



John Mines' log house in Abercorn is an example of the pioneer type buildings that are popular in Canada today.

THE SHERBROOKE
RECORD

Your Home

June 14, 1979



Gabriel Dubreuil, Sherbrooke's Buildall outlet, will continue its highly-successful handyman's course this fall.

Théo Langlois Limitée




Jean-Louis Langlois (left) and staff have the collective experience to quote accurately on most construction and renovation projects at Bourque Boulevard store.

ROCK FOREST (NW) — La Maison Theo Langlois Ltee, a local building supplies firm has opened a new store and lumberyard here, bringing to two the number of stores that they now have. Offering a full line of building supplies from insulation to plumbing fixtures and lumber, the new store measures about 7500 square feet while the warehouse is

12,000 square feet. Besides providing all the materials that one needs to build a house, La Maison Theo Langlois also offers a free cost estimate on all building plans brought to them. The new store is located at 4339 Boulevard Bourque in Rock Forest and is open every day from 8:30 to 5:30 p.m. up to Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

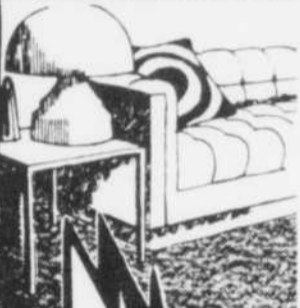
8:30 to 9:00 p.m. and until 5:00 p.m. Saturday.

The Langlois family has been in the building supplies business for over 50 years. It was started in 1927 by Theodore Langlois' father Olivier and grew from a lumberyard and sawmill to the two-store organization that employs over 50 people at the present time.



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A river at my garden's end,  
A terrace walk, and half a  
road  
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wood.*

—Jonathan Swift

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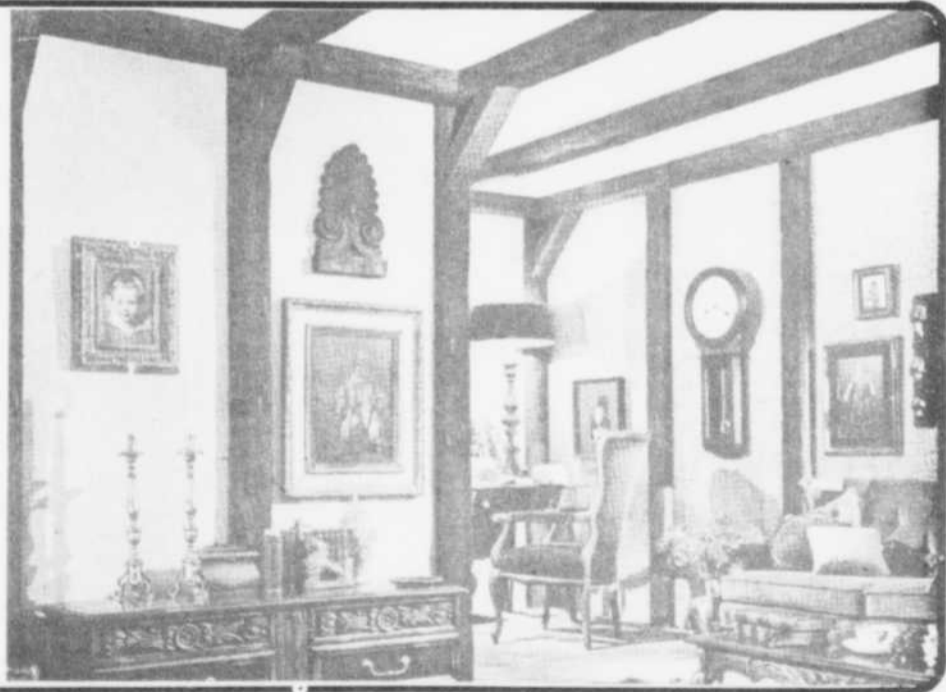
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# Théo Langlois

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# Log house builders meet



Photo - Nelson Wyatt

Fifteen people met on Sunday at the Sherbrooke Holiday Inn to form the nucleus of the Association Quebecois des Construc-

teurs de Baitements en Billot, an association of log house builders.

**By NELSON WYATT**  
SHERBROOKE — Fifteen Quebec log house builders gathered at the Holiday Inn here to form the basis of what will hopefully be an association to unite the practitioners of this pioneer art form.

Bill Everitt, of Piopolis, told *The Record* that the group was involved in an afternoon of discussion that covered a wide range of subjects in the log house field. Among these was the availability of building supplies and the ingredients of a constitution for the Association.

The majority of those present were in their late twenties or early thirties and sat in a room surrounded by paintings of pioneer scenes. They considered a possible membership fee for the association and said that the election of officers would be put off for about 60 days pending the acceptance of their application by Quebec City. With the delegates to the meeting coming from all over the province, Everitt said that this was the first time such a meeting has taken place.

He went on to say that the association, to be titled the Association Quebecoise des Constructeurs de Baitements en Billot, would provide a common voice for the log house builders in the province and would supply useful channels and contacts for information on new methods and tools available to the log house builder.

Everitt said that the log house building industry in Canada is a booming one with over 1000 people working professionally in the field. One of the major problems that has been encountered in Quebec, however, is that builders are having trouble getting access to logs because of a policy practiced by the government that promotes increased employment in the field but at the same time wishes to renew resources. It is hoped that the log house builders association can find a suitable solution to this problem.

Anyone who wishes more information on the Association should contact Bill Everitt, R.R. 1, Piopolis, Quebec, G0Y 1H0.



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A charm from the sky seems to hallow us there,  
Which, seek through the world, is ne'er met with elsewhere.  
Home, home, sweet, sweet home!  
There's no place like home!  
there's no place like home!*

—John Howard Payne



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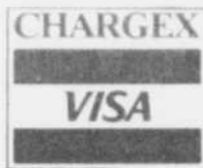
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# Softwood doors make burglary easy

Every year, some three million residential burglaries are reported to the police — while a suspected three million others apparently aren't. With those staggering statistics in mind, you may want to take a good hard look at your door lock.

But, first, consider what Consumer Reports' engineers learned when they tested locks.

Unfortunately, they found, most locks are installed in softwood doors and door frames. That's because home builders and architects, trying to cut costs, have all but abandoned the substantial hardwood and metal doors of yesteryear. The sad fact is, you need hardly be a Houdini to break into the cheaper entrances — a well-placed kick will get the average house burglar past the front door.

To make things tougher for the criminals, you could try replacing softwood with hardwood or metal. Or you could simply strengthen the doors you already have. To do that, begin by purchasing a metal reinforcement that wraps around the door in the bolt area and thereby reduces the possibility of

splintering if the door is kicked.

Consumer Reports gave high marks to the MAG Install-A-Lock reinforcement, available for about \$10.

In addition to improving the door itself, you can reinforce the strike, the hole in the door frame that receives the bolt when you lock up. We found that two products — the MAG Strike-3 747 and the Meister 2000 — bolstered that opening admirably.

These high security strike plates line the edge of the door jamb and the inside of the bolt hole with metal. But, even more important, they are designed to be anchored securely to the building studs rather than simply to be screwed into the door frame molding. Each was available for about \$5.

Once you're satisfied that the door and frame are reasonably secured, it's time to consider your lock. There are two main types that warrant either replacement or reinforcement, or both: "mortise" and key-in-knob.

The "mortise" lock, so named because its large case fits into a deep cavity, or mortise, in the door, is attractive to burglars pri-

marily because its key cylinder is poorly anchored and fairly easy to pull out.

The key-in-knob lock is a relative pushover because its main cylinder elements are in the outside knob, which is easy to grip and pull off with common tools. Once the knob is off, there's no further need for a key.

If you have a mortise lock, you're probably better off installing an auxiliary rather than a replacement, since removing the lock would leave you with that big mortise to fill. But, with a key-in-knob model you can get a replacement or install an additional, or auxiliary, lock.

Among auxiliary locks, the Medeco Ultra 700, priced at around \$70, was highly recommended by Consumer Reports' engineers. Designed to be clamped into a U-shaped space cut out from the door, it acts not only as a lock, but as a metallic reinforcement for softwood.

To complete its installation in a softwood arrangement, you may still have to reinforce the jamb with a high-security strike plate. If you do, make sure the plate is anchored with screws that are about 3 inches long. That will assure that they penetrate beyond the finished framing into the building studs.

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# Log-house builder comes east

By NELSON WYATT  
COWANSVILLE — Gerry Bleser didn't like the idea of living in one of those "little ticky-tacky houses or those boxes they bring in in two pieces and nail together."

To avoid such a fate, two years ago, he agreed to organize a course in log house building and let a group of amateur log house builders loose to try and erect a home. Mind you, he didn't exactly throw himself on the mercy of some well-intentioned gents with sharp saws, but instead enlisted the aid of renowned log house builder B. Alan Mac-

kie.

Mackie, a Saskatchewan native who puts out the yearly Canadian Log House magazine to supplement one of his books, Building With Logs, showed the students the ropes in a stretch of wilds near Cowansville after Bleser had enlisted the students, gotten the logs and come up with the building site. The students paid about \$100 each and had to supply their own tools.

Designed as a basic training program in log house building, the classes are enough instruction to allow students to go out and build their own house.

"It gets them started in the right direction, saving them a lot of material, mistakes, money and hardship later on," says Mackie. "They make a better building... probably with less work than if they hadn't taken the course in the first place..."

Mackie has been teaching the courses since 1972 and has been building log houses all his life. "Any time I wanted a house I simply built one. I never thought I was building a log house. I just thought I was building a house because I wanted a place to live."

He credited the upsurge in

interest in log houses with a natural Canadian love of the traditional methods of building and because developers have thoroughly surrounded the market so that people look to log houses as an alternative. He added that coping with government bureaucracy in obtaining building permits has also proved to be an irritant with people.

Log houses have enjoyed a boom in the last few years with over 1000 people employed full time in their construction. While the Quebec industry isn't as large as that in other parts of the continent, Bill Everitt of the fledgling Quebec log house builders' association reports that it is expanding all the time. Interviewed recently at the founding meeting of the association, to be known as the Association Quebecois des Constructeurs de Baitements en Bilot, Everitt said that log houses can often be built for a cost in the same area of that of a frame house, depending on the dimensions.

And what of Gerry Bleser? Well, these days he's reportedly snug as the proverbial bug in a rug in his log house sitting in a picturesque patch of woods just outside Cowansville.

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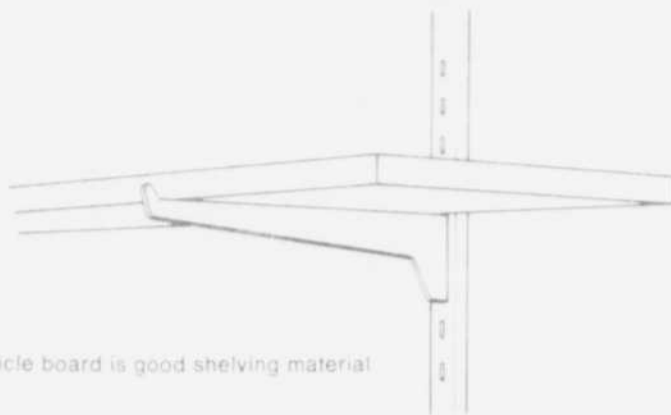
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1. Particle board does not cut easily with a handsaw. A portable electric saw does a

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#### FASTENING PARTICLE BOARD

1. Particle board does not have the fastener-holding

ability of wood. Screws are much better than nails in joining pieces of particle board for this reason.

2. Butt-joining of two pieces of particle board can be done if board is minimum of 1/2-inch thick (preferably thicker) and you use both glue and screws.

3. For maximum strength, fasten particle board to other framing material such as wood.

#### FINISHING PARTICLE BOARD

1. Particle board is very porous and will soak up paint and other finishing materials rapidly. Use several coats of sealer before applying paint.

2. One way to get good finish (painted) is to apply wood filler to raw particle board. Brush thick coat of filler on, then when it starts to set, scrape excess from surface with cardboard scraper. When filler has dried, apply two coats of sealer. Finally, apply finish coat of paint.

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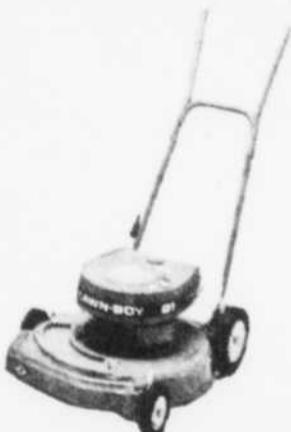
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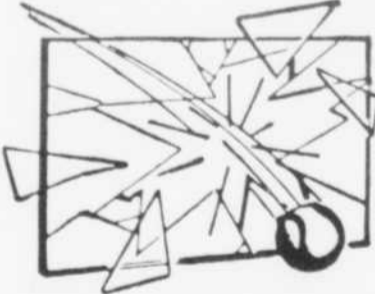
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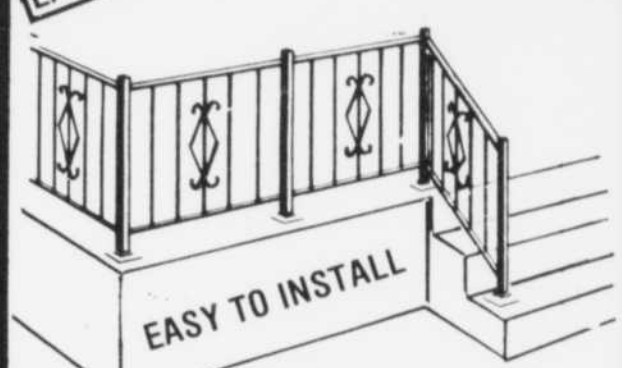
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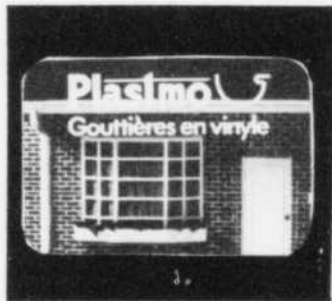


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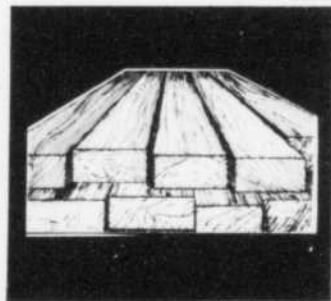
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**\$4<sup>89</sup>** 10' length

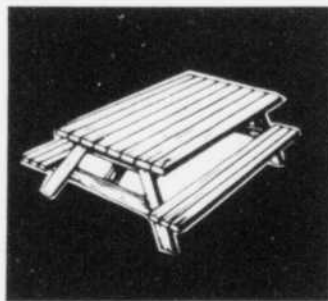
- VINYL EAVE GUTTERS
- COMPONENT PARTS, EASY TO INSTALL
- SOLID RESISTANT VINYL
- DOESN'T NEED PAINTING
- WILL NEVER CRACK
- WHITE VINYL



### CONSTRUCTION LUMBER

- "UTILITY" GRADE
- 2" x 4" ASSORTED LENGTHS
- 16c Lin. Ft.
- 2" x 6" **\$245.00** /M.
- 1" x 6" **13c** Lin. Ft.
- 2" x 8" x 12' **\$275.00** /M.
- 2" x 3" x 8' **9c** Lin. Ft.
- 2" x 4" x 8' **12c** Lin. Ft.

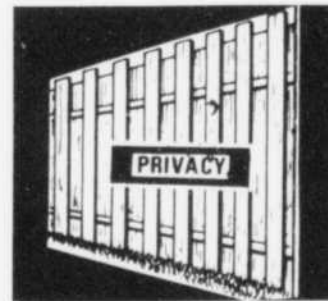
(SAME PRICE FOR SMALLER QUANTITIES.)



### PICNIC TABLE

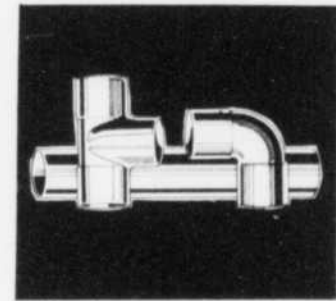
**\$19<sup>95</sup>**

- \*SIZE: 32" x 72"
- \*PRE-ASSEMBLED
- \*COMFORTABLE: THREE SLAT WOODEN BENCH



### INTIMATE STYLE FENCE

- SPRUCE WOOD 60" x 96"
- PRE-CUT ASSEMBLED
- \$18<sup>88</sup> \$21<sup>95</sup>**
- CEDAR POSTS
- 4x4 SPRUCE **49c** Lin. Ft.
- 4x4 TREATED PINE **77c** Lin. Ft.
- 4x4 RED CEDAR **99c** Lin. Ft.



### A.B.S. PIPE

- FOR PLUMBING
- EASY TO CUT
- NO WELDING
- 1 1/2" x 12' **39c** Lin. Ft.
- 3" x 12' **\$108** Lin. Ft.



READY TO HAUL **\$39<sup>00</sup>** SQ. YD.



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## FIX-IT-FAST

### Plasterboard covers many old faults

Plasterboard, also called wallboard and gypsum board, is a sheet of plaster, the same material used to plaster walls. The sheet is made by pouring the plaster between two layers of a porous paper. You can buy it in thicknesses ranging from 1/4 inch up to 1 inch. Its principal use is in wall construction.

It is also used to apply a new surface to old, cracked plaster walls.

#### HOW TO CUT PLASTERBOARD

1. Support the plasterboard sheet so that it does not sag. Measure for the cut line, then draw the line on the surface of the board with a

pencil.

2. Use a sharp plasterboard knife to score along this line. When you do this, you do not need to cut deeply into the board. Just cut sufficiently to make a deep score mark.

3. Place the score mark over the edge of a table, a sawhorse or other firm surface.

4. Grasp the edge of the board which is not on the table and snap it sharply downward. The plasterboard should break evenly along the score mark. Only the paper on the underside of the board will remain intact.

5. Use the plasterboard knife to cut the paper on the underside.

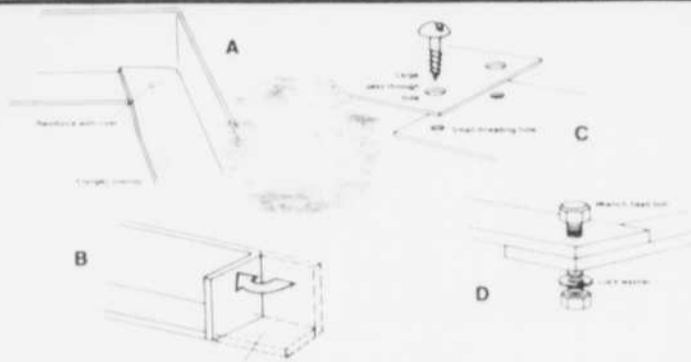
#### STORING PLASTERBOARD

The edges of a sheet of plasterboard are easily damaged if the board is bumped into other objects during carrying. Store the board flat to prevent warping and buckling.

To nail plasterboard use drywall nails, which have rings around their shanks and very broad heads.

#### FINISHING PLASTERBOARD

The paper surface of a plasterboard is soft and porous. It should be given a first coat of drywall sealer before wallpaper or the final coat of paint is applied.



Do-it-yourself aluminum is available everywhere in the form of rods, bars, tubes, angles and plain, decorative and perforated sheets. Most aluminum display racks also have project plans, showing you how to make dozens of projects from storm windows to modernistic stereo cabinets.

#### HOW TO CUT ALUMINUM

1. To cut sheet aluminum use a felt marker pen to draw the cut lines, then make the cuts with a tin snips, heavy shears or electric saber saw with a fine-tooth blade.

2. Best way to cut aluminum bars, rods, angles and tubing is to use a hacksaw with a fine-tooth blade.

3. After making any cut, smooth the cut edge and eliminate any burrs by dressing it with a file or emery paper.

#### HOW TO DRILL ALUMINUM

1. Drilling aluminum is as easy as drilling wood, except that you must use a center-punch or nailset to make an indentation at the point where you intend to drill. Unless you do this first, the drill bit will wander over the metal surface.

2. Place bar, rod, angle and tube stock in a vise for drilling. Use moderate pres-

sure on the drill and lubricate bit with drop of oil for easier cutting.

#### HOW TO BEND ALUMINUM

1. Aluminum bends easily if you use a form to guide it. For sheet bends, sandwich sheet between two straight boards. Lean on boards as you press them against a table top and turn them. Sheet will bend along edges of the board.

2. Bend aluminum tubes around a circular form such as a circle cut from plywood. Minimum bending radius for three-fourths inch tubing is five inches, for one-inch tubing, nine inches.

#### FASTENING ALUMINUM

1. Fasten aluminum pieces together with self-tapping screws, nuts and bolts, or pop rivets. For self-tapping screws, first drill small pilot hole through pieces to be fastened, then turn screw into hole. For nuts and bolts, drill hole the size of the bolt shank. Pop rivets make neatest fastening. Buy an inexpensive hand pop riveter (most hardware stores), follow instructions in riveter package, and use only aluminum rivets.



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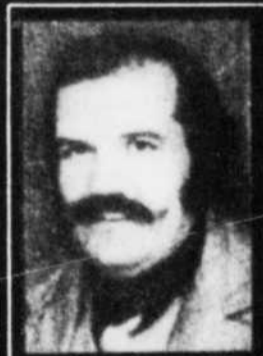


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# Gabriel Dubreuil: Hope for swollen thumbs

By NELSON WYATT  
SHERBROOKE — Did you ever try to hammer a nail but only end up with bruised thumbs?

Dubreuil, who operates a local building supplies business, has been offering handyman courses since the spring of 1978. Started on a trial basis to see if there was a demand, the course received a generous

response with over 70 people signed up for the first session. The first session was so successful that the course was continued in the fall, and was increased to five courses.

In all, four courses were offered with 40 people each and a total enrollment of 160 people. Each course contained three to five lessons with each lesson lasting two-and-a-half hours. Past projects included playroom-basement improvement, wood fences, garages and storage sheds.

Continuing into the spring of 1979, the courses employed the skill of instructor Gilles Patry, a carpenter and teacher hired specifically for his practical knowledge.

With a token fee of 15 dollars to cover tuition and the cost of plans, students came from a variety of fields and included doctors, lawyers, an RCMP officer and Papa Charlie and Marcel Gagnon of CHLT. The ladies were also not excluded and a number of women attended the course. Gabriel Dubreuil was present each night to oversee the operation and at the conclusion of each course, each graduate was presented with a commercial diploma.

At the present time, the organizers of the course are currently seeking a bilingual instructor with practical knowledge so that a course may be offered in English as well.

So, stop soaking those swollen thumbs — there's hope yet.



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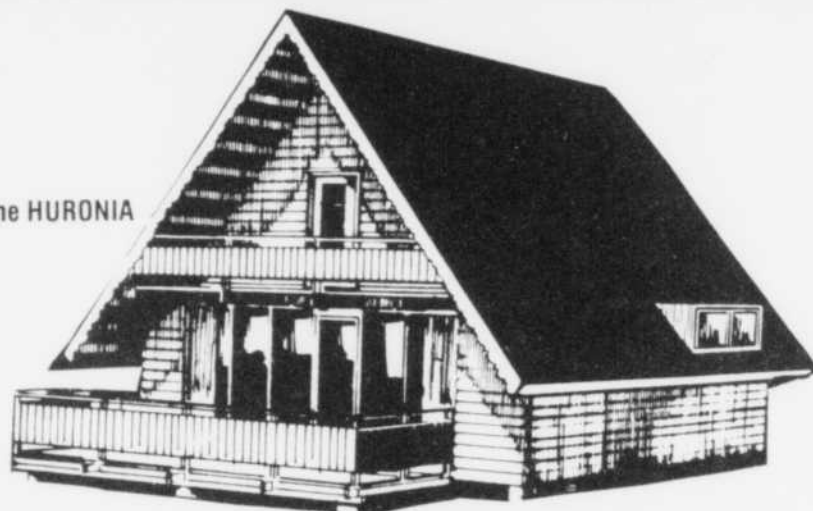


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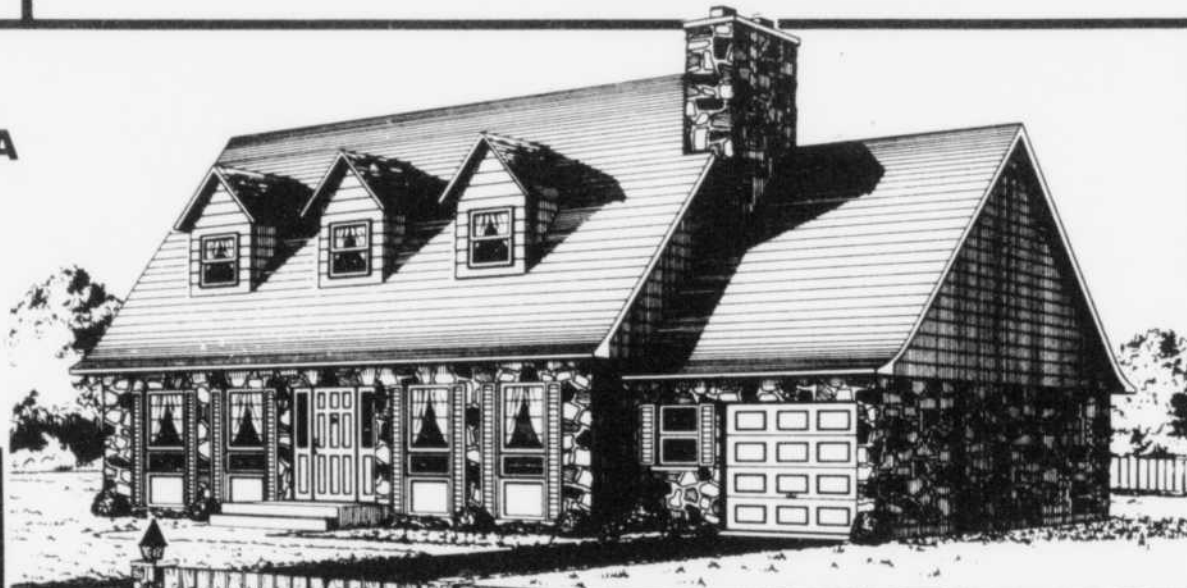
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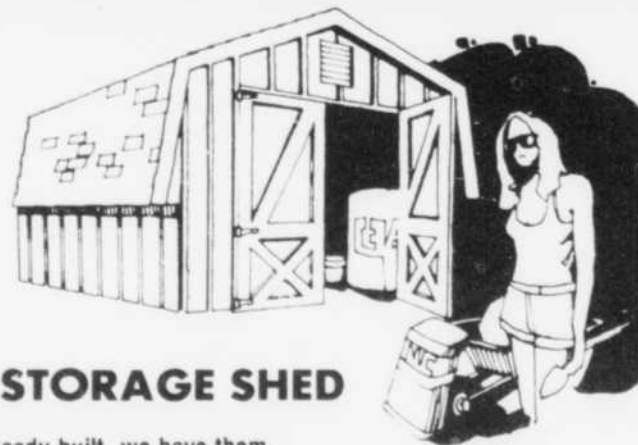
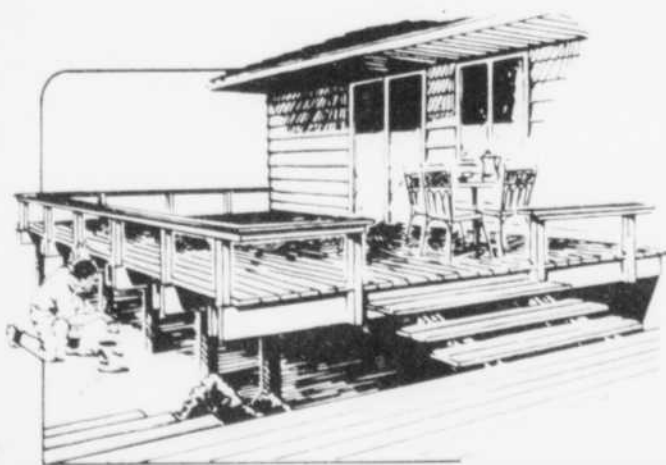
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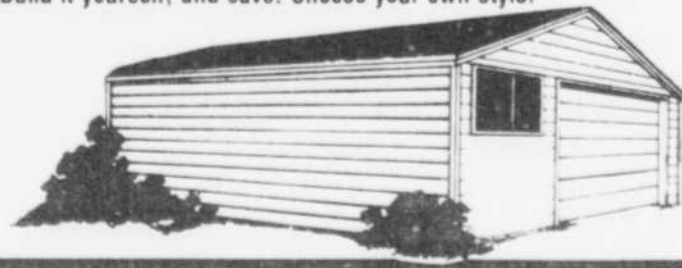
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