

THE MAKING OF A SUBURBAN HOME*

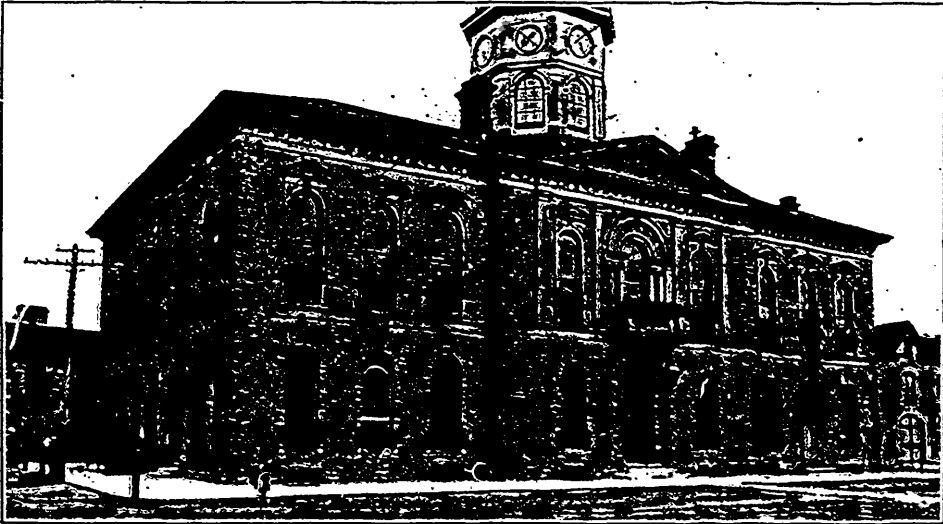
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MOST city folk, at some period in their lives have a longing for country air and surroundings, a longing for freedom from city cares, for rest and quiet and a desire to dig in mother earth. This is a natural desire, and if gratified will, in many cases, result in indigestion cures, the up-building of shattered nerves and general good health. Visions of fresh eggs for breakfast, fresh vegetables gathered while wet with dew for dinner, and fresh berries for tea, all produced in the home, poultry yard and garden, furnish powerful arguments in favor of going to live in the suburbs, not to speak of the pleasure of sowing the seed and watching the growth of the plants and giving them such attention that when the time of the harvest comes the product will be the finest in the country side.

Having, therefore, decided to invest in a piece of land with a view to making a garden, the first question to decide is location. I presume, of course, that the owner in-

tends to garden during his spare hours and go to the city daily. In that case I would recommend that he locate near the street car line if possible. That is, I would prefer to pay more for land, or be content with a smaller lot near the car line than a more distant location. There may be in the family some members who would not take to the suburban life with the same zest as the head of the house, and they should be considered. Besides, a back ache sometimes forces its attention on the enthusiastic gardener and it is desirable to get to the car with as little exertion as possible.

The best time to inspect the different locations is just after the snow has melted in spring time. You can then see the state of the roads and how the land is drained. This is important for sanitary reasons. If the home is located outside the city limits the owner has to devise and carry out his own sewage system, so a slight slope is a help for that purpose as well as for good surface drainage. A slope to the north or



The Guelph City Hall as Improved

Excellent results would follow were more of our horticultural societies to follow the example of the Guelph Horticultural Society, which this year greatly improved the city hall and postoffice by placing handsome boxes in the windows. This work is appreciated by the thousands who pass these two prominent buildings.

* Extract from a paper read at the July meeting of the Ottawa Horticultural Society.