

Gardeners' Corner

(This column is conducted for The Eccentric's readers by Mrs. Marc T. Patten, Box 146, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. Gardeners' matters will be addressed to Mrs. Patten and they will be answered in the Gardeners' Corner of directly by mail.)

SEEDS

Have you wondered how long seeds will keep? Under favorable conditions some seeds will still germinate after years; two or three is the average though some keep as long as five and others must be sown within three or four months. Supporting you have some packages left from other years. Let us hope you marked them with the year you got them and so know how long you have had them. Seed is sold the year it is gathered. In the case of gardeners, you should be able to tell whether the old seed is still good. You are pretty safe up to two years. (The seed that has to me sown soon is Gerbera and many other perennial seeds as Delphinium germinate much more easily when fresh.)

You may not know the year and would like to test your seed for germination. You may do this by placing a round white blotter on a saucer, pour a few of your seeds evenly on the blotter and cover with another. Keep the blotter moist, and wait for results. Grass will be up in three days; most other seeds will take two to three weeks, but some slow fellows like parsley take six! Personally I dislike testing seeds as I have to throw them out after they're all germinated, and that's all you can do with them.

Considering the trouble and expense of bringing to maturity a year's crop, it seems foolish to risk using old or inferior seeds. Remember the price of the market of seeds is the cost of the expense involved. An old saying about gardening is to the effect that having a dollar to spend on the garden one should spend ninety cents on soil and fertilizer and ten cents on seeds—but let them be good seeds. We wonder whether it is worth while to save seeds of plants that are not in common cases the answer is, no. The seeds are able to choose seeds from the best plants in many instances the flowers have been hand-pollinated so that both parents of the new plants are known. They are able to practically guarantee seedlings that will be true to color, height and size of bloom. The results come from constant re-selection. A graphic example of the results of selection of the seeds to make a satisfactory plant is the wild carrot. This look generations of carefully selected seeds and yet it carries its wildness to the seed, it will return to the wild state after two generations.

Unless you have the facilities for looking after the young plants it is better to put off any seed sowing until March. This even applies to seeds that are sown in February. The difficulty of satisfying the seedlings, once they are growing for any period of time is practically insurmountable. They become "leggy" or able to stop growing. Better put off your planting a few weeks and then let the plants develop steadily.

EASY GREENS

Speaking of germinating seeds on blotters, brings to mind a pleasant winter pastime—growing greens. Use the variety known as Upland Greens. Sow in a pan made of several thicknesses of bath towel in a soup plate or simply

Foibles of Decade Past Reviewed in 'Since Yesterday'

By LINDO MOORE (Baldwin Public Library)

"Remember when—" It's a favorite indoor sport at the end of a decade. Remember when— When Joan Crawford flickered across the screen in "Our Modern Maidens"? When the gods of fashion decreed that a woman's skirt end at her knees and that her hat be a felt helmet that came down over her nose? When Babe Ruth was undisputed Sultan of Swat? When bootleggers' exploits and news of running stories were routine news in kitchen windows just as well.

SUN-SCALD

It isn't too late to protect broad-leaved evergreens from the burning winter sun. (This includes box, rhododendrons, Daphniphyllum, etc.) Use burlap, evergreen branches or glass wool. Newly planted evergreens do well with protection if you can manage it.

MEETINGS

Royal Oak High School auditorium, Wed., Feb. 22, 8:00 P. M. Harry R. O'Brien "The Plain Dirt Gardener" 50 cents.

Ask 21-Year-Olds To Register Names; Announce Contest

Robert V. Moore, chairman of the Ways and Means committee of the Oakland County Citizenship Day program planned for Sunday, May 19, today issued a statement pertaining to the enrollment of new 21 year old voters.

Object: To obtain an Oakland County emblem and flag as an official emblem of the county. This is the purpose of the contest. The emblem is to be in the form of a shield, 12 inches wide by 7 inches high at the center, done in colors of your own choice. It may contain any kind of material. Design: The emblem must be simple so that it can be reproduced rather easily. Do not use more than two colors. One color must be red, or white or blue. The other may be any color. The emblem may contain one or more symbols relating to Oakland County's history. Note: On the meaning of any symbols used to accompany the design.

Judging: It will be based on two things: (1) The idea presented—value as an Oakland County emblem. (2) The design—value as decoration (color, relationship, material and adaptability to use on a County flag).

Chemical War Vets Will Meet March 2

DETROIT—All war veterans who served with the Chemical Warfare Service are invited to attend a dinner and meeting to be held the evening of March 2 at 104 East Jefferson, Detroit, sponsored by the Veterans' Association of the chemical service. After dinner at 7 p. m., there will be an exhibition at 8 p. m. of gas masks and new developments in that field.

A late find of the tireless archeologist is a buried prehistoric hatchet weighing 145 pounds. Peace-makers must have run large in those times.—Winnipeg Tribune.

Horse Hoisted for Hoof Operation



The horse is hoisted for a hoof operation. The device is used. It's a special hoist developed in Germany for horses who have to undergo hoof operations.

Citizenship Day Executive Group Meets Monday Eve

Members of the general executive committee of the Oakland County Citizenship Day program will meet Monday, Feb. 26, 8 p. m. at the Board of Commerce, Pontiac. It was announced today.

Purpose of the meeting, according to S. V. Norton, guiding light behind the movement, will be a general review of committee work and the confirmation of certain chairmen in reference to their various tasks.

Other business to be taken up includes assigning duties to officers of the various societies which have signed resolutions signifying their wish to cooperate in the big program planned for Sunday, May 19, when an estimated 5,500 new 21 year old voters will be inducted into citizenship.

New organizations signing resolutions during the past week include: American Association of University Women, Rotary Club, Board of Education, Piety Hill Chapter of D. A. R. and Birmingham Teachers Club, all of Birmingham.

Phone Co. Plans \$18,000,000 Program

DETROIT—Plans for a 1940 construction program amounting to approximately \$18,000,000 were announced Sunday by George M. Welch, president of the Michigan Bell Telephone Company.

President Welch said the figure obviously might fluctuate somewhat in accordance with business conditions, but added that "at this time, it represents our best judgment as to the plant improvements and expansion that will be required to enable the company to keep pace with and ahead of telephone demand."

The program is the largest estimated by the company since 1930 Welch said. It represents an investment of approximately \$5,500,000 above that of 1939. Net additions anticipated will result in the company's plant value passing the \$200,000,000 mark for the first time.

PUBLISH FINE BOOK

"Cherubs and Calliopes," by Charlton, earliest surviving Greek novel, which was published in a new English translation last year by the University of Michigan Press has been selected as one of the "fifty best books of 1939" by the American Institute of Graphic Arts. It was announced last week.

CASH AND CARRY

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large bottle 15c

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2 large pkgs. 37c

Small pkg. 9c

LIFEBUOY

3 bars 17c

LIPTON'S

1-lb. 23c 1-lb. 43c

Yellow Label Black Tea

Country Club

FANCY BULK RICE 1 lb. 5c

MAXWELL HOUSE COFFEE 1 lb. 25c

HOT-DATED FRENCH COFFEE 2 lb. 37c

SOCIAL MIX CANDY 1 lb. 19c

MARGATE PEKOE TEA 1/2 lb. 25c

MARASCHINO CHERRIES 3 lb. 29c

PIE CHERRIES 3 lb. 29c

FANCY CHERRIES 3 lb. 29c

A-B-D-G VITAMINS 30 day 50c

COLORX Disinfect and Bleach 1 quart 25c

RITZ CRACKERS 1 large pkg. 23c

PURITAN SYRUP 12-oz. 17c

MALT-O-MEAL 22-oz. 23c

NESTLE'S EVER READY COCOA 1/2-lb. 21c 1 lb. 39c

HERSHEY'S CHOCOLATE 1/2 lb. 12c

HERSHEY'S COCOA 1/2 lb. 12c

DUFF'S CAKE MIX ASSORTED 14-oz. 21c

OLD DUTCH CLEANSER 2 cans 15c

DIVORCE RUMORS! LISTEN TO THE EDITOR'S DAUGHTER WJR 9:30 A. M. MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

LINDA IN ACCIDENT! LISTEN TO LINDA'S FIRST LOVE WJR 9:15 A. M. MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

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3 POUND RIB CUT lb. 12c

COUNTRY CLUB NEW PROCESS SMOKED PICNICS 1 lb. 17c

CHUCK ROAST 1 lb. 23c

PORK CHOPS 1 lb. 17c

Less Layer, Sliced BACON 1 lb. 23c

Country Club Smoked, Shank Halb SWORD FISH HAM 1 lb. 25c

Baby Link-Pork SAUSAGE 1 lb. 25c

Round Steak 1 lb. 31c

Leg o' Lamb 1 lb. 25c

FRANCO-AMERICAN SPAGHETTI-MACARONI 3 cans 25c

GARDEN FRESH—CALIFORNIA

CAULIFLOWER

LARGE HEAD 15c

BOXED QUALITY—WASHINGTON DELICIOUS APPLES 3 lbs. 20c

FRESH AND TENDER NEW CABBAGE 3 lbs. 10c

Apples, All-Purpose GRAPEFRUIT 6 lbs. 25c

Carrots bunch 5c POTATOES 9 lbs. 25c

YAM SWEETS 5 lbs. 5c LEMONS 4 for 10c

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SASSAFRAS TEA BARK 1 pkg. 10c

CLIX

12-OZ. CAN DRAIN CLEANER 19c

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Magazine Writer To Give Talk

Harry R. O'Brien, perhaps best known for his "Diary of a Plain Dirt Gardener," which has appeared monthly for more than ten years in "Better Homes & Gardens" magazine, will be presented on Wednesday, Feb. 28, 1940, at 8 p. m. in Royal Oak High School auditorium by the Royal Oak Branch of the Woman's National Farm and Garden Association.

Many nurseries and seed firms send Mr. O'Brien their plant novelties for test before introduction to the general public. He will present slides of these recent introductions growing in his own garden as well as pictures of himself working around his own place and showing his methods of gardening, in connection with his talk. Royal Oak on the 28th, "Idle Thoughts of a Plain Dirt Gardener."

Exceptional Child Council Holding Banquet March 5

Jay Allen, internationally famous reporter for the Chicago Tribune and the London News Chronicle, will speak in Detroit on the occasion of the Detroit Chapter of the International Council for Exceptional Children. The function will take place at 7 p. m. at the General Motors Building.

Allen's topic, "Propaganda in the Press, and How to Spot It," reflects his personal experiences over a period of 12 years of brilliant coverage of European events leading up to the present. Reservations for the dinner may be made at the Detroit Department of Special Education, 453 Stinson. Groups can be accommodated with reserved tables if they make their reservations early.