

DIAMOND THIEVES

Women Are Experts in Purloining the Precious Stones.

SOME TRICKS OF THE TRADE.

Clever Scheme of a Light Fingered Lady Who Worked Nearly Every Dealer in New York—Ingenious Trick of a Smooth Berlin Swindler.

A former State street jeweler who is now a member of a jewellers' protective association and travels over the entire world in search of diamond and gem thieves told some of the interesting methods used by the expert thief to steal jewelry, says the Chicago News.

"Women make good diamond thieves," he said, "as dealers must not take a chance of offending a customer. . . lest she be a rich man's wife or daughter whose trade if obtained regularly would amount to thousands a year. Any woman well dressed and possessing a certain amount of refinement can see the entire stock of almost any dealer in the country. When she is clever enough she can get a stone or piece of jewelry during her inspection."

"One New York woman came into a large store and asked to see some unset diamonds. The proprietor of the store waited on her and showed her a large collection of fine stones. She displayed a monster roll of bills and was about to purchase an expensive jewel when she asked whether her husband could see it. 'Why, certainly,' replied the proprietor. 'We will send it over to him now.' The woman hesitated and finally asked whether they would hold the stone until that afternoon and she would make a deposit of \$10 on it.

This appeared perfectly proper to the owner, but when she left two valuable stones were missing. The woman was hailed, taken to the police headquarters and searched. The gems were not found on her, and in her indignation she threatened to bring suit against the proprietor. He had been sure she had taken the stones, but in his profession of apology offered to give her the one she had been looking at, and at the same time refund her \$10. This was better than a suit and the woman, thought the dealer. She accompanied him back to the store and while there, watched by detectives, made her way up to the case where she had stood before and, slipping her hand along the under edge, recovered the two missing stones, stuck there in a little ball of chewing gum.

"The detectives did not know positively at that time whether she had taken anything from the counter, but decided to keep further watch over her. At another store several days later, while she was inspecting gems, a stone was dropped on the floor 'accidentally,' and this also was lost. Gum on the front of the shoe had got this one. The woman was arrested and confessed that she had swindled nearly every dealer in New York with her gum trick.

"One of the most ingenious thefts was made in Berlin, where a fellow walked into a general jewelry store, knowing the owner had a fine diamond. The thief wore an expensive diamond himself and went into the store apparently to have an old German watch repaired. He started to talk of diamonds and exhibited his own as a choice stone. He was shown the other stone by the dealer. They discussed diamonds in every phase until the watch was repaired, when the stranger started to pay for the repairing. He exhibited a large roll of bills and purposely overpaid. During the slight confusion of counting his money and paying for his watch he had substituted for the genuine diamond a paste stone, which was being carefully wrapped up and placed in its box by the dealer, while the stranger was sauntering out with his watch.

"The dealer saw a slight carbon spot in the paste jewel as he was closing the box and, knowing his own jewel to be flawless, hurriedly examined the stone and apprehended the thief before he was half a block away, secure in the thought that he was safe.

"He was taken to the store and every particle of clothing removed, and he was searched thoroughly, but the missing jewel could not be found. More through curiosity at the old time watch than anything else one of the police opened the back of the case and found glittering up at him from the mainspring the lost jewel. The thief confessed and got a heavy sentence.

"There are just thousands of this kind of cases," said the gem thief slyly. "The majority of the really big fellows that I have ever seen are as fine cut men as one would find anywhere. Their personality is usually of the best, but with a bad streak in their makeup somewhere."

Very Considerate.

A tender hearted youth was once present at an Oxford supper where the fathers of those assembled were being roundly abused for their parsimony in supplying the demands of their sons. At last, after having long kept silence, he lifted up his voice in mild protest.

"After all, gentlemen," he said, "let us remember that they are our fellow creatures."

He hath a poor spirit who is not punished above petty wrongs.—Folham.

COZY LITTLE HOME FOR TWO.

Design 656, by Glenn L. Saxton, Architect, Minneapolis, Minn.



PERSPECTIVE VIEW—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.



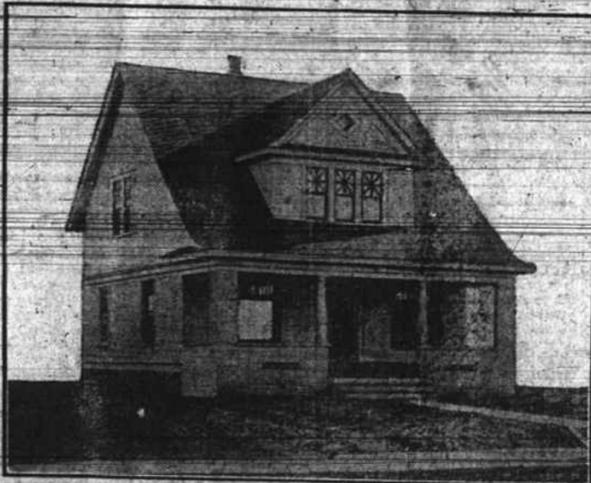
FIRST FLOOR PLAN.

This snug little home has just enough space for two persons to be comfortable in it. It has a beautiful large living room, charming dining room, built-in sideboard, coat closet, bedroom, bathroom and, in fact, everything to make such a home complete. The first story is nine feet in height in the clear. There are birch floors throughout, and the finish is birch, with mahogany stain, or natural if it is preferred. Size is twenty-four feet wide and thirty feet deep over all. Cost to build, exclusive of heating and plumbing, \$1,335.

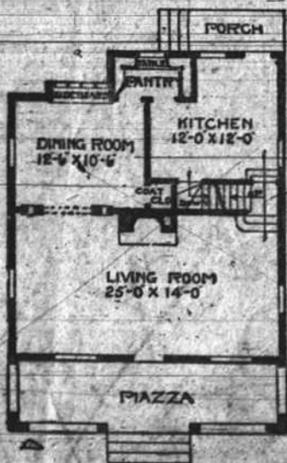
Upon receipt of \$1 the publisher of this paper will supply a copy of Saxton's book of plans, entitled "American Dwellings." The book contains 240 new and up to date designs of cottages, bungalows and residences, costing from \$1,000 to \$5,000.

THIS IS A DESIRABLE HOME.

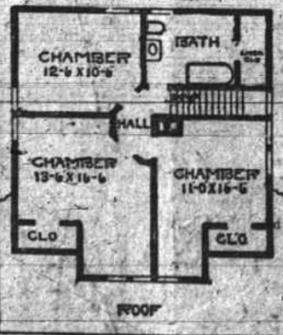
Design 675, by Glenn L. Saxton, Architect, Minneapolis, Minn.



PERSPECTIVE VIEW—FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.



FIRST STORY PLAN.



SECOND STORY PLAN.

Here is the design of a home to be proud of. It is substantial in appearance and comfortable. It has birch or maple floors throughout. Size of the first story is nine feet and of the second story eight feet. Washington fir finish in first story and pine in second story. Piazza floors and ceilings to be No. 1 clear Washington fir. Size of house, 22 by 26 feet. Cost to build, exclusive of heating and plumbing, \$2,300.

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TO OUR

Friends and Customers

May the New Year Bring You Health, Wealth and Prosperity

To Make Room For Our Spring Stock We

Will Make Special Prices on all Winter Goods Now is the Time to Get REAL BARGAINS

Everybody cordially invited to Call at the

Racket Store

Announcement

We wish to announce to our many friends and customers that

We will again open our drug business as soon as we can get matters pertaining to the recent fire properly settled.

Those who owe us can do us no greater service than pay us their accounts now as we are surely in need of funds.

Watch this space for further announcement

THE SCOGGIN DRUG COMPANY

JUST THINK

The object of a gift is to remind the receiver of the thoughtfulness of the sender together with the friendly feeling, what could come nearer serving this purpose than a year's subscription to

Franklin Times

It is only \$1 per year and is appreciated by everybody.

New Year - GREETINGS -

We extend one and all of our past customers and the public generally the seasons best wishes. In the past year we have been alert to your interest on all things we carry in stock and we feel that in the coming year we will be in a better position to serve you and make your trading with us more profitable to you and to us. If you have not already become one of our many customers it will be to your interest to enlist with us at once. We carry nothing but the best in all departments and our prices are, as you have found them, as low as is consistent with the quality you receive.

Watch this space for the announcement of our big WHITE SALE that will take place in the near future.

CANDLER-CROWELL COMPANY

Louisburg, N. C.