

'New' Names on 'Old' Plants Confusing

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

This time of year many are buying bulbs and are amazed at the new names given old line bulbs, especially if the brochure comes from a mail order house.

For instance "Pearls of Holland" is just a regular grape hyacinth; a "Flowering Cup of Gold" is a crocus; "Foolish Maids of January" is a snowdrop; an "Arctic Orchid" is an iris.

This is being brought to your attention so you can join the band of gardeners who are trying to clean up garden advertising.

We have a gardener in Birmingham who is interested in trying unusual plant material to see if little known varieties can be "wintered over" at this latitude. She is Mrs. Ruth Zimmermann, 2274 Fairway.

Recently while at the Indian Stoppes museum near York, Pa.



Mrs. Burlingame

seen last year.

Mrs. Zimmermann saw a large 114 x 9 p.p.c. about 75 feet high with a dense mass of holly leaves. It would be a mass of red berries in the fall. This type of holly is our best variety for growing in Birmingham but so far I haven't seen any over six feet high.

ON THIS trip at the Jefferson Memorial Mrs. Zimmermann also saw handsome groupings of fir—horn whose leaf is nearly evergreen, shiny and is known for its abundance of orange-red fall berries. This plant is known as pyramidal.

It is well adapted to Birmingham and does best where there is some shelter, like a door-yard planting. A fine example of this variety is at the home of the J. C.

Roberts at the corner of Yarmouth and Cranbrook roads.

Also at Jefferson Memorial was a new rockery cotoneaster. This plant is nearly evergreen (keeps its leaves nearly all winter) and grows horizontal with the ground about 12 inches high and ideal for a ground cover, an accent on an embankment near an important window, or planted to one side of a basement window. The lacy, foliated plant, with its coral pink is excellent to cover the window.

BOXWOOD WAS admired at the same location. The variety welleriana is well accepted in this area for performance. So you can see when you travel, you can often duplicate the choice plant material you admire in your own yard.

The other day I had the good fortune to visit a seed company near Kalamazoo. This stop had been a "must" on my agenda for a couple of years because these plantmen are real exploiters of the unusual.

Their sack gladioli which are perennials, and do not have to be lifted every season. At this stage they are only macerated but give the hybridizers a little time and they will be available in all colors. Here houseplants were seen with interesting flowers for the sunny window.

THE CORBA is a house plant, had been shipped in from the mountains of the northeast.

It is a tubular flower with a very long throat. Within the tube is a fluid which attracts insects and when they get within the tube they can't back out and the enzymes of the plant digest it as food.

It is suggested that if the source of insect catching is low, the owner drop a very small morsel of raw beef in the tube for the plant's nourishment.

It was interesting to hear how tomato seeds were extracted for planting.

A chosen variety of tomatoes is gathered and thrown into a pit. After they are well on the road to decay, the mass is dug up and run through a strainer.

THE HEAT caused by the decay increased the germination score of the future tomatoes.

During the interview I stated that I felt sorry for growers of chrysanthemums who tried to ship them during the coldest winter months and faced frost loss. I was informed with modern wrapping materials the greatest problem is shipping during the warm months, rather than so serious.

Have you brought in a few pots or parsley for your friends and family? Remember to cut the green stems to within one inch of the crown as they will probably rot anyway.

Pots of chives are welcome gifts for future use in cottage cheese and soups.

Phi Mu Convo

Slides in color of the Pasadena annual convention of the national Phi Mu sorority members will be shown at the group's alumnae meeting Nov. 16 at the home of Mrs. Phil Carps, Lone Pine court, Bloomfield Hills.

The showing will follow a buffet supper with speaking by Mrs. Jack Thornhill aided by Mrs. Tracy Cash, the alumnae delegate from the Birmingham, Detroit and Grosse Pointe chapters.

Any Phi Mu alumnae who have recently moved to Birmingham are invited by the chapter to call Mrs. Carps for reservations and to attend the gathering.

Named to Who's Who

George Lathina, a graduate of Baden High school in 1929, was recently nominated to Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities for his activities at Central Michigan College of Education.

Entering the college at Mt. Pleasant in 1931, Lathina is now in his senior year. He is enrolled in secondary art curricular, majoring in art and minoring in physical education and geography.

He has been president of dormitory council, Alpha Beta Sigma fraternity, treasurer of Newman club and a member of the student's club and Kappa Delta Psi educational fraternity.

Portrays Red-Dog

Robert C. Whitlatch, sophomore at Denison University and son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Whitlatch of Lakeview avenue, portrayed Red-Dog in "Stalag 17" in a campus theatre production last weekend.

Have You Met

The John Grays and their four children, now residents at 382 Pilgrim? Coming from Franklin, they include Stuart, 14, Timothy, 9, Edward, 7, and Sheila, 2. Gray is an insurance agent with the Detroit Insurance agency, and they belong to Oakland Hills country club.

MARK WESSEL

Concert pianist is teaching piano and composition at St. Orchard Lake Studio Home, 3815 Old Indian Trail.

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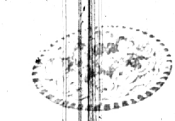
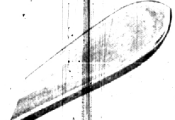
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