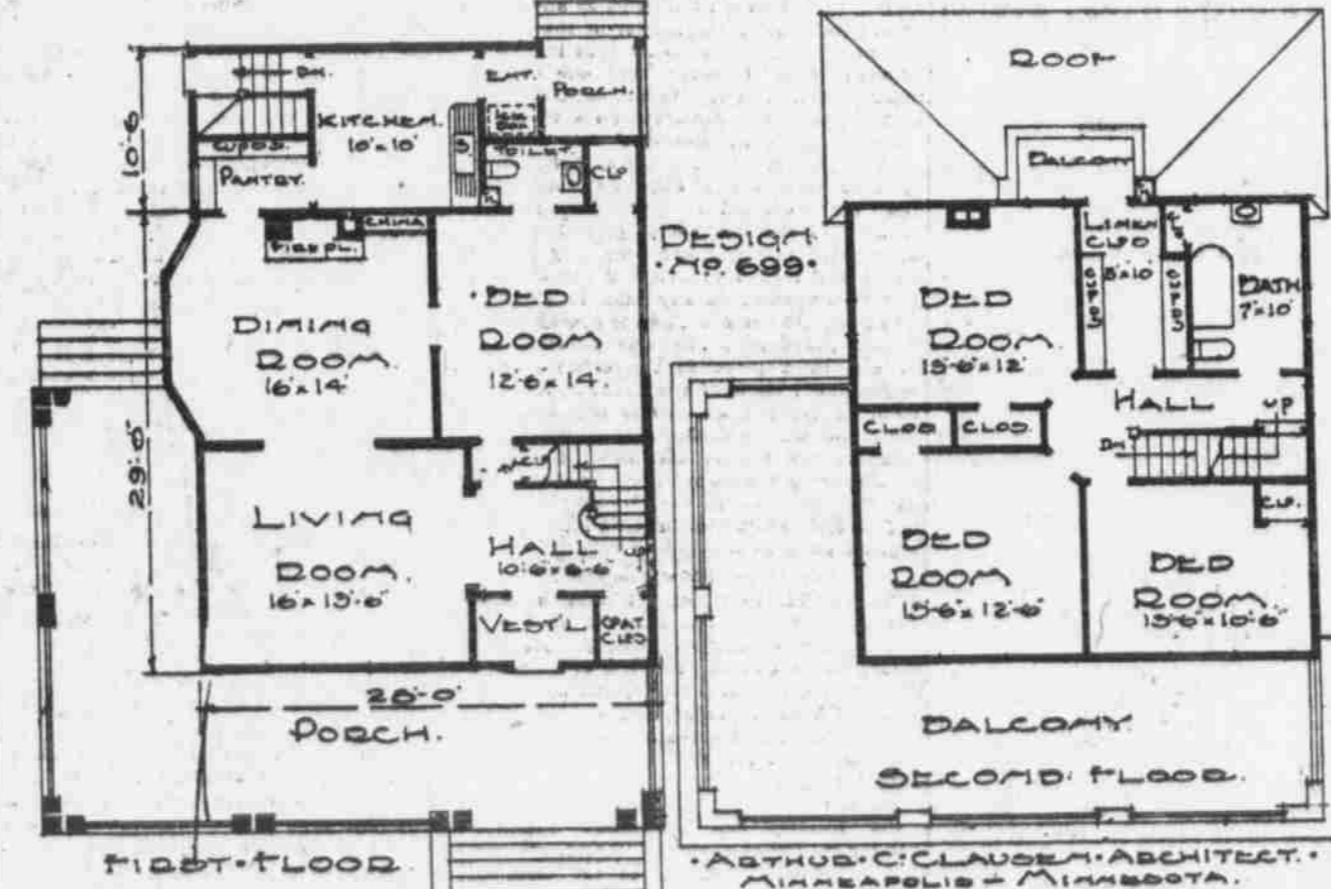
ROOM 548—Was especially designed as a suite desirable for lawyers. There are three rooms of good size, having solid tile partitions between all the apartments. The suite is in the southeast corner of the building, looking out on Farnam and Seventeenth streets; is conveniently located to the elevators and all the court rooms of Douglas county, affording every convenience. Per month, \$29.00

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Building Notes of the Week

The Omaha Sanitary Supply company has taken over the business of the Johnson-Rowe-Paige company and is notifying the trade to that effect. This firm will in the future conduct its business as an exclusive jobbing concern, carrying a large and assorted stock of plumbing, heating, water and steam engineers' supplies. Quality is to be the first and last consideration in its new departure. J. Harold Evans is the secretary of the new company.

The Margard Van and Storage company is daily adding to its list of pleased patrons by its safe and careful system of handling all business awarded it.

The man that is always telling his friends and family "that he is going to have a little home of his own some day" must cudge his brain overtime for an excuse these days, as the Modern Homes Construction company has presented a plan to that person that admits of no argument against "doing it now."

E. J. Davis reports that his business is steadily increasing. The hoisting of heavy

safes being one of his specialties this line of work is especially good due to his perfected system of handling a usually awkward job.

The Omaha Van and Storage company is keeping its entire force busy all the time. Its immense fireproof storage building, in connection with its expert knowledge of how to handle and store furniture, is responsible for the commercial activity around its office.

By maintaining a standard of quality in the manufacture of its product the Ideal Cement Stone company has no complaint to register, business being unusually good with it.

Milton Rogers & Sons company has recently secured the contract for the tile floors, vestibule and fireplaces in the handsome new residence Mr. Arthur English is building on Thirty-eighth and Cass streets.

Optimistic Report Returned on Crops

The Burlington freight offices are in receipt of a Nebraska corn crop report made by the Nye-Schneider-Fowler company, that operates elevators and warehouses at nearly every station on the Burlington, Union Pacific and Northwestern railroads in Nebraska. The report is made up from reports submitted by the company employees and from personal investigations of the members of the company, and bears date of August 15.

Unlike the report of the Cavers Elevator company, published Friday, the Nye-Schneider-Fowler compilation is optimistic, but not along the boom line. The summary places the corn crop of the east half of the state far ahead of that of last year and above the average of the last ten years.

The report describes the corn as being well cared, a good stand and rapidly passing beyond danger of frost.

Building Permits. W. D. Eirod, 450 North Fourteenth street, addition, 500; Nora A. Douglas, 217 Webster street, frame dwelling, \$2,500; Oliver Anderson, 1211 South Thirteenth street, addition, \$600; H. W. Dunn, 3011 Mason street, frame dwelling, \$2,500.

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