

**Permanent Construction**

Since the Company inaugurated its plan of selling lots, the above topic should be gone into thoroly by every prospective builder. The advantage of brick or concrete over wooden construction is not in appearance alone. The merchant—be he grocer, butcher, or baker—must ask himself whether he shall build a fireproof or a non-fireproof structure, a sanitary or an insanitary structure, a vermin- and ratproof structure or a vermin- and rat-harboring structure.

As to fire risk, the classification given by insurance companies on brick or concrete and on wooden structures makes argument unnecessary. While the Forests Products Laboratory has made considerable progress towards making wood a better building material, until the following requirements are fulfilled, it is unsuitable for business structures. Until it is made several degrees harder than slate, until a preservative is discovered which is better and more agreeable than creosote, none of the above requisites are possible. We may live to see each one fulfilled, but until they are fulfilled let us use materials which we know meet the most exacting requirements, namely: brick or concrete.

Wooden construction, for anything but residences, belongs to the town that was being built fifty years ago. Badin is a new town, and will be just as new twenty-five years from now if the proper kind of structures are built. But if the town is filled with wooden stores, it will soon take on the appearance of one of the older, out-of-date towns of which there are too many now. Measures should be taken to prevent Badin being filled with buildings that within a few years will become eyesores; and this should not be construed as restricting a man's personal liberty, but rather as a protection to the town of Badin. Nor is it fair to the Company to build such structures. The Company has spent a considerable sum of money on the buildings it has felt itself called upon to construct. These buildings—the Hospital, School, and Theater—would be a credit to any city in this or any other State. Then, is it unjust to ask that the business houses that are to be erected conform to the high standard set by the Company?

So much for appearances. Now let's get at the business end of it. The only thing in favor of wooden construction is the initial cost. However, there are

many things that in a score of years will more than offset this. The merchant who erects a brick or concrete building is merely using his good business sense. He builds for himself a fireproof, ratproof, and sanitary structure. Such a building should have a concrete floor, with no dead space beneath. If a wooden floor is desired, it should lay flat on top of the concrete. When he builds such a structure, he has insured himself against the ravages of rats, mice, and vermin, and this too often is not given a thought. If he builds a harboring place for these pests, he must board them, and he will soon discover that it is not the small item he thought it was. His competitor on the same street has a sanitary, rat- and vermin-proof structure. He does not have the ever-growing family to feed that the merchant who does business in the wooden structure has. What is to happen? He of the wooden structure, altho he may conduct his business along approved business lines, will find himself unable to compete with the merchant who does business in a sanitary building. One merchant has a serious leak in his business while the other has not.

As previously stated, Badin is a new town, practically free from rats and vermin. However, where human beings go, these pests will follow, unless provision is made to prevent their having harboring places with a convenient food supply. Men gathered to fight a war, and it was not many months until the rat population exceeded the human population. Experts tell us their food bill in the United States is over one hundred million dollars per annum. The best way to get rid of rodents is never to have them. The only way not to have them is not to build harboring places for them. This can easily and inexpensively be done in a new town that is in course of construction.

Indeed, some of our main progressive cities have incorporated into their city ordinances measures which make it impossible to erect any structure in any part of the city that is not ratproof and sanitary. Not only do rats cut into the merchants' profit, but they are the most filthy of all animals. They have cost several cities in the United States a toll in human life and millions of dollars because they are the carriers of that dreaded bubonic plague.

The most conclusive argument in favor of brick or concrete is given by the man who has conducted his business in a wooden structure, and later in a brick

or concrete structure. Ask him if he would ever go back to the old wooden structure. Ask him if it is worth the difference in the initial cost, to be free from rats, mice, and vermin, and enjoy a sanitary place thruout.

The writer happens to know two merchants in Badin who have during the past three years conducted their business under the above conditions. They are Mr. J. W. Frazier, Manager Badin Supply Company, and Mr. Peter Endres, owner of the Badin Bakery. To these two gentlemen I would respectfully refer any prospective merchant builder.

L. G. DANIELS

**Relief Department**

*Report for April, 1919*

Balance on hand, April 1.....	\$1,364.36
Dues from employees for the month .....	338.50
Amount paid by the Tallassee Power Company .....	338.50
<b>Total assets .....</b>	<b>\$2,041.36</b>

*Disbursements*

	White	Colored	Total
Claims paid for sickness and accident .....	\$98.69	\$351.45	\$450.14
Miscellaneous expense .....			24.98
			\$ 475.12

Balance on hand, April 30.....\$1,566.24  
 J. H. DEVEREAUX  
 Relief Agent

**Build Now**

*"Thrift Turns Savings into a Home"*

United States Department of Labor  
 W. B. Wilson, Secretary

The American Home Owner is the man who has discovered that thrift is something more than the hoarding of money. The family "sock" and the old china teapot may be chuck full of dimes and quarters, or five- and ten-dollar gold pieces, and yet thrift may be unknown to the head of the house. He may be only a miser!

Thrift not only saves intelligently, but it puts savings to work; not only does it save a dollar, but it puts that dollar where it will thrive, where it can earn and labor for the welfare and comfort of its owner.

On account of suspended building operations during the war, the United States now needs almost a million homes. That