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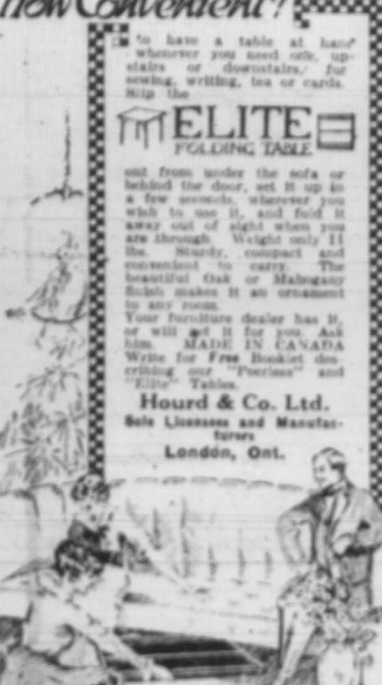


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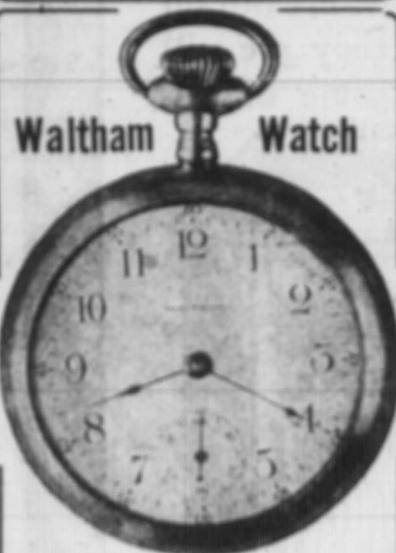
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Interior Finish of Homes

Before the first line is made on the architect's drawing is the time to decide the question of interior finish, not after the house is in course of construction, or well along towards completion, as is too frequently the case.

In its first stages every house is simply a crude shell. The type of the furnishings down to the smallest ornaments will be influenced by the nature of the material chosen to line this shell and make it into a home.

Many country homes are finished inside with what is known as V joint lining, narrow boards fitted together with V shaped grooves. If the lumber is so thoroughly dried that it will not shrink apart and leave gaping cracks this finish can be made fairly attractive either by staining and dull varnishing it or by giving it two or more coats of flat paint. The whole nature of the room will be altered, in this case, by the method of treatment.

Color and Furniture
Given a coat of some light paint the room will be rather graceful in effect and will lend itself to the use of furniture such as willow or mahogany or walnut. But if after the ceiling has been painted cream, the painting operations end there and the room is sub-

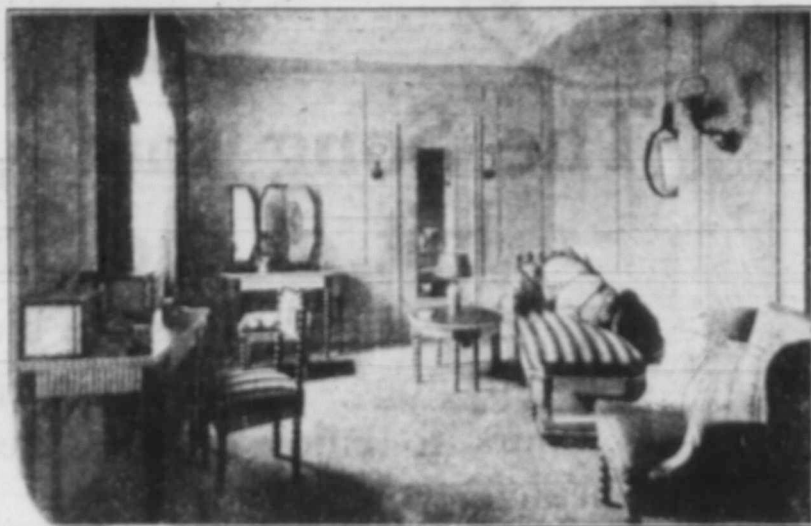
plaster is also the only choice if the walls are to be covered with paper or burlap.

Finish of the Woodwork

Having decided upon the material with which the walls shall be finished the next point to be decided is the finish of the woodwork. Shall it be painted, stained or enameled? This question cannot be settled satisfactorily until the mind is definitely made up concerning the furniture for each room, and upon several other things as well.

First it is necessary to take stock of the room itself and determine whether it is good in its proportions and whether the doors and windows are so placed as to divide the walls off into beautiful spaces. If they are it is safe to emphasize this fact by having the woodwork contrast with the walls in color. If they are not it is better to have them as nearly identical as possible. When the walls are being finished with flat paint the woodwork can be painted to match, when they are papered or tinted it will usually be found more satisfactory to finish the woodwork with white enamel or to stain it, to match, as nearly as possible the color of the wall.

With the revival of interest in Colo-



An Excellent Example of Beautiful Wall Paneling with Picture Moulding

lected to a treatment with a deep rich brown stain, it will take on the rugged characteristics of the bungalow and its natural accompaniment will be mission furniture, brass and copper ornaments and Indian rugs with a strong dash of bright red and other vivid primitive colors.

Wall Board is another finish which has come into vogue and which is particularly adapted to the use of the man who does not want to hire an experienced workman to do his finishing. It lends itself to the use of the handy amateur.

The type of room produced with this finish will be largely influenced by this treatment of the slats which hold the strips in place. If they are stained a strongly contrasting color from the walls and ceiling, it will emphasize the paneling and make each division of the walls and ceiling stand out sharply. If, on the other hand, the slats on the ceiling are painted to match the ceiling and those on the walls, like the walls, the paneling will be less clearly marked and the walls more restful in effect.

Plaster Finishes

But of course the finish in most general use is plaster, and of this there are two distinct kinds, rough and smooth. Where the walls are to be painted or tinted the rough finish is infinitely to be preferred, unless they are to be panelled with mouldings. It gives a soft velvety effect, and actually makes the color applied to it richer and more pleasing.

As already indicated the smooth plaster walls are not as pleasing for the use of flat finishes, except when the walls are divided off into panels with a narrow picture moulding. To a room of good proportions this treatment gives a dignity and distinction that can be imparted in no other way. Smooth

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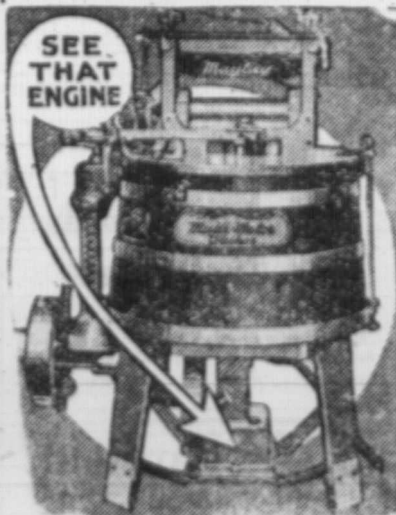
Treatment of Floors

If the floor is to be covered with carpet or linoleum there isn't any problem at all, but where it is to be left wholly or partially bare it is often a burning question as to what shall be done with the exposed part of it.

Very few public issues leave room for more difference of opinion than there is on this subject. Some maintain that the way to finish hardwood floors is to give several coats of varnish and wax them, while others have no place in their scheme of things for the light wood floor and maintain that all floors should be stained and waxed. Very likely the truth is that a good floor can be produced by either method if the materials used are of the best and it can be spared the tramp of feet for a sufficiently long time to give the finish an opportunity to harden.

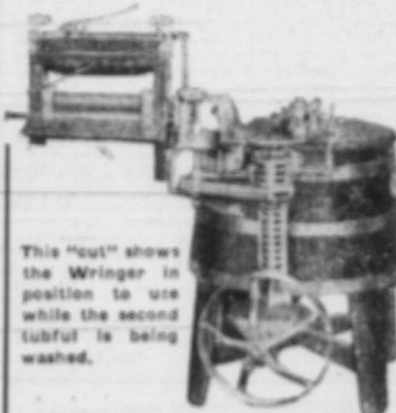
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