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A FRESH APPROACH TO AUTUMN

When most of the flowers are gone and you feel that there were mighty few days (which isn't true) in which to enjoy the fruits of your labors we are not going to argue with you.

The big question is "How am I going to continue the beauty and fun we have had in this "3 weeks of summer" through the next 2 or 3 months."

Here are 4 ways in which you may accomplish this aim or desire:—

A—ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS & FRUITS

The wonderful materials from Italy are so real that we must tell people, "Please don't finger them. They are not real."

From tiny Forget-Me-Nots to large Chrysanthemums and Foliage Sprays you can make a thousand arrangements in containers ranging in size from an egg cup for a breakfast tray to a green pottery urn for the enclosed porch.

We are not experts—but come in to the shop and see a few "jobs" made up by local talent. Materials and containers are available and you may bring your own favorite dish, bowl, vase or epergne and fill it the way you want to.

The materials are imperishable and can be washed with soap and water. (The Lily of The Valley sprays are fragrant and that might wash off).

D—DRIED MATERIALS

This is not the most lively subject in the world (unless you are interested in shrunken pygmy heads) but it can become a most absorbing challenge to a person with imagination or desire or knowledge or money (we mean, "and money" in the season ahead.

The use of dried Mexican corn as a doorway ornamental goes back as far as the Mexicans do. The current situation, however, has two types of people involved—one that of 1876 collects his or her own stuff; the other 18795 buy from a reputable low priced dealer, like us.

It just happens that when you read this we probably will have on hand for your selection a large variety of grasses, seed pods, driftwood, foliage, et cetera from the desert, sea and mountains of the West.

They are fantastic and crazy! They are gay, intriguing and amazing! You could be the cynosure of all eyes in your circle when the girls come to your home for a coffee clutch, bridge, or just a plain drag-out affair.

S—SPRING FLOWERING BULBS

For next Sunday's dinner you must plan 4 days ahead and buy 1 or 2 days ahead.

For beauty in the spring garden you must plan now and buy SPECIES tulips and early flowering bulbs.

For the same in May and June you must get single early, double early, double late, Darwin, Cottage, Triumph, and Mendel tulips.

For later, lilies are the favorites—blooming in June, July, August, and September.

Miscellaneous spring flowering bulbs are available. Consult our BULB BLOOMING CHART.

X—XMAS DECORATIONS

Our wife just came in and said, "Don't you think it is a bit early to mention this subject?" We said "Yes." May we say, however, that you should watch this horrendous column for future announcements—although many of the items in A, D, and S are unusually well suited for Christmas Gifts.

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DOWN TO EARTH

Spring Garden Work Should Pay Off Now

By ALICE WESELS BURLINGAME
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Relax and enjoy the fruits of your spring labors. If you haven't enjoyed working in your garden, you need a little help. Remember it isn't until the third year that trees and shrubs begin to look acceptable to you. Plant your annuals, perennials and tall plant material in the right place with well-drained soil and you can't help but win.

Of course, those leaves will taunt you. They are the fundamental makings of a good compost pile. Sometimes on your site a compost pile is not what you or I might have to burn them. Okay, I'll turn my back on the burning, but over my shoulder I'll call to you: "Remember, the leaves from each tree are worth five dollars to you made into compost."

You know you can make a sunken compost pile with the walls made of 2 by 4's. The site can be glamorized with annuals. The ingredients of a compost pile are: "the stuff" a shovel, a cup of any old soil to provide bacteria, a cup of fertilizer or a special product to hasten degeneration and a good hoing at the end of construction.

AS YOU ARE planning ahead you will want to consider planting perennials and shrubs. There's a variety, variety Little Gem. This plant will give you early solid cushions of large, chalk white flowers after the flowering cycle. The grower will be rewarded with a low hedge which will be evergreen and if your eyes aren't too good the plants will look like a boxwood hedge. This fine plant selection can be planted this fall. It is a perfect foil for a good detail around a terrace, etc. It will flower at tulip and daffodil time.

THE NORTH Suburbia Branches gave the localities a treat Sept. 30 at the Community House with their Fall Show: "What So Proudly We Hail" and the theme was arrangements describing parts of our glorious country.

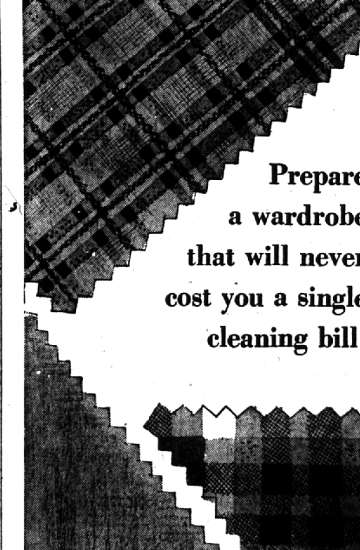
Throw me out if you wish, but I am one of these Judges who would give everybody an orange ribbon for effort. I never agree with other judges' conclusions.

So, I will give a purple ribbon to the Berkshire branch for their large exhibit of educational materials on Alaska. They worked months to gather authentic exhibit material.

Mrs. Harold Stavers provided a beautiful arrangement in shades of green, one that would make us aware of what we can blend together from all plant material.

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County Approves Water Authority For Bargaining

The Southeastern Michigan Water authority will continue on as a middleman in negotiating water service and rates, instead of as a pipeline builder as was originally intended.

Oakland and Macomb county officials got together last week to discuss the fate of the authority, and decided it should be continued in existence for bargaining purposes.

Earlier the Oakland county board of supervisors' special water committee had moved to demand that the authority get out of business and for Detroit build a Lake Huron water pipeline.

DELOS HAMLIN, chairman of outstanding from a layman's point of view. The luncheon for two, San Francisco style, won my eye because I just wished I was sitting at that table in F. Mrs. Peg Mika and Deloris Dehm were the artists.

MRS. R. KNUDSON made an arrangement of geraniums which was lush and received proper recognition. Mrs. Edna Keller had a pleasing arrangement of a combination of yellow flowers.

After not mentioning everybody who had an exhibit, I think I should like for "the bus", instead I am packing by suitcase to fly to Rochester, N.Y., to attend the American Horticultural Council. Leaders in all facets of horticulture from all over the world will meet, chew on the new ideas coming from explorations, research, assistants to the "have nots", and problems of all of you in your own backyards.

THE MIDWEST buffet dinner table of Mrs. George Freyer was

the Oakland county board of supervisors indicated he still favors disbanding the authority, once Huron water supply arrangements are completed by Detroit.

The water authority was formed two years ago to find the needed water supply for northern Oakland and Macomb counties. It planned a \$90 million pipeline.

In July, the Detroit water board announced it would build a Lake Huron pipeline to serve Macomb and Oakland counties. Detroit's plans offer a more easily financed prospect.

STILL, Macomb county supervisors' chairman Bernard Kallaha emphasized last week, "If Detroit doesn't give us satisfactory contracts, I'm in favor of going to Lake Huron ourselves."

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