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Do You Know—

THAT a skyscraper which will give to 1,000 girls and women of Chicago a home with all the comforts of a suburban residence, together with a lot of additional conveniences, is to be erected at the northwest corner of Ontario and Rush streets in Chicago. The Illinois club, now at 814 South Michigan avenue, has just purchased the vacant property there, fronting 150 feet on Ontario and 109 feet on Rush, from Milton S. Plotke for a reported \$400,000 and proposes to erect a seventeen story structure on it. This club in the few years of its existence has furnished accommodations for 37,000 girls and now finds itself needing far larger quarters. When it comes to residence quarters, rooms on the lower floors will cost as low a rate as \$1 a day.

That ground has been broken for twin buildings at 5043-59 Fullerton avenue in Chicago, each to contain twenty-eight three and four room suites and four stores, and that one will be called the Renee and the other the Diana, these being the names of the daughters of the builders, Arthur A. Klein and David A. Klein respectively. The cost is placed at \$300,000.

That what is claimed is a record for speedy construction in Chicago has been made in the erection of the Finchley building in Jackson boulevard, just east of the Davis store. Wreckers started to clear the site on May 1. The fifteen story building stands on caissons and is practically completed.

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DECLINE IN NATIONAL BUILDING CONTINUES

Increasing Construction Shown in Large Cities, Including Chicago, Straus Report Says

Continuation of the downward swing of the curve of activity, lower prices generally for materials, and a tranquil labor situation are the outstanding current features of the building industry throughout the United States.

Reports from the Building Departments of 476 cities made to S. W. Straus & Co., revealed the issuance of permits or the filing of plans of \$291,675,134 in September compared with \$326,599,119 in September last year, a loss of a little less than 11%. For the first nine months of the year the decline was equally pronounced, the 1927 total being \$2,947,884,857 compared with \$3,308,894,986 in 1926.

The exact meaning of these figures should not be overlooked. They reflect only prospective conditions in the construction of buildings within incorporated cities. They represent substantially 80% of this type of activity throughout the country but they do not include general engineering projects, road building, utility plants outside of corporate limits and only in a limited number of cases do they include public buildings.

Accurate Index

They do, however, as time has shown, constitute the most accurate index obtainable of the trend of American urban building so that the general business interests of the country can with certainty now plan on less support from the building industry during the ensuing four or five months than was the case last winter.

While these conditions apply to the country as a whole, signs of increasing construction are in evidence here and there. Among the large cities of the country, Chicago, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Birmingham, Pittsburgh, New Orleans, Denver and Louisville are sustaining or exceeding last year's range of activities.

Similar conditions prevail in the states of New Jersey, California, Connecticut, Georgia, Illinois, Texas, Washington and in much of the suburban areas of New York and Chicago.

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