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by **Weather Winky**



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**TWO FIRST CLASS MIDSHIPMEN** from Birmingham, Vernon K. Little (left), 1568 Henrietta, and Frederick D. Harper, 1236 Edgewood, are learning to operate a signal light aboard the battleship USS New Jersey during the current Midshipman Cruise to Europe. Little a member of the NROTC unit at Northwestern University, and Harper, a member of the University of Michigan unit, will visit Paris and Lisbon during the cruise. (Official U. S. Navy Photo)

**Down to Earth**

By ALICE WESSELL BURLINGAME

Last week produced a Red Letter occasion for your writer as she attended the first school for Horticultural Therapy at Michigan State College. The "students" were technicians from all over the country, intent upon studying the possibilities of using plant material with all of its exciting aspects as a curative therapy for the treatment of mental and physically ill people. Psychology was taught each day with modern interpretations and it was stressed how dynamic a personality can be and that there is no age limit to the potential personality growth of a patient. In other words, the old adage of not being able to teach an "old dog" new tricks has been tossed overboard. As the years ago along we can go just as far as we will allow ourselves to go toward new horizons. This point of view is very important as we plan for the geriatric age as we are all going to live many years longer than our forebears.

AGAIN MAY I PRESENT to you Gardening As Your Hobby for

a way of life to make your future years rich as you work your daily obstacles "into the soil". Travel will take on a new value to you and health will be yours as you partake of this healthy exercise and share your bounty.

Here are a few tips for your garden notes: If you have a sunny garden path or slope, do consider planting it with purple veronica or a ground cover. It isn't apt to become "buggy", will give constant purple flowers all summer, and the leaves have a nice texture with deep veining. Get in the habit of labeling your plant material for visitors to enjoy, family education, and to protect "absent minded you". I have seen some good metal ones for outside, and for house plants I like celluloid labels. The latter come in five colors and you can have each color mean something special to you in the growing program. Yellow, for instance, could mean keep on the dry side. You would place that signal in a pot of geraniums.

IF YOU HAVE SOME geraniums in your garden you just can't bear the thought of leaving out to freeze, this is the date to make cuttings. Place a paper across the hole in the bottom of a pot and pack with sand, filling to within 1/2 of an inch from the top of the pot after it has been watered. Make cuttings from your favorite plant, being sure to cut right through the joint (where the leaves come out on the stem) and remove all leaves which would be beneath the sand. They shouldn't be over four inches long when completed. Lay these on a container and let them dry up for several hours. Yes let these cuttings dry up and you will have better propagating results. Now dip the ends in a rooting substance which looks like face powder, plant in the sand, and firm the sand around the plant material. Keep sand damp and observe the results after three weeks.

WHEN YOU HAVE A GOOD showing of roots, pot in good garden soil and remember that this plant likes a sunny window. Your sand pot will accommodate as many as you can pack in, within reason. You should have flowers in April

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**Bloomfield 4-H Are Big Winners At County Fair**

Outstanding among the Bloomfield club members who won prizes at the Oakland county 4-H fair held last week in Pontiac, were Margaret Pickering and Pat Render. The two girls walked off with a good share of the prizes offered in each competition they entered.

They received prizes for clothing, sewing, baking, food preparation, home furnishings, 4-H club girl, junior leadership, personal accounts, flower arrangements and vegetable garden projects. Pat also took first prize in tractor maintenance, with other awards going to Sandy Clark, Wilson Place and Paul Miller. Carolyn Klug, Sharon Brodie and Kay Miller shared other honors in the clothing contest.

OTHER PRIZE winners in the Bloomfield club were Tom Milford, for his bee-underglass entry, Sharon Brodie, rabbits; Wilson Place, pigs, including a reserve

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