

Fitting Quotations Add Garden Interest

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

As you enjoy the privilege of strolling through the garden of Dr. and Mrs. William N. Braley at 1800 Riverside drive, they will tell you, "We enjoy our garden together, and the many hours of planting and caring," you know that here is a couple which has discovered an assurance for happiness for those years after the family has left home.

Dr. Braley is a practicing physician in Highland Park, while Mrs. Braley is among the leaders in musical circles and known for her singing talent.

The lower level of the home opens onto a beautiful terrace and a head of you down a 15-foot developed embankment is a vista of 500 feet to the Rouge River.

A good 400 feet is a breath-taking designed perennial garden bordered with shrubs, trees and evergreens.

With a chuckle he turned to the doctor and said, "I assume that you have a lawn service care for this vast lawn?"

He was quick to give a smiling retort, "I do it myself and most of the many flower borders are taken care of by Mrs. Braley."

Before we leave the terrace there are some details you will want to know of.

HOLDING THE bank to form

Braleys have planned a yellow garden. There are drifts of forget-me-nots in flower during midsummer, which surprised me. Michigan holly was there with lots of astilbe, the gay begonia yellow rose and all of the other fine selected plant materials you find when study has been given.

Mrs. Braley says that the coral oriented poppies give a large impact of color for such a great garden.

THERE IS A rose garden and a wild flower area. The wild ginger provides a fine ground cover in the shaded wild flower garden. It is nearly stemless and a herb.

There are wide steps going down this plateau that forms a terrace off the garden room and extends down to the ground level, 15 feet below. A mass of myrtle holds the bank. Large yucca plants, now in flower, give an appearance of a column each side of the bottom of the stairway.

To give "character" to the garden, a mass of interesting plants such as yellow hypericum, pink hydrangeas, anemone and some dogwoods.

MRS. BRALEY has lettered some quotations appropriate to a lovely garden, which have been placed close to the ground, nestled near plant material.

Near the base of the bank is the kiss of the sun for pardon, the song of the birds for mirth, one is near God's heart in a garden than anywhere else on earth.

At the base of the embankment there is a peninsula where the

The heart-shaped leaves are quite large. This herb is often called "Canadian snakeroot."

Here is a detail which may interest many of you. The old proverb existed—what to do with garden tools, wheelbarrow, compost pile, etc. So the Braleys built a triangular stockade in a corner by the hill with shrubs in front of it. The height of the storage area is 4 1/2 feet in front, the central fencing stained dark green. The back wall is probably eight feet high to permit tools to be kept off the ground.

As Mrs. Braley has a collection of over 200 bells it is only natural that a large bell be hung in a tree near the tool storage area.

Up the garden path and to the front of the home you pass choice tuberous rooted begonias, grown in pots so they can be relocated as their appearance merits a "front seat."

EMPEROR tulips were planted in front of the white brick colonial home and some blooms were reported to be 10 inches across.

Golden sprayings provides a good accent with the shrubs and evergreens in the front of the home and a lamp near the curb accents hospitality. The lawn has a quality to make all gardeners envious. It is fertilized twice a year. The underground sprinkling system is one of the factors which makes this entire property easy to care for, according to the ardent gardeners.

Reluctantly the visit came to a close for your reporter. This quotation from their garden could be called the Braley theme song. "There is healing in a garden. When one longs for peace and pardon when past the gate, no need to wait for God is in the garden."

Have You Met Mr. and Mrs. Edwin G. Olsen of 711 Woodside road, formerly of Huntington Woods? They have three children, Bruce, age 7, Chris, age 4, and Karen, age 3 months.

Family hobbies include golfing and swimming at Meadowbrook Country Club. Olsen is a certified public accountant and a partner in the firm of Shaw, Olsen and Dimmer, Detroit CPAs. He was graduated from the University of Michigan school of business administration and Mrs. Olsen is a home economic graduate of Michigan State college.

Constant Apologizing For Home or Family Embarrassing to All.

By HELEN BRUNSON
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Why must the average homemaker apologize to guests for everything she has and does.

Since summer is open season for entertaining, it's also time for Mother to belittle everything in her household, including the family. The routine goes like this:

Guest enters the house and notes the new decorating job. Indeed the house has been painted throughout, the slip-cover blonde. It is truly attractive.

"What a lovely interior," says the guest—or, some such. And what does Mother say?

"The walls aren't the shade we wanted, not at all. We think they're an ugly color." This leaves the guest with no alternative but to insist again that the house looks lovely.

AND WHY MUST mother apologize for the children? Small Susie comes into guest's presence, dressed to look and to be nice. She acts her best, though it may be a bit out of character with the way she usually acts. But what's mother's reaction when the guest remarks on Susie's nice behaviour?

"Yes, she's fine today—but she has her moments." The guest is embarrassed, and poor Susie is mortified. Why couldn't mother just say, "Yes, she is a good little girl," and let it go at that?

Then to the dinner. Mother begins the meal by explaining about the meat. The steak isn't up to par. "They didn't have prime today" and you know the choice isn't always up to standard." And then, "Oh, dear, these lumpy potatoes."

Yes, all through the meal to the orange meringue, though mother's cooking is actually delicious and the guest could enjoy it so much if she didn't have to keep muttering that "This is indeed grand," and "Now, Hazel, you know you're the world's best cook!"

And does father escape from his share of apology?

IF THE GUEST remarks about the velvety look of father's lawn, mother chimes in with "Yes, but just look at all that plain weed."

And so it goes. Mother has become so used to "talking poor" over the years that she just does it through habit.

But why does she do it? Either she wants the world to be sure she knows what she ought to have out of life (obviously it would be much better than what she has), or,

Leelanau Area Is Holiday Favorite Of Local Residents

The Leelanau peninsula, traditional "Land of Delight" of the Indians, is the holiday destination of many vacationers taking refuge in northern Michigan from the city's heat.

Mrs. Herbert Hills of Vaughan road, Bloomfield Hills, spent the weekend at the Homestead, guest house of the Leelanau schools. Her son, Tommy, is attending the Leelanau Boys' camp. Accompanying Mrs. Hills on the trip was Mrs. L. P. Mercer of Birmingham.

Mrs. W. J. Watson and daughter Barbara of Lahser road are spending several weeks at Dunn's Farm on Glen Lake, and stopping briefly at Sleeping Bear Inn on

Lake Michigan during the past week were the M. B. Lucas family of Riverview and Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Robinson of Longnegan road.

Martha Raliff and Josephine Waldo of Bloomfield Hills were guests last week of Mrs. Walter E. Smith and daughter of Arlington drive, Beverly Hills.

she's afraid she might be bragging just a little. But whatever her reason, mother would be much better off to have ready a simple "Thank you" or "We enjoy it," when given a sincere compliment. Then her friends would know that she appreciates the high standard of living, the wonderful security she has, in her comfortable happy home.

Thetas Schedule Joint Meet Monday

Mrs. Fred Brock of Lone Pine court will host the joint meeting of Kappa Alpha Theta Alumnae on Monday, Aug. 9. The dessert meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m.

New Thetas, alumnae or active, are invited. Those planning to attend are asked to contact the local president, Mrs. F. R. Doherty, 1011 Kenesaw.



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