A BUNGALOW PLANNED FOR MUCH OUTDOOR LIVING: 
BY CHARLES ALMA BYERS

THE appreciation of living as much as possible in the open air has swiftly taken root here in America. Less than a decade ago a house built with a sleeping porch or planned for the slightest opportunity for outdoor living was a most unusual thing in any part of the United States. Today all over the country, but more especially in the West, we are beginning to build porches, screened, perhaps, with blossoming vines, on which to do some of our household tasks or to eat suppers in the cool of the evening; we are planning for pergolas which will bring the outside world of growing things directly to our doors, and sleeping porches where we may lie at night and watch the gleaming stars.

When once the delights of outdoor sleeping (with its healthfulness, which follows as a matter of course) have been tried, it is hard to understand why so many of us have been willing to live for so long a time in the shut-up stuffy houses that have been our homes for so many years.

In the bungalow illustrated by the accompanying photograph and floor plan, open-air sleeping rooms are made an important feature. There are two of these rooms in this plan, one open on three sides and the other on two, screens affording the needed seclusion. The rooms, which adjoin indoor bedrooms, are furnished with beds suspended by chains, which can be removed, thus making it possible to change the porches into partly secluded outdoor rest rooms. Another feature of the plan that will be appreciated by lovers of the open air is a small court or grass terrace, as it is called here. It is thirteen by fifteen feet in size, enclosed on three sides, and affords an excellent place for swinging a hammock, where the open air can be enjoyed in practically absolute privacy. If desired, this court can

A BUNGALOW BUILT A SHORT DISTANCE FROM LOS ANGELES: E. R. RUST, ARCHITECT.
A BUNGALOW FOR OUTDOOR LIVING

be converted into a flower garden, into which open doors from the living room, hallway and one of the bedrooms.

Even were these open-air features omitted from the plan, this bungalow would still be a most attractive home. The design is particularly pleasing and the house is well and substantially built throughout. It is low and rambling in appearance and the exterior color scheme is unusually effective. The flat roof, of a patented composition, is almost white, which harmonizes with the rough plaster-coated chimneys and porch pillars, as well as with the cement walks and porch steps. The siding, which is of shakes, is stained a dark green and the window sash is painted a light cream. Cement is also used for the foundation, the porch floor and the basement walls and floor. The chimneys and porch pillars are of rather massive proportions, and the structural lines are simple and regular. The house has a frontage of forty-two feet and a depth of fifty-four feet eight inches, exclusive of the front porch.

Including the two screened sleeping rooms, the house contains eight rooms, as well as a bathroom and screened porch. The living room and dining room occupy the front, and from the former an irregular hallway leads to all of the other rooms (except the screened rooms) as well as to the basement stairs. There is a large fireplace, with a simple tile mantel, in one end of the living room, and a built-in buffet in the dining room. The kitchen and the roomy pantry contain ample cupboard space, a draught cooler and the other conveniences usually found in the modern bungalow. In each of the three bedrooms there is a long closet. The floor plan is particularly good for a house of this size.

Oak floors are used throughout the house, except in the kitchen, bathroom and screened rooms, where pine is used. The woodwork of the living room and dining room is of California redwood, with a plain waxed finish, and basket-matting panels and waxed redwood are used as finish for the screened rooms. In the rest of the rooms the woodwork is of cedar, enameled white. The dining-room walls are paneled with imitation leather, and in the living room an interesting effect is obtained with plaster panels. The ceilings in these two rooms are coved, and indirect lighting is used. A broad arch, with built-in bookcases on either side, separates the rooms.

The house has a large basement and is heated by a furnace. Complete, it represents an expenditure of about $3,500, and, according to the prevailing cost of material and labor, it should be duplicated in almost any locality for from $3,400 to $3,700.

This particular bungalow was built on a small ranch only a short distance from Los Angeles, California, just close enough to one of the subdivisions of the city to obtain nearly all the conveniences that a city location would afford. Its architecture blends well with the level and unpretentious rural environment, but at the same time it would be most suitable for city duplication. It was designed by E. B. Rust, a Los Angeles architect.

THE CRAFTSMAN has from the beginning of its career advocated the need in America of an essentially democratic, a new, type of domestic architecture. We have realized that the most of our people did not want and could not have the elaborate imitation villa or country house, and yet that in ever-increasing numbers Americans would insist upon having comfortable and attractive homes. Now for a home to be significant for a certain kind of civilization, it must conform to the life of that civilization; that is to say, it is perfectly impossible for people who are earning their own living and working out a scheme of life on a reasonably small sum of money to get any joy in a pretentious home beyond their means, with elaborate ornamentations, but no everyday comfort. There is just one way in which busy, intelligent, home-loving people can be happy, and that is in houses which satisfy their really varied needs. Busy people must be comfortable when they are at home, and yet too great a price cannot be paid for this comfort. Intelligent people must be satisfied artistically in their home, and yet the beauty must not be gained at the cost of too much labor and time. So the type of house that will give comfort and beauty and at the same time prove a fairly economical proposition is going to be, when once thoroughly evolved, the architectural triumph in this country.

It is because we feel that in the far West so much has been accomplished in the development of the home architecture that we reproduce so frequently the beautiful houses from the Pacific Coast, printing pictures of the interior and giving details of construction.