

Silicone Paint Makes Basement Waterproof

IF BASEMENTS ever are to be made really livable—suitable for comfortable bedrooms, for instance—they will have to be successfully waterproofed and dampproofed.

Some architects think that even in parts of the South, where cellars are still comparatively rare, livable basements are destined to become the biggest new trend in house architecture. These men argue that houses will get bigger downward, instead of upward, because of economy. It costs just about one-tenth as much to create space, fully finished, under a house as it does to build an equal amount of space above ground.

But all seepage problems will have to be conquered and the condensation of warm summer air striking cooler basement walls and floors will have to be prevented to give us maximum use out of our basements.

These problems have been tackled by various industries. Dehumidifiers have been invented to take the moisture out of basement air. Floor coverings and wall coverings have been developed to line

basements against direct contact with moist summer air. Many so-called waterproofing paints have been offered on claims that they are tight enough to keep water from soaking through masonry walls.

THE BIGGEST problem has been to seal a basement on the inside strongly enough to stop the pressure of water from the outside. For a long time, this was thought to be virtually impossible. Now many waterproofers say it can be done. Harrison Todd of Sacramento, Calif., for one, has had outstanding successes in doing this, even against high water pressure.

A modern chemical discovery, making use of silicones to penetrate pores in masonry and seal it against the passage of moisture, has been one of the most interesting developments in this direction. Silicones, which are extremely minute in size, are derived from silicon, a natural element. They have played important roles in the manufacture of lubricants and steel.

Recently a cement paint in powder

Make Do



A paint applicator for screens can be made with a piece of old carpeting tacked to a block, such as a piece of 2 by 4. Stretch the carpet nap side out. Applicator prevents mesh from clogging, says the American Builder, trade journal of home builders.

er form, soluble in water, comprising a base of powder containing silicones, activated metallic compounds and very finely ground aggregates, was developed by the Siliphane Corp. of America. The manufacturers say that when this compound is applied to a thoroughly wet concrete wall, the silicones do not merely remain on the surface, but have a tendency to migrate, following the moisture into the wall.

According to laboratory tests and Dr. F. O. Anderegg, an authority on masonry construction, the silicones expand, become insoluble and nonreversible. The result is an egg-shell-like seal.

Silicones also can be used as curers in new watertight concrete. They slow down the drying process, penetrating as deeply as the moisture exists and thus waterproof the finished wall or floor.

TO WATERPROOF an existing basement, sources of incoming water must be eliminated. Holes or cracks have to be filled — all spaces closed up. The surface of the concrete or masonry to be waterproofed must be free of dirt, dust, soot, grease and other paint coatings, except Portland cement paint. Oil base paints must be removed because they may loosen and peel in the future and oil or wax prevents silicones from entering pores and migrating.

A wall should be brushed down with a wire brush to remove loose particles. Then it must be thoroughly saturated with water. A fine spray from a garden hose will do this. The wetter the wall, the deeper the silicones can penetrate.

A first coat of this compound (known as Silite SF) is then applied with a scrub brush. This type of brush is recommended because rough-textured masonry soon wears down a paint brush and paint brushes are more expensive. After the first coat has dried for four to 10 hours, a second coat can be applied with a paint brush.

Although this compound is available in pastel shades of rose, buff, gray and green, as well as white, it can be painted over with any type and color of paint. The manufacturers say that a silicone coating even makes it practicable to wallpaper a cellar wall.

The cost of waterproofing a cellar with an area of 800 square feet—aside from repair materials, — is estimated at about \$40. The more porous the material, however, the more paint is needed, because porous materials, such as concrete or cinder blocks allow the silicones to penetrate deeper in their water-chasing and waterproofing processes.

Stop Taking Harsh Drugs for Constipation

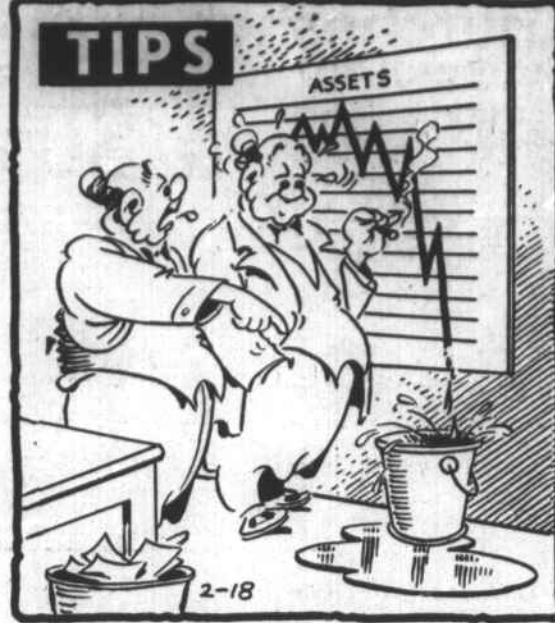
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WITH the 4-H'ERS

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Prizes in the amount of \$5,000 will be awarded to the winners of an essay contest sponsored by the National Grange and American Plant Food Council. All young people under 21 years of age are eligible to compete. The title is "Building Fertility to Cut Farm Costs." No application blank is necessary. Just prepare and submit an essay not longer than 800 words on the subject mentioned. The deadline is March 31, 1954. Your completed essay should be turned over to the county agent's office or any other agricultural office. The paper will be judged on practical application of subject matter, effectiveness of presentation, originality of presentation, spelling, punctuation and grammatical correctness. First prize is \$500 cash.

Louis Kelley, Newport, is the proud owner of a new litter of purebred Hampshire pigs. Louis owns a purebred Hampshire gilt given to him by the 4-H Pig Chain. There were eight pretty pigs in the litter born last week. Louis has done an excellent job of feeding and managing his swine project. He was the county winner for 1953 in the Meat Animal Project. The gilt was placed in the Blue Ribbon Class at the fair in Beaufort last September. Louis has been able to do a good job because he has the cooperation and backing of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Kelley, in his livestock work.

Several 4-H members have asked about getting calves for projects recently. Bobby Sellers and Walton Gillikin of the Smyrna Club, and William R. Lewis of the Camp Glenn Club have indicated interest in securing dairy heifers. James Meares of the Smyrna Club said he wanted a beef heifer. The county agent's office will be glad to help make arrangements for 4-H boys and girls to secure calves and pigs.

Word has just been received that Carteret 4-H members will camp with Cherokee County at Camp Swannanoa August 16-21. Camp Swannanoa is near Asheville in the western part of the state. Members attending Camp Schaub near Waynesville last year will recall the good time everyone had during the week's vacation in the mountains. There will be more information on 4-H Camp later.

The February 4-H meetings were well attended and most of the members enjoyed the program on "Planting Red Cedar Trees for Christmas Trees." Mr. W. T. Ellison Jr., forestry specialist, was present for the Newport, Atlantic, and Harkers Island meetings. He told the members how to plant, grow, manage, and sell the trees to

return a nice profit for the time, investment, and labor required.

4-H members wanting red cedar trees can order them through the county agent's office. The cost is \$3.50 per 1000 trees.

Last week the Camp Glenn Jr. and Intermediate 4-H officers presided over the Camp Glenn Club meetings unusually well. Special recognition should go to Laura Adams, secretary of Camp Glenn Intermediate and Mary Ann Swain, Intermediate club member. Mary Ann presided in the absence of the club president, Jane Oglesby.

The junior officers had a good meeting too and special mention goes to Frieda Hansley, president, and Freddy Willis, secretary.

Learning to preside over a club meeting properly is part of 4-H club work and gives all members an opportunity to see correct club procedure in action. Secretaries learn to write minutes of meetings and to present these correctly. In January a 4-H Officers Guide book, with duties of all officers and outline for writing minutes, and suggestions for presiding over meetings, was distributed. It looks as if Camp Glenn 4-H officers are using their guides.

Things Worthwhile
"To all club members, old and new, Here's a word of advice to you; Don't delay—begin today. Put your record the easy way. Keep down each day what you have done,

Recording well the victories won; Don't try to cover or hide defeat, Just have the spirit that can't be beat. Work hard, keep records, and do your best. Then you won't have to worry about the rest."
—Joyce McCrary, Mississippi.

Farmers Find Deer-Calf Running in Pasture

Webber, Kan. (AP) — They've tagged it a "dow"—but Tom Fulton and his son T. H. Fulton, Jewell County farmers don't know for sure whether the new calf is what it looks like, half deer and half calf.

The 80-pound animal, found frisking in a pasture, had fawnlike markings and is thin-legged though it otherwise resembles a calf.

While the Fultons report seeing deer with cows on their farm livestock experts at Kansas State College say they don't believe cows and deer inter-breed.

Herodotus says that the ancient Egyptians kneaded their dough with their feet and their clay with their hands.



Feb. 17—Mrs. David Willitt spent last week with her aunt, Mrs. Jimmie Hagan and family, at Havelock. She also made a business trip to New Bern.

Mrs. Clyde Rose is spending a few days with her daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. William Duke, at Wilmington.

Quite a number of people went over to Harkers Island Sunday to hear Bobbie Jenkins, the 19-year-old Pentecostal Holiness preacher.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Nielson and daughter have returned from an extended trip to Birmingham, Ala., where they have been visiting Mrs. Nielson's parents.

Mrs. Mildon Lewis is spending a few months in El Paso, Texas, with her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Mildon Lewis, Jr.

Mr. M. V. Taylor and son, Buman, have started working on the foundation of T. A. Taylor's new fish house.

Gerlitta Gaskill has gone to Florida for a few months.

Mr. and Mrs. Jasper Daniels, Mrs. Hallet Ward Styron and Miss Elva Saller motored over to Cedar Island Sunday afternoon. They attended a baptism service for Dallas Goodwin and his Canadian bride, who have recently arrived there.

Edward Smith, USCG, is spending a few days with his parents, the Rev. and Mrs. T. C. Smith.

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