GARDENING

"You've got to dig from week to week
To get Results or Roses."
—Edgar A. Guest.

WHILE APRIL RAIN WENT BY
Under a budding hedge I hid
While April rain went by,
But little drops came slipping through,
Fresh from a laughing sky:

A-many little scurrying drops,
Laughing the song they sang,
Soon found me where I sought to hide,
And pelted me with Spring.

And I lay back and let them pelt,
And dreamt deliciously
Of lusty leaves and lady-blossoms
And baby buds I'd see

When April rain had laughed the land
Out of its wintry way,
And coaxed all growing things to greet
With gracious garb the May.
—SHARMAS O'SHEEL
in "The Light Feet of Goats."

S. Earl Smith, of 385 East Maple avenue, whose interest in flowers attracted him to this little column devoted to the gardener, offers the following article on annual flowers:

An one can grow flowers from seed. It requires only patience. One plants the little black seed of a snap-dragon, waits for it to germinate, grow into a healthy plant and mature into gorgeous flower. The patience required in waiting is quite forgotten in the opportunity of having grown such a flower with only the help of God.

Because annual flowers last only a year and have to be planted each Spring season, I believe every person, beginner and old-timer, will find more success with annuals from seed than with any other species of flower. More colors can be produced in the annuals and the flowers and plants blend with the landscape. They offer a greater variety of cut flowers and more blossoms than most plants provide can be cut from them.

After you have prepared your soil by spading it well, pulverize it with a rake until you have a sort of mulch on top. Next, plant your rows of seeds from 18 to 24 inches apart, depending, of course, on the flower seed. When the flower has grown up through the soil and has from three to five leaves showing is the best time to thin out the rows. After that, not neglecting to water them regularly, all that is necessary is to keep the soil well stirred up and free of weeds.

About 180,000 persons attended the North American Flower Show at Convention Hall in Detroit, according to the estimate of Thomas L. Berry, manager of the show, who announced at its close Saturday that the attendance set a record over last year when 159,035 swarmed through the artificial forests and gardens.

Visitors this year were particularly attracted to the magnificent display of orchids from the Dale Estate at Brampton, Ont., the exhibitions of spring flowers and the shrub and nursery displays. Rose day on Mar. 19, and the interest shown by hundreds of children in the metropolitan area gave evidence of the increasing popularity of the annual show.

Officials of the Detroit show will attend the National Flower Show to be held in Minneapolis and the Cleveland Flower Show this week.

Loosen up the soil around trees and bush fruits as soon as the frost is out of the ground, provided the soil is not too wet. Some fertilizer may be worked into the soil at this time.

Be sure to get any necessary grading or finishing done first, for a neat lawn is the result of a well prepared foundation. A good roller is almost indispensable, not only for preparing new lawns but for "ironing out" old ones before they get "set" in dry weather.

Smooth out the irregularities in the lawn caused by the spring thaws by rolling both lengthwise and crosswise.

Start drawing your garden plan for the vegetables. If you had one last year you will find some changes that can be made to advantage. Don't grow the same vegetables in the same place again this year.

Bird Houses

Bird houses intended for use this year should be set up immediately. If they have been newly painted or just constructed, there is little chance of them attracting any tenants. They should have sufficient time to weather, preferably over winter, so as to appear as a permanent part of the landscape.

Wren houses seem more attractive to these birds when they are suspended from a tree or pole. If placed on an upright post they are seldom used. The entrance should be about the size of a quarter, which prevents the English sparrow from taking possession.

Vegetables

Exact planting dates for flowers and vegetables can not safely be given but a reliable general rule is to plant hardy vegetables such as radishes, onions, lettuce, peas, carrots, beets and the like when plum and peach trees are in bloom or when the temperature averages 45 degrees in the shade. About the only flowers which may be planted this early are sweet peas, which should be put out as soon as the ground is at all workable, and poppies, which may be sown broadcast over a late spring snow if desired. Tender vegetables and flowers should not be planted out until all danger of frost is over.

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SALLY'S SALLIES

When a girl looks terribly simple she is really simply terrible.

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wanted most in life was the other. They proposed to go away together.

"I agreed to their proposal. I hoped that my wife's ultimate happiness would be found with me and our child.

"I agreed on condition that it be regarded experimentally. I believed that if the experimental method is scientifically valid in the laboratory, it ought to have a certain validity in life.

"I further assured my wife that if she desired, after a month of this experiment, to leave me and the baby permanently she should have that privilege.

"I further told her that if she discovered finally that she wanted to return and resume life with me I would do everything in my power to make that life agreeable.

"Nearly three weeks passed without any communication. On Mar. 13, I had letters from Bernuda expressing her growing desire to return to Detroit. That same evening a radio message arrived from her. She asked me to communicate with her in Havana.

Wires Wife

"I again told her that so far as I was concerned I would welcome her back, if she had decided that the thing she wanted most in life was what I had offered her.

"Shortly before receiving my wife's last telegram, I received word by telephone from friends that after her departure from Miami Newton had shot himself.

"I have never questioned the honesty of purpose of either Newton or my wife in their experiment. I hope it will be possible for others to regard the matter in the same light.

"The resumption of our former life may not be easy at once. Granting the same honesty of purpose that has characterized the entire proceedings up to the present time, I see no reason, however, why we should not carry on with even greater confidence in each other and more mutual happiness than we have enjoyed in the past years of our marriage.

"Newton was very charming. He was gay, and he spent money readily. I can understand why my wife was attracted by him. He could give her a certain escape from routine.

"My wife has always been strongly individualist. She has a strong personality.

"I did what I did because I loved her. I still love her.

Left in Daze

"I might have become dramatic. I might have made a scene when they told me everything. But that would have been useless.

"I might have forbidden my wife ever to see Newton again. I might have done any of a number of things. But I believe my wife would always have felt that she had been denied the real love of her life. I did what I did because I loved her, still love her.

"I have been walking and working in a daze, almost in my sleep. There has only been one thing on my mind," he said.

"You can well imagine how I felt when I first heard from my wife. She said she was happy and everything was getting along all right. I had only my hopes."

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dren. The three artists will complete the presenting the following program:

The Sunrise Call (Zuni)—Carlos Troyer.
Ho! Ye Warriors (Omaha)—Charles Cadman.
Chant of the Four Hills (Omaha)—Homer Grunn.

TSIANINA

Indian dances and songs, Animal Calls.

EVERGREEN TREE

On a Cloud I will Ride—Grunn.
Lover's Proposal—Troyer.
By Weeping Waters—Lieurance.

TSIANINA

Story of the Hunter and Bird Imitations—Evergreen Tree.
Arias from Cadman's Opera "Shanewis"; Spring song of the Robin Woman, Canoe Song—Cadman.

TSIANINA

The ticket sale is under the direction of Mrs. Norman Lyle, who is being assisted by the following committeemen: Mrs. Stowe D. Baldwin, Mrs. Francis Bagby, Mrs. I. J. Osbun, Mrs. F. W. Boynton, Mrs. Latta Porter, Mrs. John Gordon, Mrs. R. J. Hetrick, Mrs. W. W. Raymond and Mrs. C. H. Bangs Ushers will be C. H. Bangs, W. Whiting Raymond, Herbert Zerbe, and H. H. Gardner.

Crowd Expected At Masonic Dance

A large crowd at the next Masonic dinner dance, which will be held Apr. 4 in the Community House, is indicated by the number of tickets which have already been sold, according to Stockton King, a member of the dance committee. Floral decorations will screen the orchestra and roses will adorn the tables which will be placed in the Men's lounge and the auditorium.

Committee members, who will supply tickets to all Masons wishing to attend are Arthur Mason, chairman, Mr. King, and Charles Olin, representing the Birmingham Lodge No. 44, F. and A. M., and A. L. Hull, William Cassidy, and Alvin Mudge, representing the Birmingham chapter, No. 93 R. A. M., B. J. Meirow and Harry Mudge will also distribute tickets.

Burglars who stole jewelry worth $3,000 from Lady Jane Furness of London overlooked $120,000 worth of gems in her dresser.

Villagers and the Village

By THE WANDERER

Mrs. John C. Ford, mother of Mrs. H. J. Stringham, came all the way from Chicago to attend the performance of "The Streets of New York," presented Friday and Saturday by the Village Players and her interest was more than mere entertainment (although "The Streets of New York" was by no means mere entertainment.)

Forty-five years ago Mrs. Ford played the part of Alida in the performance of the play at Battle Creek where she was a member of a home-talent company which produced the play. Her interest therefore, in comparing the two performance was a personal one, for her daughter, Mrs. Stringham as one of the directors of the local presentation, was largely responsible for its success.

Mrs. Ford expressed particular appreciation of the lighting, stage effects, and "props" used in the performance here. "Things have changed, of course," she said. "The 'snow storm' in the play last night was more real. In the play I was in the 'snow' was thrown down upon the actors, by hand. I do not recall how we managed the 'fire scene.'"

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played by G. Essen Olson, and he are discussing his past knaveries and his present intention, when an honest, old sea captain, named Fairweather (W. G. Wall) enters and entrusts his life savings, which amount to $100,000, to Bloodgood's keeping, receiving in return a receipt. Ruing his action, however, he returns a half hour later and demands his money back. Bloodgood objects, and in the scuffle that ensues, Fairweather suffers a stroke of apoplexy and dies. Badger and Bloodgood gives, as a silencer, $3,000 to Badger, who disappears, and with the remainder of the fortune rebuilds his credit.

Mr. Olson, in the part of Badger, plays very effectively the role of a good natured rake who has no pecuniary conscience, but who has a soft spot in his heart for the poor and friendless. He does not hesitate to close his ledger dramatically without entering the Captain Fairweather's $100,000 deposit, when Bloodgood hints how the money may be used to their common advantage. Nor does he hesitate to enter a burning house to find the hidden receipt in order to restore a wronged family to its rightful possessions. His part throughout the play, calling for long asides and rather clever acting, is an entertaining one, and extremely well taken.

That Diabolical Laugh

The second act opens, 20 years later, during the Panic of 1857, in the public square below Bloodgood's bank, which is now at the left of the stage. An apothecary's shop is in the background. Many new characters are introduced—Alida Bloodgood, (Mrs. Loren Stauch), Bloodgood's cold and cruel daughter; Mrs. Fairweather (Mrs. D. C. Murray) her charming daughter, Lucy, (Mrs. Richards), her son, Paul, (Julian Case), the delightful Puffy family, whose parts are played by Harry G. Muehlman, Mrs. Charles Asper, and J. Rodney Weeks; and our noble hero, Mark Livingstone, played by Dr. Hassberger. Here the Fairweathers, the Puffys and Mark are revealed to be in great financial distress, all owing to the dishonesty and cruelty of Bloodgood, who does not cease to demand that notes be paid without delay, and to laugh his diabolical laugh at all pleas for delay.

In the home of Bloodgood, in Act III, the unpleasant character of Alida is again made manifest. She is determined to have Mark for a husband in order to lend the prestige of the Livingstone name to the Bloodgood millions. Mark, however, loves Lucy, and Lucy cherishes for him a tender and noble passion, which she denies when she finds she is standing in the way of his fortune. At this critical point, the rakish Badger returns, flaunts the 20 year old receipt in Bloodgood's face, and demand $5,000, which he subsequently raises to $50,000 when he finds the Fairweather heirs.

"Then Came—the Snow"

An effective scene in Act IV shows two adjoining attic rooms, where the principal characters adjourn after shivering in the preceding act in a very effective snow storm in the public square. In a scene of beautiful devotion and heroic self sacrifice, mother and daughter attempt to asphyxiate themselves over a charcoal burner. Just as they lose consciousness Paul and Mark burst in and carry them to the fresh air outdoors. At the same time, Badger, in an adjoining room, is also overcome, just as Bloodgood enters to pay the $50,000 demanded, and is about to reveal the hiding place of the receipt when he lapses into unconsciousness.

We are next transported to a delightful suburban home in Brooklyn Heights, where Mark, by means of his newly acquired wealth, as fiance of Alida, has established the Fairweathers and the Puffys. Mark, discovering that Lucy's love for him has been constant, renounces the haughty Alida (not present). At this moment, a fire is espied in the distance, and Badger, now known as a benefactor of the Fairweather family, realized that Bloodgood, unable to find the receipt, has set fire to the house. He dashes out, determined to get the receipt.

The Great Fire

We find ourselves next in the street before the burning house. A lurid red gleams from within, and flames burst from every window. The wicked Bloodgood comes from the house, and laughing his diabolical laugh, rejoiced that now the receipt will be destroyed. But he has reckoned without Badger, who, heroically reckless, dashes into the house and rescues the document. The scene, while short, is very attractive, and a fine piece of staging. The last act finds us back in Bloodgood's house. The proud Alida, attired in bridal robes, awaits her promised husband, with the members of her wedding party, whom we meet for the first time. The Duke of Calcavella (Rolfe Spinning) as Alida's lover, is there as well as Lane Bishop, Sam Garber, and E. W. Shattuck, the gentlemen, Mrs. Sam Garber and Mrs. Harold Roehm, the bridesmaids. Mark enters to announce that he will not wed Alida, and presents her with letters written to Calcavella. Badger denounces Bloodgood and, producing the receipt, has Bloodgood arrested. Paul Fairweather is announced as heir to all. He is generous, however, and when he sees Bloodgood troubled by his daughter's fate, has him released and his property restored, with the exception of the $100,000. The curtain rings down when the marriage ceremony is about to be performed for Mark and Lucy.

Explosive asides, melodramatic speeches and gestures, and striking facial expressions all contributed to make this play a true melodrama of the Civil War period. In harmony with the spirit of the play, actors entertained the audience between acts with songs and speeches in the style popular in 1857. A curtain, featuring comic advertisements of players brought ripples of mirth from an already joyous audience, and a special issue of The Birmingham Eccentric, telling of the remarkable rise to stardom of Mr. Lefebvre, were causes of unanimous amusement.

Great credit for the smoothness of the performance must be given to the directors and members of the properties' committee, Mrs. Ruth Sanders, Mrs. Harry Muehlman, and Mrs. Ernest Chapin.

(Concluded 6 from Page 1)

at a successful stag smoker given under the direction of W. Whiting Raymond.

Neighborly games and the interesting conversation of men free from the work and worries of the office made the occasion an informal celebration that received so much praise, many members urged the affair be made a monthly event.

In addition to the games, which included bridge, ping pong, dart throwing and indoor horseshoes, the men were entertained with a program of singing by the Birmingham First Presbyterian Church octet under the direction of H. Dean Yocum.

The winners of the prizes for the various games were: Bridge, Chas. Reese and Y. C. Smith; ping pong, Lawrence Colgrove and H. D. Davenport; dart throwing, Mr. Mansfield and Joe Stroup; indoor horseshoe, Mr. Taylor and Walter Elliot.

Assisting Mr. Raymond for the affair were George S. Yaples, executive secretary of the Community House; games committee, Richard Fowler, Henry Hart, R. F. Grindley, W. C. Salisbury, and John Martz; refreshment committee, Kenneth Bingham, Joseph Stroup, James L. Oliver, Harry S. Starr, and Draper Allen; publicity committee, George R. Averill, Walter Elliott, Henry S. Evans, D. L. Woodward, R. M. Atkins, Tom Mills, and B. J. Meirow.

VILLAGER'S BROTHER EXPIRES IN FLORIDA

Funeral services were held yesterday at Inverness, Fla., for Morgan W. Rundel, the brother of Mrs. Robert Fisher, of Birmingham. Mr. Rundel died Monday. Burial was in the Myrtle Hill Cemetery, Tampa, Fla. Besides his widow, Alice, Mr. Rundel leaves two sons, Capt. P. N. Rundel of Huachua, Ariz., and Carl, of Inverness, and a daughter, Mrs. Donald of Los Angeles, Calif.

A bomb found by George Tyler, 9, of Chicago and carried into his home exploded five months later, completely wrecking the house.

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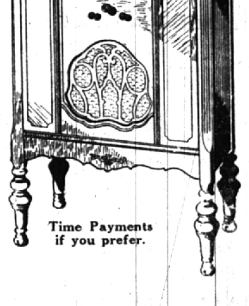

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