

'Wood' You Believe?

There's a lot of history underfoot in the home with oak floors. The mighty oak, source of this handsome, durable wood, has been used for everything from a residence for ancient gods to a vessel for "shooting the Falls."

Today, oak continues to make history in the home. The tree hasn't changed, but modern manufacturing methods and floor finishes have made oak moisture- and scratch-resistant and easy to care for.

Oaks stand tall, up to 100 feet; America's largest white oak tree at Wye Mills, Md., for example, is 400 years old and measures more than 27 feet around the trunk.

Because their branches reached to close to the heavens, early people thought the oak to be a sacred tree. Roman mythology identifies the oak as the personal tree of their supreme god, Jupiter. In Prussia, pagan holy men lived in oak groves to tend the trees and venerate the gods they believed living in the upper branches.

Later generations used oak to build churches. The fabled Irish town of Kildare took its name from the Gaelic phrase meaning "church of the oak." Many towns are named Holyoke or Oakland in tribute to the stately tree.

The abundance of oak trees, their height, strength, and beauty, made them an ideal building material. While the nobility used artfully cut pieces of oak in elaborated parquet patterns for ballroom floors, farmers outside castle walls split thick oak planks for their flooring.

The Hall of Mirrors in the Palace of Versailles has an oak parquet floor as magnificent today as during the era of Louis XIV. The knights of the Round Table were said to stride across oak floors at Camelot. Oak leaves and clusters have been reproduced as military insignia for centuries.

The Venetians used oak for pilings when they built their city on 118 islands of the Ad-

riatic, and oak is still used for the gondolas which travel the Venetian canals.

Later, shipwrights used oak timbers for ocean-going vessels. The Mayflower was strengthened with stout oak sides; so were the land-bound prairie schooners that carried the pioneers to America's western frontier. During the canal-building era of the late 1800s engineers developed a unique use of oak flooring: The smoothed the trucks and lined the canal locks with oak.

For those who enjoy bourbon whiskey, the phrase "Aged in Oak" is all-important, and means that charred white oak barrels have been used for the aging process. Distillers found that charred oak retains the flavor of earlier batches.

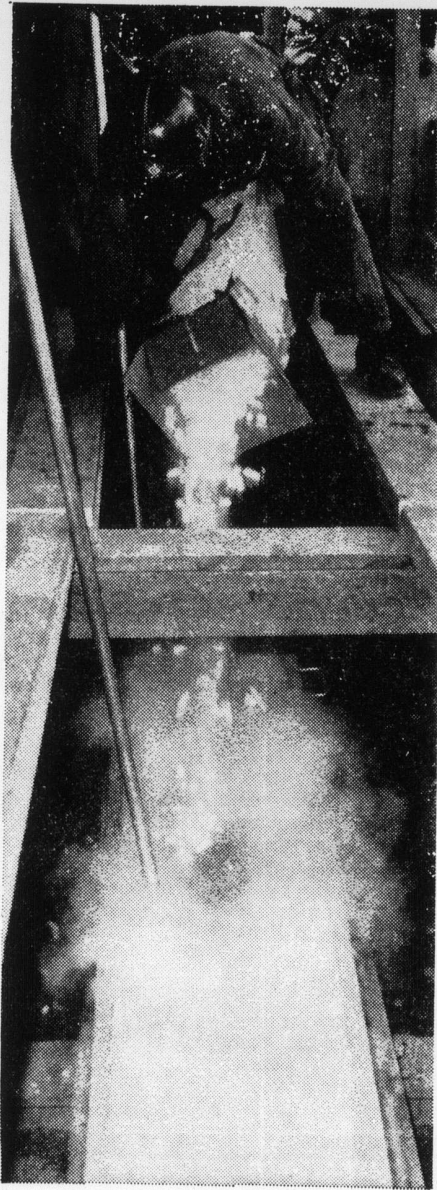
A specially built 260 pound oaken barrel was selected by

school teacher Annie Taylor for her 1901 ride over the Niagara Falls. Banded with steel straps, the barrel withstood the 160 foot drop and carried Mrs. Taylor safely through the rapids. She was the first person to go over the Falls in a barrel and survive.

The Oaks is one of the world's oldest, most renowned horse races. In 1779, the English Earl of Derby set up a race and called it The Oaks after his estate. The race is run annually at Epsom Downs.

Each year the Indiana and Purdue football teams vie for the Old Oaken Bucket, a relic of the sport's early years when water boys carried oak buckets to players during timeouts. Indoors, the basketball courts are often made from oak, because their "give" keeps players from tiring quickly.

THE BIG FREEZE



A bane of early aviators, the frozen oil line, was recently put to good use in downtown Toronto by an Ontario Hydro cable crew. The men wanted frozen oil lines so badly, they used a giant cocktail of 60,000 pounds of dry ice and 450 gallons of alcohol.

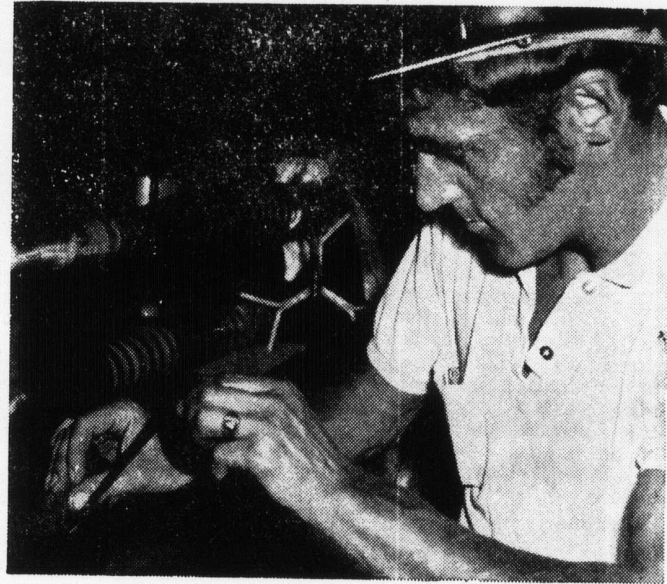
The mix was served up in troughs placed around pressurized pipes containing oil-insulated, 115,000-volt underground transmission cables between two transformer stations. At -40°C the oil formed "frost plugs" at six points in the pipe and allowed the crew to open the cable sheathing between them.

Cable from a new transformer station could then be spliced in between the plugs without leakage, pressure loss, or damage from moisture-laden air.

After the splices were completed, the air between the plugs was vacuumed out and the plugs allowed to thaw, refilling the pipe with oil.

This first for Ontario and Ontario Hydro made it possible to bring the new transformer station into service with minimum disruption of power service.

Ontario Hydro Photo



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New

New York girls are famous for the most beautiful legs in the world. And fashion authorities are looking for new ways to make American women's legs look like this flattering leg.

The leg experts at the Loom House in New York's top fashion district would be a source of information. So they tell girls with a "Legionnaire" to find out how to get their legs in and keep them here are the

Question No. 1: How to get your legs from — or to reduce — the models were the models were. The big "no's" greasy foods (fats, especially), salt, bread. As one "Anything that

When asked No. 2: what would recommend heavy legs, the stressed bicyclist and a special exercise. Leg Raises: lie on your back and extend your legs perpendicular to the floor. Then with other popular exercises, floor with your legs straight, legs straight and pedal your bike!

For thin legs recommended walking and special exercises to build the leg muscles. Standing with your hands on hips, up and down as fast as you can. And how do keep their hips "Walking." As one plains it, "You sit — no carpet, please crossed in front straight, and "w posterior, forward backwards." For "For as long as you it!"

Very few of use cosmetics on To flatter their use specific leg

If your legs are they say wear the of legwear. The Fruit of the Loo Shape" pantyhose mon, Cafe Brown Navy and Black a mer" shades. And "Great Shape O a trim leg look Brown and Deep costs, avoid patterned hose, the As a boon to heat Fruit of the Loo have come up w support hose, a busy model put i rific thing about t don't look matro same designers ha created "Great S Size" and "Great size" for, as the woman who has everything." The he en, the models been neglected to it comes to getting