

BUILDING ACTIVITY IS HOLDING ITS OWN

REPORT FOR HALF OF 1928

Survey by Straus & Co. Shows That Improvements Maintain Standard of the Previous Year

The beginning of the last half of the year found building activities throughout the country about on a par with those of a year ago. Reports made to S. W. Straus & Co. from the 654 principal cities and towns of the country located in the forty-eight states showed building permits and plans filed for the half year of \$2,065,202,908 compared with \$2,103,324,264, a loss of slightly less than 2 per cent. In the first half of 1926 substantially the same list of cities reported \$2,245,030,070, and in 1925, \$2,343,308,089. It will thus be seen that the first half of 1928 was a little below the four-year record for the period.

Wide Scope of Survey
It is to be remembered that these figures cover approximately 80 per cent of building operations within the limits of all incorporated cities and towns in the forty-eight states. They do not include cost of road building, construction of subways, bridge or other major engineering projects. They pertain to buildings only and are to be taken as an index of activities which will be under way within the next few months rather than records of money that already has been spent.

The same 541 cities reported \$368,987,324 in June compared with \$362,581,217, a gain so slight as to be without economic significance. In June 1926 the same cities reported building permits and plans filed of \$411,051,351 and in June 1925 the total was \$384,321,193.

Favorable Reports
The twenty-five cities leading the list in building prospects submitted much more favorable reports than did the other places. For the first half of the year, these places issued building permits amounting to \$1,285,744,471 compared with \$1,229,630,024 last year, a gain of 5 per cent. The figures for June were 1928, \$228,021,213; June 1927, \$209,238,744; gain 9 per cent.

New York City continued to run far ahead of any other city in the country. The volume of plans filed in the nation's metropolis for the first half of the year was \$561,395,247 compared with \$493,315,695, last year, a gain of 14 per cent.

Some Losses
The titanic activities in New York, in fact, were in large measure responsible for the excellent showing made by the twenty-five city group for the half year. Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles, Newark, San Francisco, Milwaukee, Portland, Ore., Buffalo and Indianapolis showed substantial losses while sizable gains were recorded in Boston, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Seattle, Yonkers, St. Louis, Baltimore, Houston, Cincinnati, Atlanta and Albany. Philadelphia, Washington, Oakland and Birmingham revealed conditions not greatly at variance with those last year.

Citizenship classes being held in many places. Those prominent people who will be too indifferent to vote next November should attend them.

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TEMPERAMENTAL NOTIONS CAUSE DOMESTIC SCRAP

Survey Indicates That Cause of Most Unhappiness is Thus Described

Temperamental complaints are agreed upon by one hundred women, selected at random, as the primary cause of domestic unhappiness, according to the results of a questionnaire appearing in the August Woman's Home Companion. A similar questionnaire had been submitted to one hundred men.

While there were 49 complaints of temperamental dissatisfaction from the men, there were 37 such claims from women. But where 39 of the 100 men had no complaints to make against their matrimonial ventures only 25 women came through with the reply "nothing" when asked what was wrong with their marriages. The results of the questionnaire were made known through Dr. G. V. Hamilton, who conducted the examination.

Following temperamental dissatisfactions, physical dissatisfactions and lack of personal freedom ranked next in number of complaints from women. The women found "everything wrong" while others lodged complaints about friction over relatives, alcoholism of husbands and lack of affection.

"Children make a source of difficulty for many women," says the magazine, "not being able to have them or the husbands not wanting them. There was one woman distressed to find out that her husband had turned out to be her child. He wasn't morose or diseased, but he wasn't a mate. He clung. 'My husband never married me. He is hopelessly immature,' this woman said."

MAKING SCHOOLS OF STATE SAFE FROM FIRE

School boards in all parts of the state are bringing school buildings up to the state requirements, according to reports received by State Fire Marshal S. L. Legreid. Promise is made by the school boards that work will be completed during the summer vacations and buildings will have required protection with the reopening of school in the fall.

Among the cities reporting Rockford is taking the lead in the protective work under way. School officials and state inspectors have completed a survey of all school buildings in this city and contracts have already been let and work is under way in the erection of twenty-one fire escapes.

TOURIST IN CANADA REQUIRE STATE CARD

INDICATING AUTO LICENSE

Hundreds Denied Entrance to That Country Through Failure to Bring Credentials Along

Hundreds of tourists are being denied entrance to Canada because they have failed to carry their state license cards with them, reports the touring bureau of the Chicago Motor club. It is an inviolable rule that a motorist wishing to cross the border must carry with him this badge of identification.

Passports are not required, and automobiles may be taken to Canada for recreation for a period up to 60 days, without duty or bond, and for a period up to six months by the deposit of a bond for the amount of duty and taxes ordinarily payable on the car.

Under Own License
The tourist may drive his car under his own state license for a generous period in every province in Canada, although the period varies in the different provinces. Travelers are required to declare any articles or goods that may be subject to duty.

The Chicago Motor club bulletin points out that automobiles may be entered at a Canadian boundary port of Customs for touring purposes for a period not exceeding 24 hours, by the owner surrendering his state license card, which will be handed to him on his return. Should he desire to leave at a port other than that at which he entered, he must obtain a permit at the port of entry, which permits him to enter for touring purposes for a period of 60 days. A separate permit is not required for a trailer.

Cigars and Cigarettes
Forty cigars and one hundred cigarettes, in open packages, may be taken in free of duty by a non-resident traveler.

Dogs and other pets brought in may be entered as part of tourist's outfit without deposit, subject however to the regulations of the Canadian Department of Agriculture regarding quarantine and movement from re-

stricted areas. Persons desiring to take dogs into Canada should, before leaving home, write the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa for particulars regarding restrictions in force along their proposed route through Canada.

EMPLOYED WOMEN ARE INCREASING IN STATE

Department of Labor's Survey Indicates More Than 500,000 Are Working

Women employed in gainful employment in Illinois, outside the duties of their own homes, are steadily increasing, according to survey of the Department of Labor. At present the number so employed is approximately 541,000.

Of the total covered in the survey sixty-one per cent are protected under the ten hour law; two per cent under the provisions of the child labor law, and at least thirty-six per cent are not covered by any law which limits hours of work. The latter condition is due to the fact this percentage of women are engaged in business for themselves and no restriction of hours of labor are possible.

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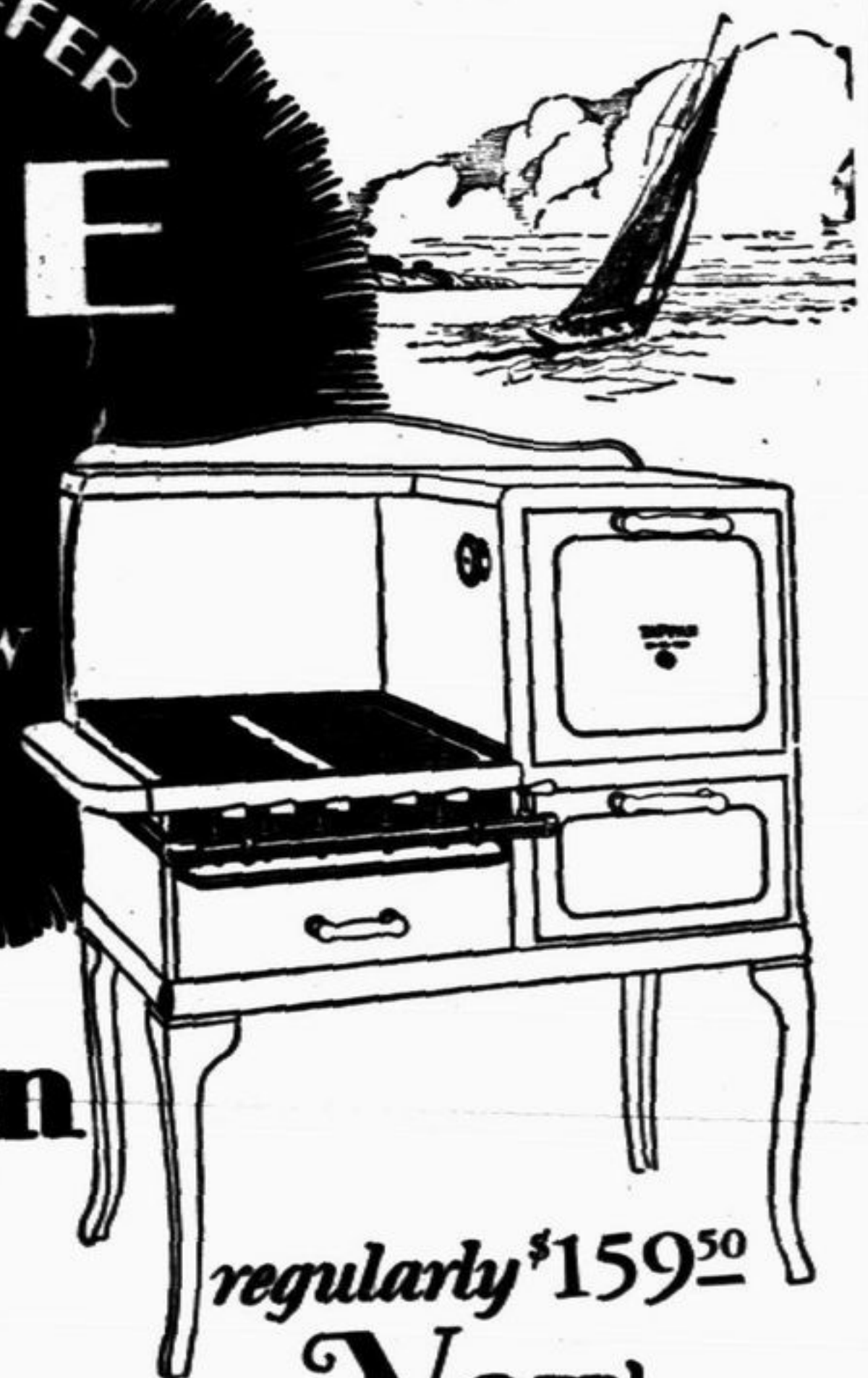
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