STATE CAPITAL

Road Work Ordered Cut.

Annapolis.—Chairman John N. Mackall of the State Roads Commission, addressed letters to the engineers warning them to reduce operations, postpone extensive operations and reduce the working forces to a minimum, owing to a miscalculation in the available funds in the budget for the remainder of the fiscal year.

One reason for this difficult financial situation is the changing of the fiscal year starting January 1, to October 1. This causes the commission to have available for this year's road maintenance only three-quarters of the actual funds received from the budget, which it is also pointed out, are short of expectations.

It was expected, Mr. Mackall wrote, that the Commission would receive $1,600,000 for road maintenance. Expenditures and obligations were made and assumed to agree with such proportions. However, the budget was cut to $1,350,000, which is $250,000 less than was anticipated.

The change of the fiscal year by the Legislature then made the 1920 year begin at January 1 and end October 1. Thus, the fiscal budget is cut for a ratio of nine months, instead of 12, to $1,012,500.

Mr. Mackall's Letter.

Mr. Mackall's letter, in part, follows:

I find further that our expenditures and obligations to July 1 amount to $781,478.22, which leaves as only $231,021.78 for expenditures until the end of the fiscal year on September 30.

To keep within our allotment it will be necessary to reduce operations to a minimum. I wish, therefore, that you would postpone all extensive operations and cut your forces to the minimum required for patrolling only. I realize that this will curtail our expenditures considerably, but we must keep within the allotment unless some unforeseen contingency should arise to make additional expenditures absolutely necessary.

Had we been advised at the beginning of the year that we were permitted to expend $1,350,000 for maintenance we could have eliminated some work which has been done which was extremely desirable, but probably not absolutely necessary for the maintenance of the roads. With these facts in mind, will you not advise me at an early date as possible the minimum requirements for your residency for the next three months in order that we may ascertain whether or not it will be necessary to still further curtail our operations?

Situation Easily Met.

At present the situation will be very easily met, as all work is now at a standstill, owing to the embargo on road maintenance materials attributed to the railroad strike. There is not a job of maintenance work in operation.

Can't Get Road "At Once."

Governor Ritchie has promised the town of Princess Anne that it is to have a road through the town to connect up the State road system, but according to John N. Mackall, chairman of the State Roads Commission, it will have to wait until the embargo on materials is lifted. Joshua W. Miles, Collector of Internal Revenue, wired Princess Anne authorities while en route to San Francisco that the Governor had promised the road to be built "at once."

"That's all very well and good," said Mr. Mackall, "but there is nobody getting any roads built at once now, and it is hard to tell when there will be any work done."

The road requested is a part of the progress of the State road in that section, and involves about $185,000.

Insurance Notes Barred.

In accordance with a ruling of State Insurance Commissioner Thos. E. Keating, based on an opinion rendered by Attorney-General Armstrong, insurance agents and companies no longer will be allowed to take non-interest-bearing notes in partial payment of insurance premiums. The question was put before Mr. Armstrong when it was brought to his attention that a large policyholder wanted to make a payment of part cash with the remainder in four notes without interest. Mr. Armstrong took the position that the giving of credit without interest was a form of rebating.

Annapolis.—The Anne Arundel County Commissioners in session here, disposed of $20,000, this being the amount of the first installment of a $200,000 fund which Baltimore city will pay over to the county as a refund for county property taken within the city under the provisions of the Annexation law. Of the $20,000 distributed $9,000 was paid to the County Board of Education. As the levy for the fiscal year has just been made the board used the balance, together with other funds, to pay off certificate indebtedness with interest to June 29, amounting to $33,337.48.

Annapolis.—Peter Conitz, 24 years old, until recently proprietor of a lunchroom, was drowned while bathing at Horn Point Beach, Severn River, near Annapolis. There is a long stretch of beach where Conitz, with two young girls, Alice and Stella Tallagon, 10 and 12 years old, had taken to the water, but it makes off sharply into deep water on the Annapolis side. Conitz, who, it is said, could swim only a little, got off into the deep water and sank before any one could reach him.

SHORT CUTS IN STATE NEWS

The Latest News From All Over the State

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

Hagerstown.—Unable to dispose of the $500,000 worth of county school and road bonds offered for sale to the highest bidders, the Washington County Commissioners have launched an economy program. Expenditures on public work, the board announced, would be kept down to the minimum. New York will be limited and work already started will be completed with as little expense as possible. The board refused to sell the bonds on account of the very low bids received. President Henry Holzapfel, Jr., of the board, stated that the county had paid off every obligation July 1, except the debts incurred in the purchase of turnpikes and in the erection of school houses. He stated that the local banks had come to the aid of the county with loans secured by certificates of indebtedness. The board expects again to offer for sale the county bonds when the securities market improves.

Hagerstown.—The announcement made by County Farm Agent Stanley E. Day that Washington county's peach crop would suffer unless the farm labor shortage could be made up has resulted in many girls coming to the rescue. These include especially high-school girls and girls just home from college, who assert their willingness to go into the orchards and assist in picking, packing and shipping the peach crop. Miss Mildred Bennett, just home from Newton, N. J., where she had been teaching, suggested that the "farmettes" wear middy blouses and bloomers while picking peaches, declaring such a uniform would be practical in going up and down ladders, climbing trees, etc. Large drooping straw hats costing about 10 cents would be the logical head covering, she said.

Crisfield. — The unprecedented scarcity of soft crabs this season has resulted in the highest prices ever known in this market. The high-water mark was reached Tuesday when three lots from the Western Shore of Virginia brought $2.75 a dozen straight through for primes, mediums and culls on the wharf here. This price was exclusive of the package, which brought the price up to $2.85, when packed ready for shipment. The extreme scarcity has prevailed since the season first opened, early in May, and from present indications will continue until late in July or early in August. There have been but a very few crabs caught in the waters near Crisfield, and crabs that have been shipped from here, totaling perhaps less than one-fourth of the normal shipments, are practically all from the Western Shore.

Annapolis.—The annual "call of the wild" has been issued by State Forester F. W. Besley. In literature distributed recently he calls attention to the desirability of the Paptapsco Forest Reserve as a camping site for warm, tired city folk. Mr. Besley pictures the reserve as a real place to "rough it pleasantly." The tract comprises nearly 2,000 acres of some of the most picturesquely rugged land in the State, situated in the valley of the Patapsco River, between Relay and Hollofield. It is divided into 200 camp sites, guarded by forest patrols. Already this summer scores of individuals have taken advantage of the opportunity to pitch their tents in the open air.

Baltimore. — A contribution of $181,529.07 toward the city schools was received by Comptroller Peter E. Tome. It was from State Treasurer John M. Dennis and represented the city's share of the second quarterly distribution of State school funds. It was apportioned as follows: For text books, $14,390.04; purchase of material, $4,796.68; salaries, $756.25; public school tax, $161,586.10.

Frederick.—Declaring that Volstead opened a Pandora box of evils when he framed the law that bears his name, and recommending the distribution of liquor through dispensaries owned, operated and conducted by the Government, D. R. Millard, Baltimore, president of the State Pharmaceutical Association, delivered his annual address before the business session of the association at Braddock Heights.

Salisbury.—One of the most important realty sales this county has witnessed in a long time occurred Saturday afternoon when C. J. Birckhead, executor of the estate of Samuel H. Carey, sold at public auction the one-half interest of Mr. Carey in the two Main street properties occupied by J. E. Shockley & Co. as a department store and by R. Harry Phillips as the Peninsula Hotel.

Ellicott City.—A unique celebration of his birthday was held at the home of William Henry Forsythe at Woodbine, when he entertained as his guests his former "buddies" in the Confederate Army. The average age of the veteran warriors was a little more than 80 years. During the day the entire Civil War was fought over again in detail and many hearty laughs were caused by recalling days of long ago. An old-time country dinner was served.

Tapa: Made for Tourists

SAMOAN WOMAN IN TAPA WEDDING DRESS

TAPA AND TAPA TOOLS

PROF. ALBERT S. BICKMORE

TAPA! Once—and only a few years ago—a large part of the savage and semi-civilized world wore tapa. But styles have changed. Now you might hunt a long time before you found any—except in a museum. You would probably have to journey to the wilds of Africa to find anybody actually wearing tapa. But in Samoa an excellent quality is still manufactured—for the sake of the tourist trade.

"I shall now describe their way of making Cloth, which, in my opinion, is the only Curious manufacture they have." So wrote Lieutenant (later Commander) James Cook at Tahiti, Society Islands, Pacific ocean, in the diary he kept during his first voyage around the world made 1768-71, in H. M. Bark Endeavor. He proceeds:

"All their Cloth is, I believe, made from the Bark of Trees; the finest is made from a plant which they Cultivate for no other purpose. Dr. Solander thinks it is the same plant the bark of which the Chinese make paper of. They let this plant grow till it is about 6 or 8 feet high, the Stem is then about as thick as one's Thum or thicker; after this they cut it down and lay it a Certain time in water. This makes the Bark strip off easy the outside of which is scraped off with a rough Shell. After this is done, it looks like long strips of ragged linnen; these they lay together, by means of a fine paist made of some sort of a root, to the Breadth of a yard more or less, and in length 6, 8 or 10 Yards or more according to the use it is for.

"After it is thus put together it is beat out to its proper breadth and fineness, upon a long square piece of wood, with wooden beaters, the Cloth being kept wet all the time. The beaters are made of hard wood with four square sides, are about 3 or 4 inches broad and cut into grooves of different fineness; this makes the Cloth look at first sight as if it was wove with thread, but I believe the principal use of the Grooves is to facilitate the beating it out, in the doing of which they often beat holes in it, or one place thinner than another; but this is easily repaired by pasting on small bits, and this they do in such a manner, that the Cloth is not the least injured.

"The finest sort when bleached is very white and comes nearest to fine Cotton. Thick cloth, especially fine, is made by pasting two or more thickness's of thin cloth, made for that Purpose, together. Coarse thick cloth and ordinary thin cloth is made of the Bark of Bread fruit Trees, and I think I have been told that it is sometimes made from the Bark of other trees. The making of Cloth is wholly the work of the women, in which all ranks are employed. Their common colours are red, brown and yellow, with which they dye some pieces just as their fancy leads them."

On view at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City is a number of fine specimens of bark-cloth or tapa. In many localities throughout the tropics of both hemispheres, crude civilizations, lacking both the knowledge and means of weaving, have fashioned cloth from the inner bark of certain trees. The Micronesian, Polynesian and Melanesian Islands, and Africa were all tapa-making countries. The Maoris of New Zealand, too, knew the art. But with them it was only briefly cultivated, due to the scarcity of trees producing the sort of bark needed and the severer climate which soon led to the use of the strong native flax for the manufacture of cloth.

Within the last century tapa has become a rarity in practically all the regions where it was once so abundant. But thanks to the efforts of a few interested people, excellent collections of bark-cloth have been brought together. The collections at the American Museum include in addition to examples of tapa from all the regions mentioned, examples of the implements used by various peoples in the manufacture of the cloth.

The implements include shells for cutting the bark, peeling it from the stems and scraping it; the wooden slabs on which the bark was laid for beating; and mallets, square or round according to the locality in which they were used. These mallets are carved into grooves, squares or other patterns of various sizes according to the degree of coarseness or fineness desired for the finished piece of tapa. The African beaters are made of pieces of tusk fastened to bamboo handles and wrapped about with rattan. Hawaiian ruling pens, for making lined designs on the tapa, and stamped bamboo stencils sometimes in the form of a half-cylinder testify to the progress which the Hawaiians had made in the technique of tapa decoration. They seem, also, to have led in variety and beauty of design.

As to the cloth itself, the finer varieties resemble fine cotton in softness, are frail and easily torn, and very cool. In Samoa and the Tonga Islands the cloth was glazed with a sort of varnish which rendered it rain-proof.

In connection with the American Museum of Natural History, it should be noted that this institution and the American people owe much to the late Prof. Albert S. Bickmore, of international reputation, who was for many years the leading spirit of the museum.

Another "Cloth" Gone.

With the extinction of the American bison or buffalo another savage "cloth" has disappeared—to be found only in museums. The buffalo was clothing and shelter as well as food to the American Indian. He wore the "buffalo robe" and made his tepees of the skin and kept his records on it. The American West followed the Indians' example so far as to use the skin for "cloth." Men of 60 will remember that in their youth the "buffalo robe" was almost as much a part of the family sleigh and the cutter as the bells on the harness. In these days buffalo skin coats were the winter wear of outdoor men all over the country.

James Bridger, one of the giants of the early days of the American fur trade, the discoverer of Salt Lake about 1825 and the builder of Fort Bridger on the Oregon trail in Wyoming, was a born cartographer. It is said he could take a charred stick from the campfire and on a buffalo skin draw a map of any part of the far West. He learned the trick from the Indians.

Waniyetu yawapi wowapi—that is American Indianese, the Sioux dialect. It means "winter count writing"—the Indian method of keeping a calendar. The Ogiala Sioux (Dakota) Indians exploited "art calendars" before our present New Year productions were in existence. They represented each year by a pictograph, or picture, labeled with a descriptive motto. The picture and name were generally suggested by some important winter event, whence the name "winter count writing."

These pictographs drawn on buffalo skins, were kept in serial order, the keeper trusting his memory to recall the details of the events suggested by the pictures so identifying the various years. In other words, each year had a name instead of a mere number, and in the official calendar this name was illustrated by a picture. A Dakota born in 1853 would say that his birth occurred in "the year of the deep snow," or, if in 1889, "in the year of the moon's eclipse."

The American Museum of Natural History is fortunate in having been able to obtain one of these chronicles complete and parts of two others.

It is interesting to follow these old Indian records; to trace the history of the Dakota by his own account of hunting parties, tribal wars and massacres, the coming of the white men, dealings with traders, occasional outbreaks, gradual submission to the stronger power of the white man's government and civilization, and the development of the Indian's relations with the United States, with his consequent interest in United States politics. The names of some of the years are for us merely amusing; others are very significant. A few chosen at random will give a fair idea of the old Sioux calendar:

1779-80—Smallpox used them up winter.

1791-92—Saw a white woman winter.

1797—Beaver-small come winter.

1799—First firearms to issue winter.

1803—Horse-foot iron they say brought home winter. (This commemorates the first horseshoe seen by the Indians. It was on a stolen horse.)

1821-22—Star passed by with loud noise winter.

1830—Wood house first made winter.

1841—Drunk fight kill winter.

TYPE OF HOME NOW POPULAR

Shingled Dutch Colonial House Has Artistic Appearance.

ROOMS ARE WELL ARRANGED

Colonial Balance Is Preserved in the Interior—Will Accommodate Good-Sized Family—Not Expensive to Build.

By WILLIAM A. RADFORD.

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building, for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 1827 Prairie avenue, Chicago, Ill., and only enclose two-cent stamp for reply.

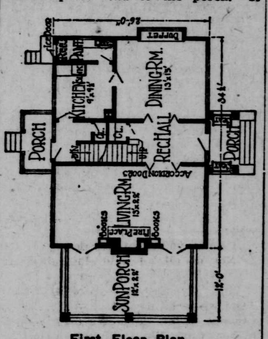
Dutch colonial houses are having a steadily increasing popularity with home builders. They have the beauty of the colonial exterior, coupled with the quaint roof treatment of the homes of Holland, an architectural style that was transplanted into this country in colonial times. And coupled with these advantages, the Dutch colonial makes possible great economy in the use of the interior.

An excellent example of a shingled Dutch colonial house is shown in the accompanying illustration. The central entrance and the balanced windows, those on each side of the door being duplicates, follow the colonial, while the roof treatment is essentially Dutch.

This house is of wood construction, set on a concrete foundation, and its outer walls are covered with shingles, specially treated to give the silvery effect of age. The house proper is 26 feet wide by 34 feet 6 inches deep, with a porch projection of 10 feet. It contains seven rooms and bath, beside the porch and balcony, the former of which may be inclosed as a living porch and the latter as a sleeping porch.

How the rooms are arranged and their dimensions are shown by the floor plans. However, there are several features of the interior that deserve special mention.

The colonial balance is preserved in the interior. On either side of the reception hall, which is of good width, are the living room and dining room. The former is a large room, 13 by 22 feet. The placing of the fireplace in the center of the front wall is unusual, but attractive. It is a broad fireplace and on either side are cases for books. Double French doors on both sides of the fireplace lead to the porch. It can be imagined how good this arrangement is when the porch is inclosed. The dining room is 13 by 15 feet, with a buffet built into a window bay, the windows, of course, being above. Triple windows, corresponding with those in the living room, also contribute to the cheerliness of this room. The kitchen is 9 by 9 feet 6 inches, and off it is a good-sized pantry, so arranged that the icebox may be iced from the rear porch.

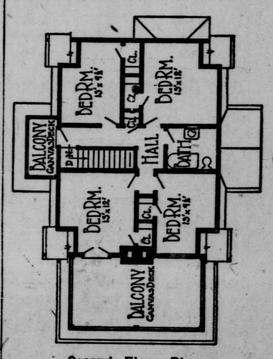


First Floor Plan.

Upstairs are four bedrooms, each a corner room. The bath is placed at the head of the stairs and is easily accessible to all the rooms. Plenty of closet space is provided both upstairs and down, while the slope of the roof permits more storage space in the attic.

The balcony, which is connected with one of the bedrooms by double French doors, is covered with canvas, to deaden the sound. This will make a most delightful sleeping porch by the use of screens in the summer and sash in the winter.

While this is not a large house in its dimensions, the size of the rooms on the first floor and the number of bedrooms make it ample for a good-sized family. Also it is not expensive, comparatively, to build.



Second Floor Plan.

Costs of building have been decreasing during the last of the spring and early summer, and now, those who know declare, are as low as they will be during the year. No one who wants a home should hesitate about getting it started. The country is a million homes short of its needs and unless greater progress is made during the last half of the year than has been accomplished during the first part those who rent their homes will find an even greater problem of securing a home next year than this.

To build a home does not require as great an amount of money as many persons believe. The owner of a fairly well located home building site can get his home planned and built and will be able to pay for it as he is able. Bankers, contractors and home-building associations always are ready to finance a home-building project, and will allow the owner to pay the cost in installments. While it may appear to be a considerable of an undertaking to obligate one's self to pay a certain fixed amount each month for a period of years, nevertheless that is exactly what he has to do if he rents. And at the end the renter has nothing to show for his expenditures.

Every person who rents a home owes it to himself and his family to at least investigate the possibility of securing a home of his own. The home owner is a better and more prosperous member of the community in which he lives, and secures, in the satisfaction of being a property owner, greater consideration both from business associates and from those he comes in contact with in a social way. Right now stop and think of those you know who own their homes. Then compare their standing with those who rent.

The colonial home shown in the illustration is merely a suggested design for prospective home builders. As good as it is, both in exterior and interior design, it may not coincide with the ideas of every home builder. It is an easy matter to get a wide selection of home designs to choose from. The local architect, contractor and building material dealer all have a great variety of home-building plans that are available for prospective builders.

No matter what sort of home you want there usually is one that will meet your ideas of exterior appearance and interior arrangement that can be built for the amount of money you can afford to pay for a home.

UNITED TO BANISH GLOOM

English Business Men Form Association in Which Only Smiling Faces Are Welcome.

Brighton men who travel to London every day to business have formed a "traveling colony of good cheer." "Some of us grew so tired of traveling with stiff, unsmiling faces," Mr. Johnson, a London merchant, told a reporter, "that we determined to admit to our compartment only those with cheerful faces.

"Smile!

"We have two placards, one for each window of the compartment. On these the traveler reads:

"'Only those who are cheerful travel in this compartment. If you cannot smile you will be out of place.'

"It has been very effective. Glum faces appear, read the notice and, wedded to gloom and distrusting cheerful company, pass on and enter another carriage. All the cheerful spirits come to our compartment and form the jolliest traveling colony ever known."—Continental Edition of London Mail.

Life in Old Manhattan.

Mrs. Knicker—Have you had a busy week?

Mrs. Bocker—Rather; I've had two husbands, three landlords and four cooks.—Sun and New York Herald.

BROUGHT SAD MEMORIES.

Mrs. Wells—Yes, siree, the cook refused to drive out in our car when I offered it to her.

Mr. Good—What excuse did she give?

Mrs. Wells—Said she wouldn't ride unless it was a self-starter, as cranking it reminded her so much of a washing machine.

If a man does [illegible] he thinks he is doing rich[illegible] some

Real Optimist

Mark Tapley may have been some pumpkins as an optimist, but he had nothing on a tall Kentuckian, who worked for Tom Dodge in a Kentucky oil district. The men slept in a bunkhouse that was built of green oak and the boards had shrunk and left spaces between them that you could see through.

It was terribly cold one night and the covers were thin and some of the men were complaining about the open spaces in the walls.

"Oh, well," said the big Kentuckian as he rolled over and prepared to pound his ear, "they's one good thing about sleepin' in here. You don't hev to git out of bed to throw the cat out.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Mean Insinuation.

"My husband's portrait, I would have you know, is a nation-wide possession."

"Why, is it in the rogues' gallery?"

FIRST UNITED STATES COINS

Fanciful Designs and Mottoes Marked the Earliest Issue of the Nation's Currency.

The Fugios were the earliest coins issued by the authority of the United States, and were of copper. It was in April, 1787, that the congress of the United States authorized the board of treasury to contract for 300 tons of copper coin of the federal standard "agreeably to the proposition of Mr. James Jarvis, provided that the premium to be allowed to the United States, on the account of the copper coin contracted for be not less than 15 per cent," and that "it be coined at the expense of the contractor, but under the inspection of an officer appointed and paid by the United States."

It is presumed that this copper coin contract was made as directed, for on Friday, July 6, 1787, the congress adopted this resolution: "That the board of treasury direct the contractor for the copper coinage to stamp on one side of each piece the following device, viz.: Thirteen circles linked together and a small circle in the middle with the words 'United States' around it; and in the center the words 'We are one.' On the other side of the same piece the following device, viz.: A dial with the hours expressed on the face of it; a meridian sun above, on one side of which is to be the word Fugio and on the other side the date '1787;' below the dial the words, 'Mind your own business.'"

A large number of these coins were made and although they bear the date 1787 it is very probable that they were issued up to 1793, when the government established a mint.

Besides the general term Fugio these first coins were also known by various names as the Franklin cent, Sun Dial, Ring and Mind-your-own-business. It was known as the Franklin cent because of one of his mottoes expressed thereon.

Of Course.

Lowe—"Why do the leaves of this book stay together?" Downe—"Oh, they're bound to do that."