



1937 is HOME Improvement YEAR

Putting Men Back to Work



Big Advances In Comfort Of Homes

(Montreal Star)

A recent research report on the development of home-building during the past 20 years shows that there is scarcely any industry starting two decades ago that has shown greater progress in design, durability, efficiency and structure methods. The walled space of the old-fashioned parlor has been used as an all-use living-room; things scarcely in the experimental stage to remove drudgery in housekeeping 20 years ago are commonplace today, the "miracle" age.

Space for relaxation, such as recreation rooms in the basement, and sleeping porches to promote health and comfort, are considered in every well-designed house. Windows are carefully weather-stripped, walls and ceilings are washable and insulated to give coziness in summer and warmth in winter. Mechanical equipment in homes of today would have astounded urban dwellers of a quarter-century ago. The unsightly alley has largely gone in well-planned areas; offensive stables disappeared with the passing of the faithful horse as a means of personal transportation. The garage took its place at the rear, and gradually it has moved up and attached itself to the house, sometimes at the side, sometimes underneath.

The front porch has been driven around to the side by the intense automobile traffic, for greater privacy, and in some cases it has completed a half-circle and finds itself in the rear in intimate relation to the garden side of the house.

The damp and stuffy basement, which was the catch all storage dump for the entire household, has become one of the most serviceable parts of the house. The waterproof basement is well-lighted, clean and airy. Workshops for the child, recreation rooms, playrooms or ping-pong and card-rooms, have become as desirable in the basement as in any other part of the house.

With all this advancement, the individuality or personality of the house has not been sacrificed, the report points out. In the commercial and apartment field and in scientific management, remodeling and modernizing of structures and equipment manufacturers and realtors are making great strides.

Lavish Expenditure On Fuel Eliminated

In every home of today, comfort depends largely in temperature.

In hot weather, the family wants a house that stays comfortably cool all day; pleasant meals in a cool dining-room; and bedrooms cool enough for restful sleep.

In cold weather, the desire is for a house that is easy to heat, and even temperatures all over the house, upstairs and down.

However, most people do not get the real comfort they desire in their homes.

In hot weather, most houses become unpleasantly hot during the day. And it is unnecessary to remind them how, during July and August, these houses stay warm far, far into the night. There is no cool relief from the heat, after the day's work is done. The evening meal cannot be eaten in comfort. Sleep is impossible until long after midnight, and even then it is a restless sleep that leaves one listless and fatigued next morning.

In the winter, these houses are hard to heat evenly, even with lavish expenditure of fuel. Some of the rooms, for apparently strange reasons, stay cold and uncomfortable. Cold draughts sweep through the house.

Now, the reason for all this discomfort winter and summer is that these houses are not properly built. Practically every one is built with a thin layer of lath and plaster over the ceiling—then the air in the attic—then the roof.

Heat leaks right through the plaster and the roof. In winter it leaks out; your furnace heats the outdoor air. In summer the heat leaks in; the sun warms the rooms you live in.

Today new homes are being properly insulated for real comfort, while thousands of homes, already built, of various ages, are being made comfortable by the same method.

This method is filling the heat-leaking empty spaces with insulation. Once those empty spaces are filled with the right insulating material the old discomforts vanish. "The comfort of home" means more, then, than it ever did before.

In homes already built, the owners, by taking advantage of the Government-sponsored home improvement plan may obtain loans to pay for the necessary insulation, easily, simply and inexpensively.

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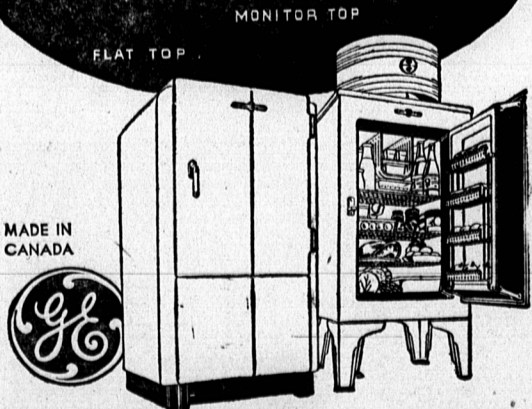
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Check Over This List of INDOOR HOME IMPROVEMENTS and choose the ones you want

- Combine two rooms as one. Combine house and garage.
- Enlarge existing rooms
- Scrape and refinish floors.
- Tile bathroom.
- Linoleum in kitchen and other rooms.
- Create game room or children's room in basement.
- Insulate inner face of roof.
- Repair interior plastered walls.
- Plaster basement walls and ceiling on metal lath for fire protection
- Replace old kitchen cabinets with new equipment
- Provide new wall panelling.
- Add built-in ironing board.
- Provide special linen closet.
- Check wiring and add new outlets.
- New electric lighting fixtures.
- New built-in bath tubs.
- New shower.
- New lavatories.
- New laundry equipment.
- New sink.
- Add asbestos covering to heat pipes.
- Add heat to garage.
- Repaint and paper interior walls.
- Paint radiators and exposed heating pipes.
- Finish floors.

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