

Let's Face Facts

Country Areas Attract Future Home Builders, Careful Survey Shows
By BARROW LYONS
WNU Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—

There are many signs that up-to-date small towns in most parts of the United States will experience expansion that spells prosperity after the war. This tops out between the lines of a survey conducted by Small Homes Guide, a magazine devoted to home building, which indicates that more than a third of the people planning to build homes after the war prefer small towns and country areas.

This survey was the result of questionnaires in the magazine which almost 30,000 readers voluntarily filled in and sent to the editor. The questions were drafted on scientific principles so that unbiased answers, which truly reflected the intentions of those answering them, would be obtained. The returns came from all sections of the country, and are considered a good sample of average American reactions.

Only 3 per cent of the people intending to build homes after the war expect to settle down in large cities, the survey revealed, and 17 per cent expect to build in medium sized cities. Those expecting to build in suburban areas were 40 per cent of the total. But 24 per cent expect to build right out in the country, and 14 per cent want to build in small towns. Two per cent of those returning questionnaires did not say in what type of community they wished to live.

These answers show that many people have become disgusted over crowded living conditions in the cities during the war. Also, letters from members of the armed forces indicate that there are phases of outdoor life that appeal to them.

Aside from the psychological reasons for selecting the country and small towns, there are many economic reasons why much building will be done in rural areas after the war.

Some of the Reasons

For one thing, transportation facilities will be improved greatly. Road building on a large scale is being planned to provide employment for returning servicemen. Developments in engine design and new types of fuel will make transportation more economical and comfortable. Competition between bus lines, air transport and railways will tend to accelerate improvements. As speed is increased, distance is cut down and the country is brought to the city.

Then, there are many war industries which have been scattered around in rural areas, which will be converted to peace-time production; and there is a slowly developing movement toward decentralization of industry, which means establishment of more small plants in the country. Development of enumerical processes, whereby farm products are used more and more as industrial materials, is on the way.

Equalization of freight rates for the south and west, which is now being vigorously sought by the Conference of Southern Governors, undoubtedly would lead to the development of country areas, which long have suffered from rate discrimination. The Department of the Interior also plans extensive reclamation projects in the west, which would tend to build up many of the Western states to support greatly expanded populations.

New Designs Wanted

One of the points brought out in the survey was a leaning toward homes of low, rambling design, which is in sharp contrast with the old fashioned, cramped, two-story dwelling with dark basement and steep stairs. This unquestionably means that more people will seek country areas where land is cheap, so that they may spread out floor plans as they desire.

Every small community should look over its resources now, to make sure it is going to get its share of the new building, and consequent merchandising, that will come to it. It should consider whether it is getting a fair break in relation to new super-highways that are to be constructed. It should have adequate schools, hospital facilities, amusement and shopping centers, police and fire protection, libraries and street lighting systems. It should have equitable real estate and taxation programs, and honest and progressive town and county governments.

There should be plans to take up the employment slack in agricultural off seasons, and an aggressive Chamber of Commerce or Community council to bring desirable industries to the town.

All of these things are important, if the merchants and bankers are to prosper as greatly as the possibilities of their location warrant. Business analysts studying this trend see for the small town contractors a large business, and along with him the building supply dealer in the community.

Red Land and Sea Moves Mapped After Odessa



Swift and dramatic strokes came in the wake of the great Red victory at Odessa. By a sudden thrust at the Perekop isthmus the Russ had undertaken a move to cut off Crimea and gain Sevastopol. Action from sea, as well as land, was expected along the Romanian and Bulgarian coasts as well, following the Crimea offensive. Ships of the Black sea fleet had stood by for amphibious operations. Another move was a quick dash which cut the rail line at Ovidopol to trap Nazi forces hoping to escape.

General and Fighting Men of Burma Front



Three scenes from the Burma front and what makes it tick: Left: F. Messerby, commander of the 7th Indian division of the British 14th army. Center: A U. S. tank and American-trained Chinese tank crew who demonstrated to the Japs in the battle of Walumbum just how well-trained they were in the use of modern weapons of war. Right: Chinese boy of American-trained transport unit enjoys his meal of rice, girded with a captured Jap battle flag for an apron.

Training for a Brighter Future



Corp. Walter C. Wojtas (weaving) of Cleveland, Ohio, and Pfc. Andrew Kundla (in bed) of Scranton, Pa., two Americans blinded in action, are shown at the Valley Forge General hospital, Phoenixville, Pa. There the government has undertaken the task of rehabilitating American men who lost their sight in this war, and preparing them for a brighter future.

Princess Inspects Troops With Dad



King George VI is pictured here with head turned to a charming and interested princess—his daughter. The photo was made during a stop on the first full-length journey of the princess when she accompanied her royal parents on a tour of inspection of Scottish troops and armored infantry outfits.

Hula Girl on Ice!



"Steady, we'll help you!"—and who doesn't need help when donning ice skates for the very first time? Lieutenants Wilma Kaimlen, Monroe, Mich., and Agnes Malone, Massillon, Ohio, army nurses, are used to ice-skating back home, so they volunteered to teach Miss Kuilele Kehakeloa a few tricks on an indoor rink in Hawaii. Yes, there's nothing backward about Hawaii, as this skating rink proves.

'Stopped'



Boxer Freddie Kramer, 35-year-old "vet" of ring wars, bows in defeat. Kramer's fistie march was halted by "K. O." Morgan in 5th round of Detroit bout.



Candid Shot of a Man Doing a Col'm:

Harold Lloyd is no sissy, but he plays with a doll. The toy has an interesting and tragic history. Harold was a long-time friend of Lillian Leitzel, the lovely circus aerialist. She fell to her death in Copenhagen several years ago while performing her famed act . . . Her mother took the costume in which Lillian was killed and cut it up into mementos for the star's closest friends . . . Some received pin-cushions, others got similar tiny tokens . . . Lloyd was sent a little doll from the material. It is one of his treasured possessions.

Groucho Marx was singing the praises of one of the movie firms recently. "They're absolutely tops!" he said. "When they make a lousy picture—none of the other film companies can come near it!"

Have a Debunker: Novelist Rose Wilder Lane told a reporter she isn't earning money because she doesn't want to pay income tax to support government agencies, including the Writer's War board . . . Lady, the writers who work for that board take no fees for their work. The taxes may pay salaries of people you dislike, but taxes also support the army, navy and marine corps, which protect Americans such as Rose Wilder Lane.

Have some irony: "Strange Fruit," the exciting novel which has been banned in Boston (the cradle of Yankeeism), was written by a Southerner and preaches equality . . . The current Magazine Digest credits Sid Sheldon with the anecdote about "Tootsie Rolls" being on a Russian menu. "Tootsie Rolls?" asked the guest. "What's Tootsie Rolls?" . . . The reply: "Lend-Lease!" . . . When it appeared here months ago the locale was Italy . . . Will Mr. Sheldon kindly forward the check he took for that one to the Red Cross? . . . That's peachy.

"The Adventures of Mark Twain" movie makers had considerable material to go on because Mark Twain is one of the few modern authors who had more books written about him than those he wrote. Mr. Twain wrote 24 volumes. He had 303 written about him . . . Bert Six, the movie photographer, was taking a likeness of a character. "Okay," said Bert. "I've finished. You can look unpleasant again!" . . . Jimmy Starr's book, "The Corpse Came C. O. D.," is a click . . . Paul Hendred and Hedy Lamarr were rehearsing love technique for scenes in "The Conspirators" . . . Mrs. Hendred was watching with others . . . She got a howl when she called out: "Paul, you ought to try that kissing technique at home some time!" . . . Of all things: Radio station KPAS in Hollywood interrupts their midday preacher with race results!

Love Letter Dep't: The colym thanks the Poly Spotlight's Instructor of Journalism (of Riverside, California) for the press pass. It reads: "Press Club, Poly Spotlight, Reporter's Pass. This certifies that Walter Winchell is a member of the Journalism classes of The Riverside Polytechnic High School, and a staff reporter for 'The Spotlight.' All courtesies extended for obtaining or forwarding news will be appreciated. Signed: F. Wayne Coons (Journalism instructor) and Bill Cornwell, editor." The pass expires in 1950.

Thank you very much. But by 1950 you boys and girls will be making and writing the news . . . However, I will always treasure it, and tuck it on the back of my wheel chair.

Bob Dunn, one of the better cartoonists, sends this Bed-time Story to Keep the Baby Awake: A Big Front Door who was a Daddy Door had a Little Son who was a Little Door. So the Daddy Door wanted to measure the Little Door to see if he was growing. So he stood the Baby Door up against a Boy and marked on the Boy's neck, how high the Baby Door was. And that's why all children should wash their necks. Now go to sleep, d'ya hear?

At a stuffy motion picture party, Rosalind Russell was approached by a grande dame who said maliciously, "What lovely pearls! Are they genuine?" Rosalind nodded. "Of course, you can always tell by biting them," said the cat. "Here, let me see." "Gladly," said Rosalind, proffering the jewels. "But remember, you can't tell real pearls with false teeth."

The trailer for Warner's "In Our Time" (now in some local theaters) reads: "See it with someone you love." When this is flashed on the screens all the unescorted girls out front groan . . . Starlet Eleanor Parker of that studio has a pup that performs a cute trick. She says to it: "Which'd you rather be—a dead dog or an actor waiting for a break?" . . . The dog rolls over and plays dead . . . "Diplomacy," says Jack Warner, "is cutting the other fellow's throat without using sharp words."

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Sweet Potato Plants now ready. Nancy Hall 500—\$1.40, 1000—\$2.50, 5000 and over \$2.40 per thousand. Porto Rico 500—\$1.65, 1000—\$3, 5000 and over \$2.75 per thousand. Safe arrival guaranteed. ADAMS PLANT CO., SHARON, TENN.

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Moses Would Take Long Chance on His Prediction

An old Negro, Moses by name, had been a great weather predictor during his period of slavery and was fairly successful. After he was given his freedom he decided to make an almanac and got his old master to do the writing for him.

He began, of course, with January and made his weather predictions up to August 10, when he predicted a fall of snow.

At this his master said: "Moses, you darn fool, you know it won't snow in August."

Old Moses replied: "Yes, I know it ain't apt to snow in August, but just think, if it was to, what a great prophet I would be!"



Heavier at Poles

Due to the centrifugal force of the earth's rotation, the force of gravity is less at the equator than at the poles. An object which weighs 190 pounds at the equator will weigh 191 pounds near the poles, scientists say.

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When bowels are sluggish and you feel irritable, headachy, do as millions do—chew FEEN-A-MINT, the modern chewing-gum laxative. Simply chew FEEN-A-MINT before you go to bed, taking only in accordance with package directions—sleep without being disturbed. Next morning clear, thorough relief, helping you feel swell again. Try FEEN-A-MINT. Tastes good, is handy and economical. A generous family supply costs only

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Shirt Tree

"Shirts grow on trees" in India. When needing a new shirt, the native strips off a piece of bark, and with holes cut in it for his arms and head it becomes a ready-to-wear, serviceable garment.



Ain't It So? "What happens when a body is completely immersed in water?" "The telephone rings."



AT FIRST SIGN OF A COLD USE 666 666 TABLETS, SALVE, NOSE DROPS



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