

HOME MODERNIZATION ... SECTION

MEASURING FOR GLASS

In measuring the glazing area of a window for new glass, it is best to take measurements from the outside. The dimensions must include not only the size of the actual opening to be glazed, but also the little ledges against which the glass will rest. A rigid measuring rule or a steel tape is preferable to a string, as the latter may stretch.

HINGES LESSEN STRAIN

When putting up doors, remember that three butt hinges placed an even distance apart, instead of two, decrease the strain on both hinges and screws. This prevents sagging, and often prevents lock trouble, which is caused in many cases by a slight dropping of the lock edge of the door.

THREE-WAY CONTROL

A three-way switch-control for lighting system should be provided in every home to allow the owner to make a complete circuit of the house by turning lights on ahead of him and

Urge Plumbers to Back Big Repairing Project

With the Real Property Inventory of the United States Department of Commerce disclosing a complete lack of bathtubs in 25 per cent of the homes in the 63 cities surveyed, John I. Calnan, president of the National Association of Master Plumbers, has urged the 16,000 contractor-dealer members of the association to back the local and state modernization and home improvement campaigns now being launched by the Federal Housing Administration.

Indicative of the widespread need for plumbing and heating improvements, says Mr. Calnan, is the fact that 35 per cent of the money loaned under the FHA plan in some cities is being invested in plumbing or heating modernization or extension work.

turning them out behind him without retracing his steps or stumbling through the dark. Safety and convenience are greatly involved in this matter.

Neglected Repairs Make Heavier Cost, Architect Asserts

While property ownership is a very stable and attractive investment, two serious items must be kept in mind, according to G. J. DeGelleke, director of the Central States division of the American Institute of Architects. They are:

1. Depreciation, due to the wearing out of the buildings, which reduces their values.
2. Obsolescence, due to buildings not meeting the requirements of the times and therefore not producing reasonable income.

"Neglecting repairs results in an accumulation of expense which is a great deal larger than the cost of repairs as required from time to time," Mr. DeGelleke says. "In some cases it necessitates reconstructing parts of the buildings."

"The condition of buildings have a great effect upon the people who occupy them and when well taken care of, create more healthful conditions, more confidence and contentment, strengthen ideals, and intensify interest in homes. Thus will be developed better citizens physically, mentally and morally."

"People are affected by the condition of the buildings they occupy fully as much as they are by the clothes they wear, their associates and their manner of life."

Add Extra Space With Upstairs Room, Garage

Many families who start modernizing their homes will find their first great need is extra space. Some of this space may be obtained by utilizing the basement, while extra rooms can also be added to the house with economy.

Where one or two additional rooms are desired, they can be built in combination with a garage on the ground floor. It is common practice now to

Leader Views Housing Plan as Health Aid

"The Better Housing program sponsored by the Federal Housing Administration should be understood by every family in America. Once understood, it will be utilized to build better lives, enlarge living quarters, and make places for children to play at home instead of on the streets."

Thus does Mrs. B. F. Langworthy, of Winnetka, president of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, view the effects of the National Housing Act.

"The Better Housing program is a civic movement and should be supported as such," she says. "The house is closely related to the health of the family. Sleeping porches should be a part of every house in this country."

"All the unhealthful, unspiritual living conditions are not found among the poor. Some of the affluent families live in gilded slums insofar as they provide recreation and room enough for their children to grow. They have Queen Anne fronts and Mary Ann backs. These are the people who can build playrooms and recreation rooms or at least enlarge the living room so that the family may have a feeling of freedom."

"Our ideal is: Home where the child may feel free; where he is well fed; where he has room for his own belongings; where he can study in quiet; where the hours of home activities are regular and unhurried and from which he goes every day with a sense of loving care and adventure. Proper material surroundings are essential to realizing this ideal."

build the garage as part of the house, chiefly on account of the convenience.

It is always desirable when an addition is made to a building that the whole structure should have a harmonious appearance.

Step-Saving Devices Modernize Kitchens

Poorly arranged kitchens, lacking in up-to-date facilities, can make for the housewife a veritable ordeal of the task of preparing meals. Kitchens of this type usually are those that were built years ago, before modern improvements were available. Any old kitchen, no matter how great its shortcomings, can be transformed into a place of beauty and charm, made comfortable and convenient by modernizing.

If there is not enough natural light, windows can be enlarged or additional ones installed. Darkness can be further dispelled by placing a drop light over the stove or in other places.

Cupboards, cabinets, shelves and bins can be built to provide for convenient storage of food, cooking utensils and dishes. If there is unutilized space beneath the drain-board or the sink it can be made into a vegetable bin, and perhaps save many steps to the back porch or the basement. Serving dishes stored in the old-fashioned cupboard in the dining room can just as well be placed in twin cupboards at each side and above the sink.

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