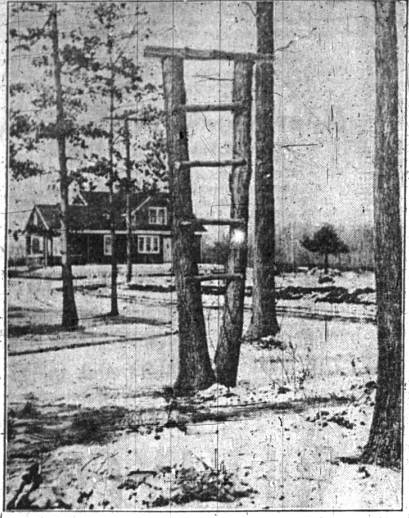


THE HOME BEAUTIFIER

Flowers and Shrubbery

Their Care and Cultivation

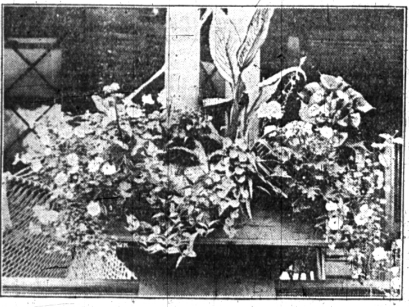


Before the work of spring commences, look over the grounds and make some beauty spots—Dead trees can be cut partially down and made to form artistic and decorative trellises for either rose bushes or vines.

BEAUTIFYING THE HOME

Every country home may be beautiful, but in order to have it so there must be co-operation by the whole family. From the "garden" down to the trifling tot, there should be responsibilities shouldered, and none should be allowed to shirk their part of the program.

Stock must be fenced off the yard



THE VERANDA BOX

An ideal veranda box is planted with roses down its center, and the remaining space filled with standard, climbing and drooping annuals.

The veranda box should be 15 inches wide, ten inches deep and 18 inches high. There are many plans for every square foot of the bottom of the box; then put in a layer of broken crockery, pebbles or clinders for drainage.

Roses thrive best in a rich but firm soil; therefore, stiffen the soil with clay, and enrich with well rotted cow manure.

Plant the roses, if tea; six inches apart, and if hybrids, twice that distance, and firm the soil well about them. Place the boxes where they will get the sun most of the day.

SELF-SOWING ANNUALS

Plant self-sowing annuals among your bulbs and avoid the trouble of seeding plants. There are many plans for the purpose, which once planted, will come up evermore.

For blue, there are Ageratum, blue perfection, cornflowers and Nicotiana glauca. There are many more in Miss Jeckell; for yellow, calliopsis and California poppy; for white snow on the mountain (Raphanistrum), charming with cut flowers. Where the plants will not interfere with some scheme, there are annual larkspur and Shirley poppies.

The stakes for the garden—for those plants which will not stand erect alone—should be invisible.

Stakes, even green ones, are always conspicuous and the strings which tie the plants to them almost always change the natural position of the stalks and spoil the grace of the plant. The difficulty may be overcome in large measure by the use of brush instead of stakes. Select pieces with plenty of side branches of like in that they back if they are too long. The brush is soon hidden by the leaves and supports the plants in a natural position. There is also no danger of the flower stalk snapping as it is not so against a string.

Have plenty of light colors which look so pretty in the twilight. Blossoms with a tinge of purple in their blue come soft shades of blue in that light. Flowers with a pale blue tint, such as delphinium Belladonna, are more than beautiful in the waning hours of twilight.

One can learn much from watching the lovely stamens blossoms of the

LETTER FROM THE STATE CAPITOL

WOULD HAVE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE INVESTIGATE RATE INCREASE.

SYMONDS WANTS ALL FACTS

Grand Rapids Solon Introduces Bill to Strengthen Regulation of Wages and Children's Employment.

[By Gurd M. Hayes.] Lanning—That the work of investigating the case submitted by the railways in Michigan in support of their plea for authority to increase passenger rates will be delegated to the attorney general's office, is the latest action of the legislature, which was inspired by the campaign for two and one-half cent fares.

Rep. Charles D. Symonds who is championing the interests of the people in the legislature, admitted Wednesday that such a plan was a probability in the near future. Mr. Symonds is the Michigan member who, single handed led the campaign for the four year term in the house to force the two-cent rate for the upper peninsula roads. In the present issue he has not what might be termed irreconcilable anti-railway sentiments. He has demanded from the first that both sides of the case be heard before a judgment is rendered by the house or senate and this, he has explained is the basis for his contentions of a measure to refer the matter to the attorney general's office for investigation, report and recommendation.

It was Rep. Symonds who several days ago put in a resolution to place the railway commission under the railway commission. He withdrew it at that time out of deference to legislative courtesy and rather than antagonize the railway commission. He has a resolution ready for introduction now, but he admitted when the question was put point blank that it probably never would be introduced.

From the statements of the governor and at least two members of the railway commission that have been reported to the attorney general, it is inclined to doubt whether an investigation by the commission would bring out what he demands shall be said before legislative action is taken. The sentiment expressed by the commission according to Mr. Symonds indicates an inclination to favor an increase in rates, and he is not sure that he will not want the matter left to the judge or jury committed to one side or the other, before both sides are given a hearing.

"Any lawyer knows that half a truth in law is sometimes very dangerous if the other side does not get the omission," said Mr. Symonds. "Every fact submitted by the railways may be correct. But have they submitted all the facts? Would not some additional information throw quite a different light on the subject? In trying a lawsuit one never is anxious to parade information detrimental to one's cause. We want to know the other side to that. That's just the point here. It is up to some one to see not only if the data of the companies is correct but whether they have stated the facts bearing on the subject. Naturally any individual or group of individuals who start with the commission, should be in a position to give what the legislature wants."

"I don't know just how the matter will be worked out," he continued, "but I am informed his own records for years back contain a mass of information and data bearing on the subject. He is a rather well informed man. I think he will be glad to give what the legislature wants."

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AMONG THE FLOWERS

One fine plant is worth a dozen sickly, dyspeptic ones.

Mixed hyacinths—saner for the outdoor planting but separate colors are inexpensive.

The Roman hyacinth, for early potting, will give bloom for the holidays, and is satisfactory for outdoor planting.

Plant crocuses anywhere; they never out of place. Many of the cheap or bulbs are very fine for borders, and for the house.

Don't buy varieties of soft bulbs if you want good results. The bulbs which are hard and heavy.

Try geraniums as fine house plants with beauty of both flower and foliage. Give them a small pot. For the first year their growth is slow.

bill are almost identical with the general bill suggested by the State Federation of Women's clubs which Mr. DeBoer is putting into correct form for introduction and will be sent up next week.

This bill cuts out the exempting clause affecting canning factories and makes these industries subject to the forty-four hour limitation on women. The bill also provides that no female under the age of eighteen shall be employed more than forty-eight hours a week.

It increases the age working limit for children from fourteen to sixteen years and changes the provision of the law which it prescribes that children may work by special permit between the ages of fourteen to sixteen years to provide for permits only between the ages of fifteen and eighteen years.

Stringent regulations are thrown around the employment of children by permit. Indeed the real work is done so thick as to indicate almost a desire to prohibit the employment of little ones. Under this bill permits for children between the ages of fifteen and eighteen years are granted only after the employer has made a written statement of the nature of the employment and the hours of work, and these are approved by the superintendent of schools or the county commissioner of schools. Periodical reports are called for and the bill provides also that when the child has left his or her place of employment, the permit must be returned to the county officer.

There is a provision prohibiting the employment of any child under the age of eighteen on any mine, quarry, tunnel or other place where there are numerous other minor amendments suggested which are designed to preserve life, health and morals of children and foster their education.

The boiler bill died a painless death Tuesday afternoon, in the house when the majority in favor of the bill voted 34 to 34 to relegate it to the legislative graveyard. The effort to reconsider this vote for the purpose of tabling the bill was defeated by a vote of fifteen to fifteen. The bill was introduced by Mr. DeBoer, a member of the legislature, who is a member of the legislature.

TERSE BUT CLEVER TALK ON TILLAGE

The Object of Harrowing Should Be to Simply Drag the Surface, Pulverize the Soil and Kill Weeds.

[By WILLIAM A. FRETHERICK.] Did you ever realize the large number of topics included under tillage, such as preparation of land, seeding, care of crop, kinds of crop in order to improve the mechanical condition of the soil?

This is in its broadest sense, of course. The narrower view of the subject would include, strictly speaking, plowing, harrowing, cultivating and rolling, and such operations.

The advantages of fall plowing are: It facilitates the putting in of the crop to have a portion of the spring work done in the fall, thus the frost and other elements tend to pulverize the land; all soils, but particularly a stiff, clayey one, will then retain moisture better.

When grass lands are top dressed with manure, spring plowing, especially on light soils, is preferable for the same reason. The manure is broken down early; the coarser manure is removed out of the way of cultivation; the liquid will have had time to leach

into the soil; weeds are not liable to get a good start; and no hatching is much less severe.

Try both methods on your farm and carefully note results. Comparison with your neighbors might prove valuable also.

Plow in your manure, unless the soil is such nature as to render this impossible. Work gradually to a greater depth. The land so treated will conserve moisture better, holding greater rainfall.

The object of harrowing should be to simply drag the surface, pulverize the soil, kill weeds, and put in grass seeds in the very best condition.

Shallow and frequent cultivation is best. Deep cultivation is death to a good root growth.

It requires more judgment to do rolling at the proper time and in the proper way, than to use any other implement on the farm. Compact the soil just before the arrival of the snow. It is imperative that the land be harrowed immediately after rolling.

SOIL FERTILITY IN BRUSH AND WEEDS

Phosphorus Compound, a Most Essential Element, Formed by Their Decay.

Last (BY H. H. STEPHENS.) elder bushes growing near the walk was cut away. One evening in the summer, after a shower had made the soil very moist, the bushes were found to be covered with something glowing at this point.

Through boyish curiosity they dug up the glowing particles and found the phosphorus compound which is formed by the decay of the bushes. The stump had died and "returned to dust," or had been decomposed to earthy elements and compounds in one short year.

This glowing substance in the elder stump and in many other decomposing plants is a valuable fertilizer, one of the most essential things for the best soil fertility, and one which is now being extensively used in the commercial form as rock phosphate.

But there is a good farm lesson in this. If it gives up phosphorus through decay, then it becomes a valuable fertilizer, one which we cannot afford to burn up or throw away.

And if the elder bushes contain phosphorus, then weeds and grasses contain it. They also contain potash and other needed elements for growing good crops of feed and food.

It is a fact that the soil is enriched by an old fence row when cleaned up and plowed for a crop is very fertile soil. The reason for this is that many different plants, such as weeds, grasses, etc., in this old fence row drew up phosphorus, potash, lime and many other mineral elements from deep down in the soil.

Through the decay of the stumps and roots of this soil will grow these valuable fertilizer elements and compounds which lie in the surface soil for feeding the crops.

On many farms all weeds, bushes and wild growths are cut and burned. The farmers are not interested in burning such things means to rid the soil of their fertilizing value. The better way is to plow the smaller brush, such as weeds and grasses, and to use the larger trash for filling in needless ditches and gullies.

Here, covered with soil, they will stock feed in the soil with just such compounds as the growing crops are in need of. And, besides, all weeds and trash plowed under or used for filling in ditches, means to rid the soil of their fertilizing value. The better way is to plow the smaller brush, such as weeds and grasses, and to use the larger trash for filling in needless ditches and gullies.

The farmer who maintains and increases the fertility of the soil he tends must use every means for giving back to the soil the large amounts of waste vegetable matter.

This can be done most economically by making weeds, brush and all manner of trash contribute their share.

High Producers. According to experiments carried on at the Maine station, high producers are not nearly always reproducers of high producers. Medium producers produce more high producers.

FRESHNESS OF EGG IS NOT IMPORTANT

First Chicks Secured From Eggs Allowed to Accumulate for Several Days.

It has been known that in every hatch some eggs hatch first. The farmer's opinion, considered not an opinion, but a fact, has been that the freshest eggs hatch earliest, but a correspondent of the American Poultry Association writes that he has found just the contrary to be the case. He traps the hens from whom he secures the hatching eggs, stamps the shells, and then hatches each egg upon the shell, or also stamps upon the shell the date of putting into the incubator.

Last season, a little before filling the incubator, he tried to mark the eggs laid that day so as to test out the theory of early hatching. The results were as follows: The first hatching chick was found to be the one laid on the 15th of the month. The second hatching chick was found to be the one laid on the 16th of the month. The third hatching chick was found to be the one laid on the 17th of the month. The fourth hatching chick was found to be the one laid on the 18th of the month. The fifth hatching chick was found to be the one laid on the 19th of the month. The sixth hatching chick was found to be the one laid on the 20th of the month. The seventh hatching chick was found to be the one laid on the 21st of the month. The eighth hatching chick was found to be the one laid on the 22nd of the month. The ninth hatching chick was found to be the one laid on the 23rd of the month. The tenth hatching chick was found to be the one laid on the 24th of the month.

PALATABILITY OF DIFFERENT FEEDS

Care in Preserving Feeding Crops Will Add Much to Their Nutritive Value.

When animals are confined in a stable and must eat what is placed before them or starve, husbandmen tend to eat things which are not suitable to their needs.

The manure requires of condimental feed, and the quality of the value of palatability of feeds, and mixtures of feeds, such as corn, clover, alfalfa, timothy, etc., are of great importance. It is better to have a few pounds of good feed than a large quantity of unpalatable feeds.

The average dairy farmer fails to take proper care in preserving his feeding crops in such condition that they will be most palatable and digestible. If not palatable, they will not be eaten, and if they are not digestible they will produce no results.

Much of the coarse fodder and fodder given his cows finds its way into the manure heap without being eaten. This is because the cows did not like it, and what is eaten fails to nourish them as it should, for the reason that it is indigestible.

The milk yield is one of the necessary implements in the dairy barn, but it should be used to weigh the feed as well as the milk.

Have Cows Dry.

Ducks must have a house that is free from drafts and dry. It is better to have the roof low, and to have the floor raised above the ground (as far as possible) to prevent splashing in cold weather. Ducks get rheumatism if their sleeping quarters are damp.

Necessary Dairy Implements. The milk yield is one of the necessary implements in the dairy barn, but it should be used to weigh the feed as well as the milk.

Good Never Gets Fat.

The cow dairy cow seldom gets too fat while she is in milk.



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OVERWORK AND KIDNEY TROUBLE

Mr. James McDaniel, Oakley, Ky., writes: "I overworked and strained myself, which brought on Kidney and Bladder Disease. My symptoms were Backache and burning in the stomach, the head-ache, which was sore and had a constant burning all the time. I broke down, tired, nervous, prostrated, and could not see, and could not eat. I was treated by a physician, but he could not cure me. I started to use Dodd's Kidney Pills, and now feel that I am permanently cured by the use of Dodd's Kidney Pills."

Dodd's Kidney Pills, 50c per bottle, at your dealer or Dr. J. C. Catalogue, Buffalo, N. Y. Write for Household Hints, also sample of National Anthem (English and German) and the recipe for diabetic dishes. All free—Adv.

A Mean Man. "I've known him anticipate your every move. You, and then he says I can't have it."

A POTATO KING

"If I were a farmer boy, a boy without capital, and wanted an early crop of potatoes, I would start with the 'Potato King' and 'Henry Schreiber,' the potato raised by the Red River Valley, and the John A. Salton Seed Co. Catalogue reads rather as follows: 'The 'Potato King' is a new variety of the seed potato, raised from a warm barn, a level best potato king!'"

CORN.

Who placed the corn in the O. R. A. map, was Salton Seed Co. Catalogue, Buffalo, N. Y. Write for Household Hints, also sample of National Anthem (English and German) and the recipe for diabetic dishes. All free—Adv.

For 10c in Postage

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"CASCRE'S" OF THE LIVER, BOWELS

No sick headache, biliousness, bad taste or constipation by morning.

Get a 10-cent box. Are you keeping your bowels lively, and stomach clean, pure and fresh? Cascre's is a necessity for every family. It is a purgative every day with Salts, Cathartic Pills, Castor Oil or Purgative Waters.

After having a bowel wash day, let Cascre's thoroughly cleanse and regulate the stomach, remove the sour and fermenting food and foul gases. The excess bile from the liver and entry into the system all the constipated waste matter and poisons in the bowels.

A Cascre's tonight will make you feel great by morning. They work while you sleep—never griped, never cause any inconvenience, and cost only 10 cents a box from your store.

A little girl gave a children's party the other day to eight of her young friends. She was very anxious that everything should be done properly, and had before the arrival of the guests was discussing matters with her mother.

"No," said mamma, "it will be a very informal dinner, and I think the best of all. But no harm. It is imperative that the land be harrowed immediately after rolling."

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