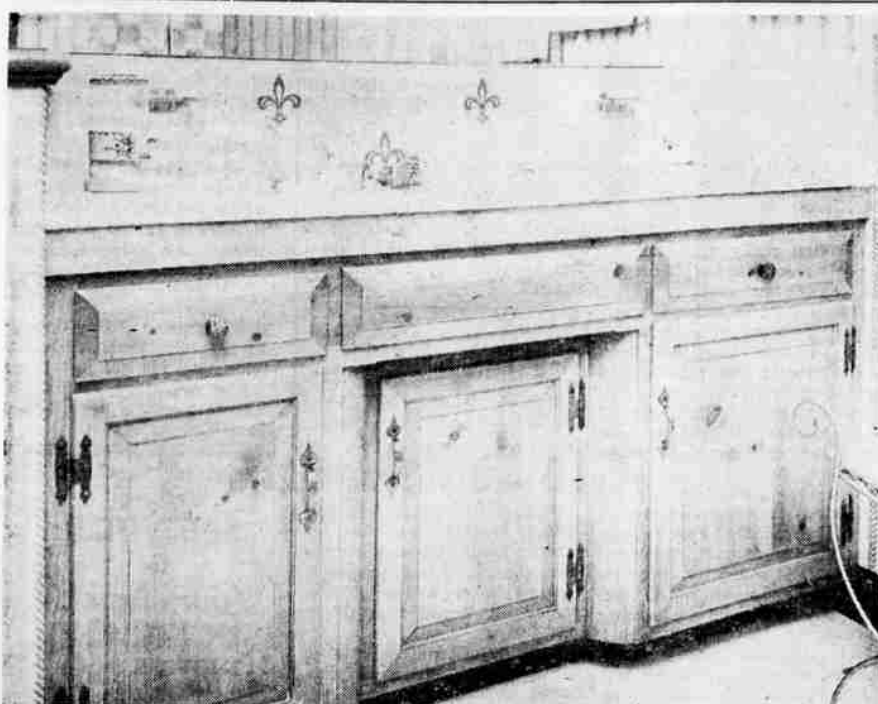




PANELING IS "BIG" IN BATHROOMS — Western pine paneling for cupboards and cabinets can give a dull bathroom true personality and also will create valuable storage space. This basin was boxed in and a counter was extended on both sides. The center door was inset to give knee room. Such a cabinet can also match paneled walls, for today's sealers now make paneling as practical in the bathroom as anywhere else in the house.

Number of orphans in the United States declined from 6,400,000 in 1920 to 2,700,000 in 1958.

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Bathroom Paneling Works Just As Well As In Den

Though lumber paneling came space for towels, bathroom supplies and medicines. Lumber is being used in virtually every room of the house, the Western Pine Association points out that there are still many people who rear back in surprise when you tell them that paneling is now going into bathrooms. Many home-owners just don't think of using it in high humidity areas, but with the good commercial sealers available today you can use wood where formerly it was impractical because of dampness.

Not only does it create an unusual change of pace as wall covering, but it also is ideal for making built-ins to increase storage

In recently built homes bathrooms are often small and storage space is at a premium. Space for additional cabinets and cupboards also is hard to find. However, as a start, it usually is possible to box in the space below your basin, and by enclosing this area you will find room for extra soap, tissue, towels, brushes and cleansers. Shelves can be set in to suit personal needs, but the base should be recessed slightly to make toe room for people standing at the basin.

There may also be room for cupboards to be hung higher on the walls. Just one or two will do a lot to take the load off your medicine cabinet which, in a large family, very often is too small to hold all first-aid supplies, cough syrups, eye drops and the like. These wall cupboards can match the floor cabinet and wall paneling.

When it comes to finishes, taste can travel in many directions and western pine lumber is versatile here, too, since it will take any finish you can devise. It looks beautiful topped with a clear lacquer, stain, or paint, though with paint you naturally lose much of the natural charm of wood. It also responds handsomely to the very popular pigmented brush-on, wipe-off stains that more and more home-owners are swinging toward. These are particularly nice since they lend color tone to a room but still allow the grain and knots of the paneling to show through.

All these ideas should work in a small bathroom but if you are lucky enough to have an old house with a bath the size of a ballroom you can really go to town by using lumber. For example, you may have room to install twin basins either side by side or on opposite walls. If you put them next to each other you will create good counter space and even more val-

DO-IT-YOURSELF

Protect Exposed Wood From Excess Moisture

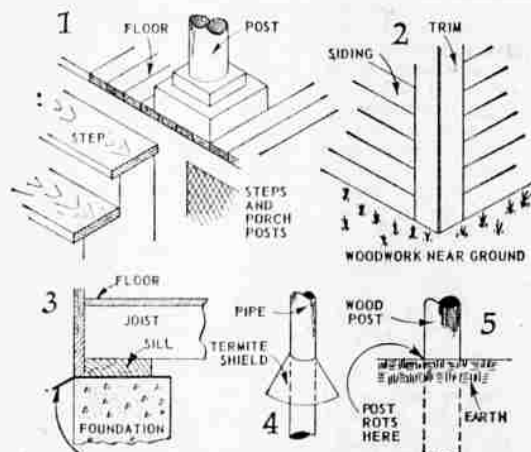
By J. RALPH DALZELL

Contrary to popular opinion, paints and other wood finishes are more effective as agents to improve and maintain the appearance of wood than as wood preservatives. The U.S. Forest Products Laboratory states that exterior woodwork that stays reasonably dry, except for wetting of its exposed surface by rain or snow for short times, does not decay if left without paint or other finishes.

However, without some finish or sealer, exterior woodwork is subject to weathering which might cause warping, cracking, or pulling away from fasteners. Thus

For interior wood items as flooring, trim, doors, furniture and paneling, paints or other finishes prevent the alternate absorption of moisture and drying which could cause warping and cracking. If these wood items are made of properly seasoned (dried) wood and if paints or other finishes are maintained in good condition, the wood will stay in excellent condition for centuries.

The areas under enclosed porches, in crawl spaces and even in storage spaces should be well ventilated with windows or vents to avoid damp conditions which could eventually cause rot in wood. In some localities, termites con-



paints or other finishes, always maintained in good condition, are desirable coatings for wood, especially when it is exposed to the weather.

Molds, stains and decay in wood are caused by fungi, which are microscopic plants that must have food such as wood on which to live. Their growth, however, depends to a great extent on dampness. Thus any exterior painted woodwork of a house; as steps, porches, posts and siding (see pictures 1 and 2) are subject to decay if they come in contact with earth that is generally damp or wet. The remedy is to prevent contact with dampness. Other precautions against rot include making sure that gutters carry water away promptly, that there are no cracks around windows or doors through which water could enter, that roofs are watertight and that condensation cannot take place in walls, roofs or floors.

uable storage room in your cabinets below.

You may also have a room large enough to set aside one end or a corner as a dressing room area. This can be done by building a divider of western pine lumber running to shoulder height or, perhaps, to the ceiling. This can employ solid paneling or it might be of a louvered or lattice design. Your overall bathroom style or decor will dictate your choice to some extent.

Large or small, modern or old-fashioned, your bathroom will take on a personality of its own when you use imagination and lumber to transform it from the everyday to the exceptional. What's more, once it has been properly finished and installed it will take very little care.

CHURCH BRANCH

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (UPI)—Alfred Gendron-Denault, Providence College sophomore and amateur genealogist, says research shows that his family includes 129 Roman Catholic priests and 265 cousins, aunts and nieces who are nuns.

stitute a severe threat to wood. Make sure that all wood is at least eight inches above the earth. Termites will not often enter wood if they have to travel out in the open between the earth and the wood. Metal shields, shown in pictures 3 and 4, will help to protect wood from termites. If termites are already suspected in the woodwork, call professional exterminators who have the necessary equipment to safeguard wood.

Wood can be protected from attack by decay fungi and harmful insects, by the application of various wood preservative chemicals. Generally, this protection is not of great value unless the preservative penetrates the wood deeply. These preservatives are practical only so far as fence or other wood posts are concerned. If a post (shown in picture 5) is set in earth it should be treated with a preservative oil such as creosote or petroleum solutions. Note that the preservative should extend well above the level of the earth.

If any exterior or interior woodwork does not hold paint, if the paint peels or blisters, moisture is present in the wood. Unless the source is located and repaired, rotting is sure to take place and bring about repair expense and unsanitary conditions.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q.—Is it possible to buy wall paneling already finished?

A.—Yes, several factory-applied finishes on paneling are available. It is more expensive, but in the long run is economical.

Q.—We applied a rubber base paint to our basement concrete floor, but it did not stick very well. Why?

A.—In all probability the trouble was that the concrete surface was hard and glossy. The floor should have been roughened by a weak solution of muriatic acid.

Q.—Can concrete floors be stained?

A.—Yes, special stains are available at paint stores. It might be necessary to apply more than one coat to obtain the same color throughout.