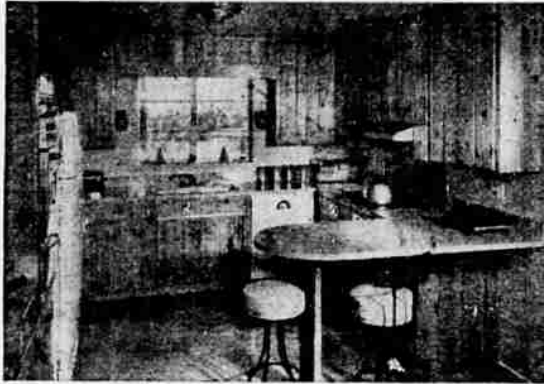


Wood Paneled Walls Ideal For Modern Kitchen Decor



WARMTH AND INTEREST are added to a kitchen when built-ins of knotty western pine paneling cover all wall surfaces. This kitchen contains a maximum of efficiency and attractiveness in a comparatively small space, making the room easy on the feet and easy on the eyes. With proper treatment, wood paneling stands up well for years under hard kitchen use.

Color and decorative interest are becoming increasingly important requirements for the modern kitchen. They rank alongside convenience and efficiency.

The housewife is no longer satisfied with an assortment of the latest appliances crammed into whatever space is available, says the Western Pine Association.

Today's kitchen must be well integrated to carry out its main functions: preparation, serving, and, if need be, consumption of food, plus cleaning up afterward.

To meet these requirements the modern kitchen is planned to make best use of the space available. There are continuous work counter areas with adequate storage near the main activity centers. Utensils are stored close to where they are used.

The main purpose of kitchen design is to reduce time and effort of the housewife. But that's not enough. The woman of the house wants her time in the kitchen to be spent as enjoyably as possible.

Builders have discovered that she wants a cheerfully decorated room with gay colors. The monotonous sameness of the laboratory-like kitchens of only a decade ago is no longer acceptable, no matter how modern the appliances in the setting. There is a craving for individuality in kitchen decoration.

To achieve this note, wood paneling, a popular feature of the days of the coal stove, is making a big comeback in kitchens—but in a completely modern dress. The forests of the western pine region produce 10 species of woods that are particularly well-suited to kitchen use. Each species has its characteristic grain, color, and knot pattern for warmth and interest with an individual touch.

An unlimited range of modern finishes can add any color to the wood and still permit its natural characteristics to show through.

Western pine paneling also meets another important requirement for a kitchen surface: easy maintenance. Properly treated, it will stand up well under the hardest use for the life of the house.

For a kitchen or any room where paneling may be subjected to moisture or temperature changes, it's wise to use a sealer on the wood.

For either a natural or stained treatment, a covering finish of clear brushing lacquer is a good choice in kitchen woodwork. Two or three coats make a durable surface. To take off some of the shine, it may be desirable to buff the last coat lightly with No. 3-0 steel wool.

In kitchens especially, a coating of wax over the lacquer finish will make the paneling easy to maintain. Care of this kind of finish consists of routine dusting plus an

WAIT TILL SUMMER

PITTSFIELD, Mass. (UP)—Sign in a snow-blanketed park: "No Lifeguard on Duty."

occasional washing and rewaxing. Use a damp cloth or sponge with a small amount of mild soap or a natural detergent and water. To restore the luster and protective coating, either paste or liquid wax is suitable.

Here Is Why The Food Bill Stays Up High

LAFAYETTE, Ind. (AP)—Purdue University economists have drafted an explanation for housewives who can't understand why food prices have gone up while the farmer's share of the retail food dollar has gone down.

Jim Stevenson and Clara Wendt, consumer education specialists, report it is true that the farmer now gets only about 40 cents of the food dollar, compared with 53 cents in 1945.

But the difference, they assert, is not due to excessive profits by any greedy middleman. Profits of food marketing firms have been traditionally low, compared to the sales, after taxes, in 1955.

The Purdue specialists listed these as some of the reasons for higher prices to the housewife:

Rates for shipping agricultural products by railroad have increased by 75 per cent in the last 10 years. Truck rates generally have followed rail rates.

The cost of labor for marketing agricultural products was 273 per cent higher in 1956 than in 1940.

Innumerable "built-in" services have been added to the food line—cleaning, trimming, shell-ing, mixing, pre-cooking and fancy packaging—all adding to the cost.

The Purdue experts say Mrs. America evidently is willing to pay for more attractive, ready-to-cook food. She spent 25 per cent of her disposable income on food in 1956. If she had been willing to accept food of the type and quality of 20 years ago, she could have bought it for 16 per cent of her income.

AT LAST

BANGOR, Me. (UP)—At 101, James Ramsey, a native of Newfoundland, soon will realize his fondest dream. He has been notified he will be admitted to the American citizenship he was refused 40 years ago when he lacked the necessary papers.

FAIR EXCHANGE

HOLYOKE, Mass. (UP)—A retired painter desires to exchange labor for dental work. Read a classified ad in the Holyoke Transcript-Telegram. J. T. Roy, who inserted the ad, got fast results. A dentist needed some painting done and arranged to repair Roy's teeth in exchange.

Book Boat On The Erie Canal

Editor's Note: Author Samuel Hopkins Adams has written more than 50 books, ranging from a sensational expose of the Harding Administration ("Incredible Era") to "Night Bus," which became the award-winning movie "It Happened One Night." His mellowing years have been devoted mostly to nostalgic, witty re-creations of oldtime upstate New York.

By **SAMUEL H. ADAMS**

In an age teeming with print, it is difficult to imagine this nation as book-starved. Yet, so it was in the first quarter of the Nineteenth Century. A commonwealth firmly established, economically confident, and swiftly expanding was turning to the interests of the mind. Two dozen or more classical colleges were fostering an American culture which seeped down through the body politic. A growing public craved reading matter.

Prospective readers found thin pickings. Libraries were confined to the large cities. The literate farmer or small town resident—and a surprising number of them were literate—must depend upon private amenity for his literary sustenance and borrow from the parson, the lawyer, or the M.D., though the local taproom would probably carry an almanac or two and the bank, a weekly.

Only the well-to-do could afford to buy books when a copy of Don Quixote cost \$5 and a schoolmaster's wage was 50 cents a day (payable, as like as not, in oats, flaxseed or gunpowder).

Nevertheless presses sprang up. Books and pamphlets were published. The demand was insistent. Distribution was the difficulty. The turnpike stage had no spare space for literature. Freight wagons were crowded with the necessities of life. Postal service was casual and costly. The book trade was threatened with stagnation.

Then, with a wave of his politico-magical wand Gov. De Witt Clinton drove the Grand Erie Canal through the reluctant soil of New York State, from Hudson's River to Erie Water, and "Clinton's Ditch," derided and denounced by penny-pinching politicians, became overnight the glory and boast of the whole nation, the Eighth Wonder of the World.

Freighting rates dropped 90 per cent. Transportation was off upon its greatest recorded boom. The new waterway bore proudly upon its four-foot depths, Albany to Buffalo, every requisite of a booming growth from pianofortes to pickled eels—everything except books. In the early records of the tax-locks, no quotation on rates for printed matter is found.

Just when the pioneer book huckster entered upon the maritime scene is a lost item of history. My paternal grandfather, who helped dig the Erie (his fa-

ther was a canal contractor) and was, throughout his lifetime, a passionate defender and fanatic patron of it, thinks that the Great Idea originated before 1830 and that literary canal traffic began as a sideline to one of those Refined Educational Animal Shows, common along the turnpikes and at country fairs, which had taken to the water.

Though he remembered neither the name of the boat nor of the showman, he was quite sure that in the spring either of 1828 or 1829 the waterborne attractions of a live bear, a stuffed python, an educated monkey, and a bobcat painted with tigerstripes, were augmented by a supply of books for rent. He recalled, also, and with disapproval, that the floating library carried a sale-stock of "bowksheets (a bowker was a low-grade purveyor of improper literature); penny broadsides (imprinted with ribald ballads, "less edifying than risible," said Grandfather.

That was but the embryo. A few years later there was launched a full-fledged Book Boat, so titled across its stern, which covered the full breadth of the state.

It carried a varied line, heavily slanted toward the theological trade at the top and toward taproom custofn at the bottom, from Alarum to Unconverted Sinners and Buck's Theological Dictionary ("full of edifying information") to the Universal Jest Book and such excitements of mirth as Sorrowful Sam and "Thinks I to Myself—Who?" ("very comical") at the bottom.

The Book Boat pursued a leisurely course, often taking a month in the full traverse, Albany to Buffalo. Wherever sufficient interest was manifested it would "look up for a post" in canal-side parlance, tie up to it, and throw open its Reading Room. Here, for 2 cents a hour, or 10 cents a day,

the brains of the settlement might find satisfaction.

A well attested patron could carry the volume of his-choice home with him at a per diem rental consonant with the price of the book. There was also a small stock of duplicates for outright sale, but as local bookstores began to develop, usually in conjunction with the drug trade, this phase diminished.

How long these floating libraries lasted is uncertain; up to Civil War time, Grandfather believes, by that time there was no further need for them. Libraries, large and small, had sprung up across the face of the nation. The Book Boat is forgotten now by all but historians and specialists. But, in its day it played an important, perhaps even a vital part. At a period when it was most needed it became a radiating agency of literature. There was no other distributive mechanism of its kind. The Book Boat was a pioneer.

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STATE FARMS ACCOUNT FOR MUCH BUYING POWER

More than one-half billion dollars annual "buying power" in Oregon's economy has been credited directly to the state's agriculture by an Oregon State College agricultural economist.

Dr. Gerald E. Korzan has completed a study of Oregon agriculture showing that gross farm income plus value added in the first step of marketing contributed \$571 million to the state's economy in 1956.

The total does not include important dollar payrolls provided by such activities as wholesaling, transportation, and storage of farm produce en route to retail markets.

BOOKLET

Scores of tips on how home buyers can get greater value for their housing dollars are contained in a new 32-page booklet, "Better Homes Are Built of Wood," available free from the National Lumber Manufacturers Association, Washington 6, D.C. The booklet also offers suggestions for home remodeling and modernization projects.