

Green Thumb Folks Like Garden Books

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eclectic

This time of year many of us wander through stores from department to department trying to find the perfect gift for someone on our list.

Everyone with an interest in gardening likes to increase his library of material available for quick references. It is fun to have the independent feeling of having the answers to puzzling questions "on tap".

If I could have only one garden book and wanted the most practical, without hesitation I would select:

"10,000 Garden Questions," by F. F. Rockwell.

Once while in New York at the International flower show I had a long chat with Rockwell. There you have a real gardener!

He is sixty plus and his skin looks like though he has lived-a lifetime working in a garden and studying the habits of all plant material.

CONSIDERED the dean of gardening, Rockwell knows what he is writing about because he really works in the soil to know plant material.

Nowadays would-be flower arrangers wander up and down aisles of any body of water looking for driftwood. With an eye for balance the arranger can combine either houseplants or flowers to create beautiful effects for areas in the home where light is not sufficient for sun loving plants.

"The Art of Driftwood and Dried Arrangements," by Tatsuie Ishimoto, is a beautifully illustrated book which invites you to get out a container, an attractively formed piece of driftwood and combine it with perhaps a small piece of ceramics and plant material.

ONCE WHILE at the University of Michigan school of land-

tion to invest in a few exotic plants to tide us over until the Christmas greens take over.

PICK OUT your favorite container and place a few branches of eucalyptus in it with a line arrangement. Remember that when you survey the end result the lines on one side should balance like the feeling of weight on a teeter.

As an illustration, perhaps two or three short branches on one side will balance a tall branch on the other side.

You will like the selection of eucalyptus due to its handsome grey-green leaves and rhythmic placement of the leaves.

Where you are using ornamental foliage that has a hard stem, hammer the end so that it will assimilate more water.

Many of us enjoy taking colorful foliage, soak the stem with

one third glycerin and two thirds water in a container about six inches deep. You may have to hammer the stems but after soaking overnight they will be preserved and you can use them indefinitely.

Local Girl Writes For All-male Opera

Mary Lovell is active with publicity for the Union Opera, the 32d all-male musical extravaganza being given by some 150 University of Michigan students on Dec. 8. Her home address is 17179 Melrose, Birmingham.

"Hail to the Victor" is title of the show, being presented in December in Ann Arbor, Lansing, Buffalo, Akron, Detroit, Toledo and on Jan. 1 in Chicago. The Detroit arrangement is Dec. 29.

Engaged to Midshipman

Mr. and Mrs. Archibald DeBaub Johnson of Haverford, Pa., announce the engagement of their daughter, Gwenth Howell Johnson, to Midshipman John William Roberts, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Clifford Roberts, of Yorkmouth road.

Miss Johnson was graduated from the Shipley school, Bryn Mawr, Pa., and is attending Bryn Mawr college. She made her debut in June, 1955, and is a provisional member of the Junior League of Philadelphia.

Midshipman Roberts was graduated from the Cranbrook School for Boys, attended the University of Michigan, and is a First Lieutenant at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md.

Yoders Vacationing

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Yoder, 520 N. Glenhurst, are spending a few



GWENTH JOHNSON

days at the Ponte Vedra Beach club, Ponte Vedra beach, just a few miles north of St. Augustine in Florida.

2 Girls at Smith Chosen for Choirs

Two Smith college freshmen from Birmingham have been chosen for membership in the Freshman choir at the college at Northampton, Mass.

Miss Hummel, first alto in freshman choir A, is daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hummel, 2435 Devon land.

Among the 230 singers looking forward to concerts with groups from Amherst, Harvard, Williston, Phillips, Wesleyan and Yale are Ann Patricia Hummel and Louise M. Sherriff.

Miss Sherriff will sing first soprano in choir B. She is daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George M. Sherriff, 1481 W. Lincoln.

Society deadline is 3 p.m. each Tuesday.

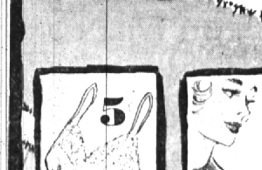
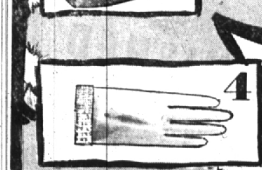
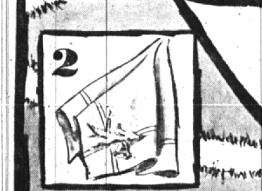
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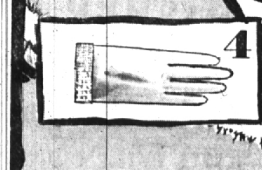
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- Glamour goes casual in "cozy" pants and sweaters for her sporty life. \$5.95 up
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