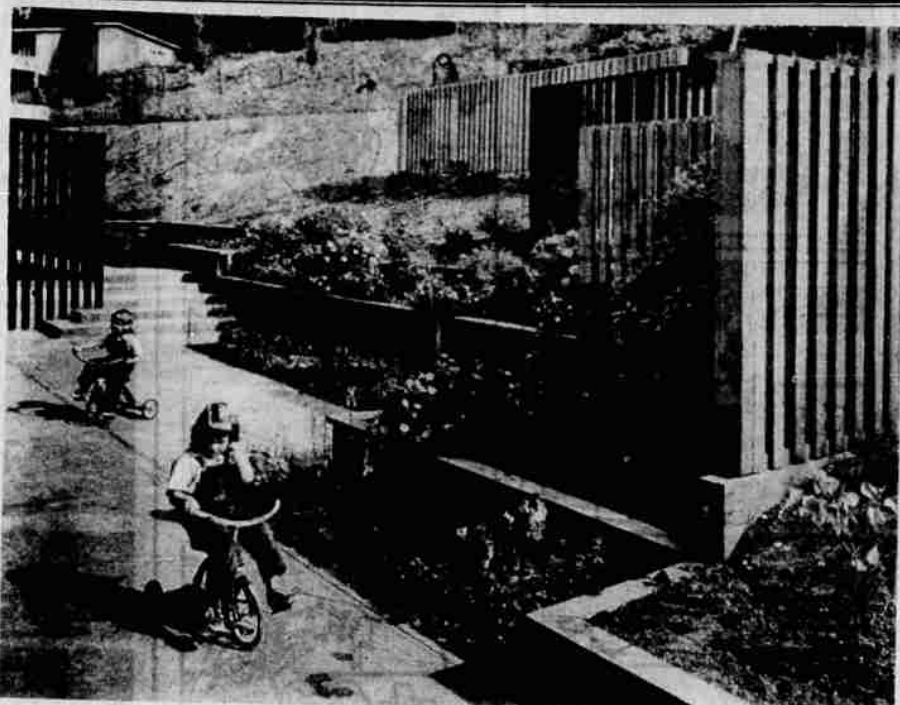




FENCES CAN BE THINGS OF BEAUTY as this cleverly designed and inexpensive fence shows. The fences can add immeasurably to the beauty of your home. Made of rough sawn, lower grades of western red cedar, these hillside fence screens make a rare garden spot out of a hard-to-handle waste area.

Hardboard Uses Told

Marlite plastic-finished paneling can be bent to conform to curves of walls and fronts of counters.

The high popularity of wood grain paneling is finding expression in homes ranging from high to low price brackets, according to observers in the building industry.

Many home owners are providing themselves with the beauty of selected wood grains at reasonable cost by using Marlite, a decorated hardboard. In one of its various wood patterns, not only does this paneling faithfully reproduce the warm appearance of wood, but it provides a choice and matching of grains that otherwise would be out of the reach of many budgets.

Protected by a baked plastic finish, Marlite wood grain panels need no preventive care. The soft-luster surface is readily wiped clean with a damp cloth.

Made in tongue-and-groove planks and blocks as well as four-foot-wide sheets, the panels are available at lumber dealers.

BACK TROUBLE

Cause of increasing number of cases of back trouble among women is probably due to the type of floor they walk on all day long. Leading chiropodists say that wood floors are the healthiest, have more give and are easier on the feet, arches and leg muscles. Durable, softwood floors like west coast hemlock have an especially high rating.

The perfect background for the rich and exotic colors of oriental rugs in any room of the home is a carefully finished wood floor. There is something inherently beautiful about the grain and texture and soft natural colors of Douglas fir or west coast hemlock flooring which seem to bring out the best in an oriental rug. The reds, greens, yellows and blues appear more brilliant when framed in these woods.

Expert Designs New Kitchens

"Gaudy and stereotyped kitchens are not very popular any more," asserts Miss Jean McLain, prominent New York interior decorator. "Since kitchens are becoming more of a living area in today's open floor plan, they have taken on a richness and dignity," Miss McLain reports.

This interior design expert says that the earth colors reign supreme in modern decoration, such as the beige, cocoa and sandalwood tones.

Many decorators are finding just what they want in wood-paneled kitchens, for in such rich softwoods as Douglas fir, western red cedar and west coast hemlock, elegance is coupled with ease of maintenance.

These woods are a decorator's dream, for with them may be used any of the plastic green-resistant wall papers for pattern and color contrast.

The smartest papers on the market today, Miss McLain says, are those with a predominant turquoise-green cast, the metallic golds, coppers, or pink, pumpkin and persimmon hues. All of these blend or contrast perfectly with your wonderfully rich wood cupboards and paneling.

SCREEN FIREPLACE

For an ornamental screen to cover the fireplace opening when not in use, mount a piece of Marlite to a wood frame. The plastic-finished hardboard paneling, decorated in plain colors, wood grains or marble patterns, can be secured simply with wallboard adhesive. Spacing the framing members 8 inches apart will provide enough rigidity for the screen, which is inserted in the opening leading to the hearth.

Lumber News Said Welcome

Do-it-yourself converts and the nation's millions of carpenters and lumber users will welcome this news from west coast lumber mills.

Early in the spring, a new set of grading rules will become effective for Douglas fir, west coast hemlock, western red cedar and Sitka spruce lumber.

Out the window go old number designations 1, 2, 3 and 4, according to H. V. Simpson, head of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association. In their place, the construction grades of these species of board and dimension lumber will be named in this order: Construction, Standard, Utility and Economy.

Simpson pointed out that the new grading rules embody the first major changes in many years and will be as easily understood by the ordinary purchaser of a single board as by a contractor who uses carloads of lumber at a time.

Changes in the grading rules of west coast lumber, Simpson explained, make a real contribution to better understanding of one of the country's most commonly bought commodities. He went on to explain that lumber grading has two purposes: 1) to grade a piece of lumber for what it is intended to do, like joist, stud or rafter grades, and, 2) to grade lumber for its beauty and appearance as in finish and pattern grades.

The lumber leader said that architects, engineers and lumber specifiers will find in the new rules a more realistic approach and definition of the engineering qualities found in the strong west coast species of fir and hemlock.

Beauty Added By New Fences

Fences can be more than an obstruction to four- and two-footed neighborhood marauders, says Robert Hale Ellis Jr., prominent landscape architect.

With outdoor living dominating the family living habits more and more, Ellis suggests there are in-

expensive ways to make this new mode of life even more enjoyable.

Fences, designed to dress up the family yard, can give character to the architectural lines of the house, he says, as well as beauty and seclusion.

Texture, so important in modern design and decorating, is just as easy to develop for the outdoor living area, Ellis points out. Rough Douglas fir or western red cedar has texture, coloring and characteristics which blend well with the natural setting. These inexpensive woods can be obtained in lower grades and can be allowed to weather or can be stained to add life and character.

Fences come in many patterns and styling, with some of the most popular the basketweave, estate-type solid boards, and off-set boards to permit cooling breezes.

WOOD HOMES

Nine out of ten of U.S. homes are framed with lumber, the West Coast Lumbermen's Association reports. Since many American homes are 50, 60 and 70 years old, modernization is needed. Remodelers find it easy to rewire and re-plumb these older frame houses because there is space in the frame walls to conceal these installations. Most of these older homes which were framed and built of Douglas fir lumber from the west coast are as sound as the day they were built. And, they are easily restyled without too much change to conform to modern home design.

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