



Entire table is made from one 4 by 8 sheet of 3/4 in. plywood.

EIGHT PIECES SNAP TOGETHER IN MINUTES

Portable Picnic Table

You'll be amazed by the simplicity of the "go anywhere" picnic table that Doug Kass, Tracy, Minn. designed. The table has eight sections that interlock together to form a 4 ft. wide, four-person picnic table.

The 28 in. high table is made out of one 4 by 8 ft. sheet of 3/4 in. plywood. The eight sections can be put together or taken apart in minutes — there are no screws or bolts — and easily fits in the car trunk for carrying to a favorite picnic spot.

Kass has plans available for \$5 and is also selling unstained, completed tables for \$45.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Doug Kass, Rt. 2, Box 156, Tracy, Minn. 56175 (ph 507 629-3405).



MAYBE YOUR HOME TOWN SHOULD HAVE ONE

Town's Canning Center Replaces Hot Kitchens

If you just finished a hot, steamy canning season in your kitchen, you're probably saying, "There has to be a better way."

In central Minnesota, there is a better way!

It's a community canning center where area families bring in their produce and process it with modern equipment. They also get advice from professional canning specialists.

The Wright County Canning Center, located in Waverly, was launched seven years ago with funds from the state's Rural Development Council. It was part of a program for low income families, but the center now is available to people of all income levels.

The original grant was used to purchase equipment for preparing, cooking, and sterilizing all kinds of food. Four to six people can use the center at the same time and process up to 500 quarts a day. It's open 8:00 to 4:00 Monday through Friday.

Equipment includes a steam

blancher/sterilizer, atmospheric cooker, several pressure cookers (16 qt.), steam jacketed kettle (20 gal.) and juicer/pulper (100 lbs./hr.) The large steam kettle is used for pre-cooking, condensing, making jam, and rendering lard.

Users make reservations for the day and time they want to come. They bring their own containers and pay a fee of 10¢/pt. and 20¢/qt. It's anticipated that about 200 families will use the center this year. Families from Minneapolis and other larger cities come to Waverly to buy farm-fresh produce, then take it to the center to process it.

Though summer and fall are the busy seasons, the center is used 12 months a year. In winter, for example, families use it to process meat, fish, game and baked beans.

The Wright County Center purchased equipment with special state funds and now is financed by federal Community Services Administration block grants. The fees charged per

ACTS AS A VAPOR BARRIER

Thermo-Paint Cuts Heating, Cooling Costs

You can cut cooling and heating costs of older homes by painting one coat of "Thermo-Paint" on the walls and ceilings according to the manufacturer, The Enterprise Company, Wheeling, Ill.

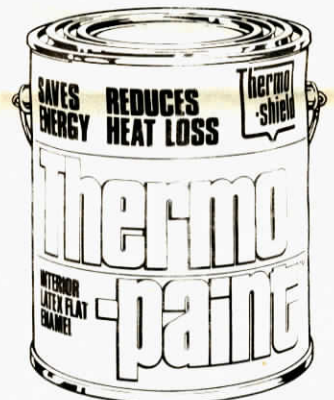
The interior latex flat enamel paint includes a special resin-type ingredient from Dow Chemical called Thermo-Shield. The paint acts as a vapor barrier, keeping moisture from escaping through the walls and dampening the insulation, thus lowering the insulation's R-value.

Bill Benning, regional sales manager for the company, explains that the vapor barrier created by the paint has the same effect as vapor barriers made of foil backed gypsum board, or plastic film, that are commonly built into new homes.

The paint also helps lower cooling costs by keeping humid air out of the house and can be used on homes with urea formaldehyde insulation to help prevent dangerous fumes from entering.

While Thermo-Paint isn't an exterior paint, it does help save the paint on the outside of your house, Benning explains, noting that most exterior paint peeling problems are caused by the movement of moisture out through the walls.

Benning reports that Thermo-Paint



has yet to be applied to agricultural buildings but that it could probably be used in calf or hog raising facilities where wet insulation often causes temperature and humidity problems.

Thermo-Paint when applied is about the same thickness as other house paints. One gallon covers about 400 sq. ft. It's available in three standard colors — white, off white and warm white. Other colors can be mixed. You can also paint on a layer of Thermo-Paint and then paint or wallpaper over it. It's washable and is warranted for 8 years to provide an effective moisture barrier.

Available at retail stores, Thermo-Paint sells for \$18.99 a gallon.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, The Enterprise Companies, Elastic Roof Coating Division, 1191 S. Wheeling Rd., Wheeling, Ill. 60090 (ph 312 541-9000).

canning jar pay only for supplies and equipment maintenance. The staff is partly volunteer workers.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Wright County Community Action Agency, Box 38, 480 Elm St., Waverly, Minn. 55390 (ph 612 658-4415).