

Metal Lath Reduces Fire Peril and Also Is Found Durable

Metal lath has been found durable and fire safe, and it does save on plaster. Furthermore, its cost is not much higher than wood lath and its interest in connection with the contemporary revival of stucco architecture is vital. For the metal reinforcement of stucco slabs eliminates the danger of cracking.

Just what is metal lath? Many people ask this question.

Metal lath, broadly speaking, is a fabric which is composed of steel strands either woven or welded together or made by stamping slits in sheet metal and then stretching the sheet, or by some similar method.

Then, clipped or nailed to the supports of a wall, plaster is troweled over it. This metal fabric is therefore completely surrounded and embedded in the plastic finishing base. More coats are laid on this, and a homogeneous mineral slab results.

Not particularly interesting to laymen? Perhaps a bit technical. But it is interesting to realize its importance as a base as well as a reinforcement for plaster. And it is well to know that even though wood lath may be used generally, metal lath for fire safety should be used in at least four parts of the structure of a house.

It should be employed in the stair wells and under the stairs, at the chimney breasts; around the flues and back of the kitchen ranges; on ceilings under inhabited floors, especially over heating plants and coal bins; and on all bearing partitions and on studs in exterior walls and it should be used to form baskets between studs and act as fire stops.

Any Shade of Flooring In Oak is Now Possible

Whatever shade you may happen to want in your oak floors—that shade you can now have if you like.

This achievement is the result of years of experimenting. There are local paint dealers who can now inform interested builders and prospective home owners how to secure the different shades.

Home owners who have been considering new oak floors laid over their old ones may find it to their advantage to have this done in the winter time, as the season is not so rushed with work for carpenters and painters.

Furthermore because of the quick drying varnishes now on the market, the new oak floor is ready for occupancy in less than an hour after the finish coat has been put on.

Another souvenir of Chicago's pioneer days passes into a subdivision with the recent purchase by Krenn & Dato, Inc., from the heirs of Peter Kirscht of thirty-six acres at the southwest corner of Church street and Laramie avenue, Niles Center, for an undisclosed consideration. Kirscht was one of the original settlers in the district, for he bought the property in 1864 from Sam Robinson for \$30 an acre. Robinson got it by patent from the United States government.

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