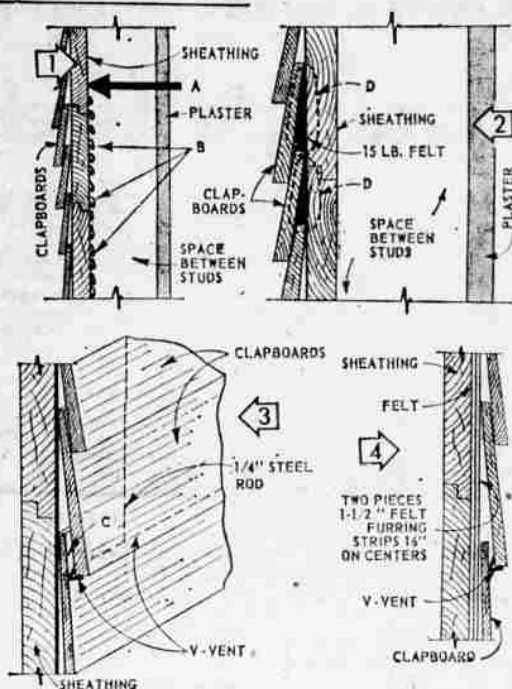


## DO-IT-YOURSELF



## Vents Guard Paint By Freeing Vapors

By J. RALPH DALZELL

During the summer painting season readers from all parts of the country ask about the cause of blistering and peeling on the wood clapboards on the exterior walls of houses. In many cases, the old remedies, as making the interior faces of the walls waterproof, are not satisfactory. Here is a new approach to the problem:

Picture 1 shows a wood frame exterior wall composed of clapboards, sheathing, 2x4 studs, lath and plaster. An old belief is that during cold weather the air within houses contains water in the form of an invisible vapor; that the vapor can penetrate lath and plaster, and even non-metallic insulations, and come in contact with the inner surface of the sheathing (see arrow A); that the warm vapor comes in contact with the cold sheathing and condenses into water (see B) and soaks the sheathing and clapboards causing the paint to blister and loosen.

A new school of thought claims that vapor, after soaking into the clapboards, forms into pockets (see D in picture 2) behind the clapboards; that the pockets (see D in picture 2) contain air which gets warm during the time the sun shines on the clapboards and, without any form of ventilation, the warmed air in the pockets cause condensation (water) to be trapped in the pockets as rapid cooling takes place. After a winter of heating and cooling, the clapboards become soaked. Then with alternate freezing and thawing (or even considerable changes in temperatures) each day, the clapboards expand and contract. The soaking causes the paint to form bubbles. The expansion and contraction causes paint to peel.

Picture 3 shows the use of V-vents. The vents are installed under the bottom edges of clapboards in a house. The vents can be installed at horizontal intervals of about three feet by prying the bottom edges of the clapboards. Use brads to fasten the vents to the clapboards. At vertical intervals of about three feet, one-fourth inch steel rods can be driven under the clapboards from one horizontal row of vents to the row above. The vents provide a small space (see C in picture 3) for ventilation. The steel rods provide ventilation under all clapboards, from one row of vents to another. When this ventilation has been provided, the vapor in the pockets (see picture 2) can escape before it condenses, avoiding the risk of wet clapboards and preventing blisters and peeling.

The pocket theory (pictures 2

and 3) is a new approach to the paint failure problem, but has worked out well in tests throughout the country.

When building new houses two pieces of one and one-half-inch wide fifteen-pound felt, spaced sixteen inches on centers, can be tacked to the sheathing, in vertical rows, before the clapboards are installed (see picture 4). This provides spaces between the rows for ventilation. Install one horizontal row of V-vents under the second clapboard from the bottom of the wall. Repeat about halfway up the wall and again near the top. The vents should also be installed under all windows. They are small and unobtrusive in appearance, and the cost to install is reasonable.

More detailed installation instructions are available at hardware stores or wherever the vents are sold.

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q.—Our picnic table shows signs of wear and weathering. Is there a way to make the surface look well again and to provide a smooth surface?

A.—Yes. Use one of the thin wood panels, such as pressed wood. Nail to the top of the table and trim the edges with sandpaper. Paint with good exterior paint.

Q.—Can you tell me how to cut shellac for various uses?

A.—Detailed instructions are given in a free booklet published by the Shellac Information Bureau, 51 Pine St., New York 5, N. Y. For a copy send a postcard with your name and address.

A.—Is there a way to drive nails through knots in wood without splitting the knots?

A.—Drill a small hole through the knot. Then place the nail in the hole.

### Bromeliads Become Popular House Plant

Bromeliads are strikingly beautiful house plants that have grown rapidly in popularity in the past two years. The foliage is unique, while flowers and bracts may be very colorful, depending on the variety.

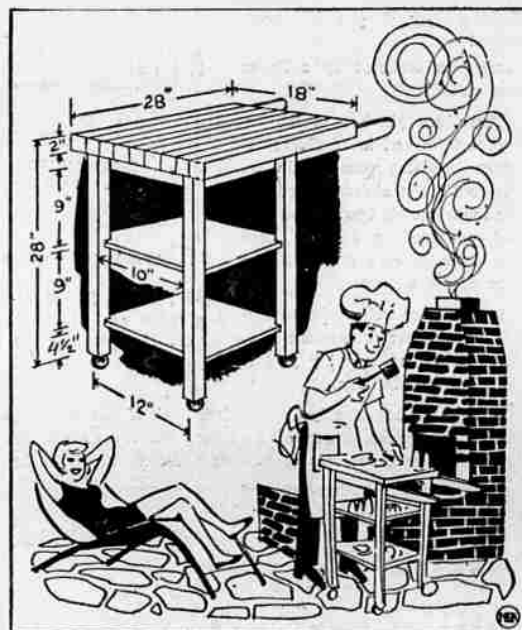
Like orchids, Bromeliads are grown best in fibrous, organic material that allows water and air to pass through it freely. The plants need full sun in winter and in watering, keep the cups formed at the bottom of the leaves full of water.

For fascinating plant experience, try the low Bromeliad cryptanthus, or the Billbergia, which has colorful flowers and showy bracts.



THESE OREGON state game officials were in Klamath Falls recently airing plans for intensifying fish and game article and picture coverage in the Klamath Basin. The plan for making available more hunting and fishing feature material is being worked out in conjunction with the Herald and News. It is the thinking of all personnel involved that the great majority of residents in the Basin are vitally interested in "outdoor life" reading. From left to right above are Len Mathisen, the game department's regional supervisor for the Central Oregon District; Bob Holloway, chief of information and education for the Oregon Game Department; and Milt Guyman, press relations chief with the department. Also having a vital role in assembling and presenting the material will be Jim Mohr and Art Gerlach, fish and game biologists for the Central Oregon area.

—Photo by Kettler



## Portable Barbecue Block Is Ideal For Outdoor Cooking

By MR. FIX

Distributed by NEA Service

Go to work on this portable outdoor barbecue block first, and you can go to work on steaks, chops and other candidates for the grill later.

Dimensions given are "for instance." Adapt them to suit your particular needs.

Standard shop tools are all you need for the project but a good 1/4-inch drill would save a lot of work. A sander, preferably of the double action type, quickly gives the chopping block the smooth, smooth finish you'll value in the completed product.

Lumber you'll need: Nine pieces 2x2, each 28 inches long for the top. Better make that select hardwood, too. Handles (side pieces of frame top), two pieces 1 1/2 x 2 1/4 inches, each 34 inches long. Stretcher, two pieces, 1 1/2 x 2 1/4 inches, each 10 inches long. Legs, four pieces, 2x2 inches, each 28 inches long. Shelves, two pieces, 1 1/2 x 12 inches, each 22 inches long.

Hardware you'll need: Four heavy-duty casters, eight angle irons, three metal bolt rods, one box of 1 1/2-inch No. 10 flathead wood screws.

Cut stock to lengths indicated.

Assemble stretchers and handle (side) pieces with nails and glue, using plain butt joints.

Drill and countersink legs from the inside for attaching the framework of stretchers and handle pieces.

Notch shelves to accommodate nailed cleats on legs. Nail or screw shelves in place.

Your angle irons will be used to secure chopping block to frame. "Top" secret—Top pieces must be tested for straightness. You'd better use a steel square. Plane high spots until pieces are as true as you can make them. You want that top to fit tight so that food doesn't collect in cracks. Ends should be perfectly squared, too.

Arrange top pieces so that curves of the end grain are in opposite directions, to minimize warping in the finished product.

Drill 2x2's two inches in from each end and at the 14-inch midpoint. Here's where that drill comes in handy. If you can assemble several pieces in a jig or use a drill press, so much the better.

Your outer members should be countersunk to take rods and bolts. Bolt top together, and plug countersunk bolts with glued dowel for a finished job.

## CLOSEOUT!

Closing for the Summer MUST SELL!

**EVERGREENS**

At Cost or Below!

**Scott's Nursery**

Phone TU 4-8667 Before You Come For Best Service

## PAINT THINNER

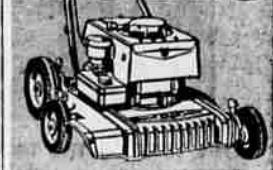
**55¢** Gal.

**WIESE'S**

FULLER PAINT STORE

2899 So. 6th TU 4-6377

## TORO



### NEW 18" WHIRLWIND

Here is a mower that gives you bargains in quality, features and performance. Mows grass, weeds, pulverizes leaves and trims close to give you complete lawn care.

### LOOK AT THESE TORO FEATURES

- Height-of-cut change in seconds without tools.
- Throttle, stop and start controls at your finger-tips.
- Staggered wheel design prevents scalping.
- Leaf Mulcher attachment included free.

**84.50**

Powerful 1.75 4-cycle engine with recoil starter and special Toro Audiotone Muffler.

Larger and power propelled models also available!

**J. W. KERNS**

734 So. 6th TU 4-4197