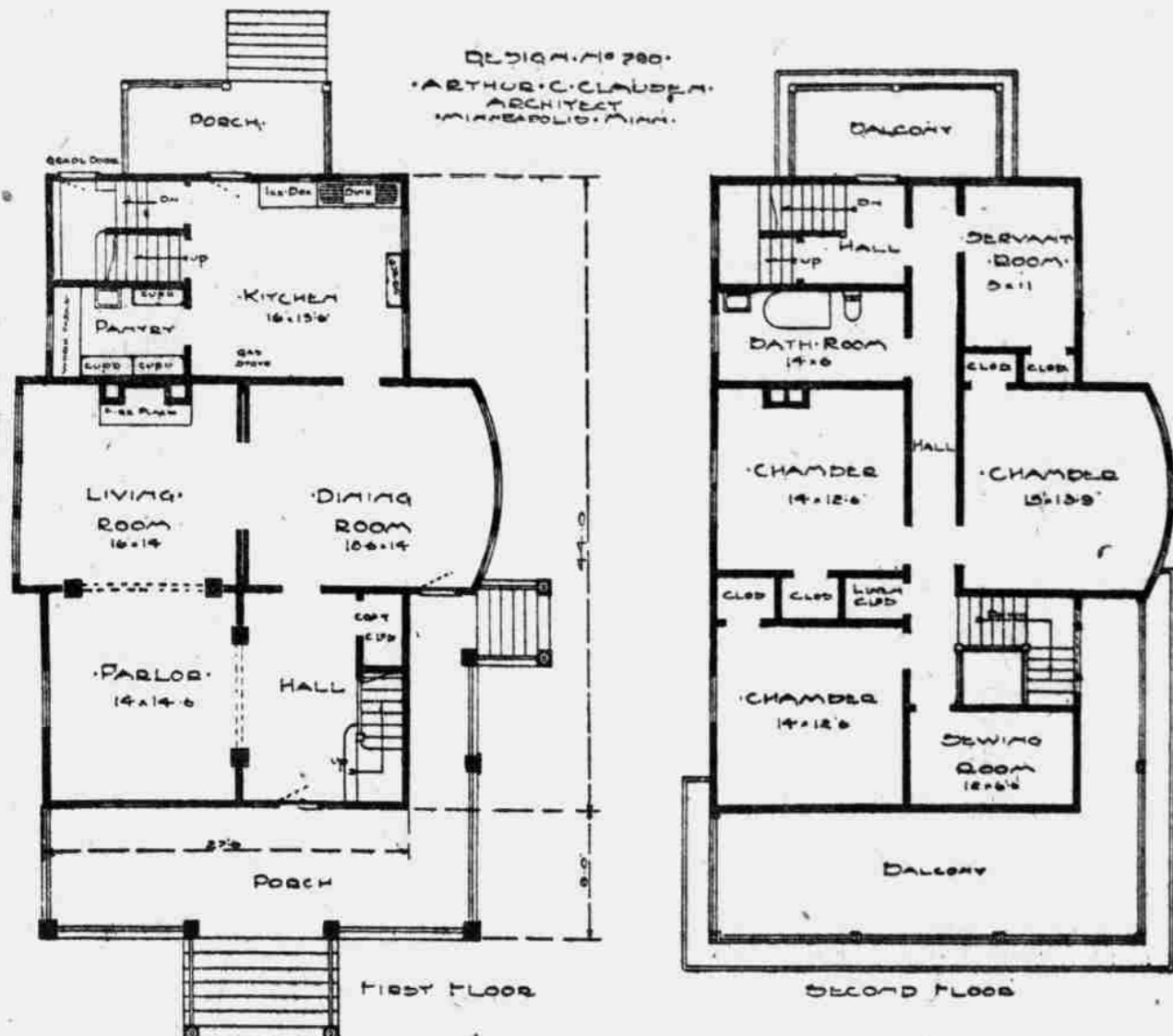


# Floors in Modern Homes

By Arthur C. Clausen.



**T**HE first part of a home which begins to show the test of time and wear is the floor. Floors require more attention than any other part of the inside of a home. The materials of which the floor is composed and how it is laid therefore receive careful attention.

Most people know what they want in the way of interior wood finish, such as doors and casings, but when it comes to floors, but few have a preference and with some of these few it is more a prejudice against some certain kind of flooring than it is a choice of some particular floor growing out of a knowledge of all flooring in general. Many people blame the poor appearance of their flooring when often it is not the fault of the flooring but the varnish used upon it. Some home builders provide for a very expensive inlaid parquet flooring around the large rugs, while others act upon the theory that the rugs covering so much of the floor it is immaterial what kind of flooring is used and put in the cheapest hardwood floor that is presentable regardless of how expensive the other woodwork in the rooms may be.

The following kinds of wood are the most commonly used in most parts of the country: Quarter sawed white oak, straight grained white oak, quarter sawed red oak, straight grained red oak, maple in several qualities. Of all these different kinds the most handsome floor is a quarter sawed white oak, with straight grained white oak as a good substitute. Red oak is a very open grained wood, splinters easily and requires a great deal of care in handling the material while laying to prevent it becoming chipped off at the corners and edges and for this reason it is hard to get a satisfactory red oak floor, although with proper care it can be done. All oak flooring requires a little more attention than other kinds in the way of renewing the finish. Maple is a very satisfactory floor, especially where it has to withstand a great deal of wear, such as in stores and factories. The better grades of maple flooring make a splendid floor throughout a home of moderate cost, but maple being very close grained does not take varnish well and is more satisfactory when waxed than when varnished and for this reason it is used a great deal in ball rooms. Birch takes a finish about the best of any flooring known. The varnish soaks into it and holds well. Unselected birch has a rather variegated patched appearance, although when clear is a good quality. Selected red birch is the most satisfactory in appearance. Georgia pine

**MR. CLAUSEN'S BOOK**  
 "The Art, Science and Sentiment of Homebuilding."  
 Thirty chapters, 300 illustrations. It covers a wide range of subjects, including the planning of bungalows, suburban and city homes, costing from \$5,000 to \$20,000, letting contracts, choosing materials, proper design of entrance, windows, fireplaces, etc. New third edition. Price, postpaid, \$1.00.  
 Address, Arthur C. Clausen, Architect, 1136-37-38 Lumber Exchange, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

and fir are used a great deal in certain parts of the country and are quite satisfactory for moderate and low cost houses. Cypress is also used to a moderate extent and makes a handsome floor. When it comes to rooms entirely separated from these, such as the kitchen, pantry, servants' dining room, etc., these can be of different kinds of flooring as desired to reduce the cost or make more practical for service purposes.

When the woodwork is the same throughout the rooms the following rule gives good results: With either white oak or red oak woodwork use white oak floor, either straight-grained or quarter-sawed. With mahogany or red birch woodwork use a red birch floor. In rooms finished in maple, white enamel, unselected light birch or any very light finish, a white maple floor.



## AMERICA'S BEST HOME CITY

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### ROOMY APARTMENTS; NO SLUMS

Famous London Times Gives Prominence to Omaha's Place Among Home Cities of World and Stamps it Leader.

Prospective home-builders and home furnishers will find The Bee an immense aid. The Home Builders' department has arranged with Arthur C. Clausen, the famous architect of Minneapolis, to give free information to all on the subject of building. Mr. Clausen will answer all building questions and will be pleased to have letters of inquiry written in detail. The coupon on the builders' page may be used. Letters should be addressed to Home Builders' department, The Bee, Omaha.

Visitors to Omaha are always impressed with the beauty of the city's homes—with the large yards and lawns and with the general spaciousness and roomy condition of the city. They notice the absence of slums and tenements; they are attracted by the beautiful homes, the handsome apartments and the neat, modern cottages. They could gain no other impression of Omaha, for this city, with no exception has the largest number of neat, clean and attractive dwellings of any city of the same size in America. Philadelphia, known as America's home city, is a beautiful place, and the thousands of homes that adorn the residence sections gain the admiration of every one. But the Quaker City is many times larger than Omaha and, for its size, does not have as many beautiful residences and delightful living places as Omaha, the best residence city of 125,000 people in the United States.

**Fame Has Spread Far.**  
 The fame of Omaha as a home city has spread beyond the boundaries of America, and the famous London Times in its issue of August 12, speaks of Omaha as "a city of beautiful homes" and adds:

"There are no blots in the shape of slums. The homes of the working men, clerks, artisans and small tradesmen are neat and modern. The city has no so-called tenements. It has a small proportion of flats, and the large area of the town makes possible spacious lawns for the greater majority of houses. This is one of the reasons why Omaha is third lowest among the cities of the United States in mortality. The city has a commission form of government, being one of the four cities of the United States with a population of more than 100,000 with this form of government."

If others see Omaha as a home city, it is up to you to help keep this city in this class by building substantial and attractive residences.

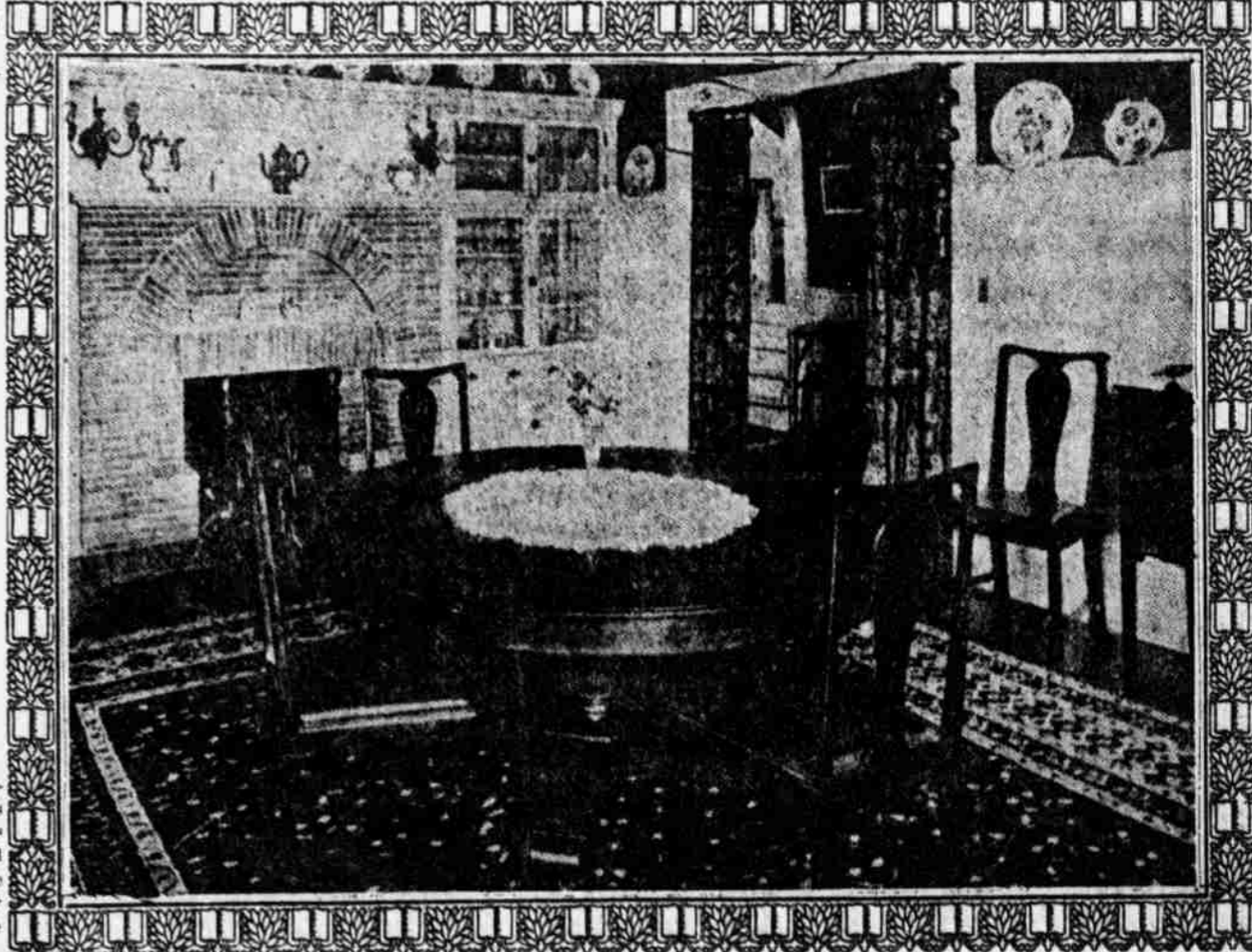
**Apartments Now Popular.**  
 Twenty-five years ago an apartment house was not considered the most desirable place. The private house was the chosen dwelling of those who could afford it. The changed attitude of society toward the apartment house has caused the architectural profession to give more attention to this class of work than it formerly received. So the apartment houses are being built bigger and bigger, until numbers have been completed in New York costing well over \$1,000,000.

Apartment houses will become more numerous as the city grows bigger—not only actually, but relatively. It means increased ease of living on the same income. Apartment houses, however, do not pay everywhere, but where they do they are apt to be a profitable form of investment.

In response to a quickly developing and rapidly growing demand for apartment houses in many of the choice residential sections of Brooklyn, builders are devoting time, energy and money to the erection of buildings of this class. Last year was a record breaker for construction in this line, but the present season is far ahead in its turn.

**Bungalows Get Attention.**  
 So great has been the rise in popularity

## Modern, Handsome Dining Room



**SPLENDID EXAMPLE OF TASTEFUL FURNISHING.**  
 This reproduction is from a photograph of a modern American home showing the beautiful creations that have been produced in a dining room. This furnishing and decoration is an example of the kind done by the Miller, Stewart & Beaton company, department of interior decoration.

of the bungalow that architects and builders throughout the country have been compelled to give special attention. All of the buildings called bungalows which have appeared in the various seashore and inland country and permanent home sections are not strictly of the bungalow type, but are so called merely because they possess a few features of the style of structure which has taken a strong hold on the builders of small houses.

Some of the most interesting architectural competitions held recently called for plans for bungalows, and the designs submitted, while showing a wide variety of arrangements, give in many cases some of the most attractive ideas any bungalow builder might desire. One of the largest of these competitions was held recently by the National Fireproofing company. Several hundred of the leading bungalow architects of the country submitted designs. The buildings, complete in every respect, had to come within a cost of \$4,000, and the principal materials for walls had to be fireproof blocks.

A Pittsburgh architect was awarded first prize for the design shown here. Many of the other plans had special

charm, but this met with the greatest approval because of the excellent arrangement of the rooms and the economies in space. This house, the architect believes, can be erected for 20 cents a cubic foot. There are almost 3,000 cubic feet in the building, which brings the cost just below the specified \$4,000. By items he has figured the expense of such a building as follows:

Excavating	\$180
Natio hollow tile	720
Plaster and carpentry	810
Lumber and carpentry	750
Mill work	272
Painting	176
Electric wiring	125
Hardware	50
Plumbing	225
Hot air heating	125
Miscellaneous	702

cess with its co-operative home building plan.

Milton Rogers furnished the builders' hardware for the new granite receiving vault and crematory in the West Lawn cemetery. This building is constructed of beautiful granite. It is just about as solid as a building can be made.

**Beauty in Decorating.**  
 The last but most important detail in the completion of a new home is the interior furnishing and decorating. It matters not whether the home is a modern cottage, or a mansion of fifty rooms, if the furnishing is not in keeping with the house it is not satisfactory.

In Miller, Stewart & Beaton's department of interior decorating is an expert artist of years' experience in house furnishing, one who has made decorating a life study. Home lovers appreciate the advantage of having some one to advise intelligently as to colors suitable for rugs, wall decorations, draperies and styles of furniture that are most suitable for certain rooms.

Miller, Stewart & Beaton take special pains to keep in close touch with the newest and most original ideas that are developed from time to time by the best artists of this country and Europe, and are associated with artists in New York, London and Paris who send designs and sketches of the finest decorative work that is being executed in these cities at the present time. This store's new line shows a very interesting selection of clever designs and ideas in all the newest and best examples of the art of the wall paper designer. In frescoing, mural painting, Tiffany blended effects or mottled effects on canvas these decorators are excellent, as they are directed by an artist of many ideas and great originality. A card or telephone call will bring an expert to visit you.

The county commissioners are considering a plan by which the material in the old Douglas county court house may be used to erect a new county hospital.

The Swedish Building association proposes to erect a \$5,000 club house on the south side of Chicago street, between Sixteenth and Seventeenth streets.

The Cudahy Packing plant at South Omaha will be enlarged, \$400,000 being spent in the work, which has been started.

The Perseverant and Judicious Use of Newspaper Advertising is the Road to Business Success.

### ONE OF AMERICA'S MODERN APARTMENT HOUSES.



**BEAUTY IS ATTAINED BY USE OF HANDSOME BRICK.**

This beautiful building was constructed of hydraulic press brick, the kind sold by the Hydraulic Press Brick company, 230 Bee building, Omaha. This apartment is located on Riverside Drive, at the north corner of Ninety-third street, New York City. The beauty of the structure attracts the attention of thousands who pass along the famous drive.

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## IMPROVE YOUR PROPERTY Let the Oldest Omaha Firm Do the Work

**Call Us**

P.S.—We have recently decorated the Orpheum theater, and among the artistic representations there is our latest exclusive painting which is called "A Musical Enchantment."

**E**ITHER describe or prepare a rough sketch showing the number, location and approximate size of the rooms for your home. Then answer the following questions and mail to Home Builders' Department, The Bee, Omaha, Neb.

Size and Location of Lot? .....

What direction will house face? .....

Coldest and warmest temperature? .....

Size of House? .....

Approximate Cost of House complete? .....

Style of House preferred? .....

Height of Stories? .....

Exterior Wall of Stone, Brick, Cement, Siding or Shingles? .....

Kind of Foundation? .....

Style of Roof? .....

Roof of Tile, Slate or Shingles? .....

Style of Front Door? .....

Porch large or small and where located? .....

Bay Windows in what rooms? .....

Front Vestibule or not? .....

Siding Doors between what rooms? .....

Columned Openings between what rooms? .....

Beamed Ceilings in what rooms? .....

Pantry between dining room and kitchen, or Cupboards in kitchen? .....

Sideboard built in or provided by owner? .....

Plate Rail in dining room? .....

Fireplaces in what room? .....

Brick or Tile Fireplaces? .....

Paneled Wainscoting, what rooms? .....

Mirrors in Doors, where? .....

Toilet Room on first floor or basement? .....

Laundry in basement? .....

How many Bed Rooms? .....

Attic Stair or Scuttle to Attic? .....

How many Rooms in Attic? .....

Storm Sash, Doors and Screens? .....

Porch Screened or not? .....

Plate Glass, where? .....

Upper Sash divided or plain? .....

Art or Leaded Glass, where? .....

Kind of Woodwork in all rooms? .....

Kind of Wood Floors? .....

Tile Floors, where? .....

Plastering, rough or smooth? .....

Kind of Heating Plant? .....

Most Accessible Place for Coal Chute? .....

Gas Range or Coal Stove? .....

City Water, Cistern or Well Water Supply? .....

Sewer in Street, or Cesspool? .....

Electric or Gas Light? .....

Number in Family? .....

Name .....

Occupation .....

Street Number .....

City .....

State .....