

TECHNICAL NOTES

FOREST PRODUCTS LABORATORY

U. S. FOREST SERVICE

MADISON, WISCONSIN

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No. D-7

QUARTER-SAWED OAK CHAIR POSTS AT PLAIN-SAWED PRICES

By proper handling at the rip saw, a plain-sawed oak board can be cut so as to yield a slight amount of true quarter-sawed and a large amount of semiquarter-sawed material. All of this material is suitable for bending; in fact, tests by the Forest Products Laboratory, Madison, Wis., in cooperation with a large chair manufacturer, have shown that the semiquarter-sawed stock can be bent in the hot-plate bender with less surface checking than either the true quarter-sawed or the plain-sawed stock. This is of particular significance to the chair manufacturer, for it means that the purchase of 2-inch quarter-sawed oak plank for chair-post stock is unnecessary.

A common type of back post is 1 inch by 2 inches in cross section, with the quarter-sawed surfaces appearing in the front and back, or narrow faces. Considerable saving may be effected by the selection of as much true and partly quarter-sawed back-post stock as possible from a 1-inch plain-sawed oak board. The flat grained portion of the board may then be used for other chair parts where the flaked surfaces are not essential.

When the chair part to be bent is square, as is frequently the case, it is obviously unnecessary to purchase any quarter-sawed material at all. An entire plain-sawed board can be worked up into quarter-sawed parts.