

Study at MSU



BOB BROOK (left), son of Mr. and Mrs. James W. Brook, 27660 W. California, Lathrup Village, receives instruction on a weekly writing assignment from Theodore R. Kennedy, associate professor of American Thought and Language at Michigan State University. The basic course in American Thought and Language gives training in reading and writing through the use of selected American documents, with a particular emphasis on structure and development of ideas.



BEVERLY BARICH, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Barich, 15999 Amherst, Birmingham, a junior majoring in medical technology, examines a bacterial culture with Dr. Oliver W. Kaufmann, associate professor of microbiology and public health at Michigan State University. The microbes with which the microbiologist is concerned closely affect our daily lives. Their action—or the control of it—is important in the preparation and preservation of foods, the fertility of the soil, the cure and prevention of plant and animal disease, the production and use of antibiotics and in the treatment of sewage and other waste products.



CAROL BURGESS, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Burgess, 2478 Devon Lane, Birmingham, a sophomore majoring in secretarial administration, receives an explanation to a problem in office management from Mary Virginia Moore (left), associate professor of business services at Michigan State University. The class studies office organization, layout, appliances, personnel, procedures, standards and supervision.



GARY KUPSOFF (right), son of Edward Kupsuff, 6606 Vachon Ct.; Pamela Podlesak (second from right), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Eustis, 232 Pilgrim, and Patricia Harcourt (second from left), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. V. T. Harcourt, 81219 East Rutland, Birmingham, listen to Dr. David Gottlieb, assistant professor of sociology-anthropology at Michigan State University as he explains how Africans believed this mask could be used to ward off blindness and leprosy.

DOWN TO EARTH

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eclectic

Apples and Plastic Bags Unpucker Persimmons

"Last call. Last call." You can still secure bulbs to plant for next spring's splendor.

As you plan the location for your bulbs within the planting beds be sure and consider the shrubs or evergreens near them so you can be "tying up sales" on the visual benefits.

You can plant bulbs any time you can penetrate the soil but be sure and tamp the soil snug around the bulb so that icy lakes will not be formed adjacent to the bulbs.

RECENTLY when in Washington at the Plant Introduction Garden, Glenn Dale, Md., I was fascinated by the enthusiasm of the horticulturists for the Japanese persimmons.

I was given a couple persimmons and told to plant the seeds inside at once in order to start a few trees this way. Needless to say I shared one fruit with Bob Nitschke, our local fruit specialist.

Persimmons have been given a wide berth by most consumers because even though the fruit is good, your mouth always puckers up when eating it.

The horticultural scientists have now found out if you place your orange-yellow persimmons in a plastic bag with an apple for three to five days at room temperature the fruit will become completely free of astringency. It is presumed that ethylene and carbon dioxide that is given off from ripe apples are responsible for this chemical reaction. So now you know how to unpucker persimmons.

TREES, unlike man or beast, are more dangerous dead than alive. They become brittle and can snap off like glass under wind, sleet or snow. The law will hold you liable for property damage any injury which may be caused by a dead tree, so before winter closes in check your tree inventory.

This is the time of year when we are clutched every time we realize that the date of Christmas is approaching with a gallop.

Our column has always stressed the importance of inside and outside decorations. The 1962 Better Homes and Gardens Christmas Ideas magazine has many decorative ideas. Do hangings, ornaments, the care of a Christmas tree to assure less needle drop, etc. are among the endless pages of suggestions.

Not always do you copy exactly the pictures you see in such a publication, but you often get inspired on creating a new look with your present inventory of holiday accessories.

THE MAGAZINE is filled with cut out patterns for art work which appeals to all ages. A wreath made of clothes pins with della Robbia fruit is unusual. A wall panel, made of many geometric figures, has a foundation of "gossip" made from heating two cups of table salt and two-thirds cups of water in a saucepan — cornstarch and cold water is later added to provide a modeling mixture which becomes eye-catching after food coloring is added.

Careful, you will find yourself becoming an artist in spite of what you consider your personal limitations.

AS WE LOOK back, the holidays which have meant the most to us are the ones in which we have created the beauty inside, outside, and over the kitchen stove. This lesson of the dividends which come from sharing is the heritage which has been given us by the Man whom we look to with homage on his birthday, Dec. 25.

Cities, Counties Get Highway Fund Shares

The State Highway Department has started distributing third quarter motor vehicle highway fund collections to Michigan counties and incorporated cities and villages.

State Highway Commissioner John C. Mackie said net receipts of the highway fund during July, August and September of 1962 amounted to \$44,490,362, an increase of \$2,201,033 over the same period of 1961.

Gross collections during the third quarter amounted to \$46,267,158, from which collection costs of \$1,555,953 and the Waterways Commission's share amounting to \$219,853 were deducted.

OAKLAND COUNTY will receive \$2,766,000 from the state while Birmingham will get \$34,850.

Other area communities and their shares are: Beverly Hills, \$4,250; Farmington, \$1,941; Bloomfield Hills, \$5,823; Lathrup



IT'S STILL NOT too late to get bulbs in the ground. Plant tulips in informal clumps of at least a dozen or more to obtain a casual drift of flowers in the spring. Tulips combine well with other spring flowers as well as with foliage. The bulbs can be planted anywhere around the home where color and flowers are wanted in the spring. Soil should be tightly packed around them so that icy lakes do not form near them.

6-D THE BIRMINGHAM (MICH.) ECCENTRIC Nov. 21, 1962

The Birmingham Eclectic Features

NATURE NOW By Lydia King Frehe
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eclectic

Fruits Could Be Berries, Pomes, Nuts or Grains

Now as we come to another Thanksgiving season bins and store houses overflow with earth's bounty. The harvest has once more been gathered and processed against the hunger and cold of winter.

Of all earth's stores none is more tasteful than our lavish supply of fruits with their strange shapes, bright colors and infinite variety.

However, from a botanist's point of view, fruit need not be any of these things. It is simply the ripened ovary or seed vessel of the plant. The flower blooms and withers, the ovary swells and grows and finally matures into the fruit, its wall becoming the fruit wall.

IF IN THE growth of the ovary the cells take in water so that it assumes a soft and succulent consistency, a juicy fruit is formed; if the resulting fruit is dry it is known as a pod, a capsule or a nut. The result in both instances is a fruit, although we do not usually place a pine cone, a pod or a nut in this category.

In general, nuts and grains and such pod vegetables as peas, beans and peanuts are dry fruits. In these it is the seed which is used as fruit. This group constitutes our most important single food crop with the grains leading.

OUR FLESHY fruits may be one or many-seeded but in the former

case the seeds are discarded and the succulent pulp is the edible portion. One-seeded fruits include such varieties as plums, peaches, cherries, apricots and dates. Our berries belong to the many-seeded group and present a varied and interesting pattern of development. A true berry is a fleshy fruit with many seeds imbedded in its pulp. Here belong such species as currants, goose-berries, cranberries, grapes, oranges, grapefruit, lemons and bananas. The seeds in the last of these are almost invisible and few people would call it a berry.

MANY TRUE berries are ordinarily thought of as vegetables.

These include tomatoes, eggplant, peppers, melons, pumpkins, squash and cucumbers.

On the other hand raspberries and loganberries have their seeds outside the pulp and therefore are not true berries. They are

formed of an aggregate of ripened fruits and are called "drupelets". Likewise our favorite strawberry is not a "true" berry. Its many seeds are cushioned on the surface of the juicy pulp. Each berry develops from a single flower and each seed is the ripened ovary of one of its numerous pistils. Botanists call these fruits "achenes".

ANOTHER GROUP known as collective or multiple fruits ripen their flower clusters into what only appears to be, but is not a single fruit. The mulberry and the pineapple belong here.

Such fruits as apples, pears and quinces ripen from a single flower and are called "pomes". The pulp is formed of the enlarged stem and is acceptable upon which the blossom rests. The core which encloses the seeds develops from the inner part of the ovary.

NATURE BY her own selections assisted by the clever hand of man has developed our present fruit strains, many of which first grew in the equable climate along the coasts of the Mediterranean Sea long before the time of written history. Aristotle (384-322 B.C.), the great Greek naturalist, early wrote a nine volume work on plants.

But when I say the word "fruit" I do not think first of what I have here put down. Rather I remember (See FRUITS, 4-D)

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