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MR. AND MRS. LLOYD C. GRINNELL were greeted on their arrival in Honolulu as passengers on the Matson liner "Lurline" with orchid leis, symbol of the Islands' aloha. It is the second visit for Mrs. Grinnell, who said she had to take her husband to Hawaii to convince him how lovely the Islands are. They will be guests at the Royal Hawaiian hotel on Waikiki beach until their return on the Lurline.

DOWN TO EARTH
Travel Far Afield For Garden Ideas
By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric
Michigan is a glorious state in the summer and it is often difficult to get devoted gardeners to leave their summer gardens. But just wave a travel ticket to the same person after the holidays and you have a companion for garden touring.

a half of vermiculite in it which is kept damp to assure immediate moisture round the violets. Only water at the top of the pots when they feel dry and be sure and avoid getting water into the crown.

THE VIOLETS should be fed every month and use a liquid food. Avoid too bright light for best results. Often if they are placed next to the windows in the winter the cold glass will chill them.

When you propagate your violets or beg a couple of leaves from a friend to try to grow, be sure and take the leaves from the center region of the plant for better future stock and quicker results. These leaves may be rooted in water. Put the stems through a piece of aluminum which will hold the water level against evaporation. Leaves can be started in sand and vermiculite, too.

Most of the disappointments come on the next step. After you have placed your rooted cutting in a small pot with good woody soil, place a juice glass over the top of the new cutting and small pot to introduce humidity and

leave it on for three weeks, or until the plant is established. I wouldn't place it in strong light until established.

Have You Met . . .
The Rev. and Mrs. Robert W. Gibson, Jr., and 15 month old son, Robert W. III, who moved to 408 Baldwin from Aliquippa, Pa., on Dec. 30. Rev. Gibson is minister to youth at the First Presbyterian church.

Have You Met . . .
Mrs. Ashley B. Sowell, 473 Cranbrook road, who came from Seawick, Pa. Her husband, who died in July, 1945, was formerly with U. S. Foreign Service, stationed in Bamano, Mrs. Sowell has one daughter who resides with her, Mrs. Robert J. Douglas, who is connected with the National Machine Products Corp., at Utica.

Society deadline is 3 p.m. each Tuesday.

You can hop on a train and make a tour from Chicago to Vicksburg, Natchez, Baton Rouge, New Orleans, Gulfport, Biloxi, Mobile, and through further southern gardens.

Such a trip exposes the garden lover to southern hospitality in innumerable gardens where flower beauty can be studied and you can't help but come back with many ideas adaptable to your own property.

The use of hedges and ground covers is important to observe when you visit Bellingrath gardens at Mobile.

High up on the "wish list" of all of us is a trip to England the last part of May for the Chelsea Flower show in London. For those who have followed the shows this is the best in the world.

MOST TOURS on the continent begin the latter part of April. Holland is a real mecca where their citizenry are known as born gardeners. Belgium and Switzerland compete to hold the interest of the tourist.

Scotland's heavy dew provide lush growth early in the season. Italy and France have special emphasis on the production of roses and the perfume industry follows naturally in these locations.

If you plan to travel in England and are a garden lover you will want to investigate the two garden syndicates. They have leased or purchased outstanding gardens throughout England and keep them at the quality level of an arboretum. In them, it is possible to enjoy unusual flower variations and garden design at its best.

To get back to you, today, many of you are lamenting the fact that your african violets just aren't in full flower as they were when purchased.

THOSE PLANTS probably came from a warm, humid greenhouse which assures good flower production. Now the plant comes to your house. The heat is around 70, the humidity is very low. The buds fall off and often the plant will become dormant.

What can you do to have the plant accepting your given setting? Get more moisture into your home. Check the performance of the humidifier on your furnace. Be sure that the copper pipe is not clogged by sediment and is not letting the water pan run empty.

On the market at this time of year are large, attractive bunches of cactulypus, lemon and other interesting foliage which can be arranged in large vases to give an interesting vertical line to a chest or fireplace and assure you of another source of moisture.

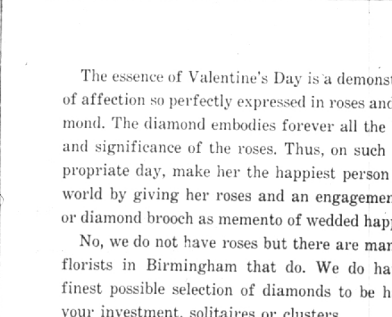
Often a bucket of water can be inconspicuously placed to change the moisture content of a room, maybe behind your TV. A person's dry nostrils is surely a test to detect a too-dry room.

YOU CAN grow vines such as ivy, philodendron and others in water if you remember to put a plant tab in the water every month to give food. Also, place a piece of charcoal the size of a bean, to help purify the water.

The next question is: How often do I change the water? You know how long you can tolerate a dusty container with old water in it. I would throw out the contents every month, wash the roots under warm running water and polish the leaves. Then start over again.

Remember plants need light. If you place containers in locations far away from the source of light, give them a treat a couple times a week, moving them so that they can enjoy good light.

GETTING BACK to those african violets, which always suffer from too dry rooms, you can help them by gathering together your selection and place them side by side in an ornamental dish which has about an inch and



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and a
DIAMOND

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