

## Do You Know Your Charleston?

88 Murray Boulevard



BUILT OF OLD BRICK, this new residence on Murray boulevard has the air of a Charleston "period" house, but is equipped for modern standards of comfort. (Staff Photo by Peck.)

### Frank C. Ford's New Waterfront Home Built of Old Brick in Traditional Style But Equipped for Modern Living

Completed this year, the new home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. Ford at 88 Murray boulevard, overlooking the Ashley river, contains a mantelpiece well over a century old. It came from the old Radcliffe-King house at George and Meeting streets, built soon after 1800, which was torn down to make way for the College of Charleston auditorium.

Several of its mantelpieces which have been placed in the Dock Street theater show classical scenes, but this one is decorated by flower garlands, tucked up with ribbons. At each end is an eagle-topped shield, supported by eagles. These last lend a patriotic note, now more than ever timely.

The house is built of old bricks; and a slate roof, wooden modillions under the eaves, and ironwork are reminiscent of dwellings of the olden days. The architect is Harold Tatman, of this city. The front door is slightly recessed so that guests will be sheltered while waiting to be admitted. On either side of the portal is a fluted Doric pilaster, and four similar pilasters lend dignity to the hall inside. When first put up, they were perfectly plain, but their appearance seeming a bit severe, they were fluted after they were in place.

The house is divided in the center by a hall, which runs between the living room and the dining room. Painted white like the hall, these rooms open into it by wide double-leaved doors, so that the front of the house can be thrown together for entertaining.

The old mantelpiece is in the living room, flanked by bookshelves in round-headed recesses. On the chairboard is a band of decoration which also came from the Radcliffe-King house. The flowered glazed chintz curtains match the cover of the comfortable armchair.

Features of the dining room are a round-headed corner cupboard for china, and an antique gold-framed mirror which hangs above the sideboard.

Back of the sitting room and entered from the hall is a den, with walls of unpainted cypress, treated like the woodwork in the Dock Street theater. The Venetian blinds

at the windows are stained to match. On either side of the mantelpiece is a built-in cabinet, one of which holds guns, the other containing beautiful silver golf trophies. Though the cabinet is full, these are only some of the trophies won by Mr. and Mrs. Ford, both ardent golfers. The three sets of antlers in this room are due to the marksmanship of another member of the family, Frank, Jr., a schoolboy but already a skilled hunter.

Outside, a small iron verandah protects the back door which leads to a brick terrace.

The modern kitchen opens into a pantry with a breakfast nook, which leads to the dining room. The house is rich in closets, and several are found near the kitchen. One holds the hot air furnace, which rests on a pillar in order to be above flood waters in case of storm. A small laundry has twin tubs.

The upstairs is reached by a curving staircase, with a mahogany rail, which ascends in an easy sweep. The south bedrooms have a wide view of the Ashley. A guest room is at the back. Another room, which could be used as a bedroom if needed, now serves as a place for play and study, including piano lessons, for the children. Each of the three bathrooms is tiled in a different color.

Besides the clothes closets in the bedrooms, and a large linen closet, there is a place provided for hunting clothes and accessories. This would be of interest to most men, while few women could resist the compact sewing room, its walls lined with shelves and compartments. Every inch is made to count; the cutting table folds into the wall on one side, and the ironing board on the other.

Another space-saving device is found in the upstairs hall, where the stair to the attic when not in use swings up out of the way into the ceiling. A gentle tug at a chain brings it down again.

The garden has been planted with shrubbery and centipede grass. A brick walk leads to the door. The house is especially attractive when seen from a boat on the river.

K. R.

## TRADE RETRIEVED DEPRESSION LOSS

### Retail Business Volume in Charleston Surveyed for Decade 1929-1939

By C. D. SHOKES

Despite the depression during the decade, 1929-1939, Charleston merchants were able to show at the end of 1939 a 16 per cent increase in dollar volume of sales over the volume of the boom year 1929, and a 44 per cent increase over the depression year 1935, according to the 1940 United States census report on business conditions in Charleston.

Charleston and Charleston county, with a total dollar volume of sales of \$29,064,000 in 1939, ranked third in the state, with Greenville and Columbia rating first and second, respectively. (Although the census was taken in 1930 and 1940, business information is necessarily for the years 1929 and 1939.) In 1929, sales reached \$25,105,000, dropped to \$20,142,000 in 1935, then took a 44 per cent rise to \$29,064,000 in 1939. This increase has been accompanied by only a 13 per cent increase in population, and also by a substantial drop in the price of consumer goods; and this decrease is important, says the report, for since the dollar volume of sales has gone up even with a decrease in prices, business conditions are even better than percentage figures indicate.

Food stores contributed both in 1929 and 1939 the greater part of the city's total dollar sales. In 1929, 274 food stores had a sales total of \$5,530,000; in 1939, 329 food stores totaled their sales to \$5,223,000. Here again the decrease in prices must be considered.

Department stores numbered three in 1929, and their sales came to \$1,316,000; in 1939, there were six such stores, with sales totaling \$2,217,000. This means that their number increased 100 per cent and their sales (measured in dollars) 73 per cent.

According to the report, the most phenomenal increase in sales (measured in dollars) occurred in the sales of household appliance stores. Numbering twenty-one in 1929, their sales totaled \$132,000. By the end of 1939, their number had decreased to six, but their sales were up to \$453,000; a decrease of about 250 per cent in number, but an increase of about 70 per cent in sales. The increase in population must be considered here, as well as that during this period there was an increasing number of new homes and appliances. But these factors well might be partly, if not wholly, offset by the decrease in the prices of these goods.

Drug stores maintained their number, thirty-six, during the ten-year period, but their sales went up over 33 1-3 per cent.

Lumbering building supplies showed an increase in sales from \$504,000 in 1929 to \$1,243,000 in 1939. But the increase was not made by the same stores. In 1929, the census report listed five stores in Charleston engaged in selling lumber and building supplies; in 1939, there were twenty-seven.

Twenty-nine filling stations in Charleston at the end of 1929 showed a total of \$694,000 in sales. Sixty-eight stations at the end of 1939 showed total sales receipts of \$1,257,000. This record is even better when one remembers that there has been a rather large decline in the prices of gasoline and oil since 1929.

The increase in sales and number of fuel distributors in Charleston over the ten-year period was almost proportional to each other; \$378,000 for ten stores in 1929, and \$724,000 for twenty-nine stores in 1939.

Almost all businesses showed an increase. The increase in many cases was not caused by the same stores; there have been increases in the number of stores. Shoe store

## Speeder Stop Thought Wi

Ralph W. Lillard, of Columbia vacationing at the Isle of Palms had a strenuous week-end.

Lillard was arrested Saturday night at 8:30 o'clock by County Police Lieutenant Percy W. Hawke and County Policeman C. Simmons after a eighty-mile-hour chase through the business district of Mount Pleasant.

When Lillard realized the police were chasing him, he slammed on his brakes, and the police crashed into the rear of his machine. Policeman Simmons suffered a slight injury to his chest.

## DEFENSE PLACING ITS MARK ON CITY

### Workmen's Badges, Uniforms, Shortage of Nurses and Some Goods Noted

National defense is placing imprint on Charleston in more than an increase in population and rolls.

Identification badges are more evidence than they have been since the World War days. Men may be seen on street buses, on sidewalks and in theaters wearing celluloid badges, some bearing numbers others photographs. Many men wear both types of badges. These are identification badges are more evidence than they have been since the World War days. Men may be seen on street buses, on sidewalks and in theaters wearing celluloid badges, some bearing numbers others photographs. Many men wear both types of badges. These are

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### SUMMER WORK TO END

Seminars on Last Week's