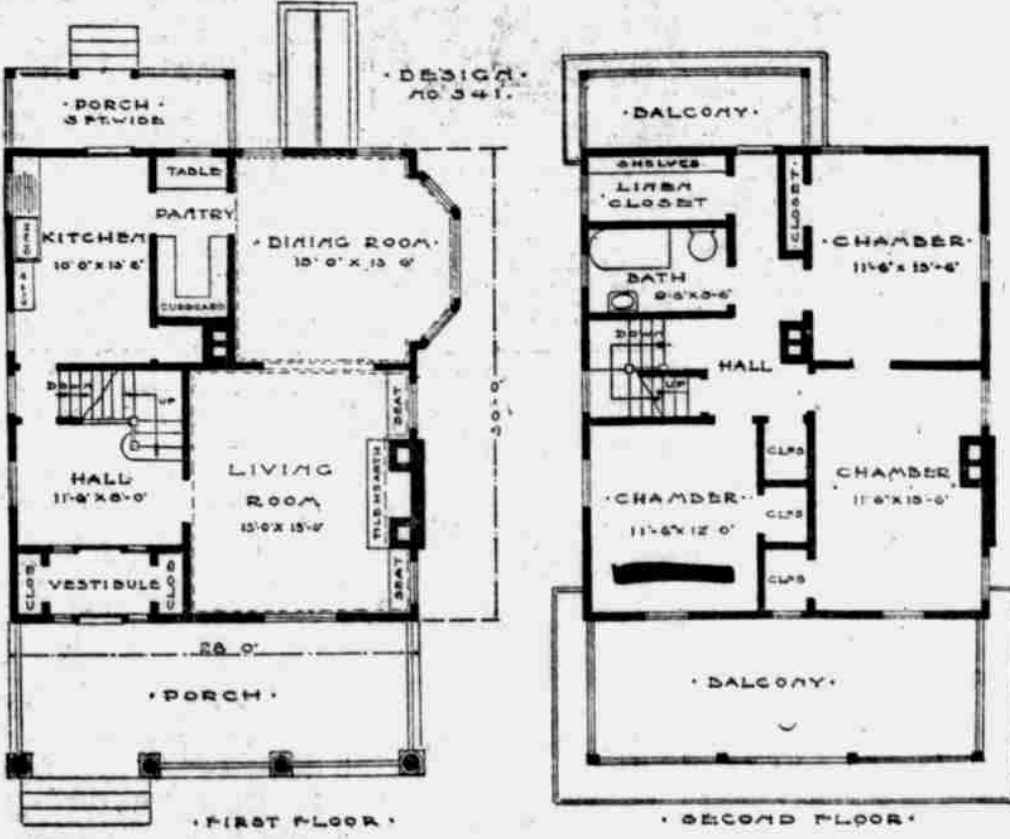


THE HOME BUILDERS PAGE

Suggestions Regarding Attic Rooms

By Arthur C. Clausen.



under the low slants of the roof in which to store furniture, trunks, etc. The solution of the old furniture problem, however, is not to have any, but is to dispose of it as fast as the limit of its use has been reached.

The view obtained from attic rooms is frequently more attractive than can be obtained from any room in the lower floors.

THE feeling against having living rooms in the basement or attic no doubt arises from the fact that basements and attics are usually left in the rough, and do not present a very inviting appearance. Their possibilities are therefore overlooked.

When one enters a house during the process of construction, the best room in it looks very crude and far from home-like, but when complete, finished, decorated and furnished it takes on an entirely different aspect. It is the same with basements and attics.

One can hardly blame a servant for not wanting to occupy a room in an attic when it is finished off in one remote corner, making it necessary for her to go through the greater portion of the attic with its barnlike, "spooky" appearance, and old, dusty furniture scattered around, and generally unattractive, but when the stair leading to the attic is broad, of easy rise, is plastered, has a hand rail, reaches the second floor in a light, well ventilated, plastered and decorated hall, which is connected with either one of several neatly furnished rooms, with any unfinished parts completely hidden from view by partitions with doors in them, when window sashes of ample size are provided to give full height, well ventilated rooms, there cannot possibly be any objection to a sleeping chamber in an attic.

The contention is often raised that being just under the roof, attic rooms are exceedingly warm, and it is quite true that this is usually the case, but due to two faults in roof construction. When the roof is papered well under the shingles and back parged between the studs, being constructed in every way as well as the outside wall of any frame house, and when plenty of good sized windows are provided in the dormers, with every room having openings that will permit of a cross circulation of air, attic rooms do not prove warmer than rooms on the second story. When there is any breeze stirring at all it is always more apparent in the attic rooms than rooms on the lower floors, since, being high, there is less obstruction from surrounding houses or buildings to deflect the prevailing winds.

There are other purposes for which the attic can be used in addition to servants' rooms or extra bed chambers. When there are young people in the family it is almost a crime not to furnish off the greater part of the attic as a miniature ballroom, with a good hardwood floor and neatly but inexpensively decorated. The expense is slight and such a room can be used by the young people in many ways. Fitted up with gymnastic paraphernalia it will make the boys of the family popular in the neighborhood, and contribute much to their health and enjoyment.

A little rostrum at one end with a couple of dressing rooms makes humdrum theatricals possible, and other light entertainments, and when a good dancing floor is provided the young people can under proper conditions enjoy this natural pastime.

An attic room is a splendid place for the billiard table when members of the family enjoy this game. Parlor croquet and tennis can also be played in a large attic ballroom. For the former it is necessary to have small holes bored in the floor in which to set the wickets. Bowling alleys are a little too noisy for the attic, and should be confined to the basement, when the house is long enough,

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but few homes are of proper length for this game.

The attic is a splendid place for a large storage linen room, fitted up with wardrobes, shelves, shallow drawers or trays in which to keep furs, dress occasion suits, off season clothing and extra bedding, to save crowding the clothes closets and linen closet on the second floor. This room can also be provided with a work table, sewing machine and fitted up with every convenience of a home dressmaking establishment.

When the means will permit, it is advisable to provide the servant with a private bath room, or at least a toilet room. After taking up all of the available space in the center of the attic, for various purposes, there is still plenty of room

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BUSINESS LURED BY TRACKS

The Tracks that Were Opposed Are Attracting Industries to Lower End of Business Section of City.

The Field club district has had its spring awakening and is a scene of great activity these days. A meeting has been called by President J. M. Guild for next Friday evening at the Field club, at which all the club's activities will be reported and further work outlined for the spring and summer.

An effort is being made to have the Woolworth avenue lighting system installed by the opening of the Field club, although that is not far distant.

An active campaign for the suppression of the evils of vacant lots, principal as the breeders of dandelions, will be conducted so that the efforts of the man who keeps his property in decent shape will not be thwarted by a lot next door or across the street.

The Park board has notified the club that it will give some attention this year to the central parking on Woolworth avenue by planting trees where trees are missing and will also put in several beds of barberry and low-growing spiraea. The club has taken up with the Park board the matter of running a water pipe into the central parking, so that these may be kept green in spite of any drought. Trees are being trimmed all over the neighborhood and lots of shrubbery planted.

The citizens here have raised in various ways nearly \$3,000 for the installation of thirty-five handsome concrete standards, each to carry one large globe, and thereby make Woolworth avenue graceful and attractive by day as well as by night.

Those who opposed the laying of switch tracks in the lower business section of the city, particularly the Union Pacific tracks up Jackson and Howard streets, have those very same tracks to call responsible for the many big factories that have located there in recent months. The last factory to pick that section was the Skinner Manufacturing company, makers of macaroni, when the lot was purchased a few days ago at Fourteenth and Jackson streets. This move marks the creation of the third industry in that section since the Union Pacific switch tracks were laid. The lot was bought from the McCague investment company for \$20,000, the tracks undoubtedly adding much to make that value.

The Skinner Manufacturing company is a home industry a little more than

two years old. The two-story and basement building, with a foundation for six stories, will occupy the full 60x112 feet space, 66 feet of trackage lying at the door. The other two new industries along those tracks are the David Cole Creamery company and the J. J. Hantgen Plumbing and Heating company's warehouse.

The Burlington and Northwestern switch tracks are mainly responsible for the location at Eighth and Farnam streets of the Omaha Cold Storage company's new \$200,000 building. The building will stand on the southwest corner, running 84 feet on Farnam street and 121 feet on Eighth street. The building is to be five stories high, with a foundation for eight or nine stories. Two switch tracks are turned into the alley south of the site, while another track will be smug against the building on Eighth street.

And in the future are other deals which may be directly brought about by the lure of switch tracks. Both the Henry & Allen company and T. G. Northwell & Co. are contemplating eight-story warehouse buildings just west of the corner of Eleventh and Jackson streets. Both companies have an eye on the advantages of these switching facilities.

The legislative committee of the Real Estate exchange is in a quandary over the communication recently received from the Devery exchange, favoring the bill framed for passage in congress to lay aside 1,000,000 acres of land in each of the western states—the land to be sold and the proceeds used in bettering the roads. Some are afraid that should this be done, speculators will get in the game and get a corner on these lands. This

(Continued on Page Eight.)

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