

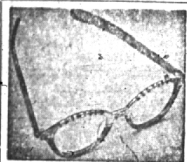
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Flowers and Plastics Make Splendid Hobby

By ALICE E. MORGAN

To some men retirement is fun. One of this group is John Schurman, of 1646 Northlawn, whose work as an architect took him to many far away places—the Orient, Russia, Europe.

Through with the business world now, Schurman and Mrs. Schurman are enjoying their lovely home and garden to the fullest.

The garden is one of his special hobbies and few pass their home without longing looks and sometimes audible comments.

MRS. SCHURMAN SAYS that many, many times she has heard home from Florida each year, us-
ing it to pack delicious tree-ripened oranges and grapefruit for the trip north. Its mission completed, Schurman "transplants" it to his trees.

"IT'S GREAT for bird's nests," he says, "and I have to help it along by putting a wire through it. It's coming to see one of the larger birds, like the robins, trying to get enough to line a nest, start off with the whole streamer pulling after it. With the wire they don't get far, but without it the nest wouldn't stand a chance."

Schurman admits that he loves flowers and the birds they attract, but doesn't like to pull weeds. To counteract this he plants his flowers so close together that there is no room for weeds to grow.

According to the seed catalogs, a garden just wouldn't grow if you planted it like the Schurman garden is planted. Not an inch of soil shows. A tier effect is obtained through knowing his plants and setting them according to height. The result is a mass of foliage and a riot of color that defies description.

THIS AMAZING garden becomes more amazing when Schurman tells you that hidden away are the iris and peonies and other spring flowers which have finished their blooming for the year. This colorful array borders their entire yard and at the rear of the house forms a lovely background for the screened porch where the Schurmans do most of their summer living.

"When we are eating out there the birds and chipmunks are busy getting the food we set out for them as well as what they find in the flowers. Often, while we are at breakfast or lunch the darling flame of humming birds will be within a few inches of us."

"A LOT OF people say humming birds never light," Schurman says, but we know different. They stop on these wires around here and look like something made out of rubies and emeralds."

Not satisfied with his outdoor garden, Schurman has one of his own making in the house. This, however, does not depend on water and sun and fertilizer for its livelihood. It comes from discarded plastic blisters, used on planes.

In a well-equipped workshop Schurman reproduces many of his

flowers in plastic. Jonquils, parrot tulips, roses, iris, huge perfect blooms, adorn tables and walls. He has taken no artistic liberties in his work but has molded and ground out every petal and vein. He has not created the perfect, flawless blooms, but those that grow and the minor imperfections that add to their beauty.

BOOKENDS and paperweights show small, eight-petaled daisies in all their gorgeous color, from pure white with a center of gold, through reds and into a tawny dusty tan with highlights that look like a swirl of gold dust.

His work by plastic has included a rack for some rare spoons, small stands, a clock, and lamps. Beautiful lamps with large square bases on which are etched lovely scenes. Dentists wheels and drills permit delicate carvings and fine work.

A bookend shows several three-dimensional polishes "swimming" among the air bubbles of their pool. Stare at it a moment and you swear they are moving.

THE LADIES are not forgotten, for Schurman has made earrings and pendants for necklaces from his plastics. In some tiny flowers are imbedded.

Mrs. Schurman boasts an orchid set in snowy white for shoulder, hair and earrings. Tiny little blooms, exquisite in their delicacy, perfect in detail.

His hobbies have, in the past, taken in woodworking, painting and radio construction. Memorization of these also add to the charm of the Schurman home.

The Schurmans have about their home many works of art which they brought back with them from foreign countries, too. These include ivories and objects of wood from the Orient as well as others. None, however, are any more exquisite or beautiful than those which have come directly from his basement workshop.

If you don't want it, someone else does—sell it thru an Eccentric Classified Ad.

SOC Garbage, Rubbish Authority Holds First Official Meeting

First official meeting of the South Oakland County Garbage and Rubbish Authority was held at the Royal Oak city commission room Wednesday evening, Aug. 8.

Each participating municipality has recently appointed a representative to serve on the board. City Manager Donald C. Egbert

August 9, 1951

THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC

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representatives Birmingham, while Supervisor William H. Rogers is the Southfield township member.

General news deadline is 4:30 p.m. each Tuesday.

Kiwanis Steak Fry

Steak fries are the thing with the Birmingham Kiwanis club during the Community House vacation period. The Aug. 14 host and hostess will be Mr. and Mrs. James Sterling, 863 Southfield.

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Power Companies Will Celebrate August 26
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Electricity now is available to over 90 per cent of America's occupied farms. And the nation's electric light and power companies are marking the virtual attainment of farm electrification with special ceremonies during the week of August 26 to September 1.

Evidence of the growth of farm electricity is in the record. In 1923, only about 200,000 American farms had electric service. Today, it is available to 4,900,000 of the country's 5,200,000 occupied farms as a result of the companies and local electric cooperatives working together.

The electric light and power companies pioneered in farm electrification. They

now serve nearly half of America's farms. Almost the entire remaining half are being served by the local electric cooperatives. The electric companies are proud of the privilege of furnishing, at wholesale rates, about half the electricity distributed by these local electric cooperatives to their customers.

As the job of bringing electric service to farms nears completion, the electric light and power companies will continue to cooperate with local electric cooperatives and with agricultural colleges and experiment stations to sponsor research to put electricity to work in more ways for more farmers.

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We'd like you to learn what coil springs on all four wheels—not just the front ones—can do in the matter of smoothing a rough road and keeping you on a level keel.

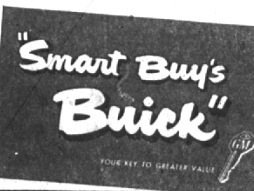
We'd like you to see what generous roadweight and a rigid torque-tube mean in solid steadiness of ride—what Dynaflow Drive* does for you in downright comfort and convenience—what a breeze it is to handle so big and roomy and impressive a car.

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Representative, accessories, trim and machine are subject to change without notice. Illustrations on this advertisement are not to scale and are not to be used for other purposes.



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