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City Planning

When our fathers started out to conquer this continent, they gave little thought to anything save the clearing of forests, the building of railroads, and the organization of industries. Towns were a by-product of that activity, planted wherever it chanced for the time to be most convenient. Therefore, a majority of our cities have come into existence like Topsy who "just grew up."

Streets were laid out without any idea of future development, factories were mingled with dwellings and very little thought was given to what might be demanded by growth.

But now the day of reckoning has come and we are beginning to see that a town is not like a weed, which can grow anywhere and under any circumstances, but is very largely an artificial thing which must be as carefully planned as a building.

This effort to build a city with the future in view, to organize it in such a way that all its parts will develop in harmony with each other, has blossomed out into the new science of city planning.

In adopting a plan, a city makes a map of itself and decides just what developments shall be permitted in what sections, it regulates building heights, it lays out factory sites, it is careful that street extensions keep the future in view, sewers are laid in such territory as not to be moved in the future, railways and street car lines are compelled to branch out according to plan and such boulevards and parks are arranged for as will make the town a harmoniously developed unit.

The city planner does just what the prudent individual does who provides against the future. He knows that land values are constantly rising in the city and is therefore anxious to buy property for parks not only of such an area as may now be needed, but such as the city will need in the future. He is careful to see that the playgrounds are established where the coming generations can use them as well as the present, and he demands that private enterprise, in fair and just degree, be subordinated to the purpose and plan of the city as a whole.

City planning is not a theory still hanging in the air, but in many towns is an accomplished fact. For over thirty years, German municipalities have had city planning ordinances in operation. And what the advantages are when a city develops according to specifications rather than according to chance is well known to every traveler who has visited those beautiful towns.

But even in this country city planning has passed the experimental stage. New York is already at it. Boston has accomplished much in that direction. Minneapolis has some excellent ordinances and Washington, our capital city, is a shining example of the superiority of a plan over mere chance.

The American City Bureau of New York City has collected a large amount of interesting data on city planning and has arranged it in the form of an exhibit. By means of the lectures which are given in connection and the charts, maps, photographs, etc., which are shown, the business man who has never before heard of city planning is made to see that it is only the city which develops itself in this scientific and business like fashion that is going to be successful in its future competition with sister cities. Members of the present city administration testify that a plan agreed upon by the city as a whole would not only make their work much easier and more efficient, but would, in the coming decades, save the city many hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Marshal Shows Preventative Measures in New Housing Law

INDIANAPOLIS, March 18.—Many important measures for fire prevention are contained in the Indiana housing law, recently passed by the state legislature, according to the state fire marshal. So closely is it related to the work he has offered that where the fire marshal goes, he is emphasizing the importance of the new law and is advocating its strict enforcement throughout the entire state.

Probably the strongest single force for fire prevention in the housing law, according to the fire marshal, is the requirement that all tenement houses more than three stories high be of fireproof construction.

"Fireproof" Defined.

The law defines a fireproof tenement house as "one the walls of which are constructed of brick, stone, cement, iron or other hard, incombustible material, and in which there are no wood beams or linters; and in which the floors, roofs, stairs, halls and public halls are built entirely of brick, stone, cement, iron or other hard incombustible material, in which no woodwork or other inflammable material is used in any of the partitions, furniture or ceilings."

"This definition," the law states, "shall not be construed as prohibiting elsewhere in the stair-halls or entrance-halls, the use of wooden floors on top of the fireproof floors,

Fighting for the Interests

For reasons that are perfectly obvious, the shipping interests of our eastern coast are vigorously fighting President Wilson's measure intended to nullify that clause in the Panama Canal regulations which exempts American coastwise shippers from paying toll. These interests have conducted an active lobby against the move and have at last succeeded in getting a strongly worded minority report before the House of Representatives.

Representative J. R. Knowland, a California solon, is the father of this document and has therein apparently exhausted his well stocked vocabulary of stinging expletives. "It would be far better to abolish the Canal itself than to surrender its control to foreign power." That alone should be sufficient to put a wet blanket over the whole Democratic administration, but he does not stop there. "To surrender would be an act of national cowardice! The canal is one of the greatest achievements of this country and no other nation has aided. It is presumptuous for any nation to demand all the benefits of a partnership and be unwilling to assume a single burden." After recovering his breath, the gentleman wound up with the one bomb every oratorical artilleryman always saves for the wind-up: "We have reached a crisis in our history."

From these incandescent sentences it is obvious the mere facts about the Panama Canal tolls question have not percolated so far westward as that remote vicinity where Mr. Knowland has his grub stakes.

The canal will not be "surrendered to foreign power" by our refusing to exempt coastwise shipping from paying tolls. The canal will be governed according to the regulations agreed on by the last Republican congress (of which Representative Knowland was himself a member) on March 13, 1912 and signed by President Taft. If the English language is still able to convey definite facts, those regulations guarantee to this country absolute control of the canal.

But those regulations and no other regulations, though they be passed by a dozen congresses, would justify us in violating the solemn compact into which we entered and agreed that all nations should pay equal tolls for the use of the canal.

The canal is one of the greatest achievements of this country and no other nation had aided." No other nation has aided in digging the ditch itself, but what would that waterway be worth if other nations had not responded to the great opportunity by erecting facilities for taking care of their share of the new industries made certain by the canal. The figures actually show that Central and South American countries have spent more money in making harbor and other improvements than the canal itself has cost us.

These improvements are as essential to the success of the enterprise as the ditch itself or as the great locks which are the pride of our engineers. And who will say that this investment of money does not entitle these and other nations similarly interested in having something to say about the world's use of the canal?

Representative Knowland is equally wrong in declaring that other countries are to bear none of the burdens of maintenance. Every ship that passes through the locks will pay its toll, whether it hails from Britain or the Sandwich Isles. And those tolls themselves are designed to pay for the project, and will pay for it if such men as Representative Knowland do not mess the thing up.

It will require a great deal more than Representative Knowland's pernicious eloquence to persuade this nation to violate its solemnly enacted treaty and to prostitute its national honor which is at stake in the premises. It will require a great deal more than the threats of the California congressman to persuade the ninety million people in this broad land to pay annual tribute to the fat gentlemen whose shipping trust is now so powerful as to defy dissolution by the whole Democratic administration. Indeed, the day is rapidly approaching when such oratory as that furnished by Representative Knowland will not have any value at all, not even to the interests who have probably inspired it.

lice exists. If not, the local board of health is responsible for seeing that property owners conform to its requirements. In case the board of health cannot enforce the law, the city mayor is held responsible. The fire marshal is urging local officials everywhere, to take particular pains to see that the law is enforced.

Reduces Hazards.

The fire marshal believes that the new law, if strictly enforced, will greatly reduce the hazard to property and life which naturally exists in dense and crowded rooming houses. Any house which shelters more than two families according to the fire marshal, comes under the scope of the Indiana housing law.

The housing law contains many other provisions which are sure to result in the reduction of fire hazards," says the fire marshal. "For instance, the law definitely states that no closet of any kind, except one of fireproof construction, may be placed under a stairway leading from the first floor to an upper story. Such space requirement means added protection to the lives of the people dwelling in tenement houses."

Protection From Ashes.

The new law, according to the fire marshal, also requires that the owner of every tenement house in Indiana shall provide proper receptacles for ashes, rubbish and every sort of refuse in the building.

The enforcement of the Indiana housing law rests with the building inspector of each city, in case his of

Home Gathering at First English Lutheran Church on March 19

The First English Lutheran church has issued the following invitation:

Dear Friend—The Men's Brotherhood assisted by the other societies of the church and the pastor, has arranged for a big home gathering of the entire membership of the church next Thursday evening, March 19. A great many new members have been received into the church since January 1, and this will give you an opportunity to get acquainted with them and with you. Besides it will be an opportunity for the membership as a whole to meet and greet each other, a thing that will do us all good, and as a result be a benefit to the church.

A short and interesting program of address has been prepared. An orchestra of fifteen pieces will furnish the music. Kindly take heed to the following suggestions:

Every member of their church and

their families are invited and expected to be present.

Bring a well-filled basket, as we shall eat our suppers at the church.

Time for supper, 6:15 p. m.

Bring whatever you like, but the committee suggests that you include in your basket meat, sandwiches, salad, pickles, baked beans and anything else you desire.

Coffee and lemonade will be furnished at the church.

The contents of all baskets will be put together on one large table.

Let nothing keep you away on that evening, but do your part to make this the largest gathering of First English Lutherans ever held in our church. Come and bring the entire family.

W. H. ROMNEY, Gen. Chairman.

E. G. HOWARD, Pastor.

NEW PARIS

Mr. and Mrs. B. L. McKee, Mrs. Nancy A. Walley, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. McClure and daughter spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Elmer McKee near New Paris.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Parish entertained Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. William J. Daniels of Richmond, Harold Mitchell of Indianapolis, Miss Blanche E. Mitchell and Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Mitchell.

Mrs. Laura Mauck and Miss Minnie Middaugh of Dayton spent Sunday with Mrs. Mary E. Thompson and daughters.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Bloom, who spent the winter in Florida, have returned home.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Thompson and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. John Caughey and Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Thompson.

Messrs. and Mesdames Charles W. Smith and Leverett Haestine and Messrs. Mark and H. W. Porterfield of Richmond attended the funeral of Philip Davission here Monday.

Mrs. Albert Haler and son spent Monday with friends at Piqua.

Mr. and Mrs. O. B. King and daughter of Pittsburgh are spending this week with Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Reid and Mr. and Mrs. O. H. King.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Reinheimer and daughter spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Reinheimer. In the afternoon D. F. and Russell went for a walk, and covered the entire distance between New Paris and Rich mond.

Mr. and Mrs. William Colvin and baby went to Dayton Monday to visit relatives.

Miss Carrie Haller spent Sunday with friends at Camden.

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Arch Raney was buried Monday in Springlawn cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Jordan entertained Misses Donna Morrison, Grace Mc-

Whinney, Izora Little, Verling Gale and Willard Morrison at dinner Sunday.

Philip Davission, 5-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Davission, died Saturday evening of meningitis at their home near Economy, where they had just moved from home. The body was brought here Sunday night and taken to the home of Mr. and Mrs. John and Mrs. Sam Shinkle, who held the funeral service Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock, conducted by the Rev. J. P. Hearst.

Four small boys, Robert Reid, Elvin Horner, Taerd Boyes and Emmett Harris were pallbearers.

Kenneth, 7-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Slop, while running along side a buggy Friday evening on his way home from school in District No. 4, tripped and fell, and the vehicle

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Hawley entertained Messrs. and Mesdames P. F. Shinkle, Lawrence Hawley, Amos W. Black, Mrs. Mary Young, Leonard Young, Everett Shinkle and Henrietta Shinkle at dinner Sunday.

Mrs. William Roach and son of Indianapolis spent the early part of the week with Mr. and Mrs. James Bar-

nett over his shoulder and arm, dislocating the shoulder and fracturing the large bone in the arm.

Little Misses Dorothy and Jessie E. Ingram and Eva Mikesell of New Madison, spent the week end with Misses Bernice and Elma Horner.

William Marrinan and daughter, Mary, of Springfield, Mrs. Elbert E. Browne and Misses Eleanor and Katherine Smith of Richmond spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. John Marrinan and Miss Katherine Marrinan.

Miss Dorothy Kirkpatrick was home from Cincinnati for the week-end.

Mrs. Mary McGill and daughter entertained Mr. and Mrs. John Johanning and family of Richmond Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Kemp and daughter of Bradford, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Kemp.

Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Cronin of Xenia, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Malone and daughter of West Manchester, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. C. Thompson.

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