

Attend Convention Annual convention of the Osteopathic College of Ophthalmology & Otorhinolaryngology, Sept. 26 to 28 in Denver.
Dr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Wyatt of Birmingham attended the 45th an-

DOWN TO EARTH

B'ham Traveler Dines On Unusual Delicacies

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eclectic

Each year gardeners are seeing radical new developments in plant care being developed and promoted by commercial interests.

An introduction which is radically new is an underground watering and fertilizing system; in consists of a plastic reservoir with an automatic float and plastic tubing. The tube attached to the reservoir is made of fibreglass yarn, using special fittings. It is designed to maintain soil at optimum moisture content for lawns and growing plants in general. Fertilizer is applied by adding it to the water in the reservoir.

The above described innovation would be especially good for greenhouses and growing plots with nursery stock.

MANY ROSES are better propagated on their own root stock and our home growers might like to try these two methods. Hardwood cuttings are taken in late fall or early winter which are about eight inches long and have a bud about one-fourth inch from each end. They are tied together and buried in moist sandy soil or sawdust in a cool location inside the garage. They can also be buried deep enough outside so that they will not freeze.

In the spring, plant in loose loam with at least one-half of the cutting in the soil. Water well and cover with a glass jar. Gradually, over a three months period, remove the jar, allowing a greater degree of air under the jar. Shade for a few days after removing the jar and you will have some fine rooted roses.

The second method is to take semi-hardwood cuttings (these can be just had flowers). Trim off all but three leaves, dip the end in a rooting medium and rooting will take place in a few weeks. I favor the first described method.

IN AUGUST, your Down to Earth editor enjoyed a holiday in Europe. The first stop was Bergen, Norway, after a trip on the M/S Oslofjord. The trip was more enjoyable due to introductions given by the American Scandinavian foundation and our local, well-

known as Spekejoett and I ate several slices.

There were many potentilla hedges. We grow this shrub as a specimen here and it has yellow flowers in abundance. At the Sundt department store, I saw window boxes with flowers which could stop traffic. The boxes contained yellow nasturtiums, blue lobelia, and red geraniums. As you drove along the countryside, rare and beautiful ferns and mosses extended out of the rock formations.

The splendor of Bergen and environs causes the visitor to promise his hosts that a stop over in a lifetime is not enough. Trains in Europe are ocean, fast and electric.

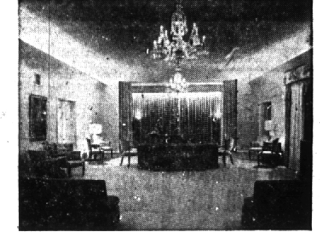
Two hours out of Bergen is Voss, vacationland, and near it is the Stahheim hotel which burned to the ground last year. Many Birminghamites have enjoyed a holiday there. Now it is all rebuilt and in front of the hotel you have a view into the mountains, similar to that looking toward the Box river.

Beyond this site, we were taken by local hosts way above the timber line where sheep and goats spend the summer. We visited the herder's hut of Lydvo Herburg. It was the size of an average living room, and had a very low door through which you had to stoop to walk. It was explained by the owner that this hut was hundreds of years old and the low door served to hit any enemy over the head as they came into the hut.

Upon our departure, the herder wanted to serve refreshments so he took off the wall a dried sheep's leg which had been cured for over a year in salt and smoked. He explained that this delicacy can be sliced off for years. Anyway this

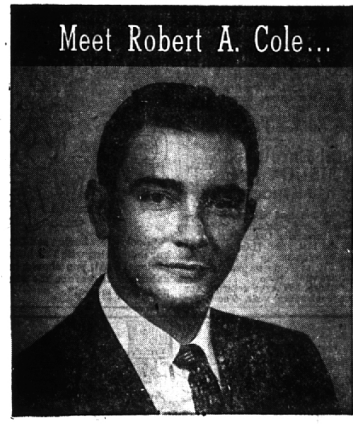
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