

What You Should Know About Houses

A Weekly Feature Service Supplied to The Advance by Home Builders' Service Bureau, 177 Jarvis Street, Toronto 2

Below will be found another article in the series of weekly articles supplied by the Home Builders' Service Bureau:

CITY CONVENIENCES FOR COUNTRY HOMES

You Can Now Have Lighting, Water and Sanitary Systems for the Home Away from City Service.

Almost everyone would like to have a summer home but until recent years the thought of living in the woods on the shore of a cool lake has been invariably associated with a mental picture of hewing wood and hauling water—which is something apart from the average person's conception of a restful life during the warm weather.

The Indians Wouldn't Recognize This

The primitive Indians who set the original fashion for the "back to nature" urge wouldn't recognize to-day's version of the movement.

A summer cottage—and this applies equally to country homes—need no longer be symbolic of drudgery and inconvenience. At a surprisingly low cost the summer cottage can enjoy all the facilities of its city home, even, in some districts, to a telephone.

Consider cooking, for example. Formerly a huge wood stove of the dimensions and intensity of a blast furnace was regarded as an inevitable evil. Today we have beautiful, small gas ranges. . . . Yes, actually gas ranges a hundred or a thousand miles beyond the reach of city gas mains and they are equipped with a two or four-burner table top, porcelain lined oven, broiler and other features.

Plenty of Light and Hot Water

The fire risk in summer cottages and country homes generally arises from inefficient methods of lighting. But engineers have reduced this to perfect safety through the development of a powerful lamp that uses an extremely small amount of fuel. This lamp is available in many models, from the lantern type to a highly decorative table type.

The problem of sufficient hot water has also been solved. To-day you can actually have a self-operating water heater in your cottage which uses the cheapest and most available fuels—kerosene or gas. Kerosene can be obtained from any store or service station and used in a well-designed water heater convenient bathing and an adequate supply of kitchen hot water is assured.

Both the conventional tub and the shower are considered standard equipment now in the summer and country home. No more poisoning precariously in an inadequate pan for an unsatisfying sponge. The city bathroom has gone to the country.

Home-Made Electricity Brings Comforts

Country homes on remote concessions far from a hydro power line are enjoying the comforts and conveniences of electricity operated appliances. And so are modern summer cottages at a cost that is really insignificant in comparison with the returns it yields.

With your own electric system you can have an automatic water supply equal to city service. You can have lights that respond to the turn of a switch. Indeed, you can have all the conveniences of your city home without the inconveniences that sometimes intrude there.

Of Course You'll Want Plumbing, So—

Perfect enjoyment of summer cottage life is very often ruined by the millions (conservatively estimated) of house flies that gather around. And you will generally find that their favourite gathering place is around the back door.

Why? Well, simply because that second-hand dish water is often thrown indifferently out the back door and that's an immediate wide-spread invitation to every fly within a radius of miles.

When you are planning a new im-

proved summer cottage, by all means plan on having a roomy kitchen sink with proper drainage facilities, and a bath or washroom. The fixtures need not be of the finest but their services will be.

Toilet Conveniences Without Water Supply

Among these systems is the chemical toilet—a convenience perfected through the co-operation of chemists and manufacturers. It can be installed within the cottage—is completely vented and odorless and is a very appreciated convenience in cottages not equipped with a water supply and sewage disposal system.

A Good Sewage Disposal System

One of the most important factors contributing to the modern summer cottage is an efficient, adequate sewage disposal system. For reliable advice on this subject, consult your builder or plumber because there are many considerations that affect the final choice.

The nature and the elevation of the soil surrounding the cottage are of utmost importance in planning a sewage disposal system. Where a septic tank is installed—either of metal or built in the ground with concrete—the soil surrounding it must be absorbent and there must be sufficient pitch to encourage a flow through the weeping tile pipe branches. Rather than attempt to save a few dollars on the installation of a sewage disposal system, you would be well advised to throw the savings in the lake and go back to nature in a big way.

Do Not Select Your System Too Hastily

It is the basis of your summer comfort—and health—and is therefore deserving of the greatest attention.

Then You Can Have a Water System

With a good sewage disposal system installed, you are in a position to select your water supply system.

In this field you will have a variety from which to choose and among which you will readily find at least one that will satisfy your needs at reasonable cost.

If you have your own electric plant, you are eligible for the attention-free services of an automatic electric system—a compact little unit that automatically maintains a reserve of water in a tank at a level sufficient to guarantee pressure through your taps and toilet.

In laying and placing the intake pipe line, if the system is drawing water from the lake, every precaution must be taken to ensure perfect operation by excluding from the intake all foreign matter such as sand, gravel, weeds and sticks that may be attracted by the suction.

To accomplish this, engineers have developed more than one very satisfactory type of crib through which the water is filtered in a bed of large gravel before being taken in through the finely screened mouth of the intake pipe. Such a crib should be of sturdy construction and well anchored so that it will withstand the seasonal disturbances of water and ice. Here again it is strongly advisable to seek and follow expert advice as a water system that does not function permanently and properly is worse than no system at all.

Where electricity is not available, you can depend upon a gasoline motored pump. Since these are naturally not automatic, it is essential to your convenience that a large storage tank be installed to eliminate the bother of starting and stopping the motor too frequently. Otherwise, it provides a perfect system that operates on exceptionally low fuel consumption.

If either one of these systems are not to be installed at the time, a hand pump can be connected to a storage tank and it is then only necessary to use it occasionally to replenish the

tank. At a later date it would be possible and inexpensive to connect the tank and supply pipe with either an electric or gasoline motored unit.

In any event, when laying the intake pipe, assure your system of a constant supply by guarding carefully the mouth of the pipe.

Then ensure against accidents by marking prominently the location of your intake line so that boats in docking will not foul it. A few floats, securely attached to the pipe by flexible, rust-resisting wire, should serve this purpose.

Allow also for seasonal variations in the water level of the lake by extending the pipe far enough from shore for the intake to be absolutely secure from the greatest possible drop in the lake level. An intake that is left high and dry by low level or that is exposed in the trough of high waves is of very little use.

If You Have a Good Well

Some summer cottagers are fortunate in having on their property a good well that can be depended upon for an unflinching supply. When this is the case, a well pump can be adapted—a pump of any one of the types mentioned above.

There is this to remember, however. All wells are not of uniform depth. Therefore, water will not always have to be drawn for equal heights.

To meet this condition, manufacturers have developed what are known as shallow well and deep well pumps. Their names are self-explanatory but always you should investigate carefully before-hand to determine which type of pump you should install. There is no necessity for involving the additional expense of a deep-well pump (higher power) where a shallow-well pump (lower power) would serve the purpose.

Plan for Summer Comfort in the Home

The outstanding summer comfort a home can offer, in addition to shade trees and a grass plot, is a large porch, where seclusion is provided. When you contemplate building a porch do not lose sight of the new factors, such as the automobile and its traffic, which have changed our modes of living, and in consequence necessitates a departure from the conventional ideas of twenty-five years ago.

Today, in many instances, almost the worst place to put a porch is across the front of a house, if it faces directly on a busy street, but that is where it once was always found. In the horse-and-buggy days, when small town life afforded few diversions and both parents and children found their chief pleasure in saluting acquaintances strolling or driving past, the front porch was a social factor. But life today, even in villages, with cars, movies, radios, and automobiles, offers too many, rather than too few diversions, and the family seeks easy chairs on the porch for relaxation and quiet rather than in search of excitement. Moreover, in modern life, fewer persons stroll past. Those few are seldom personal acquaintances, and instead of the not unpleasant sound of horse's hoofs and crunching wheels emphasizing the evening quiet, there is often the nerve racking noise of automobiles and horns on almost every street, while in congested places the ceaseless noise of traffic is destructive to both nerves and conversation.

Yet a porch is essential if the family is to have relief from summer heat and if the younger children are to have a proper place on the many days of the year when the yard is wet or cold. No definite rule can be made about the location of a porch because at best its location is more or less governed by the importance of keeping sunny windows intact, preserving house and yard arrangement, and securing seclusion and quiet. But whatever is done, do not cut off the sunlight of the only living room windows with a porch.

Although a south porch, if shaded or protected with awnings or shrubbery, may be coolest in summer and is likely to look out on a garden, its value does not make up for the loss of sun in the living room in winter. If the south side of the living room, because of its seclusion, its view of a garden, or its advantages to the young children, seems to be the only place for the porch, and the living room has only south windows, all of which must be sacrificed, then the porch can sometimes advantageously be given a glass roof, or a paved terrace with an awning for summer use, can be provided.

If only grown-ups are to be considered a terrace in such a situation is practically always the best choice. A porch facing either east or west may be provided when the house faces east, has a living room facing south, east, and west, and a garden with the major part of the lot at the south. Or the porch may be on the south leading

Infantry Brigade in Camp at Owen Sound

Algonquin Rifles, Simcoe Foresters, Northern Pioneers and the Grey Regiment in Camp Together. Five Hundred Men Gathered.

Five hundred soldiers are in camp for training at Owen Sound, Ont. These members of the militia include four regiments, the Grey Regiment, the Simcoe Foresters, the Northern Pioneers and the Algonquin Rifles. The latter regiment includes men from Timmins and South Porcupine, one company of this regiment being from this camp.

Interesting particulars of the camp were given last week in The Collingwood Enterprise-Bulletin. This newspaper has the following to say in reference to the present camp at Owen Sound:—

Five Hundred Soldiers in Training

Owen Sound is playing host to five hundred soldiers, members of the 22nd Infantry Brigade, who went into camp at the "City of the Greys" on Tuesday. Collingwood's quota is twelve, who, under Lt. Col. E. Walker, V.D., of the Simcoe Foresters, left by special train on Tuesday morning.

This is the second consecutive year in which the Brigade has held its summer camp in Owen Sound. The Owen Sounders would have liked to go away for camp, but the other units of the Brigade wished to go back, praising the excellent facilities, and claiming the camp there last year was the best which the Brigade has ever had. Knowing that the camp meant much to the city the Owen Sounders agreed to camp there again.

The training of the Brigade while in camp will be mostly technical work. Last year attack was studied. This year attention will be given to defence. In addition, the Brigade will complete its classification in musketry and machine gun. Very little time will be given to drill.

The Grey Regiment under Lt.-Col. N. E. McDonald, M.M., of Owen Sound went into camp on Monday, to put up the canvas. The three other regiments the Algonquin Regiment under Lt.-Col. George Cole of Winnipeg, the Northern Pioneers under Lt.-Col. W. J. A. Lawrence, M.C., Legion of Honor, of Huntsville, and the Simcoe Foresters under Lt.-Col. E. Walker, V.D., of Nottawa arrived Tuesday morning. The T. and N. O. Railway and the C.N.R. ran special trains to Meaford and the men were transported from that town to Owen Sound by bus.

Each regiment is 100 strong and in addition there are the Brigade Staff and the camp school for the qualification of officers and N.C.O.'s, bringing the total number in camp up to 450 or 500, slightly more than the number in camp last year. The men are from Timmins, Halleybury, Cochrane, South Porcupine, Sudbury, Kirkland Lake, New Liskeard, Cobalt, North Bay, Huntsville, Bracebridge, Powassan, Parry Sound, Gravenhurst, Orillia, Midland, Penetang, Barrie, Collingwood, Meaford, Flesherton, and Owen Sound. The camp will last from July 24 to August 2, both days inclusive.

The camp is being conducted without additional expense to the public. Each regiment was granted an allowance for the training of 100 men at local headquarters in their own regimental areas. These allowances were pooled to pay the transportation and messing charges and it is planned to divide the balance among the men. This is the same arrangement as in force last year. It is expected that 45 or 50 per cent. of the allowance will be paid out to the men, or approximately 55 cents a day.

The camp is in charge of Brigadier Col. T. J. Rutherford, V.D., of Owen Sound. The Brigade staff includes Brigadier Major J. Stewart, Toronto, Camp Medical Officer, Major O. E. Carr, Owen Sound, Camp Paymaster, Major Don. Cameron, M.C., of Sudbury, Camp Quartermaster Lt.-Col. H. E. Pembroke, of Owen Sound and Brigade Machine Gun Officer Major John Stewart of Orillia. Among the members of the Headquarters Staff at the camp is Major H. Salmon, M.C.

Cigarette Butts Cause Forest Fires Sometimes

During the hot weather, when the forest lands bake under tremendous heat waves, various reports are received by the operating department of the Canadian National Railways of fires which break out in the vicinity of the right-of-way but sufficiently far from the tracks to preclude the possibility of a locomotive starting the blaze. A typical report of this nature was one received from the Huntsville subdivision, in the Muskoka district, which stated that early in the evening a fire was found burning more than 300 yards distant from the tracks and close to a road. Before the blaze could be extinguished by the use of sand 10 acres of stumps and slashing had been burned over. The cause was eventually fixed as a lighted cigarette butt carelessly thrown away from a passing vehicle. Before the fire was extinguished section men had to work many hours overtime. It is not generally known but all locomotives operating through forest lands carry every precaution to prevent sparks starting fires.

to the garden, while in the living room the east and west windows provide morning and afternoon sun. Then, by making glassed frames to fit the east and west ends of the porch the family will find it comfortable to sit out of doors probably an extra month in both spring and fall, the children can play out the year round, and the baby has an ideal place for out of door naps.

Liberal View of Gaby's Untimely Dismissal

The following is an editorial from The Norfolk Observer, published at Simcoe, Ont., by the publishers of The Simcoe Reformer, the name of the latter indicating the political side, if any, to which the publication would lean:—

"The drastic steps of the Hepburn Government in regard to hydro employees have aroused much comment. Undoubtedly hydro salaries can stand paring and the staff a reduction. But we fear that Premier Hepburn in his zeal to carry out his pledges, has committed one grave mistake in the dismissal of F. A. Gaby, chief engineer. Undoubtedly Mr. Gaby's salary was high. It could have been reduced.

"Instead, we find a man, who has given 27 years of his life to loyal and efficient service of the hydro system, served with peremptory notice of his dismissal. For sheer ingratitude, not to say lack of common courtesy, the treatment of Mr. Gaby, as evidenced in the following resolution passed by the commission, takes the prize: "Resolved that the agreement of employment of Mr. F. A. Gaby, chief engineer of the commission be forthwith terminated and that he receive such payment in lieu of notice as he may be by law entitled to, and that notice in accordance with the foregoing be delivered to him immediately by the secretary of the commission."

"Not a word of appreciation for 27 years of service to hydro; not a syllable of gratitude for his unequalled skill and ingenuity in building up Ontario's greatest public utility; not a single phrase that might be other than a common hydro employee. Rather, it signifies a desire to be rid of Mr. Gaby in a great hurry. He cannot go too soon; the Premier has spoken and "Gaby must go."

"Of what misdemeanour or crime has the chief hydro engineer been guilty to demand such ignominious treatment? Was it ever proven that he took part in any of the alleged political manoeuvres in hydro circles, as Mr. Hepburn intimated in election campaign addresses? If so, the public does not know of it. The new hydro chairman has declared that public shall henceforth know the truth of all hydro transactions. All right, then let us have the inside story of Mr. Gaby's alleged machinations and offences against the powers that now reign at Queen's Park.

"Not knowing Mr. Gaby personally, we cannot extol his virtues nor condemn his vices. But we believe the people of Ontario desire to see fair play. Has Mr. Gaby merited the summary dismissal meted out to him at the instance of Premier Hepburn or is he the unwitting victim of a political reprisal? Has Mr. Gaby ever publicly spoken by word of mouth or in print to defend the administration of hydro against the accusations of its critics? So far as we know, the fight has been waged solely by politicians, while Mr. Gaby has minded his own business and gone on working for the great system to which he has given the best part of his life.

"Mr. Gaby began with the inception of hydro in 1907 and was Sir Adam Beck's right-handed man until his death about twenty years later. Mr. Gaby since then has continued as directing head of the enterprise and to his genius and foresight must be attributed much of the success attending it. He has received his reward in being unceremoniously "kicked out" and that by a man, Mr. Lyon, who professes to have been Sir Adam Beck's intimate and fervent supporter during the trying formative period of hydro, a period during which Mr. Gaby was the practical instrument for carrying into effect Sir Adam's plans. The question, unless publicly answered now, will echo down the corridors of time: "WHY DID GABY HAVE TO GO?"

North American Life has Large New Assurances

A report released by North American Life covering the activities for the first six months of 1934 shows substantial gains in sales which have increased over 25 p.c. over the same period of 1933. This is marked by large increases in volume of new business in every month since January. Particularly significant is the fact that the number of the company's representatives who qualified for the Big Production Club which terminated on

June 30th was greater than in any year since July 1929. For over twenty years, throughout the Great War, the influenza epidemic and the recent depression, the North American Life has maintained its dividend scale without fail. The company's record in this respect is practically unique. Every dividend payment during that time has been equal to or greater than any previous dividend.

These records together with the past achievements extending over fifty-three years and coupled with the fact that the company is mutual, paying only to the policyholders the profits arising from the operation of the business, establishes the North American Life as one of the strongest and soundest of our financial institutions.

OUTSTANDING BY ALL COMPARISONS

By all comparisons the Life Assurance Companies of Canada have stood out magnificently among our Country's splendid financial institutions. From every point of view—security and returns—North American Life is outstanding.

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