

Treatment of Wood by Chemicals Way to Stop Fire Spread

It is amazing when one considers how improved house construction and building materials keep abreast with changing community conditions.

For instance, homes today are built so much more closely together. Even in suburban communities the average home owner's lot is not wide and it is vitally important that house construction take on improved fire resistant qualities.

For those home owners who prefer wood dwellings—and some of the oldest and loveliest residences in the country are made of wood—it is comforting to know that experimental work has resulted in making wood much less combustible than formerly.

This is done usually in one of two ways.

One is to improve the wood with chemicals which make burning slow. The other is by the use of "fireproof paints," or surface covering, such as metal. These hinder burning by keep-

ing the air from the wood.

This protected or fireproofed wood is not new. It has been in use for more than seventy-five years in Europe and in this country at least thirty years and longer.

While wood is not rendered absolutely fire proof in this way, it can be made immune to sparks, etc., and even though a blaze should play on it for a short time, it will cause the wood to "glow" rather than to burst into flame.

Fireproof wood, treated with chemicals which are water soluble salts, must at the present time be used on construction not exposed to moisture. It is very likely that before long, with all the experimentation going on, fireproof wood will be made practical for any kind of use, interior or exterior.

Then there are fireproof paints which play an important role in making shingles and other wood which is exposed, fire resistant. These surface coatings give the home owner considerable protection and decrease the chances of fire from small sparks alighting on the roof, or even small flames.

Recent Realty Deals

A trio of women has sold the twenty-seven acre tract in Niles Center bounded by Suffield, Davis, Crawford and Keeler to Harry A. Roth for a reported \$210,000. The sellers were Ella B. Trelease and Justine P. Trelease of Chicago and Ella Stimson of Grand Rapids, Mich. The Chicago Trust company took title for Mr. Roth as trustee. The new owner will subdivide at once, according to Berkson & Harrison, attorneys for the buyer.

George W. and Helen Gertrude Olson of Muskegon have taken title from the People Trust and Savings bank as trustee to forty acres at McAree and Holders roads, North Waukegan, across from the Woman's Country club. This club, it is stated, is to begin on its development program shortly. The tract is also adjacent to the Bonny Brook club. The price was not disclosed.

Code for Appraising Will Be Presented at Big Convention

In every real estate transaction there comes a time when the making of an accurate judgment as to the value of the property is the essential factor in determining the soundness and wisdom of the step projected. Real estate transactions under modern complex financing methods are no longer typically a simple transaction between one buyer and one seller, each of whom backs his own judgment of the value of the property involved.

The rapidly growing use of real estate mortgage bonds, through which the small investor is enabled to take part in the development of large projects, emphasizes the fact that the appraiser of real estate has come to have a great responsibility not merely to the man who employs him but to the public for the accuracy of the valuation to which he affixes his signature.

A proposed detailed code of ethics for the guidance of the professional appraiser of real estate will be brought before the coming annual convention of the National Association of Real Estate boards when it meets in Louisville, Kentucky, June 19 to 22. The code has been drafted by a special committee of the newly formed Appraisal Division of the Association, and by that committee has been brought before the executive committee of the Division. It is expected to be brought before the Division at the coming June meeting for adoption by the Division.

Norman L. Newhall, Minneapolis, will address the Appraisal Division on the Ethics and Standards of Practice in Appraising. One session of the Division will be devoted to the question of appraisal procedure for taxation purposes. The final day will be given to a national appraisal contest in which the official appraisal committees of real estate boards all over the country will have an opportunity to appraise three different types of property.

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