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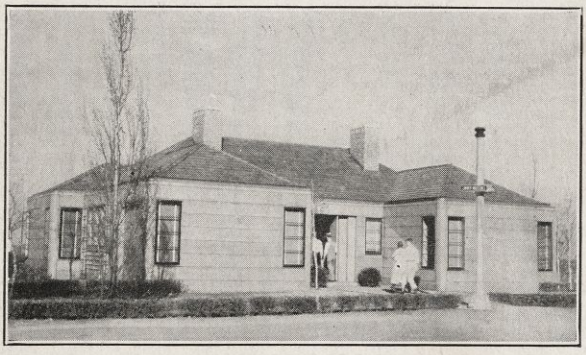
A Century of Progress

Presenting the

LUMBER INDUSTRIES HOUSE



ERNEST A. GRUNSFELD, JR., ARCHITECT

National Lumber Manufacturers Association

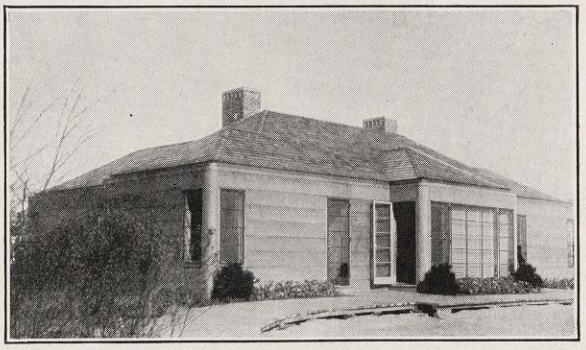
THE HOUSE OF LUMBER

The Historic American House for Modern America

This is the story of the charming and lovely exhibition "Lumber Industries House" at A Century of Progress Exposition. Keep it as a souvenir and as a memorandum for the day when you will wish to build such a home.

The Lumber Industries of America are proud of this beautiful house. All Americans should be proud of it, for it is a modern materialization of that dream of most Americans, now as in the past, to have an ideal home of the characteristic American home building material—LUMBER . . . Lumber homes shelter three-fourths of our people.

The Lumber Industries House represents the fulfilment of the ambition of the rank and file of one of the greatest of America's industries to show the



REAR ELEVATION

people of America the modern architectural beauty, comfort, inexpensiveness, and practicality of the traditionally popular all-wood American residence.

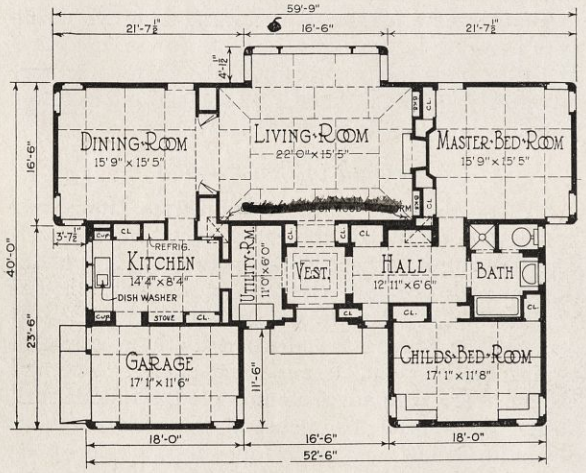
This small house was fittingly financed by small cash contributions of companies, employes, and groups in the lumber and forest products industries; the typical contribution being $1.00 each. Moreover, all of the material and equipment, both lumber and non-lumber, was donated by manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers of lumber, millwork, and veneers, and by manufacturers in the allied industries.

If you are contemplating the building of a home you will find in this lumber house invaluable suggestions relating to beauty of design, practicality of plan, excellence of construction, and efficiency of equipment.

THE LUMBER INDUSTRIES HOUSE

A Modern, but Homelike House—Having the Enduring Beauty of Simplicity

The tendency toward the unique in modern architecture has led to excessive emphasis on architectural style. The utility and frequently the beauty of a dwelling house are sacrificed to the requirements of a favored style, which may be as fleeting as a Paris mode. The architect of the Lumber Industries House aimed at modernity of design without "stylization." The house is, as he says, designed in a straightforward and logical manner intended to make use of wood to the best advantage—the design depending on articulation of the various wood parts. The result is a design which depends for its effect on its extreme simplicity.



Compact Plan

The Lumber Industries House is beautiful because it is sincere—it has the charm of elegant utility.

The plan is compact and makes an admirable unit for efficient living use. It is larger than would be required were it intended only for actual family occupancy. Being an exhibit house, it was necessary to make the halls and vestibules large enough to accomodate crowds of visitors. As a living unit the rooms, too, could be slightly reduced in size if desired.

A Plasterless House

An innovation in the design of the house is that it is plasterless, and can therefore be erected directly, cleanly and quickly without the initial dampness of plastering and its consequences.

The walls and ceilings are covered with wood paneling without plaster backing. This permits of construction at any period of the year and in any temperature and avoids the annoying effects of excessive moisture. Also, repairs and renovation are made easy. The wood wall surfaces are treated in the simplest manner, without elaborate graining and staining. A clear lacquer is applied but without detracting from the natural beauty of the wood. The ceilings are of calcimined plywood.

New Structural Features

An exterior structural innovation is the round corners, which unite the siding of the walls, thus doing away with the necessity of mitering the corners as in ordinary practice. The downspouts of the roof are concealed within the rounded cornerpieces, which can be removed in their original units when necessity arises. The gutter is inlaid and does not mar the silhouette of the house.

Another new feature is the wood footings which were pressure-treated with creosote for permanence. The sills, floor joists and sub-flooring were also preservatively treated. Such construction is often suited to homes without basements.

Strength of Construction

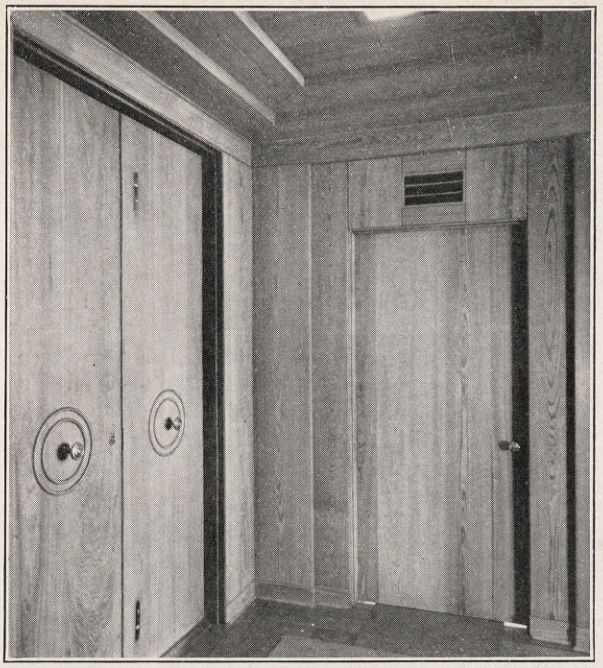
Structurally, the Lumber Industries House embodies the results of the latest scientific research. The framing is in accordance with best engineering design and provides the utmost of strength and rigidity that can be attained in a small house. The foundations rest on broad wood footings, guarding against settling and its annoying effects. The sills are anchored with adequate bolts to the foundations. Joists are spaced 16 inches apart. Corners and around window and door openings are properly braced. The roof structure is firmly tied to the side walls. Thus, structurally, the house becomes a one-piece unit.

Convenient Corner Windows

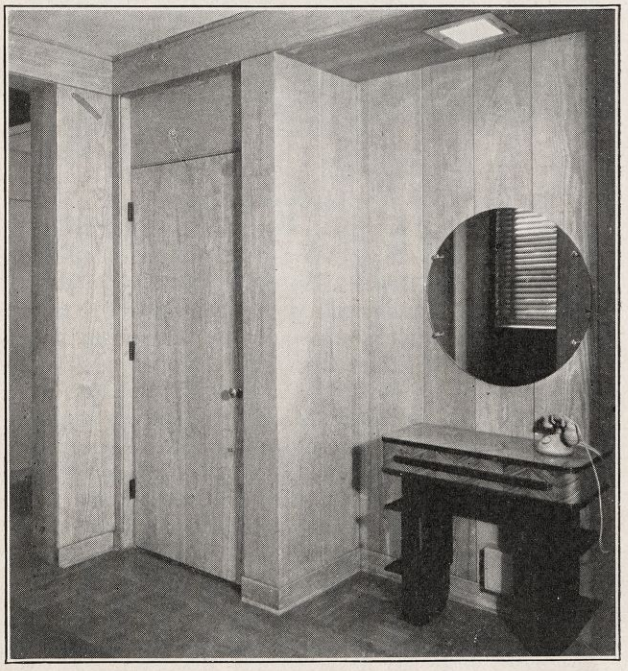
A welcome departure from the usual in the plan is in the placing of all room windows near the corners. This is something that will appeal to housewives, accustomed to window openings that bafflingly interfere with suitable placement of furniture and the hanging of pictures.

Inherently Beautiful Wood Interiors

The admirable simplicity of the interior is largely attained by rounding the edges of the panels to make a vee joint. This gives a satisfactory joint and at the same time a fine decorative effect. The interesting grain and texture of the various species of



VESTIBULE



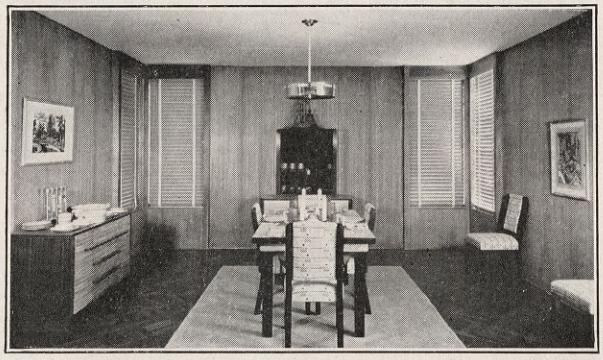
HALL

wood require no embellishment, and elaborate architectural treatment would serve only to detract from the effect of the room as a whole.

In keeping with the idea of making this a "sunlight" house Venetian blinds have been used and shades are omitted. The blinds fit into especially provided pockets at the top of the window and provide control of the daylight in the rooms, and at the same time admit air.

Utility of "Layout"

Attention is called to the segregation of the three functions of a residence, viz., provision for service, family life and sleeping quarters. Yet in this house none of the rooms is distant from the others. The living room and the dining room, being separated by a folding wall, can be consolidated or separated, thus adapting them to entertaining as well as to privacy.



DINING ROOM

Demonstrating Versatility of Wood

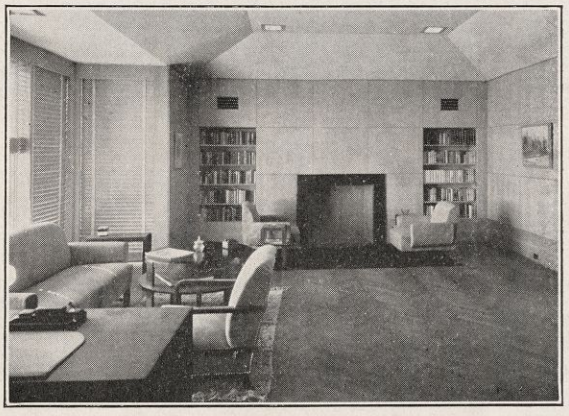
"No tricks have been used in the design of the house," says the architect, Mr. Ernest A. Grunsfeld, Jr.; "we have relied on the straightforward use of wood wherever it was satisfactory for the purpose. The aim is to demonstrate that wood is still the most flexible building material and, if judiciously handled, creates a conservative but interesting background for the interior treatment of a house. The fact that with the exception of the hardware, nails and glass, wood or wood products have been used throughout, is due to the *versatility and variety of wood as a building material; and not to any preconceived idea of the Lumber Industries to use wood regardless of its suitability.*

"Houses built in this manner are practical from the point of view of strength, insulation, and appearance. They can be built at a lower cost and in about half the time of the ordinary type of domestic construction now generally followed."

Seen From Outside

Viewing the house from the exterior an impression of spaciousness is gained by the projection toward the front of the garage on the left and the child's bedroom on the right. The main entrance, being in the middle of the recess thus formed, has an air of welcome. The impression of spaciousness is enhanced as one enters by the view through the hall to the lake (or whatever landscaping and distant vista the actual location of such a house may provide). The living room bay projects into the charming rear yard which is also accessible from the dining room and master's bedroom, a feature which conduces to its enjoyable use.

Mr. Grunsfeld, it will be observed, has treated all exterior aspects of the house so that they are equally inviting and charming.



LIVING ROOM—BAY TO THE LEFT

The Exterior

The exterior walls are covered by handsome wide siding in natural finish, emphasizing the friendliness of wood construction. The edges are nosed, with concealed lap-joints. The ends of the siding are also rabbeted so that they fit tight under and over windows and doors, as well as behind the rounded corners. One advantage of wood exteriors is that the color scheme can be changed at will.

Wood sash and wood window and door frames are used throughout. The sash are equipped with the best type of weather-stripping, which reduces air infiltration to the minimum and cuts heating costs. Wood enclosed windows are always easy to curtain and avoid the nuisance of moisture condensation on the inside in cold weather.

The beauty of the wood exterior is accompanied by the practical advantages of its own high insulating qualities. But in addition, tucked in between

each stud and in every outside wall cavity is a wood wool blanket, one inch thick, which with the building paper beneath the siding, effectively stops the movement of air or heat through the walls. Thus, as wood itself is an insulator, the Lumber Industries House is truly the coolest in summer, and the warmest in winter.

MASTER BED ROOM

A long-lived roof is insured by the use of clear, all heartwood, all edge-grain wood shingles, certified to conform to U. S. Government Commercial Standard CS 31-31. These shingles will always lie flat and will last for fifty years or more. They are neither artificial nor gaudy. A roof of this sort combines beauty and permanence with the three essential attributes of economical heating, tightness and effective insulation.

Varieties of Interior Finish

The wall and ceiling surfaces, as well as the floors of this house, have been allocated to different species of wood in order to illustrate what a wide variety of material and of appearance is attainable by the use of wood. The plywood ceilings, calcimined in a carefully chosen shade, form reflecting surfaces for the Holophane lenses and Illuminator lights.

The species and varieties used in this house have been chosen more for a fancied suitability of color, texture and grain for each type of room than for other reasons. This is a matter of individual taste, and no doubt every person who uses the "sunlight" house as a model or pattern will desire to choose his own panel scheme.

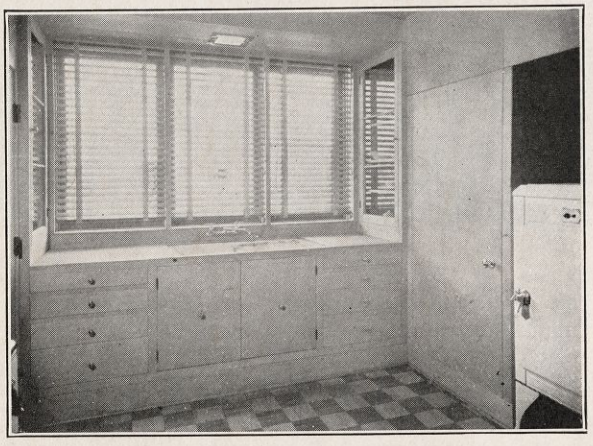
The paneling of the different rooms was selected not only to give an idea of the range of choice of different woods available almost everywhere in the United States, but of the variety of appearance that

may be had in any one wood. For example, only the heartwood of one species is used in one room and only the sapwood of another species in another room; panels for one room are so sawed as to bring out the beautiful flakes of one species; in another, sawed differently in order to subdue the natural figure. Again, in one room the boards used for the panels are clear in all respects; whereas in another room the paneling of another species purposely contains small, sound knots to enhance the natural beauty of that wood. In some rooms practically no stain has been applied to the wood paneling or to the floors; in other rooms a deep stain is used to demonstrate variety of treatment.

From vestibule and hall, through the sleeping rooms, past the moth-proof closets, bathroom, living room and dining room to the kitchen, one walks through a revelation of the beauty, utility and adaptability of wood for interior surfaces—a revelation that recalls the friendly interiors of those old colonial houses in which wood was used because it was the most convenient and handy material and turned out to be the best.

The Kitchen

The floor plan speaks for itself and each room tells its own story of suitability for its purpose. But the kitchen deserves special mention. The



KITCHEN

light-toned wood used in walls and built-in kitchen-cabinets gives an aspect of purity and cleanliness combined with "homeyness." The walls and floor can easily be kept clean and sanitary. The cabinets are conveniently placed, practically shelved and divided, and are large enough to accommodate all kitchen equipment, while allowing just enough working space for convenience without waste effort.

Utility Room or Breakfast Nook

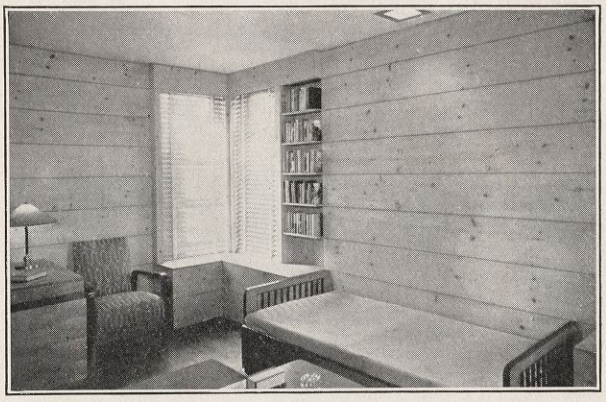
Between the kitchen and front vestibule is a dual-purpose, small room, which is deserving of special mention. In a basementless house, it serves as the utility room for the heating and air conditioning equipment, for brooms and brushes and for other articles. When space for such uses is elsewhere available, this room becomes the breakfast nook—just a step from the kitchen, and with a window facing the street.

And The Garage

The garage of ample size is entered from the kitchen or through a service door from without. The door, of wide board exterior and doweled wood panel interior, has the latest type of radio control. The garage has room for the lawn mower and garden tools, too.

Equipment

The Lumber Industries house is equipped with the most modern household appliances produced by the leading manufacturers in their field. The heating,



CHILD'S BED ROOM

air conditioning, plumbing and bathroom equipment, gas range, electric refrigerator, incinerator, electric dishwasher, kitchen ventilator, finish hardware, floor wax, closet fixtures, illumination, are all in this class.

A Home of Beauty and Utility

As one goes from room to room the superiority of the general plan as well as the beauty of its execution in friendly wood is more and more impressed upon him. And at the end of the tour he goes out into the pleasant landscape setting or into the garage for his nearby or distant activities in the outside world, feeling that here is a quiet, inspiringly beautiful home that makes a secure retreat and a restful base for the struggle of life.

Such is the Lumber Industries House. It is in keeping with A Century of Progress—modern of the modern—yet made of man's most ancient, tried and proved building material.

WOODS FOR HOUSES OF LUMBER

The different kinds of lumber utilized in the Lumber Industries House represent only a few of the scores of different species of American woods which were available and are extensively used in home construction. Every region of the country has its preferences for one reason or another, and the home builder can suit his own preferences in practically any locality. This great variety of American woods is another reason why lumber is the most versatile and popular home building material. Moreover, a wide selection of these woods is available to every architect and to every prospective home builder through his local retail lumber dealer and local millwork plant.

Softwood Lumber

The following kinds of softwoods are used extensively for house framing and sheathing and many of them for exteriors and interiors:

Aromatic Red Cedar
Port Orford Cedar
Western Red Cedar
Tidewater Red Cypress
White and Yellow Cypress
Douglas Fir
White Fir
Eastern Hemlock
West Coast Hemlock
Western Larch
Arkansas Soft Pine
Idaho White Pine
Longleaf Southern Pine
Northern Pine
Ponderosa Pine
Shortleaf Southern Pine
Sugar Pine
California Redwood
Eastern Spruce
Engelmann Spruce
Sitka Spruce
Tamarack

Hardwood Lumber

The following kinds of hardwoods are used primarily for house interiors and certain exterior parts, and a few occasionally for house framing and sheathing:

Red Alder
Brown Ash
White Ash
Basswood
Beech
Birch
Butternut
Cherry
Chestnut
Cottonwood
Elm
Black Gum
Red Gum
Sap Gum
Tupelo Gum
Magnolia
Maple
Red Oak
White Oak
Sycamore
Walnut
Yellow Poplar

THE LUMBER INDUSTRIES HOUSE

A Century of Progress

Sponsors: The National Lumber Manufacturers Association, Washington

The Chicago Retail Lumber Dealers, Chicago

The Lumber Industries of the United States

Architect: E. A. Grunsfeld, Jr., Tribune Tower, Chicago

Contractor: E. P. Strandberg Co., Chicago

Painter & Decorator: T. C. Gleich & Co., Chicago

Millwork: Jos. Kaszab Co., Chicago

Floor Finishing: W. A. Boettcher Co., 4528 Lincoln Avenue, Chicago

Landscaping: Franz Lipp, Lake Bluff, Ill., and Waukegan Nurseries, Waukegan, Ill.

Insurance: Lumbermens Mutual Casualty Co. of Chicago and Associated Lumber (Fire) Mutuals.

CONTRIBUTORS AND COOPERATORS

Financing

3760 individual employes and firms in the Lumber and Forest Products Industries financed this exhibition through small subscriptions, thus making it truly representative of all sections of the industry. In addition were donations of materials:

Lumber and Woodwork

Footings, Sills, Floor Joists, Sub-flooring Creosote and Zinc Chloride Pressure Treated Southern Yellow Pine	Ayer & Lord Tie Co., Railway Exchange Building, Chicago
Studding, Ribbons, Ceiling Joists, Bridging, Roof Boards, Wall Sheathing Douglas Fir, Eastern Hemlock, West Coast Hemlock, Norway Pine, Ponderosa Pine, Southern Pine, Spruce	Chicago Retail Lumber Dealers, Chicago

House Insulation Balsam Wool Blanket	Wood Conversion Co., Cloquet, Minnesota, and 360 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago
Sisalkraft Reinforced Waterproof Building Paper	The Sisalkraft Co., 205 W. Wacker Drive, Chicago
Roofing Certified Wood Shingles, Commercial Standard CS31-31	Red Cedar Shingle Bureau, Stuart Building, Seattle, and Conway Building, Chicago
Window and Door Frames Tidewater Red Cypress	Southern Cypress Manufacturers Association, Jacksonville, Florida
Window Sash Ponderosa Pine	Shevlin Pine Sales Co., First National Soo Line Building, Minneapolis; Offices in Chicago, New York, San Francisco
Siding and Exterior Trim California Redwood	California Redwood Association, San Francisco
Radio Control Garage Door California Redwood (Exterior) Ponderosa Pine (Interior)	Barber-Colman Co., Rockford, Illinois, and 221 N. LaSalle Street, Chicago
Kitchen Walls and Cabinets White Maple Panels and Lumber	Underwood Veneer Co., Wausau, Wisconsin, through Maple Manufacturers Association, Oshkosh, Wisconsin
Kitchen Floors Northern Hard Maple Unit Block (Finished with Bruce Floor Finish)	E. L. Bruce Co., Memphis, through Maple Flooring Manufacturers Association, Chicago
Dining Room Walls Sliced American Walnut Veneered Plywood Panels	Pierson - Hollowell Lumber Co., Inc., 539 Postal Station Building, Indianapolis (Veneers); Algoma Plywood & Veneer Co., Algoma, Wisconsin (Panels); through American Walnut Manufacturers Association, Chicago
Dining Room Floors American Walnut (Marie Antoinette Parquetry)	Wood Mosaic Co., Inc., Louisville, through American Walnut Manufacturers Association, Chicago
Living Room Walls Sawn Comb-Grain Appalachian White Oak Veneered Plywood Panels	Kentucky Veneer Works, Inc., Louisville (Veneers); Algoma Plywood & Veneer Co., Algoma, Wisconsin (Panels); through American Walnut Manufacturers Association, Chicago
Living Room Floors Appalachian White Oak (Herringbone Pattern)	Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc., Cincinnati
Master Bedroom Walls Red Birch Veneered Plywood Panels	Underwood Veneer Co., Wausau, Wisconsin, through Birch Manufacturers Association, Oshkosh, Wisconsin

Master Bedroom Floors Northern Hard Maple (Strip)	Northwestern Cooperage & Lumber Co., Gladstone, Michigan, through Maple Flooring Manufacturers Association, Chicago
Child's Bedroom Walls Knotty (Genuine) Idaho White Pine	Winton Lumber Co., Gibbs, Idaho, and Minneapolis, and Edward Hines Lumber Co., Chicago
Child's Bedroom Floors Royal Southern White Oak (Strip)	Fordyce-Crossett Sales Co., 80 E. Jackson Street, Chicago
Vestibule Walls and Ceiling Tidewater Red Cypress	Southern Cypress Manufacturers Association, Jacksonville, Florida
Hall Walls Arkansas Soft Pine	Fordyce-Crossett Sales Co.. 80 E. Jackson Street, Chicago
Vestibule and Hall Floors Appalachian White Oak (Block Pattern)	Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc., Cincinnati
Ceilings Throughout (Except Vestibule) Douglas Fir Plywood	Harbor Plywood Corp., 1444 West Cermack Road, Chicago, and Hoquiam, Washington
Closet Lining Supercedar Closet Lining (Tennessee Aromatic Red Cedar)	George C. Brown & Co., Memphis and Greensboro, N. C.
Driveway and Garden Walks Pecky Tidewater Red Cypress Blocks	Southern Cypress Manufacturers Association, Jacksonville, Florida

Auxiliary Equipment

Heating and Air Conditioning	Holland Furnace Co., Holland, Michigan
Fireplace Facing and Lining	Alberene Stone Co., 1700 Elston Avenue, Chicago
Plumbing Fixtures	Crane Co., 836 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago
Bathroom Walls and Ceiling	The Formica Insulation Co., Cincinnati, and 111 N. Canal Street, Chicago
Bathroom Floors	David E. Kennedy, Inc., Chicago
Bathroom Trim	Wooster Products, Inc., Wooster, Ohio, and Transportation Building, Chicago
Bathroom Accessories	Hoegger, Inc., Chicago
Gas Range	American Stove Co., New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Cleveland, Chicago, St. Louis, San Francisco, Los Angeles

Electric Dishwasher	The Conover Co., 3123 Carroll Avenue, Chicago
Electric Refrigerator	Gibson Electric Refrigerator Corp., Greenville, Michigan
Incineration	Kerner Incinerator Co., Milwaukee
Kitchen Ventilator	Ilg Electric Ventilating Co., 2550 N. Crawford Avenue, Chicago
Paint, Kitchen Ceiling and Utility Room	Aluminum "Valdura," American Asphalt Paint Co., Chicago
Window Glass	Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Co., Toledo
Weatherstripping	Manufactured by Athey Co., 6035 W. 65th Street, Chicago Installed by W. L. Van Dame Co., 820 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago
Finish Hardware	Sargent and Co., New Haven, New York, Chicago
Checking Floor Hinges	The Oscar C. Rixon Co., Chicago
Floor Wax	S. C. Johnson & Son, Inc. Racine, Wisconsin
Interior Illumination	Holophane Co., Inc., 342 Madison Avenue, New York
Dining Room Fixture Electric Lamps	Luminator, Inc., 851 Washington Boulevard, Chicago
Garcy Reflectors	Garden City Plating & Manufacturing Co., Chicago
Clothes Closet Fixtures	Knape & Vogt Manufacturing Co., Grand Rapids
Garage Floors	Brick Manufacturers Association of America, Cleveland and Chicago

Furnishings

Table Appointments	Helen Hughes Dulany, Pent House Studio, 936 Lake Shore Drive, Chicago
Piano	Wurlitzer Grand Piano Co., DeKalb, Illinois
Venetian Blinds (Basswood)	Manufactured by Bostwick-Goodell Co., Norwalk, Ohio. Installed by W. L. Van Dame Co., 820 No. Michigan Ave., Chicago
Furniture Designs	Wolfgang-Hoffman, Interior Decorator, New York

How You May Benefit from the "Lumber Industries House"

Should you wish to make use of the exhibition house as a model you can obtain plans and specifications from the Architect, Mr. Ernest A. Grunsfeld, Jr., Tribune Tower, Chicago.

For advice as to any adaptation of the general plan to your personal requirements, such as more rooms, and local environment, you should *consult your local architect.* He can and will guard you against slips and errors in design and construction.

Your lumber dealer will also help you. He can supply, or secure for you, every item of lumber and millwork going into this house or any lumber-built house.

You owe it to yourself to study carefully whether the structural and living advantages and unsurpassed beauty of a lumber house, together with lower cost, do not demand that your home should be lumber built.

An important thing to remember is that not only is lumber less expensive now than it has been for 18 years, but that the standard of quality is higher than formerly, grade for grade and in all species. Moreover, the present time makes a house a superior investment. We are doubtless on the verge of a period of rising prices, which means that materials and labor will cost more and money will be cheaper. This is equivalent to saying that the chances are that for many years a lumber house, well built now, will increase in money value.

It is certain that your present dollar will mean the best investment if put into a lumber house.