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DOWN TO EARTH
As Gardens Fade, Writer Tells of Visit to Oregon

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME
 Special-Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

A garden season end is a good time to evaluate what your garden has meant to you. Though at this date we are all discouraged with our lawns, roses and annuals, this business of nurturing a garden has given us happiness and increased the value of our home to our community and ourselves.

Go slow on moving shrubs and trees until the soil is right, after receiving many fall rains. This month is definitely the time to secure your bulbs for later planting to assure your selection coming "from the top of the basket."

A recent stop at Portland, Oregon, made the writer realize that this city is the flower capital of the country. At the Lewis and Clark College, which is established on an old estate with a Tudor setting, the garden here sees trees which have been brought in from all over the world. A Rose Testing garden is a spectacle of hundreds of labeled roses, enjoying perfect culture. Beds are raised to give importance to the demonstration.

THIS TECHNIQUE of raising important flower beds is a technique more and more of our fine gardeners are using.

At the college a tunnel 100 feet long was constructed of espaliered pear trees taught to grow along a metal frame. The metal pipes were anchored to the ground every eight feet.

Another location much visited is the Shrine of Our Sorrowful Mother, a 50-acre garden with rare trees, endless flower beds, and winding paths, with the unusual use of shade loving plants. This religious sanctuary leaves a profound spiritual reaction to those of all faiths. The music as well as the well-designed stations of worship on this high hillside beckons visitors from all over the world.

THE PORTLAND ROSE Garden, a municipal park overlooking Portland, is a spectacle of massed varieties of roses, carefully planned in waves of color, with perfect cultural care. Each step by the visitor brings a revelation: "Oh! Acres of climbing roses give vertical interest. Of the varieties, the Coronation Red rose had tight petals like a cabbage rose. Fred Edmunds rose with its russet gold and orange coloring was in high form because in this very garden it was a rose tree."

While Swan Rose which grew to six and a half feet was a variety we should use for that important white accent.

There also was a four-foot shrub, wild fuchsia, which would be good to try here in a sheltered south exposure.

BURTON HOLMES has said: "The Lambert Gardens are the most beautiful gardens in the World." So come along with me for a second-hand trip to that garden, most wonderful I have ever seen in America.

Thirty years ago Andrew Lambert in Portland began systematically to develop his garden on its 25-acre site. He hoped to demonstrate culture of flowers, shrubs and plants, to give ideas on soil, staking, and to please lovers of beauty.

Ten ostriches in all of their glory swing and sway among the flowers. Youngsters saw the garden of Lambert and many many garden tips were given by him for us to share.

THE SERIES of intimate garden areas which comprise Lambert Gardens are planned to give the visitor prime flower pleasure from April first to November first. As one flower complex, its cycle it is replaced by another flower carefully selected for its performance.

Hanging garden baskets are an important part of the beauty and color. For soil mixture he used one third cow manure, one-third peat moss, and one-third good soil. Trailing hipe lobelia was an important flower I saw in the exotic baskets.

HANGING BASKETS should be used more by us locally on adjacent trees, to terraces and on open porches. Plants within the basket are chosen for the ultimate location with the same care we select flowers for ground beds.

Lambert used woodrot for a match, especially in that lumbering area. He applied it by loosening the soil, covering, then fertilizing the surface with ammonium sulfate, and then applying the woodrot.

Next week, more gardening tips on the famous Lambert Gardens.

Troth Reveals Winter Plans
 Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Hall Micou of Bloomfield Hills announce the engagement of their daughter, Käte, to Arnold Walter Estever. He is the son of Mrs. Marie Hart Estever of Ann Arbor and Dr. Arnold K. Estever of Longview, Wash.
 Miss Micou is a graduate of Kingwood school, and after finishing her sophomore year at Michigan is currently studying voice at the conservatory in Zurich, Switzerland.
 Her fiance attended Mt. Hermon preparatory school in Massachusetts, received his B.A. degree at University of Michigan in 1954 and a Masters Degree in the School of Business Administration June 1955. He is a member of Delta Upsilon fraternity.
 Both he and his fiancée were active in the Gilbert and Sullivan Society while at Ann Arbor and have both had loads in recent productions.
 A winter wedding is planned.

Have You Met
 The residents of 723 North Elton? They are Mr. and Mrs. John C. Haro who moved here in August from Boston, Mass. Haro is an architect with Albert Kahn, Inc.

Have You Met
 The new people at 1624 Stanley? They are Mr. and Mrs. James F. Driver and Jimmy, three-and-one-half. They moved here from Detroit in August. Driver is a sales representative with the Fountain division of the Coca Cola Co. Both Mr. and Mrs. Driver are graduates of Olivet college. He is a golf fan.
 The baby is the second child for the Hughes family.

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