

BEAUTIFY YOUR YARD AND GARDEN

Quite Different
"Ha! Ha!" Hingham laughed.
"You poor old henpecked! I saw you yesterday sewing a button on your coat. Ha! Ha!"
Henpecked looked dignified.
"That you did not," he replied with some warmth.
Hingham's face fell. "I tell you I did," he replied, "I saw you with my own eyes over the garden fence."
Henpecked gave a superior smile. "I tell you you didn't," he replied. "It was my wife's coat."
Montreal Star.

Chats With The Master Gardener

A Word About Perennials
I wonder if anyone has ever experimented with a garden of nothing but perennials? ... What a garden that could be!
At the first hint of spring, there'd be crocuses and snowdrops to tell you about it. Then in May, long before most annuals bloom, you'd have tulips and delicate, fragrant lilies of the valley. Then a perfect riot of color, as the peonies and iris burst into flower. June would bring big, creamy-white Shasta daisies. And gorgeous blue-spined larkspur, stretching to match the majestic height of the nearby hollyhocks. July would be dedicated to fuchsias of almost every conceivable color. And here and there a glimp of crimson and gold gailardia. And throughout summer and fall you'd feast your eyes on the cool glory of the gladioli.
Then September—and chrysanthemums! And asters and gorgeous dahlias.

Many other varieties of perennials come from the nursery. But whatever types they were, you would undoubtedly have found that it hardly pays to raise them from seed—that a good, reliable nursery is the place to patronize.

Perennials Also Need Feeding
But just because perennial plants come from the nursery doesn't mean that they don't require feeding, like all other growing things. So you prepare the soil. You should mix in some complete plant food, using a pint to each 25 square feet. And every year it is a good plan to feed your perennials before they start growing, so that you don't injure young shoots.

Apply your food at the rate of one rounded tablespoonful per square foot of surface area. Early feeding will give you earlier bloom, deeper color, and healthy, disease-resistant plants. It means, if the plant food you use contains all eleven elements that growing things need from soil—in scientifically balanced proportions. Fortunately you can get plant food today that leaves no doubt on that score.

Build The New Lawn Right
Here's a thought you may not like at first. It isn't fool safe in bringing it up, because I know you agree with me that a lawn can make or break a garden. Without its expanses of smooth, green turf, your flowers would look lonely and forlorn. So, if your grass has never got a good start, or if it's full of weeds, the chances are you'd better figure on building a new lawn this spring. I know it isn't a pleasant prospect. But I'm sure it's worth it.

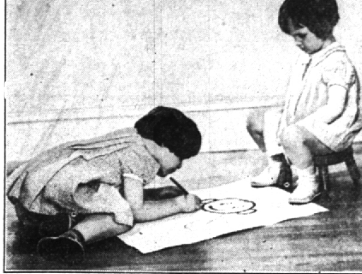
The first thing to do, of course, is to spade up the soil and pulverize it properly with hoe and rake. Then, if it's too sandy, spade in peat moss, or similar material. Or if there's too much clay, mix in some sand or finely sifted ashes.

Then grade your lawn, so that it will carry water away from the house and keep it from collecting in pools. You can tell if you've succeeded by letting the ground settle for a few days so that future low spots will show up.

Feeding Very Important
Next comes the most important step of all—feeding. Very likely your troubles with your old lawn were caused by lack of nourishment in the soil. Your grass wasn't getting all the food elements it needed. It got weaker and thinner, and lost its ability to

The SNAPSHOT GUILD

DON'T INCLUDE TOO MUCH



Close-up viewpoint eliminates furniture, surplus details—makes picture include just what you want, nothing more.

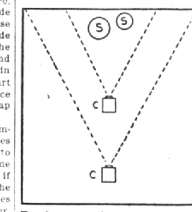
WHEN you snap a picture, do you get close enough to your subject? This is one of the best ways to make your pictures simple and uncluttered. Get close enough to eliminate objects and details that have nothing to do with the picture subject. Let your subject appear large enough to "dominate" the picture.

To make your pictures **light** just enough, and not too much, use your view finder carefully. Decide what you want to take, point the camera at the chosen subject, and move forward until the image in the view finder shows just the part you want. Then judge the distance carefully, focus accurately, and snap the picture.

Most cameras, including box cameras, allow you to snap pictures when you are as near as six to eight feet to your subject. Some focus for closer distances. At this if you slip a portrait attachment on the camera lens, you can snap pictures at three and one-half feet or closer.

When you get a picture that happens to include too much, try trimming it until it looks right. Then have an enlargement made of the picture as trimmed.

Make it a rule to take pictures near enough to exclude everything that does not help your "picture idea." Soon you will find you are getting better pictures.



Too far away, the camera takes in too much. Right distance, it takes in just enough.

think they call for a professional horticulturist, instead of a home gardener, that they are doing wrong. Anyone can grow roses who has a spot in his garden that's sheltered from the west wind and that has good drainage. A bit of clay will help, but it's not necessary.

You can plant roses in early fall or early spring, but I have better luck with spring planting. Be sure the soil is as warm as possible. The ground is workable and danger of frost is past. Dig holes plenty wide and deep enough to spread the roots out well. Cover the plants with soil to an inch above the first crater, mix a complete plant food into the soil around them, according to directions, and water thoroughly.

Early Feeding Essential
With established rose bushes, early feeding is just as important. A well-fed rose plant is larger and much sturdier, and produces better blooms. The first feeding should be given after the protective mulch is removed in the spring, followed by feedings at three to four-week intervals until August 1. Use a heaping tablespoonful of completely balanced plant food around the plant, and water lightly into the soil near the feeder roots.

You see, roses are heavy feeders; they're constantly drawing quantities of food from the soil. Hence, unless elements of food—and that's why they need a complete plant food—one that contains all eleven elements in scientifically balanced proportions.

Another thing that's important about roses is pruning. When planting them, make a sharp knife, and remove all bruised or decayed roots. Then, when the roses are in, cut them out about six to eight inches, and cut about six to eight inches long. Cuts should be made slanting just above a bud. You have to be ruthless about pruning roses—it's the sure way to make them just give you larger blossoms and more of them.

As a rule, established roses do better if you cut them way back every spring. One exception to this rule is bush roses, which only need to have some of the older wood thinned out.

Rambler and Climbers
The Rambler roses—which have small flowers blossoming in clusters—should not be pruned in early spring. The time to prune this type of climber is in summer, after their blooming season is over; cut out all old canes at the base, or to a point where a strong new shoot arises from the old cane. Then, to induce the strong new growth which carries the following year's flowers, make an application of plant food.

What About Annuals?
Quite a lot of people miss out with their annuals because they forget one thing—that most of them are heavy feeders. Of course, there are some you can grow in partial shade. But you'd do well to water if you're growing flowers, forget-me-nots, or pansies. Then, if you happen to live in a particularly dry climate, you can do well to water if you're growing annuals in varieties like celastium, verbena, portulaca, cantarella, scabiosa, larkspur, and gailardia.

Another thing that's often forgotten is that annuals, like any other growing thing, require eleven food elements from soil. If these elements become exhausted, plant failure is likely to result. So the best thing to do is feed a complete plant food when you're preparing the seed bed—a food that supplies all eleven of the vital food elements. Four pounds per 100 square feet is a fine meal for your flowers.

How to Place Annuals
And here's a hint about placing your annuals. Mass them! They look a lot more striking when they're planted in beds and clumps, a number of the same variety together, rather than in long thin lines or scattered here and there. Here's another hint. Flowers are always apt to better advantage if they have a background, such as a green hedge, to make their lovely colors stand out. Woodbine or some other hardy climber on a wooden fence will give you the same effect.

In laying out flower borders, it's important to remember to get them in the right scale for your garden. Remember that if they're less than two feet wide, they don't let you get good mass effects with your flowers, and if they're more than ten or twelve feet wide, they're hard to cultivate. As far as shape is concerned, I think curving outlines are usually more graceful and less monotonous.

Check the Soil
Make sure that your soil is neither very sandy nor too heavy with clay, and pulverize it very thoroughly before planting. Flower seedlings are so tiny that they just can't get along in a cloddy soil. And don't forget! They can't get along without food, either. So be sure they are properly fed—with a complete plant food.

SURGERY BY FLASHLIGHT
A letter received from Los Angeles by Holt resident Dr. O. A. relative undergoing a night operation for acute appendicitis. The doctor, who had been in the middle of the operation, and no kerosene lamp or candles being at hand, a battery flashlight was made for flashlight. These, held over the surgeon's shoulder, enabled him to complete the operation successfully.

The Real Old Stuff
If the fact could have been known during prohibition days, the village of Fenton could have gotten its obsolete town hall torn down for nothing. A short time ago, workmen engaged in tearing down the building discovered a quart of whiskey that had been walled up 66 years ago.

Something in a Name
"After killing a deer, Babe Ruth culls up his trusty fowling piece for another days hunt."—Captions under a new picture. And when he goes after fowl, does the Babe use a peashooter?—Baltimore Evening Sun.

Reading the motor accidents we are led to believe that this industry has the greatest turnover of any.—Atlanta Constitution.

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