

## 50th Anniversary Fete for Parents

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Mansfield, 531 Westchester Way, entertained at their home Sunday afternoon in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. George T. Mansfield.

Natives of Maine, the couple was married June 22, 1904, at South Union. Mansfield has been associated with the piano industry all his life, retiring as vice president in charge of sales of the Everett Piano company, South

Haven, Mich., in 1953. Currently he is with the Wilking Music company, Indianapolis, Ind., in the same capacity.

Out of town guests were present from several Michigan areas, as well as Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Mansfield, Fenton; Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Mansfield, Grass Point; Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Henderson, Quechee, Vt.; Miss Florence Thurston, South Union, Me. and Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Mansfield, Hollywood, Calif.

## DOWN TO EARTH

# Prune Those Shrubs Now Past Flowering

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME  
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Get out your pruning shears at this date and survey the shrubs which have already flowered. This is the time to cut out the old wood so your shrubs will always "young at heart."

By looking at the base of the shrub it will not be difficult to decide which canes are old.

As an illustration suppose there are five branches coming out from the ground. You will notice that one or two of them should be cut right at the ground level. Avoid shearing shrubs like lambs as so many of them are meant to give a fountain effect with the branches. I am thinking especially of Forsythia.

Directly after your climbing roses have flowered is the time to trim out the older canes at the base.

So many of our readers are moving into new homes and the needs of their driveways are very important for safety and the dispositions of all of the drivers.

IF THE garage is not attached to the house you may like a swing around into the rear lawn so you can come out front first. It should be 30 feet from the base of the "Y" shape to the top and reach only be 10 feet wide at the base. During the day it provides a good paved play area for the children and a lounging area off the mosquito infested grass during the evening.

A circular drive in front of the house is nice and a radius of 22 feet is ideal. When designing your driveway plan on its being at least 16 feet wide to accommodate passing.

In California and Florida you see many driveways designed so that the car can be parked at the front door. The boundary of the driveway next to the street has a colorful flower plot to make the effect artistic. This design trick with plant material aids to take down the harsh effect of so much concrete.

THREE-LEVEL homes, as well as homes which emphasize recreational rooms in the basement, benefit by increasing the size of the windows and allowing a gradual slope of a rock garden to increase the beauty and light for the use of the room.

At this point a larger window placement enhances the final result.

It is advisable to plan on having a gravel base for good drainage at the ground level before the rise of stone construction for the rock garden.

I recently visited the garden of Mrs. P. F. Deneau, 575 West Brown, and enjoyed her special iris collection. They truly look like rare orchids.

This is an ideal time to plant your collection for next year so I will tell you about some of Mrs. Deneau's.

In the yellow category, golden spike, golden hind and late sun are exotic.

"SHADES OF BROWN" described Brown thrasher and wakarusa as well as balmung which was brown and yellow with threads of brown through the petals. Black beauty was royal purple and stella viola was a true purple.

The prize of the collection could have been prairie sunset with its shades of pink, brown and yellow or garden magic, a mahogany red. Speedthrill was a shell pink color with a tangerine beard.

The easily recognized favorite was Great Lakes which was large and blue. Egos was the first in flower and was pink.

Around the foundation of her home Mrs. Deneau had a mass of four o'clocks. In her garden was beautiful painted daisies. Azalia mollis was her new challenge with its coral colored flowers to blend with the yellow awnings.

RECENTLY my garden class at the Community House, which has been taking trips all season to interesting gardens, went to Fairlane, the last home of the Henry Fords which is an unusual garden.

The 54-room home and grounds are only visited by appointment as the home is dedicated to the archives of the Ford Motor company.

Mrs. Ford preferred a blue garden off the dining room and her bedroom. I noticed that in this garden where the elevation changes there was a stone wall with a blue climatic used to break its line. For a large portion of the effect the vine formed a ground cover which was exotic in flower.

Note this detail, home gardeners. Violas were also tucked in the wall. We don't use them enough in rock walls. They would want a woody soil but no fertilizer.

The acres of gardens were developed with pleasing curves and vistas were the goal.

In front of the shrubs one outstanding effect was achieved by combining coral balls and coral oriental poppies.

ANOTHER combination of plant material was the beauty bushes in their coral pink splendor with pink geraniums, ageratum and royal purple petunias.

There is a beautiful rock garden and through a vista you are teased on in your stroll to watch a knoll, tumbling, noisy river, from a knoll under a canopy of beech.

Another break in the wooded paths takes you to a formal rose garden where you can see thousands of labeled specimens in flower. Along each side of the formal garden metal pillars have been erected and there tied to each is a choice climbing rose.

This vertical treatment of climbing roses relieves the possible monotony of thousands of roses of similar height.

I noticed that they were held to the metal posts with twine and they would be easier to bed down for the winter than tree roses which have to be entirely bedded down under the frost line for their winter's sleep.

A GARDENER told us that all of the roses are sprayed on Mondays and Fridays. I have noticed that rose lovers do like to have specific days of the week for spraying.

He also said that the roses are filled up six inches with the ground around them in the late fall and the last of November some straw is used to make a collar for them. Straw is not put on earlier for fear rodents will nest in the hay.

With the assurance that the estate will be preserved for posterity all garden lovers give a sigh of relief as, through the years, many had accepted Mrs. Ford's invitation to make an annual pilgrimage to see her bit of Heaven in Dearborn which was graciously shared.

**Have You Met**  
New residents of 2203 Dorchester, Mr. and Mrs. William D. Crim, Jr., formerly of Detroit.

An accountant at Chrysler corporation, Crim is a graduate of Olivet college and affiliated with Sigma Phi fraternity and National Association of Cost Accountants.

Mrs. Crim is a graduate of the University of Rochester. They have a six-week old daughter, Susan Barbara.



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