

Here's the Answer

Question: I have been reading up on varnishing, as I intend to do quite a bit of varnishing in the next few months. One of the ar-

ticles refers to "tipping" after applying the first coat, but does not explain how it is done. Can you help me?

Answer: In a good varnishing job, the liquid generally is applied by brushing from the edges to the center, across the grain. This is quickly followed by what is called "tipping." This consists of a sort of smoothing operation with a nearly dry brush. The brush just barely touches the varnish coat. And the "tipping" is done with the grain, not across the grain.

Question: I have finished an extra room and now plan to make some redwood furniture for it. I have always used liquid hide glue and have found it satisfactory, but I have been advised that powdered casein glue is excellent for wood joints. What is your opinion?

Answer: Powdered casein glue is strong, fairly water resistant and fills poor joints well. However, it has a tendency to stain acid wood... and redwood is an acid wood. You can use liquid hide glue unless there is high humidity in the room where the furniture will be placed. Powdered resin glue is another strong glue and is very water resistant. But if the chairs will be used outdoors at any time, it would be wise to use a completely waterproof glue.

Question: There are several hairline cracks in the concrete floor of our patio. I have filled them twice with a concrete mixture, but the mixture seems to dry up and come out after a few months. What am I doing wrong?

Answer: It is probable that you are using too heavy a mixture. Do not use concrete, which is a mixture of sand, gravel, portland cement and water. Instead, use grout, which is merely portland cement and water. This penetrates the crevices much better than concrete. Another possible cause of the trouble is that you are not dousing the cracks with water before applying the patching material. Also wet down the patched areas a couple times a day for three or four days after the job is finished.

PAVILION

Finland's pavilion for the Brussels World's Fair of 1958 will be constructed entirely of wood to resemble a woodpile.



LITTLE PIGS GO TO DINNER — This low, prefabricated, 12-sided wooden structure, unveiled at Waukon, Iowa, is likely, according to farm experts, to revolutionize hog-raising methods. The "pigloo's" shape—resembling an Eskimo igloo—causes the sow to lie with her back toward structure's outer walls and her teats inward. Then these little piggies go to dinner, emerging only part-way from the iron-bared center circle which provides safety from crushing. Metal guard rail behind sow also prevents injury from mother's bulk to any piglet that wanders around the perimeter. Sow enters "pigloo" at least seven days before farrowing.

ON THE HOUSE

By JOHN O. B. WALLACE

Knotty pine paneling is a flexible decorative product. It has many faces and finishes, and it can run the gamut of colors.

A number of new finishes and effects now make it suitable for many types of interior decoration in nearly all rooms of a house.

Two factors are important for best results. The desired effect should be considered beforehand, and the features of the room in which paneling is to be installed should be studied.

Experiment with colors on a piece of waste wood before starting a paneling job. Each piece of paneling should be colored prior to its installation on the wall. This eliminates streaks left by running paint and avoids raw corners or edges where brushes will not reach after the paneling is in place.

Also store the wood on the site for about 10 days, separating each board with sticks, to allow air to circulate freely around each piece of paneling. This permits the lumber to adjust to the atmospheric conditions of the room.

SANDING IS IMPORTANT

Important to the final finish is sanding. Each piece should be sanded carefully to remove all superficial marks, dirt and rough spots before color is applied.

Care in finishing at each step will pay dividends in the beauty and durability of the job.

If a room does not have good natural illumination, lighter woods should be used. For well lighted rooms, darker woods may be used. Lighter woods in the western pine group include ponderosa pine, Idaho white pine and sugar pine. Other light woods include white fir, lodgepole pine and Englemann spruce. Rich, darker effects can be achieved with inland red cedar, incense cedar or larch.

In experimenting with waste wood, allow the stain or paint to

dry. Then look at it in the light it will receive when the paneling is in place. Keep one thing in mind — when the room is paneled, the finish will appear slightly darker.

The paint or stain to be used should be brushed liberally right onto the wood, using long strokes with the grain. Then, with a soft cloth, wipe it off. The length of time the pigment remains on the wood before wiping will determine the depth of color.

To enrich the effect of knots, some expert wood finishers prefer to buff the knots lightly with steel wool after wiping off the paint or stain.

TRICKS FROM THE EXPERTS

Another trick used by experts is to dust powdered color over the natural tiny pockets found around knots. Gold or aluminum dust will highlight the varied shapes of knots. Bright reds and blues, dusted in deftly but lightly, also will accent knots. Actual dabs of paint also may be applied but they should be wiped off quickly.

Use of more than one color permits alternate methods of application. Harmonious colors may be applied in alternate vertical strokes, wiping down the grain while it is still wet. The wipe-down action blends the edges of the colors, resulting in ripples of alternating colors in a pleasant gradation.

Two colors, one on top of another, also may be used. For a driftwood finish, each piece is coated first with a dull green stain which is wiped off evenly at once. After it has dried, the paneling is painted with a neutral gray, and the gray is wiped off more thoroughly at the edges than in the center.

An uneven gradation is achieved. The green shows through more at the edges than in the center. Because the grain is visible, the paneling has the appearance of mossy driftwood.

Other color recipes include mixing equal parts of chrome green and chrome yellow in oil with a mineral spirits thinner. Brush the mixture on the wood, then wipe it off. After the desired color is obtained, let the paneling dry thoroughly. Then finish it as desired, with clear varnish, shellac, lacquer or wax.



C. PAUL MOORE, Sr. of Athena was honored this week as Oregon Father Of The Year for 1958 at the Oregon Cattlemen's Association convention in Ontario, and presented an engraved desk trophy and custom-wrapped half of beef by the Cow Belles, auxiliary of the association. Moore, who is the father of seven sons, has served as pastor of the First Christian Church of Athena for the past 21 years.



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Tulalake, California

Ponderosa, Red Cedar Make Best Windbreaks

Evergreen conifers like ponderosa pine and red cedar make the most effective windbreaks, according to a recent examination of the Great Plains shelterbelts planted between 1935 and 1942, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced recently.

The survey made by USDA's Forest Service, the Nebraska Experiment Station and the Great Plains Council is summed up in a 125-page illustrated booklet, "The Great Plains Shelterbelt in 1954," just released by the Nebraska station. The study shows that 20-year-old windbreaks containing pines and cedars are still increasing in effectiveness. Many of those without conifers, on the other hand, are deteriorating.

A copy of "The Great Plains Shelterbelt in 1954" may be obtained from the Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C., or from the Nebraska Experiment Station, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Timber Picture Key Held By Small Owners

Farmers and other small forestland owners hold the key to meeting future timber needs of the nation, believes Gary Sander, extension forestry products marketing specialist at Oregon State College.

Three-quarters of the commercial forest lands in the nation are now privately owned and under the control of 4.5 million owners, Sander said. Nearly 3.5 million of these owners are farmers, with most of their woodlands under 100 acres in size.

SQUAW VALLEY

Most of the buildings to be erected for the 1960 Olympic Winter Games in Squaw Valley, California, will use redwood lumber, according to officials planning the construction project.