

## Canadian Houses

Sometimes we have a poor opinion of ourselves, in fact, perhaps too often; so it is both pleasant and encouraging to have others pay us a compliment on our efforts. In speaking of our domestic work and as to how it is possibly regarded in the popular mind abroad, the "Slate Trade Gazette," published in England, says:

"Ask the average school boy (in England) to describe a Canadian house, and he will give you a word picture of a sort of 'little old log cabin down the lane.' This might be somewhere near the mark for the backwoods, but it is wrong when applied to houses in or near the cities. In point of fact, the latter class are much more up-to-date than most houses in this country, and give evidence of much more thought in their inception. They are greatly superior to ours in labor-saving devices. In a Canadian kitchen, for instance, everything is near at hand. It is planned to save every unnecessary step and every second of time. The plate rack is over the sink, which is of leadless glaze china, and easy to clean; the taps are all nickel-plated. Large bins for flour, sugar, etc., are placed under the kitchen table, which is a fixture, and is within easy reach of the range. It is not necessary to run here and there to get small quantities of this and that ingredient to do the cooking, and the pastry board and rolling-pin are fixed to the table side.

"In all the living rooms and bedrooms upstairs, the fire-places have, underneath the fire basket or grate, a shaft in the chimney, which is opened or shut with the poker. All the ashes are pushed down this shaft every morning, and they collect in a stone well in the basement, which is opened and emptied about twice a year. This device saves all the trouble of emptying the grates, and as all the grates are made of armor bright, they require no cleaning; relaying a fire is a few seconds' work. Then there is the admirable device of the fitted washing basins in the bedrooms, with hot and cold water laid on—a rare luxury in England, but a commonplace in Canada.

"We may think we are a progressive nation, but a few countries can give us points in house building and beat us. We have yet a great deal to learn in this art."



SUN ROOM, HOUSE AT WESTMOUNT, P.Q.

SEPTIMUS WARWICK, F.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT.

While this may not fully apply in its general relation to all our domestic work, it nevertheless is close to the mark, and it can at least be said that we have taken into consideration the essentials of equipment and are building better than we sometimes appreciate as regards the matter of convenience and comfort. In this respect, at any rate, we can feel that we are progressive.

## Montreal Architect in United States War Work.

Mr. Harry Edward Prindle, architect, whose offices up to last year were at 915 New Birks Building, Montreal, has entered the service of the United States Government, having been appointed supervisor of housing at Bristol, Pa., for the Emergency Fleet Corp. From the designing of terminal stations to work at a great plant like Bristol is quite a change, but there is a feeling of satisfaction in knowing that one has an active part in carrying out necessary war work.