

# The American Home

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Editor

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building, for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 178 West Jackson boulevard, Chicago, Ill., and only enclose two-cent stamp for reply.

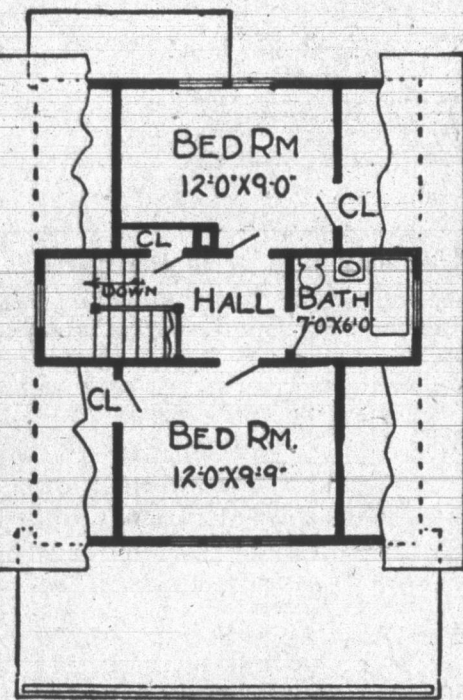
Investigations show that the majority of men working on salaries are paying out one-quarter or more of their entire earnings in rent. Take paper and pencil and sit down and figure out what this rent bill amounts to in the course of a year; then see the amount it comes to in ten years. You will be almost appalled at the size of the amount. In most cases it is enough to buy outright a fine house and lot, a valuable property that can be made into a real home.

But what has the renter to show for this money at the end of ten years? Nothing but a big pile of rent receipts. Nothing that he can call really his own after paying out enough money to buy the house. He has no more right to it than he day he moved in, and may be turned out into the street any time his everlasting rent payments are not made.

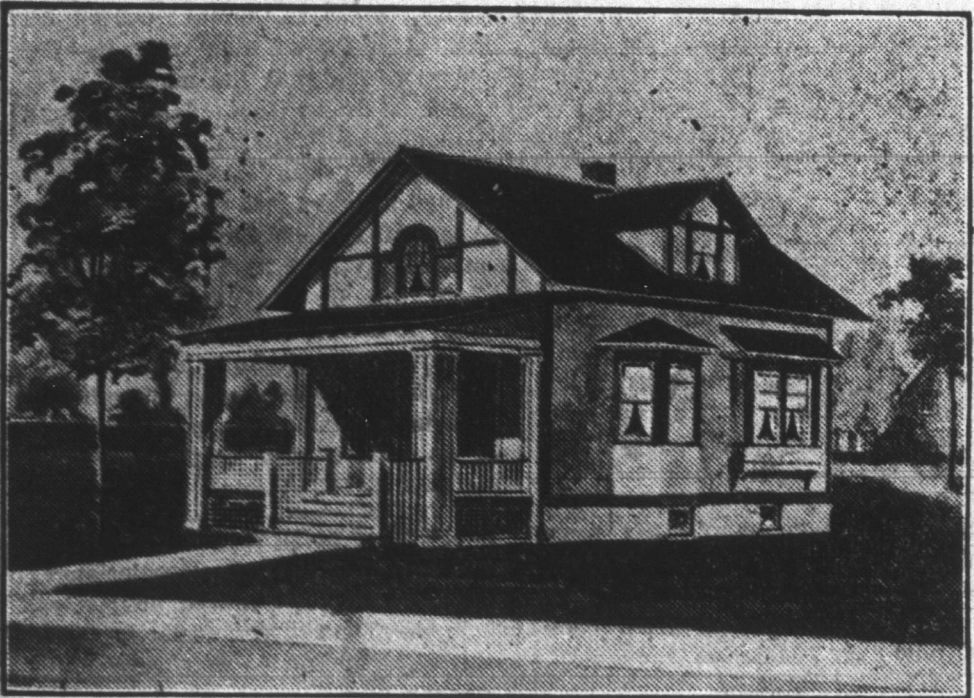
And, after all, the investment feature, the money end of the proposition, is really of minor importance compared to some others. Parents having the welfare of their children at heart should make any sacrifice needed to provide a real home for them to grow up in. Think of the delights of the "Old Home" you once knew. What fond memories cluster about it. What an influence for good that old place has been to you in your life! You have looked back to it with reverence and have hurried back to it eagerly whenever there was a chance. "Home" is the most beautiful word in the English language. There is no place on earth like home.

What do you suppose your children

Home builders are considered the very best kind of security, and the real estate man and property owners are eager to do business, with them, from \$100 to \$500 is all that it requires as a first payment to start you on the road to the ownership of a substantially built home-like little place like the one illustrated herewith. After you have made the start it is just as easy to make the monthly payment as it is to pay rent, for these payments can

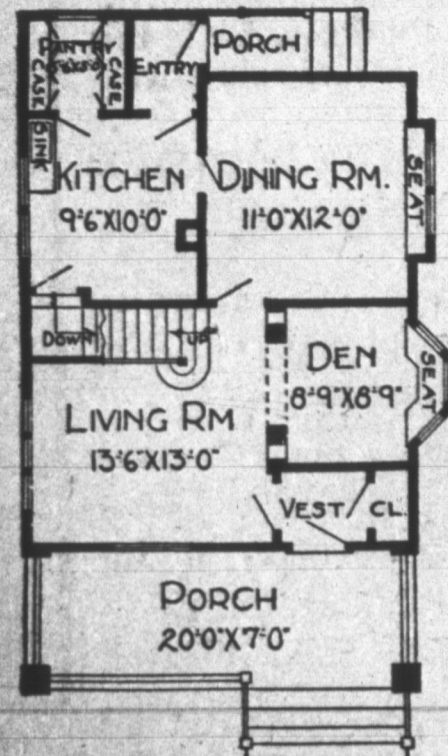


be arranged so that they amount to the same as rent, including both payment on the principal and the interest on the unpaid balance. The insurance and taxes are usually extra, but these are relatively small items and are not enough to deter any man from embarking in a home-owning enterprise. Of course there should be reason in this as in other things. One should not buy too expensive a place, any



are to do for a home, when you have rented all your life, moving every year or so from one rented house to the next? That does not make a real home and is not fair to the children. Love of home and love and respect of parents go hand in hand. They are the two most sacred things in life.

There is a sense of security, of ownership, of permanence in a possession of even a small cottage. It makes life happier and more worth while. Sometimes you hear people say: "It costs more to own a home than it does to pay rent." This is not true, but even if it were true, the arguments



still would be on the side of owning your own home, both for your own and for your children's sake.

Anyone who is paying rent right along can easily save for himself the landlord's profit and own his own home. We all know of many landlords who are not only making a good living, but are growing wealthy by borrowing money, building houses with it and renting them to people who, if they realized it, could with a little effort just as well build or buy the home for themselves.

more than he should attempt to "show off" by buying too elaborate or expensive clothing. The more expensive residence can come later if you desire, after you have finished paying for the first modest little home. Many have begun this way and have eventually become large real estate owners through systematic saving.

This is a story-and-a-half cottage of six rooms. It has a very artistic, home-like appearance, being in good style and substantially built. It is stated that the house has been built complete for \$2,300, using good substantial grade of material throughout.

This is a dwelling that is well suited to the requirements of a small building lot. The total width of the house is 24 feet, its length 30 feet, not including the front porch. A building of rectangular form like this is most economical to build, since there is nothing complicated about the roof nor no jogs nor corners in the walls to add to the expense.

The arrangement is all that could be desired for a house of this size. From the front porch a square vestibule is entered. To the left is the living room, a good-size, home-like, apartment with an open stairway at one side, ascending to the second story. A novel feature of this design is the den, which is really a part of the living room, being connected with it by a columned opening. The wide bay window with built-in seat, makes this little room very attractive indeed. The dining room, kitchen and pantry are well arranged for housekeeping work.

On the second floor two good sized bedrooms are provided, each with a large closet and storage space. A bathroom is on this floor, opening from the hall. For a small house this design is well worth considering.

It Helped Him, Anyway. "Your husband doesn't look very sick, Mrs. Anderson," said the doctor who was called in to attend a patient suffering from too much hot weather. "Ah, sure, you should have seen him half an hour ago," replied Mrs. Anderson. "He was that faint I didn't think I could resuscitate him, but I gave him automatic spritzers of pneumonia and he came around splendid."

## ELEPHANT AND DONKEY IN RACE



AS THE result of a bet made some months ago by "Uncle Joe" Cannon and Frederick Thompson, an amusement park manager of New York, an elephant and a donkey started the other day in a race from Long Island to Washington—275 miles. Each animal carried a big sign "1912 or Bust," and the race was a go-as-you-please, to end at the White House steps. Needless to say, the former speaker backed the elephant, the stake being a big black cigar.

## ADIEU TO OWN BOAT

Mrs. Splear Was Determined to Be On Time.

Wanted to Laugh at Stragglers and Finally Sees Steamship Carrying Her Clothes and Money Go Away Without Her.

New York.—Mrs. Splear was going to Antwerp.

Mrs. Splear is going to Antwerp, but things have happened between that "was" and "is."

Mrs. Splear was going on board the Lapland of the Red Star line, and she was going to get down to the pier in time. So, when the watchman opened the doors, there was Mrs. Splear sitting on the curb with three suit cases and other packages. By half-past seven o'clock she had persuaded a steward to let her into her cabin and had arranged the flowers she had brought and the pictures of her sister's little boy.

Mrs. Splear removed her hat. Then she tucked a cumbersome hand bag, which held all of her money, under a mattress. Then she decided to go out and have a good laugh at the stragglers who would get down to the pier at the very last moment and have to charter tugboats.

After a while Mrs. Splear noticed a large crowd at the end of the pier. They were all waving handkerchiefs. Some were laughing; others were crying. If there is one thing Mrs. Splear is, besides plump, it is curious, and she wanted to know why there were so many people at the end of the pier.

Presently Mrs. Splear found herself in the very center of the crowd, and the spirits of waving things being contagious, Mrs. Splear wanted to wave something, too. But she didn't have even her handkerchief, so she just waved her hand.

After she had waved the hand for a while a steamship began to back away from a pier—the very pier on which Mrs. Splear was standing, too—so the woman waved all the harder until the bow of the vessel appeared.

Then Mrs. Splear stopped waving, for on the bow she could read the name Lapland. When the officers of the Red Star managed to calm Mrs. Splear down to a hysterical state merely the Lapland was rolling past the Statue of Liberty. The woman was put aboard the steamship Arabic of the White Star line, and will get at Antwerp about the same time that the Lapland does, but Mrs. Splear faced the difficult problem of crossing the Atlantic with only the clothing she had on and without funds.

## FLIGHT OF STAIRS STOLEN

New Yorker Has Difficult Task in Making Police Understand His Excited Complaint by Phone.

New York.—Here, then, is the man who is probably a second cousin of the man you've heard about who would steal a red-hot stove. For this man stole a—well, to put things in regular order, the whole affair started when an excited individual took off the receiver of his telephone in the apartment house at 1944 Madison avenue, and more or less excitedly asked central to connect him with the police department, the fire department, the building department or Mayor Gaynor. He didn't seem to care very much which one he was connected with, either, but he wanted it quickly. At any rate, he got one of the four on the wire, and this is what he said: "I live on the sixth floor of this building, 1944 Madison avenue, and something has gone wrong with

the elevator bell, so I started to walk down the stairs. It went all right until I got to the second floor, and then I found out that some one had stolen the stairs."

From the other end of the wire—"Yes, I said the stairs, the s-t-a-i-r-s, stairs—do you get that? Some one stole the stairs. They're gone, I can't get down, and I want help. I've got a job and a boss that likes to see me get in on time, and I'm no Ray Ewry. I can't jump down a flight of stairs when there's no stairs there."

Investigation disclosed that the flight of wooden steps leading from the ground to the second floor had actually been removed, and a carpenter was hastily summoned to put up a temporary stairway for the imprisoned tenants.

## DISEASE OF DOGS AND CATS

Mysterious Epidemic in London Classed as Contagious Gastro-Enteritis, Killing Dogs.

London.—It would appear that an epidemic of a little known disease is sweeping through London, dealing death to hundreds of cats and dogs. The ailment, which is comparatively new to England, having made its first appearance in Bristol a few years ago, is known to veterinary surgeons as Stuttgart or contagious gastro-enteritis. At present the epidemic is most marked in the southern suburbs, but several valuable cats whose homes are in the west end have died of the disease.

In its earlier stages the symptoms of the disease closely resemble those

of strychnine poisoning, and, according to several veterinary surgeons interviewed by a representative of the Washington Star, this similarity has been mainly responsible for the numerous reports received by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals that poisoners are at work destroying household pets. A similar outcry was raised six weeks ago in the Cullompton district of Devonshire, where cats were dying in great numbers, but analysis failed to find any traces of poison in the stricken animals. Coincident with the Cullompton epidemic a similar scourge was reported from Northamptonshire and Hertfordshire.

Practically nothing is known of the bacteriology of the disease, but everything points to its being of microbe origin. The probability is that several distinct germs are present, some akin to the bacilli which cause acute intestinal complaints in human beings and others resembling the putrefactive or septic germs found in acute gangrenous conditions.

## Whale Gives Rich Jewel.

Victoria, B. C.—A piece of ambergris said to be worth \$150,000 was taken from a whale killed by the whaler Petriana, which arrived here the other day. The ambergris is said to be one of the largest pieces ever found.

The unwelcome visitor had doubtless climbed the large rosebush which grew by the house and crawled along to the bedroom window.

When Lucas got into bed he was surprised by touching the reptile. It sent a chill over him, but he kept his presence of mind, immediately rose, and with a club dispatched the snake.

## Invited to Wear Trousers

Special Notice is Issued to Remind Guests of Grand State Ball Who Might Be Forgetful.

London.—The preparations for a grand state ball which King George was to attend were made carefully as will be seen from the following announcement in the St. James Gazette: "Both the entrances to Grosvenor house are to be used tonight for the duchess of Westminster's ball. The carriages of royal guests and of ambassadors will be parked in upper Grosvenor street, all other carriages in Hyde Park entering by way of Grosvenor gate. Dress for gentlemen is full dress uniform with trousers. The last sentence is very effective."

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## Yields \$6,000,000 in Gold.

Seattle, Wash.—Advises received by Seattle banks from their correspondents at Fairbanks, Alaska, say the season's gold output of the Tanana district will be at least \$5,000,000 and may reach \$6,000,000, exceeding by \$1,500,000 the estimates made two months ago.

## TIME BY MERIDIANS

ARRANGEMENT THAT MAKES THE COMMON STANDARD.

System Dates From 1883, and Was Devised to Meet the Requirements of the Railroads—Explanation Is Simple.

The measure of any circle, including the circumference of the earth, of course, is 360 degrees. The earth revolves on its axis once in 24 hours; hence the sun appears to pass over one-twenty-fourth of the circumference of the earth in one hour. It is always noon at some point on the earth's surface, and of course at a point half-way around the earth, it is midnight. The extension of the railway systems of the United States, which cover nearly 60 degrees of longitude, caused all kinds of trouble because of the difference of time. It is noon by the sun at any point on the earth's surface when the sun is directly over the meridian of that point—that is, it is noon by sun time; but nobody runs by sun time. Why? Because the movement of the earth in its orbit is faster in winter than in summer; so that the time commonly called "sun time," at each city, is not sun time, as measured by the minute the sun reaches the meridian of that point; but, what is called "mean time," which is the average time throughout the year that the sun would be on the meridian if the motion of the earth were absolutely equal at all points in its orbit.

The more the railway business of the country increased, the greater became the trouble. So, in 1883, the system called "standard time" was devised and adopted by all the railroads in the United States. The plan—and a remarkably wise one—was to designate certain meridians, 15 degrees apart—and where the difference in actual sun time would, of course, be exactly one hour—and have the time be the same for a space of country, of which these meridians should be the middle.

The first meridian is that of 75 degrees west of Greenwich. This line passes just east of Philadelphia. For seven and one-half degrees east and west of this, the railroads keep what is known as "eastern time." The next meridian is that of 90 degrees west of Greenwich, which passes through Wisconsin, eastern Iowa and close to Memphis. This is called "central time." The next is the space, 15 degrees wide, of which the meridian of 105 degrees west of Greenwich is the middle. That meridian passes through the eastern edges of Montana and Wyoming, and just west of Denver. This is called "mountain time." The next time-strip has its middle on the meridian of 120 degrees west of Greenwich, which passes through Washington, Oregon and California. This is called "Pacific time."

For instance, suppose one is traveling from San Francisco east, and sets his watch in that city. Suppose he comes east over the Union Pacific. At Ogden, which the railroad has made the point of time-division, he sets his watch an hour faster. At Cheyenne Mills, Colo., he sets it an hour faster again, for the changes from mountain to central time. He reaches Chicago, and goes east over the Lake Shore. At Buffalo he sets his watch one hour faster, that being the dividing point between central and eastern time. When he does this he finds his watch agreeing with the time of the places through which he passes, and with the railway timecards. If he traveled westward, he would simply set his watch one hour slower at the point named.

## Jewels That Deck Queen.

At almost all the court functions which have been so numerous this month the queen's preference for diamonds over any other jewels has been invariably manifested. Beautiful as are sapphires, emeralds and other colored stones, it is certain that no gem can compete with diamonds in brilliance of effect.

They are the court stones par excellence and set off the magnificence of a court toilet as no other jewel can. Diamonds are particularly becoming to the queen, and her majesty never looks better than when wearing her high crown of alternate Maltese crosses and fleurs de lis and her dog collar of diamonds of lattice work design.

Queen Alexandra, on the other hand, had a marked preference for pearls and colored stones, particularly amethysts, of which her majesty possesses a beautiful parure, which does not form part of the crown jewels but is her own private property.—London Gentlewoman.

## Fine Work by Southern Boys.

A few years ago the average yield of corn to the acre in South Carolina was a fraction over eight bushels; last year the crop had grown to an average of 18 and a fraction bushels. This shows growth in intelligence of culture as well as in quantity, says a writer in the American Magazine.

The cause of the increase has been the boys of South Carolina, and in fact of the whole south. Jerry Moore, who in 1910 produced 228 bushels of corn on one acre of land, is the champion of an army of over 5,000 boys in South Carolina alone enrolled in the Boys' Corn clubs of the south. They have not only been learning what can be done on the farms with a scientific application of fertilizers and a deeper furrowing of the plow, but they have taught their elders.