

DOWN TO EARTH

Good Gardening Will Bring Joy for Years

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Good gardening seems contagious around "greater" Birmingham and gardening is surely one hobby which gives you the feeling that it is great to be alive.

Luther Burbank with his unfolding of the ways of plants paved on to us the philosophy that "everything that lives has the power to become greater." This underlying philosophy is the basis for that "feeling gardeners experience. I am always hoping that mothers, from the time their children are real young, will "discover" gardening. So many homemaking problems can be solved while gardening! It seems that problems taken to a garden disappear down into the soil.

We middle-aged mums, according to insurance statistics, will live about 10 years around 80 and it is important that we find interests that will create a feeling of peace around us.

Now, in 1953, our children and Mrs. Burlingame may expect to be introduced to a life span of 90 and 100 years. Right now we can introduce them to many things that make life rich and of course an appreciation of the good earth will direct a person to see and feel the true wealth of the life right here on earth available to all of us. Mothers, you have a challenge.

AT THIS DATE, I hope all of you have fertilized every tree, shrub, and perennial. Just dump some fertilizer in a galvanized bucket, take a sauce pan with a handle on it, and stroll around your garden, making a circle around each plant, six inches from the base.

Be sure and use a fertilizer which will not burn.

Many of us are once a year using sodium molybdate, a chemical from your pharmacy, to promote unusual growth. Use sodium molybdate in the same way as a navy bean diluted in 8 qts. water. On June 12, 13 there will be the grand garden tour in our Birmingham and Bloomfield area. All of you are invited to share gardens well done. I know you will come home with ideas you can adapt to your own gardens.

You only have to go to one, there you will be given a map to guide you on your way to fourteen outstanding gardens.

The W. A. P. John garden at 556 Tooting Lane is centrally located for your initial start. You will find hostesses well qualified to answer your questions.

Some of our local residents are plagued with moles. Here is some advice to help you. Place five or six cloves of garlic in "the run" and

the moles will leave. They also object to settling on property where water beans are planted.

When you are planting salvia remember it comes in three heights—giants, regular and dwarf. When you select your salvia be careful of the background. If you have a brick house, count 10 before trying to use salvia unless the brick is painted white.

THE BEST WAY to use the plant is not in a row but as groupings between two shrubs, and then placed 12 inches apart. A triangle or hexagon pattern is good.

Perennials should be planted at least six inches from a border's edge, because of its potential growth. A distance of two towels apart is good advice for the planting.

You can't beat a border of sweet alyssum when you place each plant a trowel apart, two sweet alyssum, then one ageratum, repeating the pattern.

This is the time to prime your Forsythia and Nanking cherry. Try to allow the natural "foundry" lines to remain intact, but only cut out the oldest canes at the base. You will have a grand reward with more flowers next year and your shrub will always remain "a young lady."

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Birmingham and Hills Artist-Craftsmen Have Work in Detroit Show

Work by artist-craftsmen of Michigan, Illinois, Minnesota and Wisconsin will go on exhibit at the Detroit Institute of Arts on June 11. This is a forerunner of America's first nationwide handicraft show.

The several Birmingham persons, whose work will be included, are Joseph Bulone, 287 E. Brown, wood and furniture; Peter J. Duemas, 551 Bates, furniture and metalwork; Edith H. Lester, 1109 N. Woodward, Miriam D. Rice, 1206 Giengary, William K. Whitney, 308 Park and Jessie E. Woodford, 543 Vinewood, metalwork; John A. Foster, 1166 N. Woodward and William Pines, 2100 W. 13 Mile, ceramics.

From Bloomfield Hills are Barbara Cavender Carmel, Robert W. Crisman, Majia Orzell, Alice Hideo Kagawa, Robert Blime, William Martimer, Stephen J. Foidherst and Toshiko Takasuzo, ceramics; Lillian Holm, Gwen Luce, Pansy S. Swanson, Akala S. Thorpe and Sheila Thorpe, textiles; Nils Jorgensen, wood.

PEOPLE'S COLUMN

Underprivileged Boys Receive 17 Bicycles

To the Editor: I phoned Mrs. Silbar but I just had to tell you how much—how very much—your help has already made to the Christian Youth dominkee. Wish I could have taken a snapshot of those boys who greeted that truck load of bikes and more are still coming in. So we have had 12 adult bikes, 3 children's and parts enough to make two more adult bikes. That means 17 kids who will become self-supporting Americans! PERRY K. LOUD Lone Pine Court.

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