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HARDWOOD IN HOUSES

To the general public wood is wood, light or heavy, hard or soft, easy or difficult to work, solid, striped or mottled in appearance. In the form of lumber it is difficult to identify varieties and generally the man who is in the market for lumber just orders the sizes he requires and leaves it to the dealer to furnish the particular kind he carries in stock. The dealer is in business for business reasons and ordinarily will handle those kinds that yield him the greatest profit. The architect serves as a check in some cases but the majority of people buy certain sizes rather than certain sizes of certain kinds of lumber.

Commercially woods are divided into two classes: hardwoods and soft woods. Hardwoods include all of the broad leaved trees of America. To "soft woods" is assigned all the needle leaved or cone bearing trees. This classifica-tion is unsatisfactory and misleading, because some hardwoods, so called, are softer than some of the soft woods, and conversely the same is true. Hardwood may be used for structural

purposes in houses, but its most com-mon use in house building in the West is for finishing purposes, such as floors,

Harwoods for finishing purposes com-monly used in Western Canada include oak, maple, cypress, walnut, birch.

Where permanence and beauty of finish are desired many of the hard-woods are difficult to equal.

Quarter Cut Oak

Of all the American hardwoods probof all the American hardwoods probably oak is the most adaptable to the uses of the householder. Beauty, quality, distinctiveness and durability, all prime requisites of American hardwoods, are to be found in oak. While oak is separated commercially into two colors, white and red, it is also segregated into quarter sawed and plain sawed. The plain sawed stock is obsawed. The plain sawed stock is obtained by straight cutting, and the quarter sawed is obtained by sawing logs into four quarters then sawing boards at right angles to the annual rings of growth. This makes a beautiful flashy effect. Oak is tough, strong, hard and heavy.

Excellent combinations can be obtained in the combinations can be obtained.

tained with maple or oak floors with birch trim or birch veneered doors with a trim of other woods or white enamel.

Maple for Floors

One very desirable wood and one that comes well within the reach of the average house builder is maple. It is very dense and hard and takes a beautiful polish. Its light, cheery coloring is most effective where light color schemes are used, and for bedroom flacts, it is particularly attractive. Beech and birch are used considerably and they not only answer the demand of durability but are susceptible of a beautiful finish and will receive a variety of color stains. Mahogany stains seem best adapted to birch, while beech shows off to advantage with a walnut stain.

While the first cost of hardwoods for

example, maple, is greater than that of soft woods, such as fir, the finishing to give approximately the same durability will to a large extent offset the dif-ference in first cost between hard and soft woods. This applies particularly, of course, to flooring.

THE SISAL MONOPOLY

The United States Senate Committee which has been investigating the importation of sisal and the manufacture of binder twine has just reported. It fixes the blame for the huge annual tax which increased prices levy on United States and Canadian farmers upon the Yucatan sisal monopoly. The report says that since the Committee's hearings were held the price of sisal has been advanced from 7# cents to 14# cents a pound making an annual in-creased cost to the American people of more than 26 million dollars and a direct increased cost to the farmers on the amount used for binder twine of more than 19 millions. The committee urges the Department of Justice to ex-The committee amine carefully the record of the investigation and to take such action as the law and the facts warrant.

Daily Market

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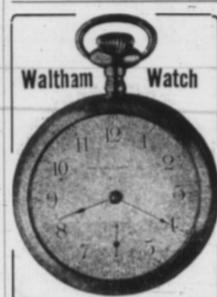
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