

HOME PAGE Capital Journal

Wood Paneling Less Expensive

By DAVID G. BAREUTHER
AP Real Estate Editor

The luxury of wood paneling, once restricted by its cost to baronial halls and mansions of the wealthy, has been brought within the reach of almost every home owner by fancy wood veneer on modern plywood.

Light colored, cheerful and beautifully grained veneer plywoods have broadened the field of interior decoration as extensively as they have rejuvenated furniture design. Wide varieties of rare, exotic and distinctively grained woods used for the surfaces of these modern panels offer a big range for your choice.

You no longer are limited to either dark and somber old style oak and walnut walls or to definitely informal, knotty pine and cypress boards. The same swirls and natural growth markings that distinguish blond furniture can now decorate your walls. Virtually pastel tints serve to spread light combined with the soft warmth of real wood.

A home craftsman, reasonably skilled in the use of his wood-working tools, finds it easy to panel a room. Veneer plywoods in 4 by 8-foot sheets can be put up right over old plaster and nailed through to the studs, or superimposed on leveled furring strips. In new work the paneling can be nailed directly to the framing, providing a quick and sturdy dry wall. Joints between panels are V-beveled or covered with molding.

A new texture has been developed, taking advantage of nature and embossing the grain of the wood. This is accomplished by running the

panels through a machine with power driven metal brushes. The soft spring growth in the wood is slightly gouged out, leaving the harder summer growth standing out in raised contrast.

By processing a slice of such wood under metal brushes, the depth of brushing is kept to a minimum so that the wood grain is brought out in subtle relief, while the surface still remains relatively smooth. The result is a texture that catches light from any direction and displays a sharp pattern in shadows.

THIS TYPE of plywood, known as Wedge Wood, is made with a surface of old-growth Western upland hemlock. The raw logs are selected for their relatively tight grain, brought about by slow growth. The surface is resin sealed and slightly pigmented with white in manufacture. This reduces porosity to a point where one coat of paint will cover.

The Georgia-Pacific Plywood Co. reports that tests have shown that all knots remaining in the thinly sliced veneer will stay put. Those that drop out in manufacture are replaced with plastic, which is grained to simulate natural knots, and the complete material is cured in a hot press.

Bids Received for Chemewa Postal Job

Bids for operation of the independent contract branch post office at Chemewa will be received until 2 p.m. April 29, according to announcement by Postmaster Albert C. Gregg.

The branch must be located on the Chemewa Indian reservation, adjacent to the Southern Pacific right of way. The operator will handle stamps, money orders, and parcel post matter. There will be provision for post office boxes, a general delivery window and the receipt and dispatch of mail.

COMING FARM EVENTS

- April 28-29—Farm Forestry conference, Oregon State college.
- May 4, 5, 6, 7—Marion county Spring 4-H show, Stayton.
- May 7—Polk county Home-makers Festival, Rickreall.
- May 11, 12, 13—Oregon Cattlemen's annual convention, Multnomah hotel, Portland.
- May 14, 15, 16—Salem Spring 4-H show, 225 North Liberty St.
- May 15—Clackamas county Spring Jersey Show, Canby.
- May 19—Oregon Sheepmen's Field Day, Oregon State college, Withycombe hall, 9:30 a.m.
- May 23—Marion county Jersey Spring Show, Salem, State fairgrounds.
- June 4, 5, 6—Lebanon Strawberry Festival.
- June 5—Salem Business Men's Farm Tour.
- June 6—Marion county Fat Lamb and State Sheep Dog Trials, Turner.
- June 8, 9, 10, 11—Oregon State Grange convention, Medford.
- June 10—Annual Farm Crops field day, Central Station, Oregon State college.
- June 16-26—Annual 4-H Summer School, Oregon State college.

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Questions Answered

BY MARK M. TAYLOR

Question—Enjoy your articles and answers very much. Now I come for a little help: 1. I was given a package of Higo strain Japanese Iris, hand pollinated. Please tell me how and when to sow?

Answer—1. Iris seed can be sown in a cold frame or protected area. Transplant seedlings the following Spring to field rows three inches apart. Flowers will be better the following year. Soil must be good humusy garden soil on the acid side. It should be well drained and its a good idea to add bonemeal—5 lbs. to 100 sq. ft. Keep soil moist except in July when a drier condition pleases them.

Question—I have a Martha Washington geranium 33 inches tall and it is a gorgeous thing but it doesn't bloom. What can I do to make it bloom? It is one year old. I have been feeding it and all my house plants with Hyponex once a week—teaspoonful to gallon of water.—Mrs. M. M. E.

Answer—Geraniums bloom better if a bit potbound and kept in a sunny position and slightly on the dry side. You might try repotting and reduce the amount of watering. Geraniums are gross feeders and will grow out of all proportion if given food and water, but this does not encourage blooms—just foliage.

Question—I have found some small stickies, white tufts around the leaf joints of some house plants. Is this a disease? How do you cure it?—Mrs. M. S.

Answer—Probably mealy bugs. Dip cotton wrapped toothpick in alcohol and push each tuft (the hiding place of the bug). Then spray the plant with water, then isolate it so the bug will not move to another plant. This process may have to be repeated several times before the cure is complete.

Question—Do tuberous begonias have any insect or disease problem?—Mrs. R. A. N.

Answer—Begonias do not have many problems, though mildew has been noticed recently. This can be controlled by spraying with 2% calcium polysulphide. Slugs sometimes bother but use a 10% metaldehyde slug dust. Lindane will control aphids and the white fly.

Question—Why do tuberous begonia buds sometimes drop before maturing?—Mrs. R. N. A.

Answer—This is probably due to drying out or, if grown in pots, becoming root bound. Many troubles are due to overfeeding which causes too rapid growth.

Question—What is the proper watering schedule for African Violets?—Mrs. C.O.S.

Answer—The recommendation of Helen Van Pelt Wilson, recognized authority on African Violets is—give a drink every morning, never allow soil to become dry on top. Give it all the water it might want but avoid over-watering. The soil should be soaked thoroughly, but water only when the top of the soil is dry to the touch. Sub-irrigation by means of a wick through the bottom drainage assures a constant supply of water. Water on leaves will not harm them if the water is room temperature and if the plant is shaded.

Question—Is the ornamental cherry that one reads about so much now of any practical value? Mrs. R. E. G.

Answer—That depends upon your meaning of "practical value." It does not bear fruit, but is often considered of value as a shade tree as well as an ornamental tree. But surely the esthetic value of such a beautiful tree must not be ignored merely because it does not bear fruit.

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Barrel Berry Raising Plan

By MARK M. TAYLOR

The strawberry barrel is becoming increasingly popular as a means of growing a quantity of strawberries in a small space.

First secure a good round standard wooden barrel. Remove one end and use that as the top. The other end should be reinforced as it will bear considerable weight. It is a good idea to set the barrel on a small platform with castors on the bottom of the barrel so it can be turned so that each side can be given exposure to the sun. Then, about 2 inches from the bottom and every 10 to 12 inches on upward mark a line clear around the barrel. On this line, every 10 inches bore a hole about 1 inch in diameter. These holes will be the planting locations of your strawberry plants. You will be surprised how many plants you can plant! Next take a square pipe about 4 inches in diameter and fasten vertically inside the center of the barrel. This pipe should reach slightly above the top of the barrel. Bore a number of holes in the pipe as it will serve as your irrigation line throughout the barrel later.

Fill the barrel with soil to the first row of holes. Then insert the strawberry plants and add soil up to the next row of holes, more plants and so on to the top. Be sure the strawberry roots are spread fanwise when planting. After planting, water through the irrigation pipe. Additional plants can be planted in the top of the barrel to cover. With the barrel you can fertilize as you water by using liquid fertilizer. Make it a routine to give the barrel a quarter of a turn on its platform each day, thus insuring sufficient sunlight to ripen all of the fruit.

The best soil mixture for a strawberry barrel composed of 1/2 good garden soil and 1/2 compost or peat moss. There are many advantages to the strawberry barrel—e.g. limited space, ease of care no cultivation or weeding, easy to harvest crop (no squat) plus its attractive appearance.

The unusual things in plant life can make the hobby of gardening most entertaining, intriguing and joyful. Of course there is a lot of satisfaction in just raising nice specimens of flowers that compare well with the more experienced growers. But, to try something that no one else has, locally, is really thrilling.

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Orchids, we know as greenhouse plants, largely, yet in tropical areas they grow lush in the wild. Orchids are a favorite hobby of many indoor gardeners throughout the country. But, did you ever try raising them out of doors in this locality? Impossible? Well, not exactly.

Two years ago a friend in Florida sent me several native orchids found in the wilds of the swamp section. These were "air" orchids—so called because they do not root in soil but attach themselves to the "live" oaks that abound there. They were not parasitic as is our mistletoe, but used the tree only "to hang on to." They got their food from the humid atmosphere and the rainfall. I set about raising "air" orchids by attaching the bulbets to a piece of oak branch. Every two days the branch and all was immersed in water. When the weather warmed enough the branch was hung up in a scrub oak tree outside so it could receive air and sunlight. In about three weeks there were a half dozen tiny orchid blooms on the plant. They were principally brown in color except for one "fall" which was true orchid. I put one in my lapel and some lady remarked "Why that looks just like an orchid!" to which I could only reply—"That's just what it is!"

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CITY COSTS SOAR
Portland (AP)—It will cost about a million dollars more to operate city services in the coming year, department heads estimated Friday in budgets submitted to the City Council. The total was \$14,227,130. Revenue is expected to be \$13,035,575.



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