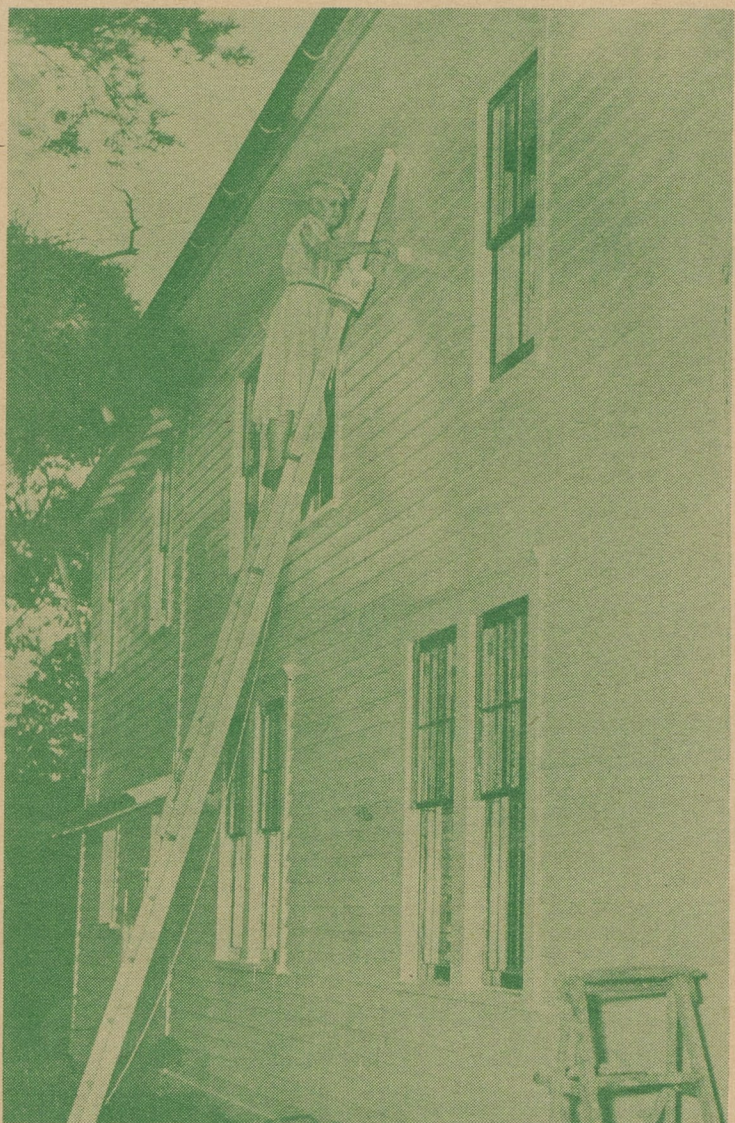


Our Mrs. Hicks Touches Up For Spring



High on the ladder giving that last stroke of the brush to an unpainted area, Mrs. T. M. B. Hicks, associate editor of the Dallas Post and beloved author of "Pillar To Post" proves her point that nothing is as much fun as a home improvement undertaken by the homeowner.

A staunch do it your self advocate, Mrs. Hicks still continues to amaze her friends by her solution to many problems about her residence.

To top off a new paint job she planted many perennials which flower from early spring until autumn bringing joy to the beholder.

During the summer months this busy lady will be found on her enclosed porch of an evening caning those priceless pieces of furniture which will long outlast the user.

The above picture taken several years ago was too precious to pass up in a collection filed away in the Post files. If you don't think she did a fine job just stop by and see how well the paint is holding up with nary a crinkling of the finish.

Should grass clippings be left on the lawn or raked up?

Short grass clippings can remain because they decay readily and add organic matter and nutrients to the soil. Long grass clippings that pile up or accumulate in wind rows should be raked up. Otherwise they would smother or damage the grass. (Favretti)

AND— have you pruned your roses? The first thing to do, after removing winter protection, is to cut away the dead wood. Then, shorten live shoots. Heavy pruning, 6 to 8 inches, insures a low compact bush with large flowers, high pruning, lanky growth. Take out all branches that crisscross, make all cuts clean, just above an eye.

Get The Best Results From Electric Heating

Electric heating was once a novelty and an innovation in living. Now it is a proven, dependable and much desired source for heating, according to the Live Better Electrically Program of the Edison Electric Institute.

Today flameless electricity is the best answer to our future heating problems as well as the most modern solution to our present ones. Modern electric heating equipment on the market at the present time is the result of constant improvements that now make for greater efficiency, more modern designs and greater adaptability to any type of building or modernizing requirements.

There are seven types of electric heating equipment the consumer can choose from: baseboard units, ceiling cable, wall units, radiant panels, drop-in heaters, heat pumps and hydronic and warm air electric furnaces.

The type of equipment chosen depends upon either the type of service required or the type of installation desired. In some cases a combination of types of equipment has been used in a single house to answer its particular needs.

Proper insulation of ceiling, floor and walls is a must to get the full benefit of flameless electric house heating. In addition to reducing heat loss during winter months the home owner gets many plus advantages from insulation, including greater comfort in summer.

One of the marked advantages of electric heating is the extreme versatility of the heating arrangement. With most systems room temperatures are individually controlled, permitting the living and dining rooms to be at one temperature, the den another, and the nursery or children's room warmer still.

Since there are no moving parts in many of these electric heating devices, there is nothing to wear out, and annual maintenance costs are practically eliminated.

Gold Medallion Homes Are Always Best Buys

There's unlimited variety in the architectural style and price range of homes built to meet Medallion standards of electrical excellence.

These are no "stock plan" houses. In your community, you may find one builder featuring contemporary designed Gold Medallion homes of traditional styles.

Variety in size is also available. Gold Medallion homes may be planned for big families or for retired couples with modest incomes. The price depends upon size, location and local construction costs.

Regardless of price, every Gold Medallion home is a "best buy," because it promises to deliver the comfort and pleasure of total electric living. The Gold Medallion emblem symbolizes this promise. It signifies that the home is wired and lighted to better-than-average standards; that it contains an electric range plus other major electric appliances. And, best of all, it offers the cleanliness, comfort and adaptability of flameless electric heating.



SMALL HOUSE

You can give the illusion of extra size to a small cottage by installing screening fences at each end of the house where it faces the street. The fences can be higher than usual to give the illusion of being an extension of the home.

ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE

Many handsome and historic houses and gardens will be open to the public during the 27th annual Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage, May 1 through 10. Ten tours covering different areas of the state are planned. Water cruises from Baltimore on Chesapeake Bay (including box lunch), and walking tours of Oxford, a colonial seaport, are scheduled May 16 and 17.

GROUND COVERS

Persons tired of mowing grass or, more likely of attempting to grow grass in unfavorable sites, may solve their problems with some of the broadleaved ground-covering plants.

Familiar Three

Among the commonly known evergreen groundcovers are three hardy species: myrtle or periwinkle (Vinca minor); Japanese spurge, better known by its botanical name (Pachysandra terminalis), and English ivy (Hedera helix).

Myrtle does well in sun or shade but is generally used in shade. The chief problem in establishing a bed of myrtle is keeping it free of weeds until the planting becomes established. A dense bed will choke out most weeds.

Pachysandra is one of the best of all groundcovers. It will form a dense, evergreen mat even under beech and maple trees where scarcely anything grows well. Once established, a pachysandra planting is virtually weed free. Plants spaced as far as 10 inches apart will fill in and grow together remarkably fast. Closer spacing brings quicker coverage. Pachysandra has yellow-green foliage which serves as a subtle color contrast to the dark green needles of yews. Unlike myrtle, pachysandra is completely satisfactory only in shade.

English ivy is a vigorous and rich groundcover when planted in good, fairly moist soil.



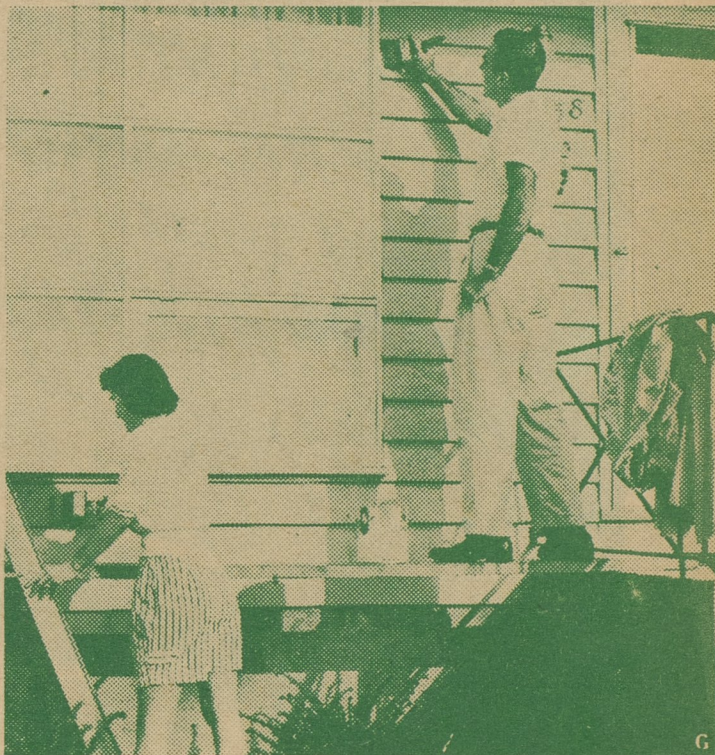
SONG

April, April,
Laugh thy girlish laughter;
Then, the moment after,
Weep thy girlish tears,
April, that mine ears
Like a lover greetest,
If I tell thee, sweetest,
All my hopes and fears.
April, April,
Laugh thy golden laughter,
But, the moment after,
Weep thy golden tears!

—William Watson



TIPS FOR THE SPRING PAINTER



A common symptom of spring fever is the compulsion to paint your house. Do-it-yourself painters in the grip of such a virus can do only one thing to protect themselves from the consequences: Go ahead and slather it on—but keep one jump beyond that impulse. In other words think ahead:

1. It's a major frustration to assemble all your tools, only to have a spring shower foil the painting party. Keep ahead of this disaster by planning to use an acrylic base paint (over 700 brands are made, so choice won't be too much of a problem) which can go on over a "moist house"—and set there.

2. Plan a "once around the house trip" even for two coats. Some paints on the market are fast drying—a side effect of their acrylic base—which provides the convenience of being able to paint over twice with one scaffold or ladder setting before moving to another part of the house. This saves a great deal of wear and tear on your wife's peony beds, to say nothing of your back.

3. Invite your trusted friends

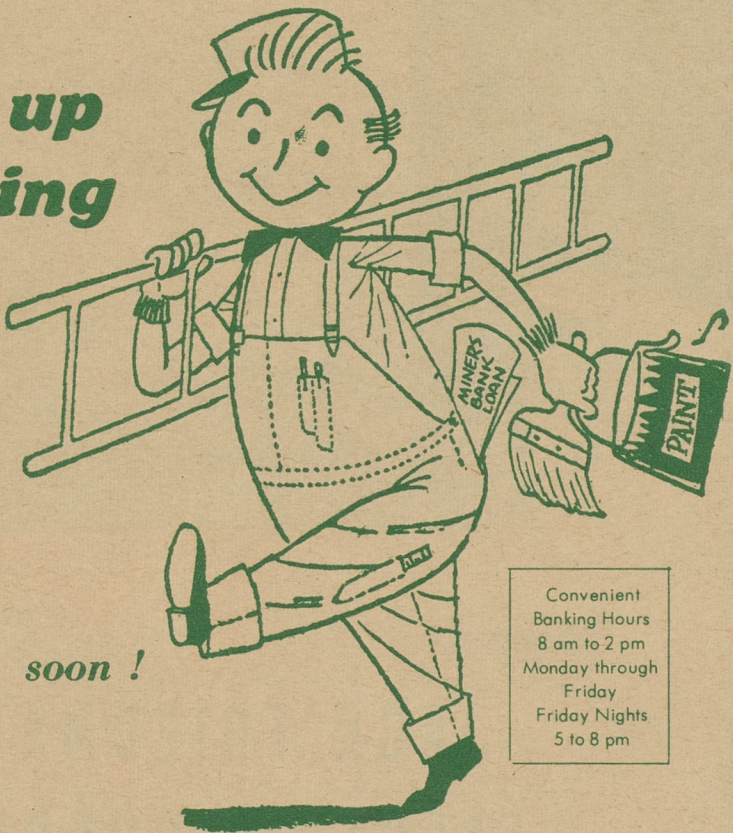
to help—and have your wife set up a buffet for them later. If you're using a water base paint, tell them tactfully to apply a full coat and not to overbrush it. Overbrushing thins the paint film. Have a supply of rollers and brushes on hand so you can press into service those who are just dropping by. Be sure you have enough paint. Your paint dealer can help you estimate in advance.

4. Clean up fast—and as much as possible while you paint. While there is not a painter alive who hasn't left some mark he hasn't intended, erase yours fast: otherwise it's tougher. With acrylic paints a handy pail of soapy water is a good idea for removing spots before they dry.

It's Time To Spruce up for Spring

... and "The Miners" will help you finance the repairs and improvements you've planned. You'll like the easy, friendly way we do business and you will save money with our low bank rates and easy repayment plan.

Come see us soon!



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