

Knotty Pine Adds Charm To Old Farmhouse Kitchen

A hundred and thirty years of use without too many improvements left much to be desired in the farm kitchen of Mr and Mrs. Frank Rohrer, R2 Quarryville. So four years ago Mrs Rohrer decided to do something about it.

The original kitchen was a large room on the east side of the stone house. It measured about 12 feet wide and 20 feet long. On the west wall there was a large fire place, one of four in the house.

But the fireplace instead of adding anything to the room needed repairs that would have cost more than the value it would add. It had been boarded shut by the former owner of the farm.

Ceilings of the room were in poor repair. Electricity had been installed.

In converting her kitchen, Mrs. Rohrer wanted to preserve the feel of the old house and cut down on the size of the kitchen while adding cupboard and storage space.

To do this, she enlisted the aid of her brother who is a part-time cabinet maker. They designed knotty pine cabinets that could be installed along the west side of the room covering the old fire place.

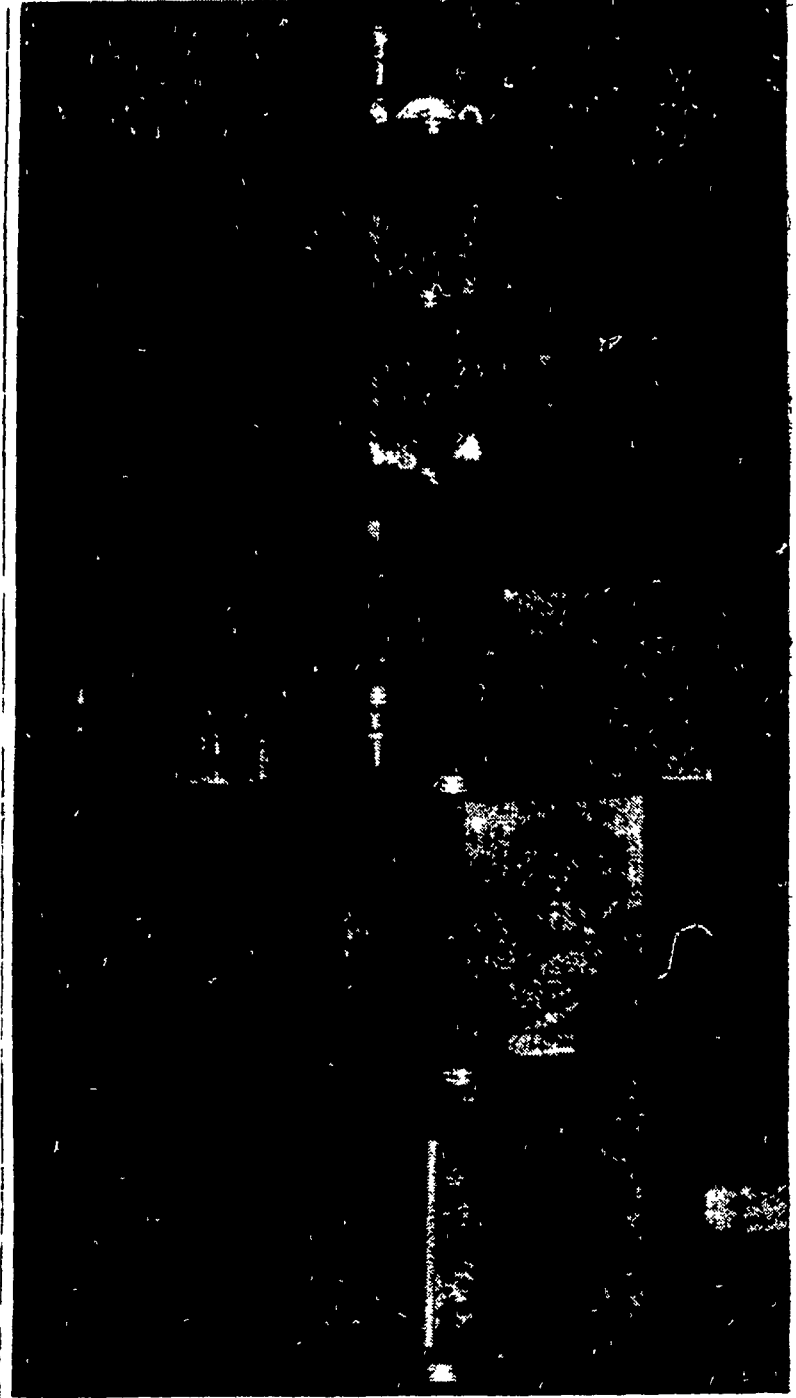
Also added at this time was a built-in sink, although the water system was not than installed.

The cabinets, both wall and floor type, cover about 10 feet. A knotty pine divider matching the cabinets was added to cut off the kitchen from the family en-

trance room. Also matching the knotty pine decor are valances over the windows.

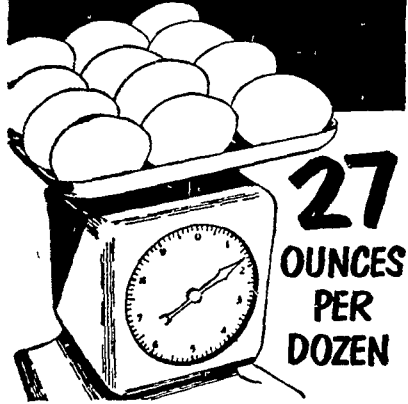
The cabinet tops are made of formica and the walls from the cabinet tops to the hung cabinets are covered in yellow enameled wall covering. This same wall covering, nearly five feet high, has also been installed around the rest of the room.

The ceilings were refinished and painted a light green. A rough log across the ceiling which could not be refinished



THE DIVIDER PROVIDES space for bric-a-brac and cook book storage as well as enclosed cabinet space. It becomes a focus of attention as well as dividing the family room from the kitchen. (LF Photo)

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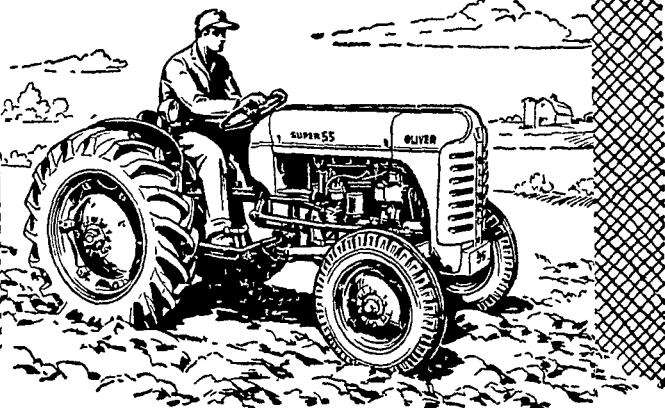
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was boxed in knotty pine and forms a part of the divider. From this are hung potted plants in copper containers.

Total cost for the conversion was about \$350. Prices now would be slightly higher due to the increased cost of lumber and plywood.

When Mrs Rohrer was asked

what she would do different, she said that possibly the installation of more electric outlets in her major work areas might be a good idea.

Now, she says, she must take some of her appliances across the room to the electric range to operate them.



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