

Visit Hidden Valley

Mr. and Mrs. Kingsley Purton and son, Michael, 6550 Red Maple lane, returned home last week after a five-day stay at the Hidden Valley Club near Gaylord.

Mrs. Van Johnson WHY DO YOU PREFER BLUE BONNET?



Mrs. Van Johnson, Beverly Hills, California, wife of the prominent movie star, lives constantly in the social spotlight.

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\$175 Damages In July Fires

Fires during July resulted in \$175 loss on buildings endangering \$406,200 worth of property, a monthly activities report of the Birmingham Fire department revealed. The department went out on 33 runs during the month: as follows: 15 silent alarms; 2 alarms for investigation of suspected gas; 3 miscellaneous; 8 first aid calls; 4 general alarms; and 1 false alarm. Department trucks pumped 28,665 gallons of water during the month.

Daughter Is Guest

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Botsford of Franklin Village had as their guests the past week Mr. and Mrs. Harold Miller and daughters, Jacqueline, of Mt. Lakes, N. J. Mrs. Miller, is the former Jane Botsford.

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DOWN TO EARTH It's Lunch Time For Your Lawn

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME Special Writer/For The Birmingham Eccentric

Here comes the slave driver. This is the time to do so many things in your garden. In late August, complete a program of getting rid of weeds. Wait for a heavy rain generously with a turf food. Be sure you are working with fertilizer which will not burn. Follow this feeding a couple of days later with a good application of lawn seed where needed.

Many of you will want to order some humus to rake into bare hungry spots which won't grow lawn. If a lack of attractive lawn is due to shade, the location being a child's play spot or a dog run, maybe the answer is not more seed but ground cover or a flagstone play and recreation area.

There are cycles in your life when the growing of healthy children should be an important program. Children enjoy a yard, so rather than say, "When the children are all grown up we will have a nice yard," how about reviewing your garden design to that all needs can be packaged into one take pride in.

IF UPON investigation your lawn has a lot of moss means the area needs feeding. Scratch up the moss, fertilize and sow seed on the former moss area. You might like to be "Polyanna of 1955" so this week secure any packet of seeds which come in the biannual group which take over one season to mature. I'd suggest pansies, foxgloves, Canterbury bells, delphiniums and forget-me-nots. All benefit from an early start.

Pick a sheltered spot which has at least four hours of good sun. Follow carefully the depth instructions on the packets for the individual seeds. If you have a piece of burlap to place over the new planting to hold the moisture so much the better. I have used newspaper, sprinkling it a couple times a day. The water seeps in and this way the seed placing is not disturbed.

IN LAST week's column your writer told about some of the personal problems she had on moving into a new home. They were related due to some pressure from readers. The problem of evergreens was discussed in relation to the right selection for the right location. As the site has three-fourths shade there will always be a challenge for colorful flowers.

Early bulbs will be important. Naturalized daffodils and hundreds of forget-me-nots will give a good effect. I surely won't forget to plant many hydrangeas for mid-summer effect as they do best in half sun.

I have seen very good plantings of iris in half sun with good bone-meal feeding so a collection of these will be in your plan. Day lilies really came in other colors than the butter yellow we always expect. Therefore, the pink and corals as well as the orange-brown shades of day lilies will be in the plan. Even the entire gamut of the lily family will be selected for their white accents during the summer months.

IN THE LILY family, for early summer, the candidus with short trumpets and four foot height will be important. In the middle of July, the five foot regals will take over. For late summer the tiger colors will provide elegance in the filtered sun areas.

The only reason I am going into the planning of our new site is to emphasize that it is important to accept the topography and amount of sun and shade. From this point plan the right plant selection for the right place rather than try to duplicate notions you have about plant selection without consideration for location.

After building two gardens, here is one conclusion I have reached the hard way. It is better to place trees and shrubs in your garden in September rather than the spring because in the fall they don't have to buck the hot weather. They soon have a root start to face the winter months and you don't have as many losses on your plant investment.

THIS is a confession as I have tried both methods and with the best of care for plants, they prefer the fall as a planting season. Many who have followed the "detour way" have noticed the home of the Malcolm McKinstry at 225 Lincoln at the corner of Henrietta.

Their back yard is only ten feet deep and recently they have paved the entire width at the rear of their home with brick. The walled baffle which acts as a fence has been made of redwood and within the terrace area they have left space for plantings.

In the allowed locations for plants on the terrace you see rows of sharon, dogwoods, a pagoda tree and mums. In the front of the home, by the picture windows, there are spars, firechick penstems. The planting area has been elevated by the use of crab orchard ledge rock.

Planters in front of their ranch home are worthy of study for those planning such construction. That watch, it was reported, had been stolen 61 times during the months of January and February.

Hargains galore in Want Ads.

Bit O' Verse

SUNSET
If I could paint the sunset, As I'm seeing it tonight, It would seem almost unnatural The colors would be so bright. The sky is a blaze of splendor, At the end of a perfect day. And the colors disclose in beauty, The things one cannot say. The lavender, pink, the blue and red Are reflected in the sea, And the tranquil evening calmness brings soothing thoughts to me. The sun goes down in glory And the beauty of display Leaves one in breathless wonder, At the close of another day.

CORA D. HOLMES

Tramps Would Watch For This Old Timepiece

Oakland county in 1880 had quite a reputation for its kind hearted benign attitude toward hoboes.

An item from the Lapeer (Mich.) Democrat of that year reveals the fact that Oakland county had earned the title among Ionia prison authorities as being "the barmier county of the State for tramps."

IN THE WINTER, he hung an old watch on the outer wall of the jail and invited the tramps as they came along to steal the watch which would insure them 90 days of warmth and comfort at Ionia.

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Doubled Over With Luck

"See a pin and pick it up and all the day you'll have good luck."
One Birmingham resident remembered this old saying as he stood in front of the post office on the southeast corner of Maple and Pierce streets one fall day in 1901.

The good luck that came his way should have lasted him his lifetime.



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