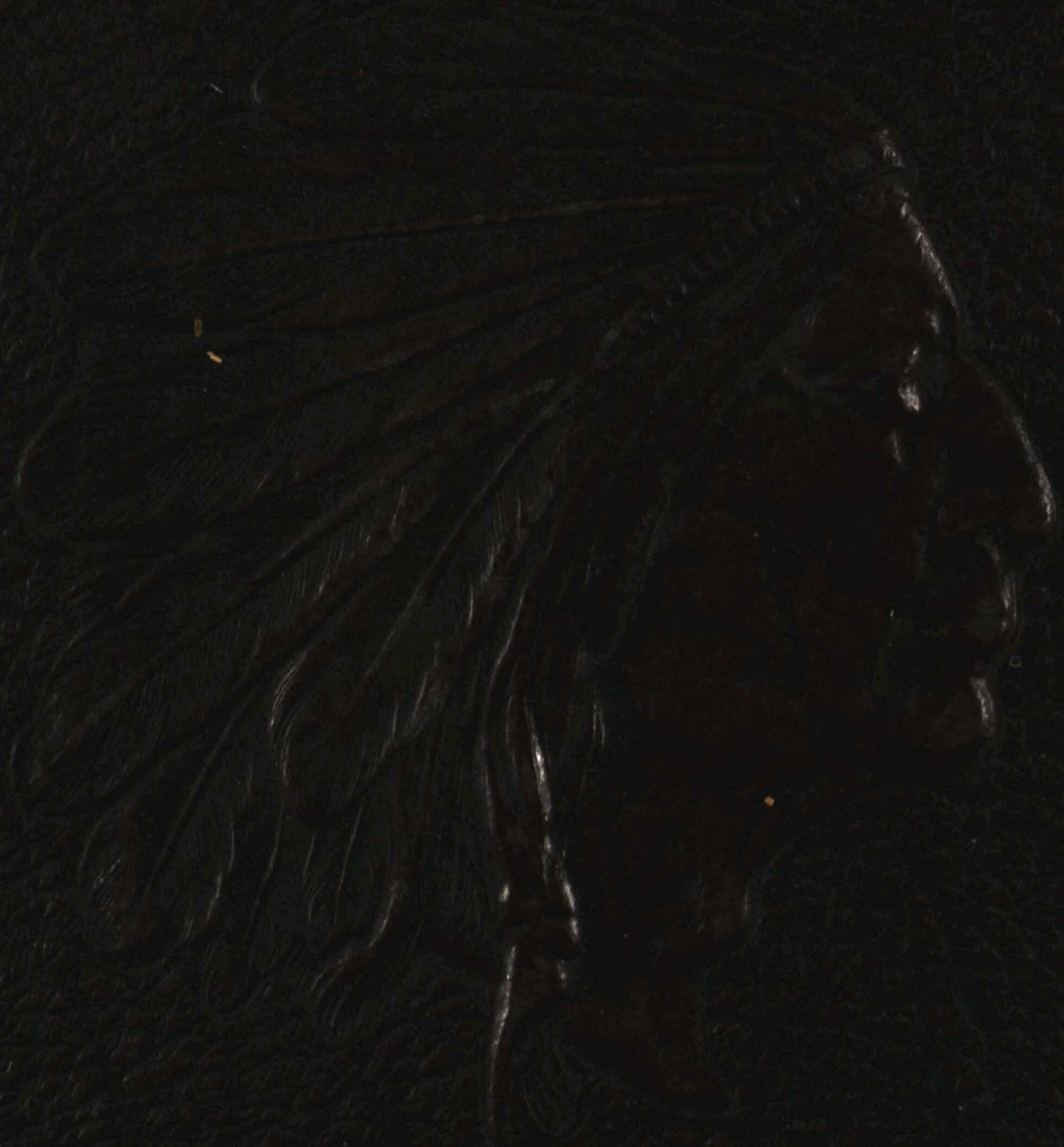


Scrapbook



## Beautification of Alleys Engaging Attention Here; They Can Be Attractive

Alley beautification continues to interest the Fort Worth public. Mrs. J. R. Lawson, Seminary Hill, has spent considerable time in working with the alley adjoining her property. It is the pride of the neighborhood, with morning glories, colorful annuals, Jack-beans and roses. Mrs. W. F. Thompson, 3704 Travis, and Mrs. E. R. Kittrell, 3708 Travis, have planted grass in their alleys, and have persuaded their neighbors to do the same, with the result that there is a wide green ribbon of verdure throughout the Summer, with Paul's scarlet roses over the fences.

The gardens of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Tyler, Westover Hills, are exceptionally colorful just now with chrysanthemums. These plants were set out in June, and today they are a mass of gorgeous color. There is the new peach Pierre S. duPont, the yellow Acacia, the large yellow Eugene A. Wander, the large white Jean Cumming, fluffy sulphur yellow Pale Moon, Apollo in shades of bronze red, pink Lustre and wine-red Moor.

The chrysanthemums at the Botanic Garden, while fewer in number due to root-rot which attacked the beds of last year, are attracting attention in their small bed near the greenhouse. The dahlias, due to weather conditions are not quite so good as they have been, but they still are worth going far to see. The bed of lavender asters (Boltonia) near the greenhouse is creating interest. Due to proper pruning this somewhat leggy plant is a mound of beauty, a suggestion for any garden where massed color is wanted. The trees and vines are beginning to turn in the garden, and leaves of contrasting reds and yellows are taking the place of the flowers now. The red berries of the nandinas and pyracanthas emphasize the Fall parade of color.

The Garden Center table, set this week by Mrs. A. G. Fewsmith, is appropriate to Halloween. Mexican provincial pottery in shades of bronze have been used on natural grass mats decorated in Texas wild flower designs. A jade green sandwich tray and a flower container of jade offer the contrasting note of color, the latter carry-

ing an arrangement of tithonias (Mexican sunflower), crotellaria and orange zinnias which give the Halloween note. The mantel arrangement carries the orange colors also, two copper vases with the same flowers and the addition of marigolds.

follows for gardens, three parts milorganite or meal and one part bone meal or superphosphate. This mixture should be applied before seeding (four-six pounds per hundred square feet) and worked into the surface soil. It will not prevent germination or burn young grass. The same fertilizer can be used on flower and vegetable gardens. The mixture (two-four pounds per 100 square feet) should be used during seedbed preparation and should be followed by several light application four-five weeks apart. After plants start growing fertilizer should be scratched into the soil.

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Mrs. J. W. Morgan, 1710 Belzise Terrace, has canned 315 quarts of vegetables from her combination flower-and-vegetable garden this year, and she has combined her vegetables in canning, such as okra and beans, small new potatoes and green beans; some of the sweet potatoes were canned and some were dried in sand. Mrs. W. J. Ritmanich, 1233 Davis, president, Better Homes Garden Club, in addition to growing unusual dahlias, large flowering chrysanthemums, roses, California peppers, cannas, petunias, tube roses and a host of other colorful and fragrant blooms, has bordered her flower beds with herbs and vegetables.

Mrs. C. E. Burke, 1226 East Arlington, is the envy of her neighbors because of her unusual scabiosa chrysanthemums. She too has combined vegetables with flowers in her garden this Summer. Although she has grown carrots, radishes, lettuce, cabbage, onions, turnips and many other vegetables, she is proudest of her Red-Riding-Hood chrysanthemums, now a mass of gorgeous scarlet as large as a washtub.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Miller, Abilene, were interested Garden Center visitors last week. Mrs. Miller, active in garden club circles, is especially eager for Abilene to have a garden center. Other visitors at the Center last week were Mrs. Frank F. Herrington, San Angelo; C. G. Warren, Terrell; Charles Karton, London, England; Miss Virginia Lee Johnson, Nacoma; Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Wren, Rhome; Mr. and Mrs. Terry Wigley, Waco; Mr. and Mrs. Buster Moore, Wichita Falls; Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Rinear, Wichita Falls; Mrs. C. B. Hudson, Mrs. J. S. Hudson, Weatherford; Mr. and Mrs. Earl Thompson, Weatherford; Mrs. Earl V. Green, Breckenridge; Mrs. J. C. Cope and Miss Frey Cope, Fort Stockton; Mrs. M. B. Clement, Clyde; Mrs. J. A. Elender, Alvin; Mrs. Earl B. Matthews, Taylor; Mrs. E. N. Kirby, Abilene; Mr. and Mrs. Terry Tackett, Mexia.

Luther Pope, in charge of the Botanic Garden, is rejoicing this week over a very fine specimen of euphorbia given to him by C. E. Papworth, local cactus fancier. The huge plant stands 10 feet in height, is very symmetrical, being of uniform tree-type in growth. The Pope family will use the plant this year as their Christmas Tree. Certainly it supplies the demand for the "something different" idea, in Christmas trees at least. In appearance the specimen resembles a giant branching cactus, of the walking stick variety.

## Care of the Lawn: Plant Food Vital

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

The proper care of the lawn is essential if the garden meets requirements. It is very necessary that Winter attention be given to the soils, the grass; and it is highly important that proper fertilizers be used when needed. Sometimes the lawn is more necessary to the garden picture than the foundation planting even. The green carpet is the basis for the background of both house and planting. Proper grading, drainage, good top soil and the best seed obtainable are requisites for a good lawn. Although authorities differ as to the best time to sow the new lawn, it is generally agreed that early Fall is ideal, preferably August or September. Weeds are not so active, rains usually are frequent, and weeds are less troublesome then, thus enabling the grass to get a good start before Winter sets in. March and April are next best. In this climate grass sod seems more desirable than seeds, but when used it should be carefully done that the turf may be even and smooth.

Practically all lawns need a top-dressing of a balanced fertilizer twice a year. Grass is shallow rooted and needs plenty of nourishment to keep it in good condition. Stable manure is certain to add a number of weeds to the lawn, and it is safer to use a commercial, weed-free humus, raking it in well so that it gets to the bottom of the plants. In September the War Production Board issued an order prohibiting the sale of mineral nitrogen in mixed fertilizer for home ground use, this including ammonium sulphate and nitrate of soda. The order, however, does not restrict the use of superphosphate or potash materials. While it will be necessary for some people to modify their past fertilizer practice, lawns can still get a square meal. A good lawn fertilizer contains about twice as much nitrogen as phosphoric acid, and little or no potash. Dried sewage sludge, such as milorganite, and the vegetable meals, such as cottonseed and soybean meal, meet the specifications perfectly. This should be applied three-five pounds per 100 square feet in early Spring and again in early Fall.

On new lawns additional phosphoric acid is helpful to encourage root formation. This can be supplied by using steam bonemeal or superphosphate. Seedling grass needs more nitrogen to promote leaf growth. The nitrogen deficiency can be corrected by using milorganite or vegetable meal with either in the ratio suggested as

The table at the Garden Center this week, set by Mrs. A. G. Fewsmith, will feature an informal dinner table, and arrangements will be pink and yellow chrysanthemums. A white cloth will be used, and pink dishes in pastel shades will make up the appointments. Glasses will be clear crystal.

The Garden Center will remain open on Sundays for persons who may wish to avail themselves of the opportunity to enjoy the books and the herbarium, the latter containing 8,500 plants from all parts of the world, as well as many Texas specimens.

## You Can Go on Treasure Hunt by Taking a Walk Through Trinity Park

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Treasure is, like some other things, where you find it. Treasure hunting is no new thing in Texas. Neither is walking. So get out the good old walking shoes, neighbor, and let's take a walk. Trinity Park offers many treasures and of various kinds. You will enjoy feeding the ducks in the waterways. The squirrels, running from tree to tree, will entertain you for hours. The giant pecans, oaks and elms have a story all their own to tell. The reds, yellows and bronzes of the foliage will appeal to the lover of color. The architecture of the great bridge that spans the park—you will like this. First, you may wonder about Trinity Park, why and when it was established. Certainly all who drive or walk through the wonderland of trees will want to know something of its history.

In 1909, George Kessler, landscape architect and city planner, was employed by the city and under his advisement, Trinity, Forest and Sycamore Parks were acquired, and a general park plan and boulevard system for the city was recommended. These properties marked three corners of what was then the corporate city limits. However, these were not the city's first park lands. On April 12, 1892, the city had purchased 50 acres of land fronting on West Seventh Street, a part of which was used for the city waterworks' pumping plant, the balance being available for use as park lands. It was here that a public minded citizen Will M. Cobb, through personal efforts and work, installed our first flower-beds. This land is now the north section of Trinity Park.

Speaking of treasures and treasure hunts, here are some of the things that are to be seen in the park:

Ambrosia in great quantities, but be not deceived by the name; it is not that which you usually know by the name. It would not even be a treasure to you, except as you can destroy it for the community. There is another plant to be found in this park, known as brandy-bottles. Here you will find Eve's necklace and Adam's needle. You may see the devil's elbow and Spanish daggers in close proximity. Here grows the bacon-weed and a dye-plant which you may wish to know better than you do. The latter may give you a good red dye one of these days, when—if the war continues—you grow tired of wearing white garments. Here are to be seen baby's curls and lamb's quarters; here is a plant that has engaged the attention of English poets since 1584, one that, because of the shape of its leaf, was said to have power to set the heart at ease—likewise, it has historical significance, for when Napoleon was exiled to Elba,

he promised his compatriots to return to them when this flower should bloom again. In this park are to be found several good substitutes for tea. A compass plant grows here which gives the way-farer definite directions; also there is a native tree that bears amber beads which furnished soap for the pioneers and primitive people. And there's a bee-tree. Be sure to look for this. And you who are within reading range of this article probably have the same "treasures" in your own locality, if not the same, others equally interesting. It is for you to look them up.

## Persimmon Tree in Yard Is Attractive

The large persimmon tree in the front yard of the R. E. Harding home, 1306 Summit Avenue, loaded with fruit and flame-colored foliage, has given passersby a rare treat for two weeks.

Azalea "mums," the small-flowering many-headed types, are bringing a gay note to many Fort Worth gardens just now. A drive or a walk through Colonial Hills will bring real pleasure to lovers of gardens. In many cases the chrysanthemums are used to border front walks, or as a border-flower for the shrub beds in rear gardens.

Several unusually bright gardens, featuring chrysanthemums, petunias, cosmos, celosia, or coxcomb, marigolds and other gay Fall flowers are the following: Pink azalea mums at 3124 Bellaire Drive, West; an unusual showing of orange pyracantha berries on the corner of Westcliff Road, West, and the Bellaire Drive, West, a gay little backyard garden at 2412 Boyd, with yellow and white chrysanthemums; a border of golden chrysanthemums at 2556 University Drive; and several street gardens on Park Hill Drive, especially the pastel chrysanthemums, petunias and cosmos at 3532, and the Mediterranean blue trim of the white stone house at 3604 Park Hill, as a background for the gay blooms near the house; the orderly treatment of evergreens at the home of Mrs. G. C. Cooley, 3612 Park Hill.

The Botanic Garden is gay just now with many kinds of evergreens, some of which bear bright berries. The scarlet or orange pyracantha berries rival the native red haws. The greenish berries of the Amoor River privets soon will be turning to blue-black, and the juniper berries and sweet myrtle berries are already in evidence. The buck-bush, sometimes called Indian currant, and the Indian Wahoo, our native euonymus, are in full fruit. The native calicarpa, or French mulberry, which thrives in our Trinity River lands is now a mass of purple berries. The red leaves of the sumacs and the Virginia creeper, the oaks and the viburnums add to the Fall parade of color in the garden. The dahlias have held on unusually well, and will be with us until frost nips them.

## Don't Forget to Plant a Few Bulbs

Don't forget to naturalize a few bulbous plants, such as the old-fashioned sweet yellow jonquil, under your trees and in grassy areas on the lawn.

Plant crocus, snowdrops, tulips and hyacinths now.

Sow hardy annuals, such as cosmos, calendulas, cornflowers, marigolds, larkspurs, shirley poppies, petunias and snapdragons. Cover seeds with a light mulch to prevent frost heaving.

As long as grass continues to grow, mow and edge lawns.

Prepare beds for roses; see about some of the newer proved varieties; plant more of the old standbys.

During the warm days ahead, move evergreens. If ground is dry, water well.

Cut peony plants back to the ground and destroy the tops.

Early Spring flowering bulbs should be planted at once. Bulbs for Christmas flowering should be given plenty of sun from now on. Watch temperatures and avoid drafts.

Plants ready for a rest period should be eased off from water and attention.

The following seeds may be sown in open beds now: Mentzelia,

helipterum, calendulas, clarkia, godetia, linum, lupine, mignonette, Winter flowering sweetpeas, schizanthus, nemophila.

Study the seed and plant catalogs. Order now for Winter planting.

Repot plants necessary for indoor growing.

Start a perennial border with plants that do not drop their leaves in Winter.

Late this month pot perennial seedlings and set out from flats candulas, stocks and violas.



Three treasure chests, made or in the making. Below, Mrs. K. H. Beall and Betty. The Trunk is Camilla's Above, left, Misses Caroline Collins (left) and Mary Lake. The trunk was Mary's mother's when she left for college in 1896. Above, right, is Miss Nancy Quarles. The trunk is one she found for \$3.

## Beall Sisters Start New Hobby; It's Spreading Fast

Old trunks, rusting in attics, have been dragged out in epidemic numbers lately to be converted with paint, paste, scrub brush and calico into bright new treasure chests.

Grandma would be delighted. The hobby started with Betty and Camilla Beall, daughters of Dr. and Mrs. K. H. Beall of 1600 Sunset Terrace. Their aunt, Mrs. Varner Beall Stevens, laid the artistic groundwork. Now at least a dozen friends have brought their old trunks in for a going-over—or plan to bring them in right away.

When Miss Camilla Beall became the bride of Pvt. William B. Thompson on Sept. 12, her treasure chest was finished and filled with linens and sentimental gew-gaws. Miss Betty Beall's chest is finished, too, now and a half dozen others are in process of completion.

The Beall sunroom has been turned over to the project. Friends bring their trunks in, consult with the artist in the family and set to with scrub brush, tack hammer and paint. The resulting chests are lovely enough for any part of the house. The attic won't see them again.

Most of the trunks have sentimental value to begin with. Camilla Beall Thompson's belonged to her husband's grandmother. Betty Beall's belonged to her uncle,

Ed K. Collett, when he was a small child.

Miss Mary Lake is working on a trunk that was her mother's when Mrs. Will F. Lake of 1415 Grand Avenue, went off to Cottey College in Missouri in 1896. Other girls have found trunks, like those grandmother used, in old attics or second-hand stores.

Miss Nancy Quarles of 2229 Irwin Street has one she found in a second-hand store for \$3. Miss Caroline Collins of 4840 Crestline Road picked up a battered old barrel-top for 50 cents. Others, planning to bring their trunks in soon, have family hand-downs to start with.

The trunk-into-treasure-chests project is carried on Saturday afternoon and Sundays. Most of the girls find it relaxation from their wartime work or other weekday jobs. It's a serious project, but all in fun.

They begin by cleaning and polishing up the old trunks and ripping out the linings. Then comes the painting, the varnishing and the new lining. They line the trunks first with old sheets, then colorful calico applied with ordinary flour paste. The lining is finished with upholstery tape and matching thumb tacks.

The exterior artwork on the old trunks is often dictated by the raised floral outlines in the metal and the wooden frames. But the variety of color used is amazing.

Miss Quarles' chest is done in parchment brown, with rose and blue flowers. Miss Lake is doing hers in green and silver. Miss Betty Beall's is in parchment, rose, blue and gold. Mrs. Thompson's is in rose, blue and green.

Though most of the treasure chests will go at the foot of the owner's beds to hold quilts, blankets and bed linens, they have room for sentimental treasures, too. Betty Beall's holds some dishes painted by her grandmother. Camilla's stores, among other treasures, the gold handkerchief holder she carried in her wedding. It is one handed down from her grandmother, Mrs. J. E. Labatt, who carried it in her own wedding in San Antonio on Feb. 14, 1875.

## SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 1943.

### Botanic Garden on Magazine Cover

A photograph of the vista of the Fort Worth Botanic Garden is used as the front page cover of the March 15 issue of Horticulture Magazine, national edition, which is published bimonthly in Boston. The magazine is one of the oldest horticultural journals in America and is a leader in horticultural circles.

The garden is attracting hundreds of visitors each week. Many servicemen and their friends visit during the weekend. Musical programs are relayed over a loud speaker on Sunday afternoon.

## Garden Club Will Hear Mrs. Lake

Mrs. Will F. Lake will discuss flower arrangement and specimens for flower shows at a meeting of the Junior Woman's Garden Club at the Junior Woman's Club Wednesday. Mrs. H. N. Smith, program chairman, will introduce the speaker.

Mmes. W. V. Baxter and W. T. Anderson Jr. will be hostesses for a coffee to precede the meeting at 10 a. m.

The program will be in preparation for the club's Spring flower show, originally scheduled for April 7, but postponed to May 6, as announced by Mrs. C. F. Fry, president. Mrs. Gordon Wiley has been named flower show chairman. Plans for the club's annual Garden Pilgrimage May 20 also will be discussed, with Mrs. J. B. Hampton as chairman. The pilgrimage will close the club's season after an election of officers April 21.

Members are requested to bring surplus plans to the coming meeting to be sold through the club's plant exchange.

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## Plants Suited to Soil Are Texas Need

The cry from gardeners today is for a type of landscape design that is suited to our Southwestern needs, featuring those plants, trees and shrubs that are characteristic and distinctive. The various soils and climatic conditions which are to be found in this State allows for great variety. For example, the acid soils and the pinelands of East Texas, with abundance of moisture, would not grow the same plants that are to be found in West Texas where alkaline, or sweet soils, and at least semi-arid conditions prevail. Neither would one expect to find the plains country and the Panhandle flourishing with the same plants that thrive in the Gulf Coast region. In order to get the best results, one should study the types of vegetation that abound in the respective localities. One should know plant families and their needs and requirements.

In the Caddo Lake country, on the Louisiana line, there are to be found many kinds of bulbous plants. The dogwoods, large-flowering kinds, maples, gums and pines grow well. The Big Thicket area in Southeast Texas is said to abound in numbers of plants not found elsewhere. The Gulf Coast region produces a special vegetation not like anything to be found elsewhere; the same is true of the Rio Grande Valley, where now are to be found famous citrus farms and much vegetation which must be irrigated. West Texas grows the mallows, the various cacti, the mesquite, the chaparral, creosote bush, poinciana, Spanish persimmon, salt cedar, the bee-bush, many acacias and mimosa types. The northern part of the State is short on trees, except in Palo Duro Canyon, but the various grasses, yuccas and sage-brush furnish sufficient vegetation for livestock. The Big Bend country is a law unto itself, as far as vegetation is concerned.

Gardens should be so planned as to take advantage of the outdoor climate. Practically nine months out of the year people can enjoy the out-door season in Texas. Patios seem to afford a maximum of pleasure, for the reason that they are usually connected with the house through the medium of a terrace, abundant shade is provided and the idea of partial privacy is to be had. Plants, trees and shrubs should be used more sparingly in the patio than in background planting, allowing for plenty of ventilation and the proper circulation of air. Potted plants and trees are useful in such a place, if properly placed, and add to the charm and intimacy of a patio garden.

## Chrysanthemum Is Popular, Thrives Almost Anywhere

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

The chrysanthemum, the birthday flower for November, is perhaps the most popular flower, next to the rose. The name is of Greek origin, and means golden flower. The plant thrives all over the world, but does best in the temperate and boreal regions of the Old World. There are at least 150 recognizable species of the genus, including pyrethrum. Although the genus is widespread and large, there are relatively few plants that interest the amateur gardener.

Of course, the common garden chrysanthemum, derived apparently from two species, is the most useful. The insecticide, known as pyrethrum, it produced from the dried flowers of chrysanthemum cinerariaefolium and chrysanthemum coccineum. The former species grow wild in Dalmatia, but it is cultivated extensively in France. California produces a great deal of the latter species, called bubach.

There are more than 100 books pertaining to the chrysanthemum alone, and its literature leads that of all flowers except the rose. It is the flower of the East, as the rose is of the West. The great repositories of information regarding the chrysanthemum from the garden point of view are the writings of C. Harman Payne, his short history of the chrysanthemum, London, 1885, and the older books of F. W. Burbidge and John Salter. The files of the American Chrysanthemum Society are important.

Although no particular skill is required in the growing of the ordinary chrysanthemum, great success may be attained through proper handling. The hardy border perennial chrysanthemums may be either the small-flowering rugged forms of chrysanthemum hortorum, as the hardy pompons and the artemesias of old gardens of others. Moon daisies and moon-penny daisies, also types, together with the pyrethrums frequently are seen. Some of the

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The Garden Center table will be set this week by Dorothy Biddle, national authority on flower arrangement, who is on tour in the Southwest.

Tables, mantle and room decorations will include prize-winning chrysanthemums grown in the home garden of Mr. and Mrs. Ben G. Oneal, Wichita Falls. Mrs. Oneal won the Purple Ribbon of Achievement in Horticulture, offered by the National Council of Garden Clubs, last year, for her unusual outdoor chrysanthemums.

The arrangements will be on exhibition at the Garden Center today and throughout the week.

dwarf tufted kinds make excellent edging plants. The moon daisy types deserve to be better known for massed planting and bold lines when a great display of heavy white bloom is wanted. The Shasta daisy and its derivatives are of the moon daisy type. They all profit by a coarse mulch covering in the Fall. Annual chrysanthemums are grown easily, and are suitable for bold late displays where delicate and soft effects are not especially desired.

## Judges for Garden Club Event Named

Mmes. Alfred McKnight, Julian Meeker and Will F. Lake have been named judges for a competitive flower show Wednesday at 9:45 a. m. sponsored by the Junior Woman's Garden Club at the junior club.

This will be the club's first big show in two years and their first since seeking membership in the Texas Federation of Garden Clubs. It will include chrysanthemums, arrangements and specimens; and Victory garden arrangements in a Thanksgiving theme, according to Mrs. Walter Strong, president.

Classification schedule may be obtained from the show chairman, Mrs. Hatcher Pickens, who says that as many entries as desired may be made, provided each is in a different classification.

Members of the placing and classification committee include Mmes. H. N. Smith, George Brown Jr., Audrey Cooper, Paul Sanborn and A. K. Doss.

## Audubon 'Birds' to Be Exhibited

An important exhibition of "Birds of America" by the celebrated naturalist, John J. Audubon, will be shown at the Fort Worth Garden Center Sunday. One day only, morning and afternoon.

These prints are the water colors by Audubon and Havell and some in the original bindings recently found in Maryland. Among subjects which will be on display are the famous Turkey Cock, Turkey Hen and her Young, Bird of Washington Eagle, Louisiana Heron, Mocking Birds and Rattlesnake with yellow jessamine, Kentucky Cardinal, Red-headed Ducks, Shoveller Ducks, Widgeon and all the important subjects. These are hand painted and life size.

Hostesses for the exhibition will be Mrs. H. H. Crane, president, Fort Worth Garden Club, Mrs. Varner Beall Stevens, Mrs. Roy C. Stephens and Miss Sue Harding.

## Garden Club to Meet At Blackstone Friday

In order to meet the transportation problems, the Fort Worth Garden Club will have its first meeting Friday morning in the Blackstone Venetian Ballroom, Mrs. Hubert Hammond Crane, president, has announced. Luncheon will follow.

Members will be asked to contribute ivy, pepper plants and other flowers, which they will be taking out of their gardens before a freeze, to the club's program for Tarrant Field and also the U. S. Health Service Hospital.

The club has sent fresh flowers every Saturday to the U. S. Health Service Hospital for two months now, and is now sending flowers also to the Tarrant Field Hospital, the six wards there and also the hall for convalescents. The Red Cross Motor Corps delivers the flowers.

Mrs. Nell Whitehead will address the club on "The Use of Espaliered Trees in the Garden Picture." Mrs. J. A. Symons will set a Thanksgiving table.

All meetings, the third Friday in the month, will be held at The Blackstone.

## Christmas Ideas From the Garden

The Garden Center, hostess house for Botanic Garden, is featuring a selection of Christmas arrangements of evergreens and plant material novelties that will be on display throughout the holiday season, and has a library of books and prints showing unusual Yuletide decorations for the home.

Mrs. Will Lake, director, will make suggestions for interested persons who call at the center in person or by telephone. The Garden Center table this week, arranged by Mrs. Victor Tinsley, features a child's table decorated for a Christmas Eve supper or a Christmas morning breakfast.

Mrs. Lake announced that the Bird's Christmas Tree will be held again this year, during the week of Christmas, in the same setting of mesquites and redhaws near the greenhouse and Garden Center. The birds already have one gift, a bird bath, donated by the Fort Worth Audubon Society, of which Mrs. George Adams is president.



Mixed flowers in a turquoise blue bowl, a highlight of the shadow boxes at the recent Wichita Falls flower show, arranged by Mrs. C. W. Snider.

## Bird Count Is Taken for Club

Recently Mrs. Robert H. Bowman and Mrs. Wade Smith, members of the Fort Worth Audubon Club, made an official bird count which they forwarded to the National Audubon Society.

The following birds were listed: Turkey vultures, 25; marsh hawks, 1; sparrow hawks, 3; coots, 12; Wilson's snipes, 2; herring gulls, 2; belted kingfisher, 1; flicker, 5; red-bellied woodpecker, 10; yellow-bellied sapsucker, 2; hairy woodpecker, 1; downy woodpeckers, 5; horned larks, 48; bluejays, 15; crows, 7; plumbeous chickadees, 20; tufted titmice, 16; brown creepers, 7; winter wren, 1; Carolina wrens, 4; Bewick's wren, 2; mockingbirds, 4; brown thrasher, 1; Eastern bluebirds, 24; golden-crowned kinglet, 9; ruby-crowned kinglet, 1; cedar waxwings, 20; logger-head shrikes, 4; starlings, 275; myrtle warblers, 5; English sparrows, 17; meadow larks, 25; redwing blackbirds, 340; bronzed grackles, 2; cowbirds, 70; cardinals, 23; American goldfinch, 69; Arctic twohee, 3; Savannah sparrow, 5; slate-colored junco, 47; field sparrow, 3; Eastern fox-sparrow, 7; Harris' sparrow, 16; white-throated sparrow, 3; Eastern fox-sparrow, 7; song sparrow, 6; total, 46 species, 1,165 individuals.

# A Visit to the Zoo---It's a Picturesque Trip for the City's Nature Lovers

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

One of the prettiest parks in Fort Worth houses the Zoo. Forest Park, primarily of interest because of its zoological association, is picturesque and offers much entertainment to the nature lover because of its naturalness and wooded charm. Here, too, are to be found concessions of interests to adults as well as children who seek diversion after a work-a-day week.

Picnic tables and barbecue pits, furnaces and drinking fountains make the place a popular resort for persons who like to eat in the out-of-doors. Although the majority of local residents are acquainted with the Zoo and its setting, there are newcomers who may wish to take advantage of this jewel of a park that hugs the woody hillside adjacent to Park Hill.

Winding shady drives through the shrubs and trees, many of which are native, such as the elms, hackberries, sycamores, oaks, red-buds and sumacs, are attractions in themselves. The ground cover, mostly evergreen trailing vines or periwinkle, masses itself at the bases of trees, giving a most desirable cooling effect in Summer and supplying the note of verdure to the more drab Winter season. The hillsides are spotted with native yuccas and other semiarid native plants, which seem not to mind sharing their soils with native mesquite and buffalo grass.

The green grass to be seen, now coming into the lowland picture in our parks, is a variety of wild rye. It is a self-sower, and, when kept within bounds through periodic mowings where close cropping is desirable, it makes a good Winter covering. As one drives down the hill leading from the Park Hill east entrance, one may see a tulip tree which flourishes in the triangle near the foot of the hill where the drives fork. This tree, exceedingly attractive and very popular in the North, seems to be quite happy in its Southwestern setting. In Forest Park the Zoo, of course, is the main feature. Here month after month come thousands of persons who are interested in animals and their antics. And, for the matter, who is not?

### Good Specimens.

Although the Fort Worth Zoo is not as large as some others in the Nation, it is representative and well kept. The animals are good specimens and afford interest and study to the public which frequents the place. Like the other zoos, the local Zoo is considered of great value during the war. It is a place in which to lose one's self and forget for a time the stress and strain of war. The Fort Worth Zoo is centrally located, within walking distance of a densely populated area of the city, and can be reached easily during the time of car rationing either by individual cars or by bus.

Obviously the Fort Worth Zoo will not be able to import foreign animals during the war or for a long time after the war ends. Shipping space is not to be had, and zoos all over the country will have to exchange specimens or raise their own. Unless this policy can be put into effect, zoos will have to close in the United States "for the duration," along with a lot of other things. This would be unfortunate, and a shock to our national morale, as well, for thousands of animal lovers all over our land have found pleasure

and delight in this popular pastime.

Most of the larger cities of Germany still maintain their zoos and zoological parks and gardens. The great London Zoo in Regent's Park has been bombed more than a dozen times, but its gates still are open to the people. The zoo in Paris continues to operate, although the country has been overrun by the enemy.

### Exchanges Made.

The Fort Worth Zoo, according to Hamilton Hittson, in charge, has already put into operation a plan whereby new specimens can be raised to meet the wartime emergency. From the animals and birds on hand enough specimens are to be raised, making it possible to exchange with other zoos in the United States which are putting on a similar program. During the last three months a new crop of baby monkeys has been born, exceeding that of recent years. In the next nine months at least 15 more baby monkeys will be born, in addition to more lion cubs, coyotes, deer, elk, African sheep, and many varieties of birds, such as cockatiels, parakeets, doves, sea gulls and pheasants. Hittson says also that two deer and two dogs have been added to the trained animal set, and by next year they should be in good shape and ready to go through their paces with the rest of the animals.

Do you know the Fort Worth Zoo? Are you one of the thousands who have frequented the place during the last few years? Are you a newcomer? If the latter, we suggest you visit this popular local resort and place of entertainment in Forest Park. If you go often to the Zoo, try going again. Get acquainted with Director Hittson or one of his assistants and ask them to explain some of the features to you that one does not ordinarily see. Here as elsewhere in our parks there are "hidden treasures," interests that one may not see at a glance. Take the children, take a picnic lunch and spend the day at the Zoo and in Forest Park. Drink in the beauty that is to be seen and even sensed on every hand. Study the animals and birds. Try to get the most out of a visit to the Zoo. If you have frequented the place hundreds of times, it still has new and fresh interests for you and your family. Strive to find them.

# Plants Will Serve Needs in Wartime

In the new agricultural day that is dawning we must become acquainted with some of the plants that can serve the needs of mankind. The world of plants is a wonder world, and if we are to be ready to meet food emergencies and chemurgic needs, we will have to learn about our native plants and those that are considered most useful.

If the war continues for a few more years, it will not be surprising if city back yards will have to grow the foods for the Nation. It behooves us all to know something also of the plants, natives particularly, that will be useful in the new industrial era brought about by the war, other than those plant materials that are available as foods. We have become used to certain plants used as foods, those which provide beverages, those useful for seasoning and other purposes. Now we must begin the search for substitutes, inasmuch as a number of the old standbys no longer are to be had.

It is interesting to classify our useful plant materials. It is challenging to contemplate those to which we may resort in the future. Heretofore we have made our breads from corn, wheat, oats, rye, buckwheat, rice, barley and even the sago palm, breadroot plants and the breadfruits. For forage purposes we have had the various grasses, such as the clovers and the alfalfas.

Plants that have supplied sugar are the canes, sorghum and sugar cane, and the sugar beets and sugar maples. Seeds that have fed us are the tree nuts, lentils, peas and beans.

The following plants, through leaves and stems, have given us sustenance: Cabbage, onions, parsley, celery, cresses, artichoke, dandelion, endive, asparagus, spinach, kale, fennel, chervil and lettuce.

Probably we have relied upon roots and tubers more than any other kind of food, such as sweet and Irish potatoes, turnips, parsnips, carrots, beets, salsify, chicory and radishes. Seed vessels that have furnished foods are the various fruits, berries, melons, tomatoes, squashes, olives, egg-plant, red peppers and cucumbers.

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## Hardy Ferns, Hydrangeas Show Plants

The hardy ferns and hydrangeas of Mrs. M. R. Weatherby, planted on the north side of her house at 111 River Crest Drive, have been the envy of her friends all Summer. Recently Mrs. Weatherby bedded her ferns for the Winter by pulling a mulch of dried leaves over the plants which will carry them safely through.

Mrs. Allen Gywnne, 400 Ridge-wood Road, is especially proud of her snowberry bushes, a variety of symphoricarpos which bears white fruits and is close of kin to our native Indian currant or buck-bush. She also had good luck with her columbines, oxalis, plumbagos and pomegranates, all of which seem to like the virgin soil of the new addition.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Powell, 3105 Rodeo, have combined vegetables and flowers to good advantage in their home garden this Summer and Fall. Chrysanthemums have been the highlight of floral beauty, while various kinds of vegetables have supplied, not only their own larder, but have been shared with their friends. Mrs. W. A. Milstead, 3021 Rodeo, is an ardent chrysanthemum enthusiast and grower, and she has in her garden some choice chrysanthemums.

Dr. and Mrs. Joseph McVeigh, 4800 Crestline, also have combined vegetables and flowers in their garden. They have supplied their own table with fresh vegetables throughout the season and have distributed them among their friends.

Mrs. W. B. Paddock, 2831 Sixth Avenue, always alert for new and interesting plants, has an anemone of unusual charm now in bloom in her garden, along with a number of new plants she has added this year. Color and succession of bloom has been one of Mrs. Paddock's garden goals, and there are few times in this garden when one may not see color and unusual plant interest.

# GARDENING

## Decorative Indoor Plants Available in Many Types and Most Are Inexpensive

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Local nurseries have innumerable types of indoor plants from which to choose. It is up to the purchaser to prune them to any desired shape. In all cases, small plants are best. One of the most unusual of the tub or pot plants, and one that lends itself well to any effect wanted, is the procumbens juniper. Its main trunk could be kept in an upright position, with spreading emphasis at the top. The grayish green foliage is heavy and compact, and when pruned in some bizarre shape it gives character and uniqueness to any setting.

It is durable and requires no more than ordinary care. Meyers' juniper is irregular in shape and open in the center, with the branches spreading outward and upward. The over-all height is not more than three and one-half feet, and foliage is blue. The columnar juniper, a slender tree-type, with dark blue cedarlike leaves, while slightly prickly in character, is desirable for home entrances, at gateways and for elevator approaches in offices.

### Baker Arborvitae.

Small specimens of the Baker arborvitae, widely known and inexpensive, are good for use in showrooms or as background decoratives for flower shows. The foliage, soft in texture, is light green. The plant is hardy and will stand considerable abuse. The overall height of this plant should be four feet six inches. Cedrus deodara is another interesting evergreen juniper, with delicate gray-green needle foliage. It is truly the South's most graceful tree and it grows to be very tall. Small types, not to grow over five and one-half feet, are recommended for banquet halls.

The Chinese holly is a comparatively new plant in this country. The spiny, waxy leaves give it a uniqueness and it is possible to obtain it either with or without red berries. It is well adapted to

corridors, assembly rooms, ticket offices, dining halls and registration desks. It is easy to keep below four feet in height.

The cherry laurel, also called wild peach (and one of Texas' showiest native broadleaved evergreens), is somewhat similar in character to the more expensive bay trees. It can be kept to a height of something like five feet and its bright, shiny leaves make it a desirable indoor decorative where space is to be had.

### Magnolia Handsome.

The magnolia, one of the Old South's most historical, most romantic trees, can be kept within bounds by proper pruning. It's head of large glossy leaves, supported by a straight sturdy stem, makes a handsome plant. It is suitable for modern architecture so often left bare. Overall height can be controlled at five feet. Most aristocratic perhaps of all the indoor decoratives among the evergreens is the boxwood. Possessing a deep green glossy foliage, it is often used to portray a conservative idea in beautification. Although the boxwood is one of the slowest growing of all plants, it lasts an amazingly long time even when out of direct sunlight, such as in theaters.

Other plants adaptable to tub use, which suggest possibilities as interior decoratives in spacious areas, are the following: Treetype wisteries, seedling live oaks, yau-pon, tree crepe myrtle, gardenias, wax-leaved ligustrums, ring-leaf willow, pampas grass, Berkman's golden arborvitae, Von Ehron's upright juniper, our native barberry agarita, Hill's Dundee juniper, silver glow juniper and Italian cypress. Containers for the above mentioned plants may be as elaborate or as simple as desired. Heavy wire-bound wooden tubs, painted a soft but dark green, will tone in with the foliage of most any of them. In addition, they are durable and will give several years' service, allowing for growth without repotting.

## Christmas Tree for Birds Again

A Christmas tree for birds will be set up this year, as usual, adjacent to the Fort Worth Garden Center in a grove of mesquites, redhaws and pyracanthas.

Anyone desiring to bring gifts for the tree is invited to do so either Friday or Saturday, when a program will be held—a definite time will be decided later. Acceptable gifts, all of which must be attached to a string so they may be tied to the tree, are dried bread, grains and small chunks of edible fruits and nuts.

Persons desiring may place their contributions on the tree at any time during Christmas week or may bring them to the Garden Center.

Custom of feeding the birds at Christmas originated in Scandinavia. The residents saved the last sheaves of grain during harvest for the birds.

Sunday Dec 13-1942

## Swamp Holly Loses Leaves Early; Red Berries Attract Much Christmas Attention

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

One of the most tempting of the outdoor Christmas decorations is *Ilex decidua*, or deciduous holly. It loses its leaves early in the Fall, exposing thousands of red berries that hold rather tightly to the parent stem. In parks and in privately owned woodlands this gorgeously dressed tree engages the close attention of all who see it. It is better known as swamp holly, 'possum haw, red-berry, turkey-berry and Winter-berry. The scarlet berries have a tendency to fall off in late Spring, but sometimes they hold on until the green leaves appear. Close relatives of this popular tree are the yaupon (*Ilex vomitoria*), a native of South Texas, but acclimated to this region and used extensively in local gardens, and the broadleaved holly (*Ilex opaca*), the commercial product of our Christmas markets.

The Carolina moonseed vine (*Cebatha carolina*), sometimes called wild sarsaparilla vine and coral bead, clambers over fences and in thickets and into the branches of small trees. The bright red berries form brilliant clusters of edible stone-fruit, the size of small peas. It always offers a challenge to persons seeking indoor decorations for Christmas.

The deep blue-black berries of the Southern smilax kept the jaws of many pioneer boys busy before the advent of chewing gum, as we know it today; the rich dark green leaves, which have lasting qualities, were once used extensively as holiday greenery.

### Green Leaves Attractive.

The bright green leaves of the magnolia tree and the gray-green foliage of the native barberry, or agarita (called desert holly and so used in the semi-desert areas of the West) are attractive in their native setting. The hawthorns (a native red haw) lose their berries, small red apples which the birds love, very early and for this reason they are not greatly in demand as a Christmas decorative. The liveoak and the red cedar, both natives, have been much used in the past for Christmas greens.

Although greatly admired in a natural setting, the above-mentioned native plants, because now scarce, are seldom used any more by native Texans, or by long-time residents. A consciousness of wanting to preserve woodland beauty for all is the order in Texas today. A wildflower law stands guard over these rarities of nature and helps to keep them safe and secure in park and woodland where rich and poor, the rider and the walker, may enjoy them. Although there are "must-nots"

in operation, in the use of indoor decorations, there are certain suggestions for greenery which the public may enjoy as the Christmas season approaches. In the first place, one should always anticipate the holiday season in one's own garden, and plant certain red-berried shrubs and trees and those that bear beautiful waxen foliage, that there may be an abundance for home decoration both for themselves and for friends. The orange or red berries of the pyracantha family offer unlimited possibilities

### Christmas Arrangements.

Here are some suggestions for Christmas:

Wreaths made for doors and windows from the leaves of the magnolia, laid flat, with a knot on each side of open cotton bolls from which hang plaited cotton strings and a bow fashioned from the string; wreaths and sprays of evergreens with a large bow at the top, either of red or white oil-cloth, with enough laquer placed on the foliage to hold a sprinkling of Christmas snow or star-dust. These wreaths and sprays may be decorated with miniature toys of various kinds, such as colorful birds, dolls, musical instruments, of tinsel or cotton.

A small irregular block of natural wood, cut for a window scene, may be most attractive when made from a tree that has white bark or rough bark tipped with silver or white paint, treated with laquer here and there and dusted with artificial snow, with a small china or composition bird or two perched at a pleasing angle.

A runner for the center of the Christmas dinner table may feature white or silvered magnolia leaves whereon are laid silvered osage oranges, better known as bois d'acres, or the runner may be of gold cloth whereon are piled wild greenish-yellow gourds, osage oranges and stems of wild tomatoes with the chartreuse fruits.

An attractive dinner centerpiece may be made of bright red apples piled high in a large chromium or pewter bowl, each apple carrying in its center a tall but slender red taper, with dainty sprays of silvery juniper-type evergreens peeping from between the apples.

## Block Residents Should Get Together on Trees to Attain Best Results

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

What could be more inviting, more refreshing than to come from a barren hot prairie in mid-Summer into a city street lined with green trees whose spanning boughs make a cathedral arch above? There are all too few trees in the Southwest, and property owners should plant more. Not only are trees desirable from the standpoint of beautifying the home grounds, adding to the comfort of the place, but they are actually responsible for increase in property values. Often the property owner does not realize that what might otherwise be an attractive home ground planting is ruined, or at least partially so because of the looks of the sidewalk planting in front of the home.

All persons who contemplate sidewalk plantings should apply to the City Forestry Department, under Park Board control, and get a permit to plant a sidewalk tree. The Forestry Department will specify what tree is best for a particular locality, and the size and number to be used in a given area. The property owner is free to purchase his trees from whatever firm he desires.

During the last few years the city has been endeavoring to rectify the mistakes of the past in sidewalk planting. Holes should be sufficiently large to allow for a good spread of the roots; roots should never be doubled back or cramped. Tree holes should be about the same depth as those to which the tree has been accustomed in nursery. It is not good to plant either too shallow or too deep.

Look well to drainage. This is very important in the successful growing of trees. Fertilize either with barnyard manure or a good commercial one. Do not allow roots to come in direct contact with the fertilizer. Place fertilizer in deep hole and cover with a portion of earth before setting tree. Good loose soil should be placed around tree roots, and firmly packed around each root. Just before placing all dirt back in hole, give hole a good soaking. Many large trees die because sufficient root system has not been allowed to take care of the branches. All trees over six inches in diameter should be moved if possible with a ball of earth for root coverage. The average balled tree usually has a spread of from four to six feet.

Trees should be at least two inches in diameter when used on the sidewalk, and of a sufficient height to miss the heads of pedestrians as they walk; better still to miss passing cars. They should be spaced not closer than 25 feet apart, and more desirable if 35 feet apart. This would mean that only one tree might be planted on a city lot of 50 feet frontage. Neighbors in the block should plan together for the block planting, and for the entire street, that complete uniformity may prevail. Fifteen feet from the ground is the correct pruning for lower limbs. Persons who live in new additions have an advantage in planting their street trees correctly. Older streets will have to be treated according to the problems which they present. It is difficult to rectify the mistakes of the past in the matter of street trees. It is the aim of the Forestry Department to give the city the best possible service, and it asks the full co-operation of the public, to the end that we shall have a more beautiful city.

### GARDEN CENTER TABLE.

The Garden Center table this week will feature a setting of Audubon place mats, a supper table, with an arrangement of forsythia. Dishes will be of turquoise. Ivory bone-handled cutlery will be used. The Center will have an exhibit of new plant and seed catalogs also, for those who wish to start gardening indoors before the outdoor season is right. Also Mrs. Will Lake, director of the Center, will be glad to offer suggestions to amateur gardeners, as to plans, or plants, for both flowers and vegetables. Mrs. Lake is urging everyone to grow vegetables in backyard gardens, as a means of providing food during wartime. Call at the Center, Botanic Garden, or telephone 7-3330. All services free to the public.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1942.

## Botanic Garden Ready for Christmas and It Offers 'Thee Food and Physick'

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

In an old British Gardener's Almanac for May, 1719, we read: "Rise early and walk the fields and gardens. Now every garden and hedge affords thee food and physick. Rise early. Walk the fields by running streams, the North and West sides. Sage and sweet butter an excellent breakfast." As an appetizer and tonic, or for that let-down feeling which is apt to creep upon one at the Christmas season, particularly after a day or week of shopping, try taking a walk through the Botanic Garden. Here, no matter the week or the month, are to be found rejuvenation of spirit, relaxation for tense nerves, satisfaction for esthetic hunger and, in one way or another, a remedy for what-ails-you. It is a safe bet that you will feel better for the visit.

The Garden is especially colorful just now, and suggestive of Christmas and Biblical interpretation, with trees and shrubs in full fruit, with the pyracanthas and the nandinas in the lead for red color. The shades of green which the evergreens carry, both the junipers and the broad-leaved types, are challenging to local ar-

tists who try to catch the spirit of this symbolic color.

Although there are many kinds of junipers that thrive in the Garden, pines have to be coaxed. Nehemiah gives us the first mention of pine, when the people returning from Babylonian captivity are commanded to keep the feast of the Tabernacles; and in order to erect their booths, to "Go forth unto the Mount, and fetch olive branches and pine branches and myrtle branches and palm branches and branches of thick trees."

The myrtle, (*Myrtus communis*) the same genus and species as the Biblical myrtle, which graces the entrance to the walk from the main drive to the greenhouse, was much used for feasts and celebrations by the ancients. It was to

be seen in all old-fashioned gardens, liked equally well for its fragrant leaves, its dainty astral blossoms and its historical significance. Isaiah, the mighty prophet, in foretelling the coming of Christ, says: "I will open rivers in high places, and fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water and the dry land springs of water; I will plant in the wilderness the cedar and the shittah, and the myrtle and the oil tree." And again, announcing the marvels of the same stupendous event, he says: "Instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree; and it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off." What a challenge the symbolic myrtle offers today to a war-torn world.

Poets of all times seemed to have had high regard for the myrtle. Milton placed it in the "blissful bower of Paradise." The Romans regarded it as one of the flowers fit for coronals at rural feasts; and Horace, rejecting the gaudy chaplets of city feasts, preferred for his happy home the simple crown of myrtle. The berries and flower buds were used as a kind of spice in ancient Italy; the modern Tuscans and the people of Syria and Palestine substitute it frequently for pepper. The bark and root are invaluable for

tanning; fine Russian and Turkish leather, to which they communicate a peculiar color and perfume. In Italy the leaves are used by the peasants to dress the skins of their flocks, while the brushwood is made into brooms, and the stocks and roots provide fuel.

Nothing is more beautiful than a myrtle thicket, where the dark, glossy foliage is studded with delicate white, starry flowers; and not a foot can step without awakening the charming odor of the fallen leaves. Such thickets adorn the hillsides of Italy; and such too still clothe the hills about Jerusalem. Mixed with the Nerium oleander, they shed fragrance today over blood-strewn shores. And stretching far up into the valleys of Lebanon, they refresh the traveler and pilgrim; and our own service men, of today as well, are closely associated with this famous shrub, as they go about on foreign shores in the business of making a new world and of exploring the ancient country which Faith made Holy Ground. Will you not, the next time you visit the Botanic Garden, pause just a moment beside the two beds of this same myrtle at the entrance to the greenhouse walk? It will take but a little bit of your time, as you recall ages of tribute to this popular and greatly admired plant.

FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

## GARDENING

# Homes of Garden Clubs Leaders Will Be Gay With Greenery, Blooms, Berries

Homes of Fort Worth Garden Club presidents will be gay this year with indoor Christmas arrangements. Mrs. W. A. Zant, president of a Garden Club composed of presidents of Garden Clubs, will build her arrangements around a garden of herbs, savorys and fragrances of her own raising, from her garden and greenhouse. The Council of Fort Worth Garden Clubs, of which she is director, will have as their special charge the decorating of the chapels of Tarrant Field.

Mrs. Hubert Hammond Crane, president of the Fort Worth Garden Club, is making evergreen swags and wreaths for her own front doors and those of a few friends. These arrangements consist of a background of arbutus, with a foreground treatment of broad-leaved greenery, wax-leaved ligustrus, euonymus, eleagnus, photinia and mahonia, upon which are scattered various small fresh fruits, tangerines, kumquats, small red apples and bananas, della robia in design, topped by a large red bow.

The activity of the Fort Worth Garden Club just now is to provide entertainment with plants and flowers for the men at the United States Public Health Service Hospital, the trimming of three large trees with gingerbread men, doughnut wagon wheels (these flanked with colored toothpicks upon the end of which are colored sugar plums and gum candies), strings and balls of popcorn, tangerines and small red apples. The gingerbread men are being made by Mrs. Crane's young son, George. Mrs. Crane will be assisted in preparing, collecting and delivering the decorations to the hospital by Mes. William Hall, R. D. Allen, Will Rigg and Charles McCluer.

### Entertain Service Men.

Mrs. O. V. Campbell, president of the Sylvania Garden Club, will entertain service men and her family for the Christmas dinner. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell have one son in the Marines in Solomon Islands. Another, whose birthday will fall on Christmas Day, will be at home. Dinner table decorations will be a miniature evergreen tree, decorated with small gift packages, each one on the tree attached to a red ribbon streamer that leads to the plate of each guest. The fireplace, an old-fashioned wood fire for warmth and hospitality, will have its mantel decorated with graduated red candles. In addition, there will be a large decorated tree in the living room which will hold gifts for family and friends.

Mrs. Frank Genarlsky, president of Hubbard Heights Garden Club, will decorate her home in red and green, using a large evergreen wreath for the center of the dinner table, with smaller wreaths for individual place cards. Mr. and Mrs. Genarlsky have a son, Rector, in training in the Air Service in San Antonio, who can not be with the family this year. Guests for the Christmas dinner will be Mr. and Mrs. Melvin B. Young and Mrs. Genarlsky's sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Heath, Levelland.

### Red Berries and Mistletoe.

Mrs. J. D. Nash, president of St. Mary's Garden Club, will use for her dinner table an arrangement of red berries and mistletoe, grown in her garden, in a festive flat setting with red candles in a row on a candleboard. Miss Josephine Nash, a daughter, will assist her parents in extending holiday cheer. Mrs. W. J. Ritmanich, president of Better Homes Garden Club, will spend Christmas Day with her husband and three children, Billy, Bobbie and Tom. Decorations will consist of chrysanthemums, large fluffy white ones, from the Ritmanich home garden. Mrs. Ritmanich will also furnish from her garden a large bouquet of chrysanthemums for the altar of the community church. The dinner table will feature a silver metal-cloth scroll. The highlight of decoration for this home is the front door, designed as if it were a huge gift package, the white door being tied round with the proverbial red ribbons and bows usually used in Christmas gift wrappings. Christmas seals will be used on this door-package.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Ed Kemble will have Christmas dinner with Mr. Kemble's mother, Mrs. W. S. Kemble, 3912 Lennox. A project of the Monticello Garden Club, of which Mrs. Kemble is president, is to keep the chapels of Tarrant Field decorated. Special Christmas arrangements for the chapels will be provided.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Strong will have four service men as guests for dinner at their home, 3231 Westcliff Road West. Mrs. Strong,

president of the Junior Garden Club of the Woman's Club, will feature juniper branches with berries and nandina berries in a flat setting on a console table with a Madonna figure and with candles that burn on both sides of the figure.

One of the most delightful of the Fort Worth Christmas scenes is the picture window of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Martin, 1813 Western. A large plate glass window looks out into the garden upon a rock creche in which is arranged a scene of the Nativity. The lighting effect, as seen from the window, is charming indeed, and offers true Christmas inspiration.

The Highland Park Garden Club of which Mrs. Pauline Tankersley, 1321 East Richmond, is president, will bend its Christmas activities toward providing gifts for the USO men's Christmas tree. The home decoration will be the use of a fig tree branch, arranged in Christmas dress, and treated with Christmas snow, in the front window of the Tankersley home; birds will give the color note on this decorated feature. Additional arrangements for Christmas will consist of a basket filled with red berries; and Mrs. Tankersley and daughter, Miss Velma Tankersley, will preside over the Christmas dinner at their home, at which will be served the usual turkey and "all the trimmings."

### Dinner With Family.

Mrs. H. B. Haynes, president of the University Garden Club, will have dinner with her family in Dallas, but her Fort Worth home 3001 Lubbock, will be decorated in holiday attire, consisting of a large floor tree. Mantel arrangements will be of red cedar and red candles with silver balls. The University Garden Club is co-operating 100 per cent in membership with the USO in providing Christmas for service men. Mrs. E. M. Welch, president of the Morningside Garden Club, 1033 East Jessamine, will have a large floor tree. The feature is unusual in that it portrays a military setting, with the entire tree decorated in military fashion. An electric train arranged around the tree, carries miniature service men and the tree's decorations consist of flags, small airplanes, army tanks, and other military equipment. Mr. and Mrs. Welch will have as their dinner guest for the day Mrs. Welch's mother, Mrs. S. E. Hall.

Mrs. C. N. Rosamond, president of Spade and Trowel Garden Club, 2932 Willing, will use as dinner table decorations a small tree made of blue and silver balls, while a larger evergreen tree will be used in the living room for distribution of gifts.

### Star on Mantel.

Mrs. Herbert Bearden, president of Oakhurst Garden Club, 2301 Lotus, will use a large electrically lighted star in the center of the mantel for the feature of her decoration, around which will be arranged greenery in dark foliage and bright red berries. Red tapers, miniature figures of lambs and branches of cedar complete the picture. The dinner table will be bright with a center piece of apples arranged in a bowl, with sprays of evergreen tucked between the apples, each apple holding a tall red taper.

Mrs. John S. Reeder, president of the Sagamore Hill Garden Club 4512 Hampshire Boulevard, will have as dinner guests for Christmas Day their son, Johnny, and her sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde H. Reeder. The arrangement for the dinner table will be a snow scene, fashioned with cotton batting over crumpled newspapers. Miniature figures of reindeer, groups of three small juniper trees dusted with artificial snow and three stylized angels, in an attitude of singing, complete the picture. The mantel arrangement will consist of blue candles arranged in a long gold wooden candle board, with candles in graduated sizes. A Madonna figure, with festoons of draped plumosus fern, is the highlight of the candle setting.

Mrs. H. C. Austin, former president of Sagamore Hill Garden Club, and her husband, will spend the Christmas holidays with their children in New Orleans and Houston.

Mrs. L. G. Moreland, president of the South Side Garden Club, 3601 Travis, will feature a Madonna scene for her table centerpiece, with candelabra fashioned of modeling clay on onyx pedestals, mirrors flanked with sprays of juniper, the whole depicting "the annunciation." Santa Claus motifs, baskets filled with fresh fruits draped with red berries and green vines are added features. Guests will be the Morelands' sons and daughters and the grandchildren, a son being in the Naval Reserve.

The table at the Garden Center has been arranged by Mrs. Lucile Williams, depicting a snow scene in Scandinavia, with all kinds of recreational sports in action. The setting is in keeping with the Bird's Christmas Tree program which was held Friday afternoon at the Center.

# Plants Lend Festive Air to Christmas

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Nothing offers more Christmas cheer to the flower lover than a living, growing, blossoming plant, or even evergreens. It is at once symbolic of the season and stimulating to the spirit.

Here is the Southwest, the poinsettia, a native of tropical America, is perhaps the most popular Christmas pot-plant, its large red flower-like bracts conveying a genuine holiday greeting.

Azaleas, in flower, bring to all of us visions of the Indian azaleas, set in groves of moss-hung liveoaks, in many an Old South garden.

Camellias and cape jasmines vie with each other for supremacy on Christmas day, as flowers for costumes as well as indoor decorations. Constant breeding and selection from the parent plant, Cyclamen persicum, formerly Cyclamen indicum, has given us the fine, strong, large-flowering florist's cyclamen of today, which comes in shades of red as well as the white. Primroses continue in favor as Christmas plants for the home. The large variety of colors from which to choose makes this English native most desirable as a dispenser of Christmas cheer this year.

Begonias and various foliage plants suggest the season, and will join the ivies and evergreens in helping America to say "Merry Christmas." Roses, orchids, snapdragons, sweet peas, gladiolas, violets, carnations and holly-berries are among the cut flowers that will be available locally this year. Christmas trees need not always be the cut, large varieties. Why not try a smaller tree this year, a living tree, potted, such as the Norfolk Island pine? It would be a digression from the usual custom, and would bring a note of simplicity and charm that the cut tree, which must be discarded, can not give. One might even order a sizable liveoak, balled and burlapped, ready for planting, and use this first indoors for the Christmas tree; later giving it a choice place in the garden. Such procedure would add distinction to the Christmas festivities.

By some means, or all, let us have Christmas this year. Let us keep it simple and free from superficiality. Let it express our sentiments and extend our greetings, with peace and goodwill in our hearts and homes, although war is the order of the day.

♦ ♦ ♦

# Garden Gifts May Help You in Your List

Since this is to be a practical Christmas, why not give to the family, your friend, or even yourself, a garden gift? There are many objects from which to choose all useful and each working toward more beautiful surroundings. Foods and fertilizers, although they lack a 'Christmassy' flavor, are vital and necessary, if the garden is to flourish properly. Insecticides and fungicides are likewise of importance, and there are many good ones. Run down the list of suggestions. You will be amazed at the variety of garden tools and requisites, gadgets and accessories, from wheelbarrows to dibbers.

# Cold Weather Garden Hints

Don't forget to reduce the quantity of water in your pool, to allow for expansion in case of a freeze. Don't burn leaves, except where foliage is diseased. Rake leaves and turn under in beds or add to compost heap. Continue to plant tulips, lilies and other bulbous plants. Plant deciduous trees, shrubs and roses any time now. Mulch around perennial rosettes, such as hollyhocks, foxgloves and lupines.

If not already arranged for, pot plants now for indoor use. See that they get plenty of sunshine and sufficient water. Remember to give a lot of sunshine and heat to poinsettias and other plants wanted for Christmas bloom. Begonias may be propagated from cuttings at this time. In order to insure early Spring flowers, try planting a few calendulas, nemophilas, mignonnette, nasturtiums and sweetpeas. Be sure to get pansies and violets into the open as quickly as possible now.

Flower seeds sown in the open this month will be a bit slow in germinating, but such things as the following should do well: Godetia, phlox, poppies, larkspur, linaria, clarkia, browallia, nigella and the Virginia stocks. For Winter bloom, plant now between well sprouted bulbs forget-me-nots, primulas, candytuft, verbena and dwarf ageratum. Snapdragons may be set out now. Give space used by zinnias and asters this Fall to stocks and wallflowers. Make regular feeding stations for the birds. Remember that birds and insects are necessary to the maintenance of a good, well-regulated garden. Try to encourage the helpful ones and destroy such as are harmful. This is good conservation.

Take out undesirable trees and shrubs and all dead timber. Look over the garden carefully this month and decide upon additions and improvements. All tender plants should be protected with a mulch. Mulch rose beds as soon as the ground freezes. Plant late-flowering lilies, such as Lillium auratum and Lillium speciosum. Gladioli, calla lily, hyacinths, narcissi, ranunculus and anemones should be gotten out as soon as possible, if not already planted.

Soil—Test kits are simple, practical and easy to use. These kits are now available for garden clubs, 4-H Clubs and individuals who may wish to have this ever-ready help for experimentation. There are lawn rakes; pruning shears and saws; garden thermometers which may be had in tin or a cabinet wood case; harmones and root-forming chemicals; peats, leaf-molds and mulches; garden gloves and knee-pads; pots, pans and saucers for window gardening and indoor plants; watering pots; substitutes for glass in hotbeds, garages and barn windows; life-savers for cut flowers and water-proof tree-wraps; glass cutters, glazing points and putty bulbs, and innumerable plants, trees and shrubs.

For the flower arranger, there are all sorts, kinds and colors of bowls and vases, pearl chips and bulb fiber, holders and controls. Personalized colognes and perfumes, soaps and toiletries, featuring your favorite flower, are to be had, all made in America. War and the embargo have stopped imports, but the American-made products have been fashioned in the best European tradition. The range of fragrances is large, offering among others the following: Lemon-verbena, a favorite with English women for centuries; good, true lavender; geranium, like the crushed leaf of the green plant; appleblossom, soft, yet fresh and clean; carnation, one of the best of the beloved old favorites; a new freesia, carrying the scent of this delicate flower.

## That Potted Plant Gift Merits Care

Did you get a potted plant for Christmas? I hope you did, for nothing can add more to the pleasure of a flower-lover, when all outdoors looks bleak and bare, than potted plants. In order to get full enjoyment from them, one must understand their needs and be able to minister to them accordingly. If you did not receive an indoor plant, use an attractive tub or pot and grow euonymus compacta, euonymus japonica, the various kinds of junipers, pinto cherry, lowdense privet, boxwoods and some specimens of cedars. You will be surprised at the response of these plants.

If you have fancy ferns, remember that these plants need a temperature of 65-70 degrees with an even moisture content. Others may not be so exacting. Foliage should be sprayed occasionally. Ornamental peppers, cherries and primroses are comparatively easy to grow. Here, as for ferns, temperature should be that of the average home, and moisture should be taken care of. Fancy begonias require much the same treatment as the plants mentioned. Night temperature of the begonia should be as near 65 degrees as possible. Cyclamen should be placed in a cool room and given sunshine whenever possible. Moisture, an even temperature of around 50 degrees, and good drainage should be given. If aphids appear, spray with nicotine sulphate, a teaspoonful to a pint of water. When plants finish blooming in the Spring they should be allowed to remain dormant until the first of September, then bulbs should be taken from old pots and repotted. While the weather continues warm, keep plants slightly shaded and well watered. When azaleas finish blooming they should be kept moist and in a cool room until Spring. Then they should be planted outdoors in a partially shaded locality. Foliage should be watered twice weekly. In the Fall azaleas can be removed again, placed in tubs and brought indoors. Until buds are well developed, plants should be disbudded, saving only the center bud on each shoot. All side buds should be removed. Plants should have reflected sunshine, but not strong hot sun. They should be well watered and should receive liquid cow manure at least every 10 days. As new soil is added, use one part sandy loam or sun-dried cow-mulch with one part leaf loam and enough peat moss to make soil fairly spongy.

Poinsettias are members of the euphorbia family. They are short-lived and require considerable attention for best results. They do not relish uneven temperatures or waterings. Even when given the best of attention they have a tendency to drop their leaves soon after Christmas. At this time they should be placed where it is cool and frost free. Containers, with plants and soil left in, should be placed on their sides and allowed to remain, unattended, in this position until the first of April. During this interval they should be given no water. In the Spring, place in the outdoor garden. As the Christmas blossoming time approaches, plenty of heat and sun are essentials.

## Start Now for Garden in Summer

If the Summer garden is to be all that we would have it, attention must be paid now to certain details. The time to make the plans, to do the actual work is now, while many plants, trees and shrubs are dormant, and while soil seems to be idle. Soil, however, is never idle. Chemical action and reactions are constantly at work. Soils must have attention, fertilizers must be given, there must be cultivation, perennials should be divided, the garden should be cleaned up, all diseased plants removed, new ones planted.

January is a good month in which to plant trees, shrubs and roses. Plant as soon now as possible in order that the roots may become well established before the windy season sets in. While it is best to plant most perennials in early September or early March, there are a few which can be planted during January. When planting peonies remember that they like a heavy soil with good drainage. Roots should not be planted more than two inches below the topmost eye or shoot.

### Plant in January.

For earliest possible bloom from outdoor gladiolus, plant new bulbs the last few days of January. Remember that these plants prefer a rich sandy loam; in addition to well-rotted barn manure, a handful of bone meal will prove beneficial. Gladiolus bulbs should be planted six inches deep and at least six inches apart. Protect young plants from a late frost by hilling soil around each tender shoot.

Dahlia tubers may or may not be lifted and dried. In normal seasons they come through fairly well, but they enjoy a rest period and some people prefer to lift and store them for a time. If dahlia tubers have been dug, they should be left in the sun for a day or two that they may dry out well, then they should be stored in a cool, dry, frost-proof place where the air circulation is good at all times. It is advisable to store tubers in dry sand and leave until planting time which is generally late Spring. Tubers may then also be divided. It is well to leave a few inches of the stem on the tubers when storing.

### Time for Spraying.

If you have been troubled with plant diseases of perennials during the growing season, now is a good time to give the crowns a thorough spraying, with either lime sulphur or bordeaux mixture. Rake all leaves and deposit either in a compost pile or in shrubbery beds as a mulch. Spray all trees and shrubs with a dormant bordeaux mixture or lime sulphur to control fungus diseases.

Be sure to pick up and burn all fallen tree branches, particularly if you have elm trees, to rid the place of the twig girler. Pick and burn all fallen leaves from rose bushes to control rust, leaf spot and mildew on roses. Cut and burn all rose blooms affected with thrip.

### New Roses Good.

Investigate some of the newer roses; they are really worth while. Buy plants only from reliable nurserymen. Better pay a good price and get good stock, although fewer in number than to purchase inferior or low grade plants, trees

walk tree planting, and to encourage the people to plant more trees in front of their properties and to do it in the approved way. If one likes a distinctive, characterful twisted, knotty tree, or a particular kind for one's yard or in the garden, that is different, and here one may indulge one's fancy. However, there is but one goal for good street tree-planting: Uniform types, sizes, distance apart and uniform pruning. This allows for the growth of the tree to get out of reach of the passerby, whether he be in a van, truck, or on foot. It takes away the accident hazards and gives the delightful appearance one sees when the green arch is made above with all trunks free of branches.

Of first importance: It is advisable to deal only with reliable nurserymen in purchasing trees and any kind of nursery stock. It is better to plant in the Fall that the stock may have opportunity to become adjusted before Summer. Trees to be transplanted should have approximately one-half the top removed, but care should be taken not to leave the tree with stubby ends. The tree's shape should be kept and branches thinned and slightly topped only, rather shrubs. Learn to know root systems. This is important. The life of the plant depends in large part upon its roots.

Fruit trees should be pruned in January. Be sure to plant more fruit trees this year. Fruit is an essential food; we need more of it. And what can be nicer than to have one's own "fig and vine" and to gather the fruits from them!

Prune all shrubs that bloom on new wood. Early Spring-blooming plants flower on old wood. Do not prune them until after they flower—the forsythia, bush honeysuckle and flowering quince. Shrubs, such as the crepe myrtle and the vitex bloom on new wood. Do not prune rose bushes until the latter part of February. This is important.

The demonstration table at the Garden Center this week will feature a showing of juniper-type evergreens sent direct to the Fort Worth Center from Boyne City, Mich. This is another of the recent exhibitions which the local Center has been featuring, showing plant materials from different parts of the country. The present collection consists of a dozen or more native species, some of which are rare and unusual.

Blossoming now in the Botanic Garden are the forsythia, cydonia (flowering quince) and native honeysuckles. The red berries of the pyracantha (Crataegus family) continue to hold the attention of visitors. The greenhouse has a very good showing now of euphorbias, tender cactus specimens, succulents of various kinds, and a few rare tropical plants.

## Early-Flowering Shrubs Are Cheering Interior Note

A most cheering indoor decorative note on cold, bleak days is an arrangement of some early-flowering shrub. Most of Spring blooming shrubs can be forced to bloom indoors. Place cut branches in water and allow them to open naturally. In this way one can almost see the Springtime appear, no matter the weather. If convenient, use a large tub which might be set in the basement or other advantageous place, fill tub with water and then spray branches with hot water several times a day, as a means of forcing. These branches will allow for unusual arrangements, and will last for days, even sprouting their leaves.

One may be very successful with the yellow forsythia, goldenbell; with the flowering quince, or Cydonia japonica, which may be red, pink or white, color depending upon earliness of forced bloom—they are white in mid-Winter, pink later and deep red in Spring; our native adelia, close kin to the forsythia; pussy-willows, redbuds, Cornelian cherry; the various spiraea, or bridal wreath, with dainty sprays of small, star-like blooms; the Juneberry, fronds of droopy white flowers; the yellow, close scented golden currant; cherry, peach and pear; Winter honeysuckle, white inconspicuous flowers, but fragrant; magnolias, their large flowers (if not too far ad-

vanced) may be used indoors and forced to bloom.

All such shrubs as bloom in early Spring from buds upon the branches of the past season, are however, injured by early Spring pruning. When Spring pruning is done, it is easy to see, one takes away the wood and bud from the shrub. There is another reason for allowing flowers to come and go before pruning: Flowering is followed by an attempt at seed and fruit production. Unless these seeds or fruits are ornamental, allowing them to grow will take much of the strength of the plant.

For reasons given above, the following shrubs should be pruned as soon as their blossoms fade: deutzia, dogwood (except the berryed sorts), forsythia, currants, honeysuckle, lilac, magnolia, weigela, spirea, snow-ball, climbing roses, rhododendrons, mock-orange, pearl bush, mountain laurel (kalmia) and flowering quince.

When fruits are borne by Spring-flowering shrubs, it is often wise to prune in Spring instead of just after flowering. Summer and Fall blooming shrubs are also pruned in Spring, such as: fruited sorts of viburnums; Summer-blooming spiraea; symphoricarpos (snow berry and buckbush); roses—baby ramblers, hybrid perpetuals, teas, hybrid teas; matrimony vine, hydrangea, barberry, bladdernut, bush althea, coral berry (also symphoricarpos), amorpha or false indigo.

## Now Is Time to Plan for Garden That Will Be Both Useful and Decorative

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Now is the time to get out the new plant and seed catalogs or at least to order them and also to read books on garden and nature appreciation. It is a part of our knowledge to have a sense of the value of such interests. The catalogs are published at considerable cost and should receive more than passing attention.

With the chaotic condition that now exists, due to the war, you may have to change your gardening plan, giving more time and space to useful vegetables. They can be as valuable in arrangement as flowers, and as beautiful. Study color combinations, design and form in arrangement.

Marshal your thoughts as to what your gardening needs will be this year; streamline your activities. Get estimates on the cost of all construction work, remembering that this too must be subject to sudden change. Try to afford one such accessory as a greenhouse, pool, seat, arbor, gateway or fence.

Plan your flower garden and vegetable area that there may be succession of color and food, with never an idle moment in the garden. Prune fruit trees and use dormant spray. Ordinary clay pots are now out of line for house plants, glazed being much better; if not glazed, then give pots a coat of paint to make them less porous.

Look well to your houseplants. They must have moisture and plenty of water. If sun-loving, give an occasional sun bath. Hardy perennials may be brought indoors and forced for early bloom, such as campanulas and delphiniums.

Start forcing bulbs that are sufficiently rooted. Propagate evergreens by cuttings. Maybe you would like to try growing mushrooms. It is fascinating and food-producing. Spray for red spider on plants that grow in hot, dry places. Poinsettias received at Christmas should be grown in the light as long as they appear healthy, then put them in the basement until May or June, leaving in pot and turning on side to dry.

Spade or plow garden soil, after a good dressing of well-rooted manure or other desirable fertilizer. Coal and wood ashes are

valuable to mix with heavy soil. Take out all dead branches from trees and shrubs. Spray lilacs and other shrubs for scale, using lime sulphur. Large trees, both evergreens and the deciduous, may be transplanted by digging a large ball and allowing it to freeze. Do the digging while the weather is mild; transplant when the ball is frozen.

Build a bird house. Birds ornament a garden as nothing else can do. First of all, they are necessary to plant life and reproduction of plant species. Remember to keep food and water in the garden for the birds when cold or dry weather prevails. Study the birds. Find out which ones are most helpful and encourage them especially. Try to understand something of the purposes of the birds and insects. Some are good and some are destructive; which and why?



SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 1943.

# Gardens Pay Many Fold for Compost Use

Now that one can not afford to waste even the table or garbage refuse, learn to use it in the garden. Many persons know the value of the compost, but hesitate to use it because it might breed flies, or produce an odor. Super-phosphate, scattered over the pile, will kill all fly maggots. If the pile of decaying vegetation has a generous springling of soil over the top, no odor will be present. It is perhaps better to use wire for the container (if you can get it) than a wooden box, unless you drill holes in the bottom that good drainage be had.

Chicken wire is excellent as a container. Get a length of this and make a large cylinder, with all the ends fastened together. Stand this upright in the garden over stakes which will hold it in place. The compost bed can be screened off with vines or shrubs so that it will not be seen in the garden. Put into this pile all lawn clippings, vegetable and fruit parings, and any and all humus, leaves, small broken branches or twigs from trees, tree bark. Place such materials in the container until there are about six inches of it. Then cover with six inches of good soil. Repeat this process until the container is full.

When ready to use it, unfasten the ends of the wire, fork over the material, mixing it thoroughly. Leave exposed to sun and air a day or two; and then fork it again. Do this for several days until mixture is well sunned and aired. It will then be ready for use. And the plants and flowers lucky enough to get a good dressing of this compost will repay a thousand-fold in health and beauty. If something is needed to make the compost bed decay more quickly, try the following: For each 100 cubic feet of leaves, vegetation and compost material, work in 5 pounds of lime, 15 pounds super-phosphate and five pounds potash, mixing thoroughly.

# Plan Your Garden in Detail Before You Turn a Clod; It Prevents Bad Mistakes

Before the first clod is turned in the garden, one should have a carefully studied plan. Much waste of energy and money could be eliminated thereby. Design, which includes color and balance, is very important, not only in the flower garden, but in the vegetable garden as well. Study nursery stocks, color, size and habits of plants to be considered. Visit well designed municipal gardens and see how the contemplated plants, trees and shrubs look in an established place. Trees and shrubs form the most important part of the planting, since they take care of backgrounds. Take care how these are used. Visualize your garden a year hence, or two or three years hence.

Trees and shrubs have a way of exceeding all bounds, necessary as they are. Be careful about planting them near sewer lines, too close to house walls, boundaries of any kind or walks. Study similar trees as those you expect to use, in some other setting, where they have several years' growth upon them. All plant materials should have the space to develop equally well from all sides. Such shrubs or young trees as ligustrums, cherry laurels and Italian cypress or other tall-growing junipers should be placed not closer than 10 feet of a wall, boundary or path. All shrubs, unless very compact, should have at least three feet of space between them and a wall. Vines should be not closer to a wall than one foot. One's neighbor has a right to consideration, remember. Plantings should not be close enough to a property line to encroach, or to obstruct view for the neighbor, nor should plantings be made where, allowing for growth, plants will scratch vehicles or injure passing pedestrians.

Learn to be patient, allowing for growth. Trees and shrubs should not overlap, not be allowed to grow into each other. Plant heavier materials sparingly, filling in spaces with annual or perennials. Study your needs for particular places. Do not plant a small tree (that may grow into a tall tree) under a window; if a bare wall space is in need of softening with a shrub or tree, be sure to select one that will give you the desired effect. Will you want an evergreen planting or shrubs for flowers, such as some of the deciduous shrubs can give? Think this through. Roots of trees and shrubs have a spread generally comparable to the spread of the branches. Sometimes a large root can force a foundation stone out of place.

Study color effects and combinations before planting. Remember to plant at the proper time. When once a plant is at the height of its loveliness of bloom and foliage, it is too late to do anything about it in your garden until another planting season comes around.

Deciduous trees and shrubs should be planted when dormant; that is, when leaves drop off in the Fall and before buds form in the Spring. Evergreens may be

planted in the Spring, late October or in November. Grass seeds may be sown in Spring or early Fall, not later than the latter part of September. Iris should be planted after the blossoming season is past; lilies and other hardy bulbs in the Autumn at various times. Fall blooming perennials should be planted in the Spring; Spring bloomers late in September or early October. Mulching is important. All planting should be made when the soil is moist or just before a rain. Remember that all plantings should be well watered and the soil well packed about roots of newly-set-out plants.

Buy plant materials only from reliable dealers and purchase grade A or No. 1 plants—cheapest and best in the long run. Use vines plentifully; they require less root space and afford good coverage.

Plan for a rose garden this year. Roses, once their needs are properly understood, are easy to grow and returns are great. Get the compost pile under way. It will not be easy to get commercial fertilizers this year. Locate some well rotted barnyard manure. You may need it later.

Plan the garden now.

# GARDEN CLUBS MAP PROGRAM FOR WAR MEET

## Mrs. Frank A. Huwieler Names Committee for Conference to Be Held Here February 23 and 24.

Mrs. Frank A. Huwieler, first vice president of Texas Garden Clubs, Inc., and chairman for the war conference of the organization, to be held here February 23 and 24, named Mrs. Allen B. Hannay, Mrs. G. J. Palmer and Mrs. George A. Hill, Jr., members of an advisory committee to aid her in making plans for the meeting, and Mrs. H. R. Funk as secretary and treasurer.

Members of the ways and means committee are: Mrs. John E. Green, Jr., chairman; Mrs. T. A. Anderson, Mrs. Frank Smith, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Hannay, Mrs. W. H. Benton, Mrs. J. W. Slaughter, Mrs. William Ward Watkin, Mrs. B. F. Bonner and Mrs. Palmer. Mrs. Smith was named to head the transportation committee and Mrs.

Herbert Neuhaus the garden tour. Mrs. Benton, head of the hospitality committee, is to be assisted by members of Chevy Chase Garden Clubs and Mrs. Smith by these

# HEADS CONFERENCE



Mrs. Frank A. Huwieler, first vice president, Texas Garden Clubs, Inc., who will serve as chairman for the war conference of the group here February 23 and 24.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 1943.

# Gardening School Will Start Monday

The Fort Worth Garden Center announces its second Victory Garden and Nature School, beginning Monday and extending through Friday, Jan. 29, Saturdays and Sundays excepted, to be held at the Garden Center in the Botanic Garden.

As last year, the theme will be "Vitalizing for Victory." There will be 50 consecutive hours devoted to landscaping of home grounds and civic beautification; floriculture and seasonal flower gardening; flowers and vegetables, fruits and berries in arrangements for wartime; orchards and vegetable gardens, berry and grape vines; conservation and applied nature, with short field trips into the Garden, if desired.

Round table discussion will follow each one-hour program; each program will be informative and persons may attend any or all classes. All programs are open to the general public without charge. Persons expecting to attend classes are asked to call the Garden Center, Phone 7-3330, although advance registration is not necessary. Mrs. Will Lake, director of the Garden Center, will be in charge of the programs. Monday and Tuesday programs for this week follow:

- Monday.**
- 10-11 a. m., Landscaping—Principle of Garden Design and Landscape Art, D. D. Obert, city forester, Fort Worth.
- 11-12 a. m., Floriculture and Seasonal Flower Gardening—Primary Principles of Gardening, Mrs. Jack Knight.
- 2-3 p. m., Wartime Fruit, Vegetable and Flower Arrangements—Containers Suggest Materials and Design, Mrs. Alfred McKnight.
- 3-4 p. m., Orchards and Vegetable Gardens, Berries and Vines—Soils and Their Preparation, M. C. Counts, County Agent.
- 4-5 p. m., Conservation Principles and Applied Botany—The Importance of Botany and Plant Knowledge (simple fundamentals), Mrs. C. A. Gantt, biology instructor, Paschal High School.

# Gardening at Centers and Homes Urged

Garden Centers for every community and backyard gardens for every householder is the program strongly urged by Mrs. Will Lake, Garden Center director.

"Transportation being what it is and rationing being in effect, it behooves every backyard gardener to produce enough vegetables this year to take care of his own family, and some to spare for a neighbor. And it is important that temporary garden centers, as a means of dispensing gardening information, be set up as quickly as possible," Mrs. Lake declares.

If the war continues, flower gardens in city back yards will be called upon to furnish food for the Nation, Mrs. Lake believes. As local chairman for the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc., Mrs. Lake stressed the need for informing small gardeners on the basic principles and purposes of soils, birds, insects and such influencing factors, as well as how to secure and use by-products of raw garden foods.

At least one Fort Worth group, the Oakhurst Garden Club, has already set up the garden center Mrs. Lake suggests. The building is almost ready, and the planting of grounds and educational programs will begin soon. Other local centers are being planned, Mrs. Lake said.

The garden centers should promote conservation, horticulture, and chemistry, and should be easily accessible and ready at all times to give definite information to the public, and in general act as a clearing house for gardening, nature and civic interests. And above all, they should be put into action immediately, Mrs. Lake emphasizes.

## VICTORY GARDEN SCHOOL.

The Fort Worth Garden Center announces its Second Victory Garden School to be held Jan. 18-29 at the Garden Center.

There will be a total of 50 hours, from 10-12 a. m. and from 2-5 p. m. daily, devoted to the landscaping of home grounds; seasonal planting helps; vegetable, fruit and berry gardens; arrangement of flowers, fruits and vegetables for the home, both indoors and out, and nature appreciation. Local authorities will conduct the programs.

All classes are open to the public without charge. The detailed program will be announced later.

Mrs. Will Lake, director of the Garden Center, urges the importance of vegetable gardening this year and suggests that persons interested in raising backyard vegetables begin their activities, such as planning, clean-up, dormant spraying and soil preparation, at once.

Tuesday.

10-11 a. m., Landscaping—Fundamentals for the Home Ground, Obert.

11-12 a. m., Floriculture and Seasonal Flower Gardening—Annuals and Perennials for Home Gardens, Mrs. Knight.

2-3 p. m., Wartime Fruit, Vegetable and Flower Arrangements—Morale Builders: Beauty for Hospitals, Churches and Service Camps, Mrs. McKnight.

3-4 p. m., Orchards and Vegetable Gardens, Berries and Vines—Fun and Fundamentals in a Vegetable Garden, Miss Lucy Lee Maynard, Home Demonstration Service.

4-5 p. m., Conservation Principles and Applied Botany—Insects and the Part They Play, Mrs. Gantt.

## Flowers and Shrubs Will Continue to Adorn Parks

The Fort Worth Park system, including Botanic Garden, will continue to grow flowers and shrubs to provide passive recreation for the home folks as well as new residents and hundreds of visitors. Mrs. Will F. Lake, secretary of the Park Board and director of the Garden Center, said Sunday.

"Our park system has a national reputation," Mrs. Lake said. "Whereas the national goal for park facilities is 35 persons to the acre, in Fort Worth we have an acre of park property for every 18 persons.

"We have no thought of planting vegetables in the parks. The beauty of flowers and shrubs is a morale builder to hundreds of persons. We advise vegetable gardens to private flower gardens and we are ready to assist those who are planting vegetable gardens, but the

Botanic Garden and other park properties will remain devoted to their present beauty."

Mrs. Lake said that in England the planting and cultivation of flowers and shrubs had been encouraged by the government, and horticultural shows have been continued as one of the most potent means of maintaining morale.

Mrs. Hubert Hammond Crane, president of the Fort Worth Garden Club, earlier had explained that while the club wants to aid those planting vegetable gardens, its purpose is to encourage all types of gardening.

In inviting the general public, as well as club members, to come to the Garden Center for information about gardening, Mrs. Crane said that the club's efforts to encourage vegetable gardening had been misunderstood in some quarters.

## Counts Speaks at Opening of Victory Garden School

Theory that the moon influences plantings was exploded Monday in a talk by County Agent Counts to the opening day classes of the Victory Garden School. Attendance was high despite inclement weather.

Counts made a plea for a closer study of soils and plant needs and gave a few pointers on some of the new plants for food production, such as soybeans.

D. D. Obert, city forester, gave the historical background of gardens in the opening talk, and stressed the value of landscape design.

Mrs. Jack Knight spoke on primary principles of gardening. She emphasized the fundamentals, such as proper soil management, the right kind of implements and equipment, good seeds and quality in nursery stock.

Mrs. Alfred McKnight demonstrated the value of the container in flower arrangements, and showed the importance of using such materials as are easily available at all times.

Mrs. C. A. Gantt, biology instructor at Paschal High School, spoke on the importance of plant knowledge, simple botany and function

Wednesday schedule for Victory Garden School:

Hostesses will be the South Side Garden Club, Mrs. L. G. Moreland, president.

10-11 a. m.: How to Have a Good Lawn (control of weeds), Luther Pope, supervisor of Fort Worth Botanic Garden.

11-12 a. m.: Practical Planting and Pruning of Rose Bushes, Mrs. Ireland Hampton (demonstration).

2-3 p. m.: Miniature Flower Arrangements as a Wartime Hobby, Mrs. Tylor Dean.

3-4 p. m.: Texas and Southwestern Plants in a Distinctive Landscape Design (Why Not Feature Native Materials?), Mrs. Will Lake.

4-5 p. m.: Diseases and Insect Control on Garden Vegetables, L. L. Stirland. Talk to be illustrated with natural color movies.

of plants. Her talk was illustrated with color charts.

All talks were followed by round-table discussions. Hostesses for Monday were the Fort Worth Garden Club, of which Mrs. H. H. Crane is president. The school will continue through Friday.

## Exhibit Will Show Victory Garden

The exhibit table at the Garden Center this week will be arranged by Mrs. Victor Tinsley and will feature vegetables and seeds, with a miniature vegetable garden in operation, scare-crow and all. The scene will depict a Victory Garden, a suggestion for Victory Garden luncheons.

There also will be a showing of old herbals, flower books and early garden almanacs, these books to be featured for Sunday only.

A new tree, the black alder, a native of East Texas, is in flower now near the first rustic bridge on the right of the reflecting pool at the entrance to the nature trails. This tree is now several years old and seems to like its home in the Botanic Garden. The catkins are unusually decorative as they appear on the bare branches of the tree, male and female flowers both being found on the same tree.

The ajuga, bugle flower, a lovely mass of azure color, this Spring will grace the entrance to the Garden under the junipers, near the main shelter. Other new additions to the shelter area are several cape jasmine shrubs. The native deciduous euonymus, now in full fruit, the seeds a rich tomato red in color, are engaging the attention of the visitors. These are to be found under the mesquites and locusts near the rock gardens. They are commonly known as Indian wahoo.

The bush honeysuckle is coming into flower also, and is wafting its fragrance over the areas in which it grows.

Visitors to the Garden are interested in the stone work of walks and buildings, calling attention particularly to the designs in the floor of the shelter and the walks that lead from the shelter to the Garden. There is in the main floor a Texas Star, also a globular pattern fashioned from the stone, and the map of Texas is to be found just before one approaches the steps that lead to the wildflower and cactus garden.

## Victory Gardeners Told to Begin Planting Now

Certain vegetables should be planted as quickly as possible now, Miss Gayle Roberts of the Tarrant County Extension Service told the Victory Gardening School Tuesday. It was the second day of the school.

Although there is a danger of freeze if vegetables are planted too early, late planting subjects them to warm weather insects, she said. She listed beets, English peas, tendergreen and south curl mustard, carrots, Bermuda and green onions, New York head lettuce and

Simpson leaf lettuce for early planting.

Mrs. C. A. Gantt, biology instructor at Paschal High School, discussed helpful and harmful insects.

Donald Obert talked on the importance of keeping the front yard simple and in unity with the yard next door.

Mrs. Jack Knight named some flowering plants that give good results in this locality. She also spoke on the value of annuals and perennials in the garden to give color effect.

## Importance of Garden Frame Is in Affording Good Start to Seedlings

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

The amateur gardener may not realize the importance of the garden frame. It is particularly important in this climate that seedlings and tender plants may get off early to a good start. Useful for protecting, propagating and growing plants, the wood frame is truly an essential medium in any well-regulated garden. The hotbed is a heated cold frame, a kind of glass house or incubator for the plant babies. A single frame, which should be movable, is generally three feet by six feet in size, or its capacity may be doubled with additional frames. The wood should be durable and preferably of cypress or Western cedar. It may be necessary even, with conditions as they are today, to construct it of pine or even of box boarding. This bottomless box should have a removable top, glazed with glass, or covered with some transparent material. There should be a subfoundation, if possible, of masonry or wood, extending from 12 to 24 inches below the soil surface. General dimensions are 18 inches high in the rear, 12 inches in front, the sloping ends joining the two heights, with cross bars to support the sash.

The four-sash frame (6x12) is a present day favorite with gardeners, because it allows for both the cold frame and the hotbed under one unit. Electric heating is an aid today in the hotbed, but formerly warm air flues, hot water or steam pipes, warm air from a heated basement, and just plain fermenting barnyard manure (especially fresh horse manure) were employed in the process. Improvements are constantly being made, and the reader is referred to Government bulletins issued by the Department of Agriculture, public utility corporations and the manufacturers of electrical equipment for such purposes.

For the cold frame, fitted wooden shutters and covers may be used as protection from extreme cold. These may be made of dressed shiplap and should be painted. Mats may be of burlap or cheap canvas plain or quilted, the latter to be stuffed with straw, or an old bed quilt may be used.

A slope to the south is most desirable for the structure, but there are advantages in a north slope. Buildings, hedges or board fences are desirable as protection for the frame. A hedge on three sides, would provide excellent protection and at the same time screen the frame, but it should not be too high. The best hotbed material is fresh manure, with the addition of leaves of oak, elm or other trees to the extent of one-third of the bulk, there will be an allowance for an extended heating period, with a lesser range of temperature. The addition of leaves

in a bed two and one-half feet deep will extend the heating period 10 to 12 weeks. With plain stable manure, plus bedding straw, the period of heat is completed within two months.

Method of preparation of organic materials for hotbed follows: Mix thoroughly stable manure and leaves and place in a pile about four feet wide and four feet high, extended length optional. Wet material thoroughly, but do not saturate. Within a week the pile should begin to steam, indicating active fermentation. When pronounced steaming takes place for two days, the material should be turned and remixed, changing from the outside to the center. Heating is more rapid after the second turning, and in 10 to 11 days from commencement the pile should be ready for the hotbed, the amount to be used depending on the season of the year and the crop to be grown.

Most crops will do well in a bed of 18 inches (minimum) in depth, with material firmly packed and spread evenly. After packing soil must then be added, the kind depending of course on what is wanted to be grown. The depth should be five or six inches, except where plants are to be raised in flats or pots, and then only about three inches are required. Seed may be sown when temperature of the bed is falling from 90 degrees Fahrenheit. Watering and ventilation should be carefully done, for young, tender plants may be easily burned from dryness and excessive heat. There should be no cold drafts allowed to enter frame. A notched stick, placed under the raised window on top of frame, is the simplest device for ventilation.

Generally speaking, the hotbed should be under way six to eight weeks before time to sow in the open. Remember to provide ample space between seedlings; water early in the day, never toward night; unless electrically or thermostatically controlled, regulate the temperature by ventilation, since ventilation allows fumes of decomposition to escape and maintain temperatures allowing for steady growth of plants.

Feb 28 - 1943

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You will be impressed further with the large number of picturesque bridges that span the Trinity River as it winds its way through the city; also you may like to take into account the tops of the buildings the towers which are located in various localities and which help to give distinction to the skyline.

Residents get into the habit of taking the city for granted; visitors are finding the vistas very interesting. Let us appreciate the interests that we have at home and learn to know more about them. What pleasant afternoons, or even whole days, may be spent in the parks and municipal gardens of Fort Worth! On weekends a day in almost any locality will reveal hitherto hidden pictures or interests.

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play apparatus and in most cases, an outdoor theater with seats. Why not take advantage of these? Notice the unusual and distinctive locations of the schools, the beautiful vistas.

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Already far in advance of many cities in the United States in its park acreage, in the character of its schools, in cultural pursuits, in programs of entertainment for the public, in industrial interest, in the spirit and personality of its people, the city looks to its hundredth birthday with a great deal of pride—a march of progress that is highly commendable, as cities go. The bluffs and forks of the Trinity have long been citadels of freedom. May they always so remain. And may the city rise to an appreciation of its many and varied interests, scenic, educational and industrial, and thereby build a greater and nobler city upon its first foundations.

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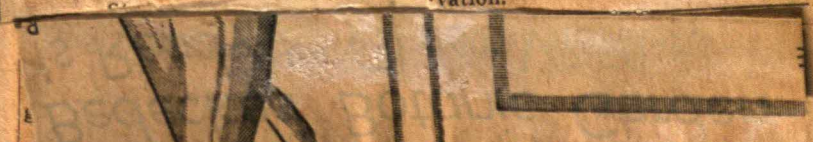
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Keep weeds down with cultivator or hoe. Place garden stakes as plants make reasonable height. Make a sowing of melon and cucumber seeds for the cold frame as soon as earlier stuff is out of the way. Do not mow lawns until grass reaches a height of at least two inches. Prune evergreens just before growth starts. Fertilize trees and shrubs before growth begins. If there is evidence of scale, spray with dormant early spray, before buds open.

Remember you can enjoy your early blooming shrubs, and give the plant the needed pruning as you cut the blossoms for indoor decoration. Do not prune early blooming shrubs until after they bloom. Cut out all dead wood from the garden trees and shrubs. Clean up the premises, and destroy all harbors for insects, such as broken tree branches, air-pockets in shrubs and other niches. Start your canna and dahlia tubers in the cellar. Start your begonias in frames.

On a warm, sunny day when buds first begin to swell, if not already done, spray deciduous trees and shrubs with Winter strength lime-sulphur solution, according to maker's directions to destroy various insects and plant diseases. Prune worthless and dead wood from rambler and brier roses.

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## Bedecked Botanic Garden Ready to Greet Visitors

Botanic Garden, with its trimming of beautiful flowers and brightly colored birds, is ready to greet visitors Sunday.

The flowering quince is showing its flame color, the golden-bell is bearing out its name, and the wild plums and redbuds are rapidly coming into bloom. Dozens of cardinals, mockingbirds, robins and bluejays are adding to the beauty of the setting with their color and their songs.

Other flowers and shrubs now in bloom are the fragrant bush honeysuckle, the orange-colored native barberry, called Senisa, algerita and agarita, the hembit with its tiny lavender blooms, and the trailing vinca, grape hyacinths and dog-tooth violets, and golden jonquils. The native wild peach and the

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Hostesses at the Garden Center Sunday will be Miss Sue Harding, Mrs. Roy Stevens, Mrs. Ernest Petteway, president of North Fort Worth Garden Club, and other members of that club.

## You May Get Ahead of Bugs by Planting Vegetables Now, Taking Chance on Freeze

Take a chance on a few early vegetables. Money loss will be slight even if a hard freeze comes, and you may reap a big reward by getting in ahead of the bugs. Vitamin A, known as the anti-infection vegetable, and iron are found in leafy, green and yellow vegetables. Vitamin C is also found in these, an element essential for growth. The deeper the green color, the more vitamin A there is in the vegetable. Vitamin C is found in tomatoes, fresh or canned. Eat turnips, cabbage and onions raw for vitamin C. Supplement milk, meat or eggs with dried beans, as the beans will help to bring up the iron and protein content of your diet. We need a slight excess of bases over acids in the human body, sometimes called "the alkali reserve," therefore vegetables should be used plentifully, particularly potatoes.

Remember that the greens, reds and yellow vegetables (spinach, mustards, beets, carrots) are all conditioners, and are necessary in the diet, all having vitamin A. These build up resistance to disease, especially in the respiratory tract. Vitamin B is an appetizer, helping to keep up our interest in food and promote good digestion. Teeth and bones need vitamin C. Good bone formation is obtained through the use of vegetables containing vitamin D. Vitamin G, (if you would ward off too early signs of old age,) keeps us well in any age. A small area given over to a few vegetables in any city backyard will reduce the grocery bill, build up the health of the family and afford pleasant recreation.

Beets may be planted now, a very good variety being Detroit, a good, juicy dark red. Crosby Egyptian is another good beet. Bermuda and varieties of green onions should be set out at once. Tendergreen and south curl are two good early mustards. Danvers and Chantenay carrots should produce good results if planted soon. Bloomsdale Savoy spinach is a dependable early-growing vegetable, and Copenhagen Market cabbage is reliable generally in the late winter or early spring vegetable garden. There are many other good varieties of early maturing vegetables which are to be had locally.

The location of the vegetable garden is important. It should be placed as close as possible to the kitchen, with regard for design. Drainage should be good and sunshine should be plentiful. Any good garden soil will grow vegetables, but a sandy loam is best. Heavier clay and blackland soils are more fertile, but harder to work. Today barnyard manure is more available and is a good fertilizer. This should be well rotted and worked well into the soil.

### SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

The Garden Center announces a showing this week of prize-winning garden club year books, selected from the different states. This competition is arranged each year by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, Boston, which awards the prizes, and the books are lent to different cities for display.

The exhibition will be taken to Houston Tuesday and Wednesday where it will be shown at the annual Spring meeting of the Texas Garden Clubs, Inc., the remainder of the week and until the middle of the following week it will be at the Garden Center. Garden Club presidents are especially invited to see the books. The exhibition is open to the public.

Remember that the hotbed and cold frame are the best aids for the early gardener. Cultivation of beds is essential after vegetables reach any growth, particularly important if rainfall is scarce. Be sure to select good seeds. Size of the vegetable garden should meet the needs of the family.

Don't limit the garden to mustard greens and beans. Make the work interesting. It can become a game in any family, with hearty and pleasant rivalry as to which member of the family can excel in whatever he or she has chosen to grow. There is abundant health to be found in the exercise one gets in making a garden, to say nothing of the nourishment from the vegetables themselves. While lettuce, cabbage, onions, beets, turnips and radishes are good, remember also that broccoli, asparagus and spinach are excellent for the food supply. English peas may be planted now to advantage, taking care as the peas grow in trenches to hill a little soil about them from time to time until the plants can weather without help from the gardener. When combining vegetables with flowers in beds, use parsley, radishes, onions, greens of any kind, such as spinach and mustard, for foreground borders; and when using them thin out alternately and plant a seed or small plant in the space made vacant, that another plant may be coming along. By alternate thinning, the appearance of the border will not be especially disturbed.

## Fragrant Flowers Serve for Decorating Gardens, Are Useful for Cutting

Flowers that are fragrant add a charm note to the garden. These may be useful for cutting and for garden decoration. Climbers bearing fragrance may be trained over walls, windows, porches and arbors. If there is a favorite walk or alley sweet smelling shrubs or plants may be used to flank it.

Many flowers give off their perfume only at night, such as the evening stock. Honeysuckles, tuberose and the garden pink are in this class. If these are planted near the house the perfumes will be wafted through open windows on the night air. The sweet brier, the box and the common myrtle need usually to have their leaves bruised a bit that the fragrance may be in evidence, but a heavy rain releases their sweetness also.

Scents do not clash with each other as definitely as do colors, therefore one may use several kinds of plants that are fragrant in the same bed, if desired. The plantings may be so arranged the seasons may each produce their own kinds of perfume. Coming early are the jonquils, narcissi, daffodils, hyacinths, grape-hyacinths and tulips (especially the early and cottage types); irises, wall-flowers, primroses and lily-of-the-valley.

## Magazine Has Article on Garden Here

Fort Worth's Botanic Garden, which had its inception during the depression as a project to make work for idle men and has grown to gain nationwide attention as one of the country's beauty spots, is given further recognition in the recent issue of the magazine, Parks and Recreation.

Written by Mrs. Will F. Lake, director of the Garden Center, a unit of the garden, the article, entitled "A Pioneer in Southwestern Garden History," is accompanied by photographs.

"This garden is an expression of democracy in its best form," Mrs. Lake states in the article. "It is a real sanctuary for the soul of man, whether there is war or peace."

"Unlike most botanic gardens, where plants are grown simply as specimens, every tree, shrub and flower in the Fort Worth garden is used to create an effect."

Fort Worth has far exceeded the goal of park properties for its population, the ratio now being one park acre for each 18 inhabitants, the article states. Within the last 10 years, the city has landscaped, developed and finished more than 100 municipal gardens and parks.

The article, requested by the editor, Henry Skinner, is one of a series the magazine has been running on botanic gardens of the Americas.

Because of interest occasioned by mention of the Bird's Christmas Tree Program, Abbot Condit, managing editor of the magazine, Recreation, has requested articles with photographs for his magazine.

## Tree-Planting Is Urged to Provide Shelter for Our Insect-Eating Birds

Are you one of those persons who minimizes the importance of trees and birds in the wartime program? Would you set them aside for the duration, that we might the better fight the enemy? Read the following Government reports, for a different viewpoint: "If all birds were exterminated today, there would not be a man, woman or child alive in three years. Many birds eat their weight in insects daily. A pair of birds and their young have been found to consume from 300 to 10,000 insects in a single day. In the stomach of a single flicker, Government experts found 5,000 ants. Martins and swallows have been known to consume on an average of 3,000 mosquitoes in a day. It is claimed that one family of jays will eat 1,000,000 caterpillars in a single season.

Sparrows (generally known as pests), are credited with saving the farmers of this country more than \$100,000,000 annually by their destruction of insects and weed seeds. It is estimated that in Massachusetts alone, birds destroy, from May until September, 21,000 bushels of insects daily, and in New York 3,000,000 bushels annually. This enormous consumption of insects and weed seeds is made possible because of the rapid digestion of birds. Food, it is stated, passes through the process of digestion in birds in from 20 to 90 minutes."

Back of the birds, there are the trees. "No trees—no birds" is a good slogan for us to remember. Treeless lands mean more troubles to those who would have farms, yards and lawns. Fewer trees, fewer birds mean more abandoned farms, and subsequently more people to be taken care of by the taxpayer.

Birds save the farmer millions of dollars annually; trees are keys to prosperity; reforestation is a boon to the farmer. The Government is extensively engaged in reforestation programs, but this is a job in which all of us can have a part. If you have idle land, land

## Center to Have Woods Exhibit

There will be an exhibition of woods, cross sections of native trees, and types of bark at the Garden Center this week.

Texas is fortunate in having a number of trees that are useful industrially, and some of these will be featured in this exhibition.

Bulletins, pamphlets and books on native trees, as well as those ornamental and industrially useful will be shown throughout the week.

There will also be a showing of antique bird prints, some original Wilsons, Audubons, Lizars and Bonapartes, and recent books featuring birds will be exhibited.

now given over to erosion, why not try planting it in tree seedlings? Now is the time before the soil becomes further damaged.

Fruit and nut trees will prove a blessing; not only will these help feed your family, but they may help feed a worthy nation. Such a project would be a patriotic gesture today, and it will yield an income on your property and increase its value. We have helped to destroy land and timber; why not do something to help bring it back again?

The cry of all loyal, patriotic citizens everywhere in these perilous times of war is: "What can I do?" We can all do our bit at home or on the farm by joining those who are engaged in reforestation. Billions of trees should be planted throughout the United States this year, even now while the season of planting for this year is still with us. These trees will provide shade, moisture, timber and fuel, hereby helping to check soil erosion; and further, they will supply homes for insect-eating birds.

## Garden Clubs of State Will Meet Feb. 23

The Texas Garden Clubs, Inc., will convene in Houston Feb. 23 with headquarters at the Rice Hotel and the next morning, Mrs. Henry Trigg of Fort Worth, a past president of the organization, will preside at a conference breakfast of committee chairmen.

Mrs. Will F. Lake, also of Fort Worth, is a past president of the organization, and Mrs. R. E. Hutchison of Hotel Texas is secretary of the national council of state garden clubs and publicity chairman of the State Garden Clubs, Inc.

The state board will meet at 10 a. m. Feb. 23 and the convention will be called to order at 11 a. m. Luncheon will be at 12:30 p. m. with Mrs. G. C. Spillors of Tulsa presiding, assisted by Mrs. Lake, state program chairman and national chairman of garden centers. A camellia banquet will be held that night with Mrs. Ben G. O'Neal of Wichita Falls presiding.

On the Wednesday program will be a buffet luncheon at River Oaks Country Club, after which a tour of gardens will be held and then tea in the Garden Center with members of the Houston Federation of Garden Clubs as hostesses.

## Acre of Trees Can Supply Family of Five With Fruits in Season and for Canning

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

State horticulturists tell us that one-half to one acre of ground, planted to a variety of fruits, chosen to ripen in succession, will supply a family of five with fresh fruit in season and allow a surplus to can, dry, preserve and pickle for the winter. Fruits supply iron, calcium and other minerals for blood, bone and body processes. Vitamin A is also acquired through some fruits which helps to maintain a healthy condition of the eyes and of the thin layer of skin covering all the internal parts of the body. Vitamin B we also get from fruits, and this makes for normal steady nerves, and helps the body use energy supplied by starches and sugars. Fruits provide Vitamin C, necessary for good, strong walls of blood vessels, normal growth and maintenance of bones and teeth.

If possible, the orchard should be located near the house, and it should be a part of the landscape design. In areas where rainfall is scarce, the orchard should be planted where it will "catch water," but it should be in a place where drainage is good at all times. Livestock can quickly ruin an orchard, and for this reason the orchard should be fenced or protected in some way. Avoid if possible old worn out soils and old orchard sites for the new orchard location. Serious diseases of trees may be found in old stumps. Do not plant fruit or nut trees in soils that have shown previous symptoms of root rot or nematodes, the latter a tiny worm in the soil. Buy your new stocks from reliable nurserymen. This is always important as vigorous stock is highly desirable. The highest priced trees, when purchased from reliable dealers, are usually the best and, in the long run, the cheapest. Weak, runty trees are expensive at any price. One should not accept them even as a gift.

Consider varieties that will thrive in your locality, those that have been tested and have proved desirable. Now is a good time to get the orchard under way. Unpack immediately upon receipt from the nurseryman. Do not allow roots to be exposed to the air and to become dry. If trees can not be planted in permanent place at once, heel them in until planting time. Be sure that soil settles well around all roots, or air pockets will allow drying out of roots. Do not heel in where water stands. Be sure drainage is good, even for this. Water well when heeling in, if not to be re-planted at once. Plow soil deeply before planting. The best time to do this is early fall or winter, and it is well to plant a cover crop of some vetch, clover, rye or oats. When the tree is planted, the hole should be large enough to take care of all roots easily. Plant tree at same depth it was in former planting. In filling in the hole, spread the roots normally and pack soil firmly around it. In planting trees it is well to build a mound under the tree of soft, pliable soil, as in the planting of roses, over which the tree roots may rest.

Spacing of trees should be done carefully. Where the orchard is terraced, allow some time to elapse after soil is prepared before

planting trees, in order that the soils may settle properly. A terrace for each tree row is a good way to insure moisture and plant food. Trees planted on top of terraces do exceptionally well usually. If trees are not on terraces, follow the contour of terraces in planting the rows. The following spacing rule is a good one by which to go: peaches, 25-30 feet apart; pears, 30-40 feet; pecans, 40-60 feet; plums, 20-25 feet; figs, 20-25 feet; grapes, 12-16 feet; blackberries, 3 feet apart in a row, rows to be 6 feet apart; dewberries, 4 feet apart in row, rows to be 6 feet apart; strawberries, plant 10 inches apart in row, rows 2½ feet apart.

Protect your trees with wind-breaks and remember that summer cultivation is important. In planting it is well to add a shovel-ful of manure to each three shovel-fuls of soil and fill in around the roots. Trees should be cut back at the time they are planted in order to maintain as nearly as possible the balance between tops and roots.

The pruning that a tree receives at the time of planting and during the next two or three years thereafter has much to do with its future.

## Care Needed in Plotting War Garden

Do not let your enthusiasm in planting a Victory Garden run away with your better judgment. Gardeners may be tempted to plow up lawns, destroy ornamental plantings and commit other atrocities, but that isn't necessary now.

If we look about, we will find abundant space, either in our own yards or on an adjacent lot, where we can make our war garden. Careful study will show unexpected places where some plants will thrive.

Scarlet runner beans, delicious as food, will make an attractive background. Squash and pumpkins thrive when planted on a trash heap, providing food and screening unsightly places. Lettuce, carrots, parsnips, parsley, beets and onions make a creditable appearance when grown in a flower border.

The frame garden should be under way by now. By putting it near water connections, it will be productive throughout the year.

Now is also the time to get soil preparation under way, before the rainy season sets in. First plantings are in order, such as English peas, carrots, beets, cabbage, spinach, turnips, tender greens, radishes, mustard, onions and, if you want to take a chance on a frost, potatoes.

Peas must have a good deep root growth; therefore they should be set deeply in a trench with loose soil, and, as they come through, soil should be pulled around the tops for a while to set the roots down well. — MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

## Year-Round Gardens Are Advocated

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

County agents and enthusiastic vegetable gardeners are advocating the year-round garden for this locality.

It is not enough to plant a few vegetable seeds this Spring; one should work toward a larger program which will supply the family with foods throughout the year. This is possible with a knowledge of soil cultivation, proper vegetables for each season and information concerning food preservation through methods of canning and drying. Such a program, if put into effect at once, will not only insure food for family consumption, but will release supplies for the men in service, and our Allies.

Gardeners are spading, plowing and planting with greater zest and determination this year than ever before.

During the late Winter months, even now, we may plant English peas, beets, carrots, lettuce, spinach, mustard, onion plants, cabbage plants and, a little later, Irish potatoes. To stimulate early growth inoculate the English pea seed with nitrogen bacteria. Little Marvel or Thomas Laxton are the two best varieties for this section of Texas. As soon as danger of frost is over, plant green beans, lima beans, lettuce, pepper, okra, tomatoes and corn.

The average farm family will find it an advantage to have a field garden in addition to the regular kitchen vegetable garden. The rows should be made wide enough to cultivate with field equipment. In this larger garden one may plant sweet potatoes, cushaws, pumpkins, cantaloupes, watermelons, black-eyed peas and pinto beans.

Where garden space is limited, follow the English peas with a planting of sweet corn; the Irish potatoes with black-eyed peas. Plant a part of your radish and spinach seeds now and two or three weeks later plant the remainder of the seeds. As soon as the vegetables from the Spring garden are harvested, soils should be prepared for Fall and Winter plantings.

Before plowing, weeds and dead plants should be cut and removed from the garden. When turned under at this season, heating takes places which dries out the top soil and prevents thorough cultivation. When the Fall rains come, as early as September, one may plant beans, English peas, potatoes, radishes, tender greens and squash which will mature before frost. The more hardy plants which will withstand a heavy frost are collards, onions, spinach and kale. According to Miss Lucy Lee Maynard, county home demonstration agent, a supply of fresh, crisp vegetables may be had the year round by careful planning and by utilizing all of the available space.

## Texas Soil and Climate Permits Extremely Wide Choice of Bulbous Plants

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Here and there throughout the city one sees the first signs of Spring, the blossoms of certain bulbous plants, the narcissi, crocuses, tulips, jonquils, anemones, ranunculus, hyacinths and early-blooming irises. We see the green creeping into the grass—the sap is rising in the trees, while the season still slumbers in the lap of Old Man Winter. And all because the bulbs have glorified their small space of ground and are sharing their beauty. There seems to be a growing interest in bulbous plants. Well there may be in Texas, for the Caddo Lake region of East Texas alone has innumerable species of this type of plant. In fact, botanists have made explorations there for the longest time. We need to investigate for ourselves and find out those plants that will grow well here in our own gardens. Surely, there are many we could use to advantage.

How strange it is that we wait until the wrong season for garden activity. That is, we see the fruits of our labors ahead of the labors, as we envision beauty in flower. The time to prepare soils and to set out most bulbous plants is in the Fall, for Spring flowering. Heavy soils should be lightened by 2 to 3 inches of sand and 2 inches of well rotted manure worked well into the soil. The soil should be loosened to a depth of 1½ feet, but subsoil should never be brought to the top. Soils should be kept open or friable, as this will insure better aeration and a higher temperature. If decayed stable manures are used, or sheep manure, and it is applied in the Fall, stir soil to a depth of 12 inches. If fresh manures are used they should be in the ground several months before planting. Soils in all cases should be rich, friable, deep, well supplied with humus, and well drained.

Do not plant bulbs soon after a rain or while ground is soggy. This is not the case, however, with sandy soils, since sandy soils dry out very quickly and after a few hours of sun following rain the ground may be worked and planted with ease. If one wishes a good display of blooms, with all about the same height, one should plant only solid bulbs of a uniform size. A medium solid bulb is far better than an extra large, spongy one. Bulbs should be planted a uniform depth in the soil, but proper depth is somewhat affected by type of soil. Bulbs planted in heavy soil should be set nearer the surface; those in light soil may be planted deeper. Bulbs planted on an eastern or southeastern exposure bloom earlier than those planted on the north or west.

Depths of planting varies: chionodoxa must be planted to a depth of 4 inches; crocus, the same; tulips, 6 inches; hyacinths, should be on sand base and 8 inches deep; grape hyacinths and squills should be planted 5 inches deep and snowdrops, 4 inches. Nearly all bulbs will allow for a ground cover of small roots above them. There are many little plants useful for this purpose, and often they play a double and a triple role in the life of the border. For the small bulb in particular, the little creeper is a real boon. It shields the delicate blossoms from the mud brought about by Spring rains, and in Winter provides a covering that holds them in the ground when heavy freezes come. Some of these

bloom with the bulbs, and others later, providing a second crop of blossoms from the same spot. Meantime there are no blanks left by the departed bulbs. Plants that may be grown above the small bulbs are thyme, seedums, speedwell, and herniaria. One of the choicest plants for this purpose, especially in partially shaded places enjoyed by scillas and snowdrops, is the small, sweet white violet (*Viola blanda*), affording a tiny fragrant blossom along with the earliest bulbs, thereafter maintaining a fresh, green carpet above their heads.

Plants suitable to use along with larger bulbs are forgetmenots, wallflowers, aubretia, creeping phlox, arabis, perennial phlox; purple tulips above the green velvet leafage of *Stachys lanata*, *Heucheras*, thrifts, tufted pansies (*Viola cornuta*), and many pinks. Mauve tulips are delightful when grown among the sky-blue flaxes; scarlet tulips with white flax; pink ones with *Nepeta mussini*; daffodils when accompanying *Violas*; hyacinths may be grown with forgetmenots or among tufts of thrift or arabis. For the bulb in the shady border, there is nothing prettier than small ferns or *Viola blanda*, but *Corydalis lutea* may be used or the fringed bleeding heart (*Dicentra*) and low meadowrue (*Thalictrum minus*).

Bulbs, when planted in borders, should be planted toward the front; if planted back in beds among the sturdy perennials, they are likely to be forgotten and when beds are spaded up, bulbs may be injured. Again, bulbs need the strong rays of the sun to bring the bulbs to fruition, and heavy, shady foliage is not good for them. In from one to two weeks after bulbs have been taken up, clean tops from bulbs and pack in sand, place in cool dry quarters over Summer. Hyacinths will not do so well may be the second year, but tulips will bloom year after year. Bulbs may be planted on lawns, banks, along walks and roads and on hillsides. They are most attractive when kept in colonies or masses. There is of course, a limited number of bulbs that do well on the lawn, such as the following: chionodoxa, Fall-blooming crocus, (as well as the Spring-bloomer), the giant snowdrop (*galanthus*), grape hyacinths (*muscaria*), the short cup, or trumpet daffodil (*narcissus*), tulips and the Siberian squill (*scilla*).

# Flowers of Central Texas, Enhanced by Rocks, Are Ideal for Spring Garden

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

The gardens of Central Texas have a problem all their own. They are not like the gardens of China where rocks are featured and where they predominate; or rather that is not the goal, but they must be taken into account in the hillside garden. Tumbled irregularity and fantastic shapes of the rocks themselves, with only a flower here and there for accent, would not satisfy the maker of a garden in that locality. In the West a rock pile is not a rock garden.

Terraces fit well into the hillside garden landscape picture, with paths and walks that tempt one to explore. Hillside gardens resemble a true rockery. The many pockets, wherein good soils may be placed, lend themselves well to many of our native alpine plants. In fact, the wild flowers of Central Texas are said to be the equal in both quantity and character of bloom, of any in the world—claimed by many to excel all others.

Stones should be large enough to allow for differentiation of soils and plant materials, and to prevent the types of soil from mixing. A variety of sizes will produce a more artistic effect than if all stones are the same size, or nearly so. When laying stones, the freshly broken surface of the stone never should be exposed, if possible to cover it. Weathered sides are always more pleasing.

Winding paths and irregular outlines suggest hidden treasures around the curves. It is pleasing to come upon a dry stone wall into which are tucked away a mass of colorful blooms. Stones should be tilted or tipped with the slope to the back, as they are laid with dry soil composed of two-thirds sandy loam and one-third peat, this to be packed tightly into the crevices so that no air pockets remain.

This tilting has a two-fold purpose: it allows water to drain backward into the soil rather than to run off the front, and it helps to keep the stones from slipping out. Thickness at the base of the wall should be at least one-third the finished, or total, height of the wall. Such a wall is not only effective but useful as well as a retainer for the soils, particularly useful when a pool is included on one or more of the levels.

Unless one is an experienced gardener, one should use the tested and tried plants, rather than to experiment with seeds, in wall pockets. Dwarf bushes and low and creeping plants will be found most desirable. Among the earlier plants to bloom may be the alliums, jonquils, dog-tooth violets, and dwarf iris. Next come the native bluebonnets and other lupines, primroses, wine-cups, wild geraniums (crane's bill), pansies, wild violets and varieties of astilbe.

Sedums and sempervivums are quite satisfactory when worked in beds alongside phlox, thyme (for fragrance), mignonette, while alyssum, clumps of spice pinks, purple teurcium, orange wall flowers (gillyflowers), the dusty foliage and fluffy golden balls of santolina, dwarf deep blue plumbago, candytuft, draba, sweet william, daisies, some of the trailing nasturtiums, salvias that are low-growing, California poppies, petunias, verbenas, lantanas and portulaca.

Consideration must be given to soil requirements of certain plants; for example, some plants like an acid soil, some like it sweet. Take care to give each what it desires.

## 'Gardenteria' to Aid Public

Visitors to Garden Center will be able to help themselves to a daily reading diet of gardening information at the new "Gardenteria," where special books, pamphlets, posters, etc., will be arranged on tables each day for public use.

The Gardenteria's opening week schedule:

**Monday**—The city home garden. Landscaping small home grounds and civic beautification.

**Tuesday**—The garden guide. Care and culture of a seasonal flower, tree or shrub.

**Wednesday**—How to group outdoor plants according to color. Flower arrangement indoors and out.

**Thursday**—Your vegetable garden. Where to locate and what to plant now.

**Friday**—Practicing conservation for victory.

## Herbs Take Little Space, Grow Easily

A very important part of all foods is the seasoning, or the flavor.

One may grow all manners of foods in the vegetable garden and orchard, but if the seasoning is left out, the food will not be appetizing. To meet a culinary need, plant a few herbs in your kitchen garden this year. Some herbs will grow anywhere in any kind of soil; most herbs will thrive in garden soils given to flowers and vegetables. You will not need a lot of space for the herb garden; plant a few in the perennial border or in the shrub bed this year, taking care to keep in check such as have a way of spreading themselves.

The "trial-and-error-method" is as good as any for the herb selection. Some you will like very much; others you will not want another year. The annual herbs can be planted in a row right along with the vegetables, five to ten feet of each kind probably sufficient for your year's supply—since a little "yarb" seasoning goes a long way. After experimenting for a year, you will know what you want to grow another year.

Most of the annual herbs may be started indoors early and later transplanted to the garden; or you may like to sow them directly in the outdoor bed, thinning as need arises. Seedlings may be transplanted into pots, if desired, or set out in flats or a bed, 1½ to 2 inches apart. Rows in the garden should be 15 to 18 inches apart, spacing plants 8 to 12 inches part, with the combination of several varieties in a row.

Among the desirable annuals we find basil (especially good with tomatoes in any form, in soups and spaghetti); borage (for summer drinks, soups, stews, pickles); fennel with a licorice flavor, (for salads, sauces and soups); marjoram, (for use with meats, casserole dishes, and stews); parsley, with the old broad-leaf kind for seasoning and the curly or crinkled for garnishing, (for potatoes, macaronis and sauces); Summer savory, (for salads and bread stuffings).

As soon as the herb plants, both annuals and perennials, are large enough, the tips may be taken out for use. Just as the plants begin to blossom, volatile oils are the strongest and therefore at that time flavor is best. Such plants and the savory and marjoram can be cut back for second and subsequent crops. In curing, branches or whole plants may be hung up in a dark, but airy room, for drying, or arranged on wire mesh trays. As soon as dry, leaves should be stripped from branches and placed in small air-tight jars; then then to be stored in a dark, cool place.

Perennial herbs may be grown also from seeds, but they are best propagated from plant divisions. Seeds, as is the case with annuals, may be sown indoors and transplanted to the garden later, or they may be planted directly in the out-of-doors. Since perennial types have a way of becoming straggly, they should be planted in a remote part of the garden, or given a particular place to themselves where they will not be a part of the garden picture. Perennials that will prove their worth in the kitchen garden are: tarragon, (for meat dishes, salads, stews, soups and sauces); chives, (for stews, salads, meats, omelets, soups, sauces); thyme, (will thrive in a rather poor, gravelly soil and is useful as seasoning for many dishes); sage, (strong when fresh and green, but excellent for soups, dressings, gravies, meats, when dried or powdered), and mints, spearmint, peppermint and peppermint (drinks, jellies, gelatines, sauces), for use either green or dried.

**Program for the Gardenteria at the Garden Center this week:**  
**Monday**—Importance of Design in the Home Garden, How to Attain.

**Tuesday**—Know Your Soils First, How to Re-create Types Needed.

**Wednesday**—Fundamentals of Color Groupings in Outdoor Garden.

**Thursday**—Fresh Vegetables in Your Garden, What to Do After the Freeze.

**Friday**—Conserving Moisture, Proper Methods of Cultivation and Mulching.

**Garden Center Exhibition—Native Shrubs Useful in Home Ground Landscape.**

The public is invited.

## Redbuds Soon to Be in Bloom

Although there will be no official redbud pilgrimage in Fort Worth this year, there will soon be thousands of the small trees blooming throughout the parks and gardens of the city.

A native of Fort Worth and the vicinity, and indigenous to almost the entire State, the small early-flowering tree in 1929 was voted the city's official flower.

Annually the blooms of the trees herald the approach of Spring and retreat of Winter. The buds form on the trees before the leaves and are one of the first signs of floral color each year.

In addition to their beauty, the flowers may be pickled and used in a salad, and sometimes are dried and so used.

Redbuds still may be planted this year for next year's blossoming.

# Your Garden Can Afford Fun and Food

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Now that most food is rationed, the vegetable garden is more important than ever before.

It is lots of fun to raise your own vegetables and salad materials, and it makes a big saving on the food bill besides; and oh, they taste so much better!

One woman tells of her Victory Garden that started as a salad garden. It was so arranged that it was not only good to eat, but good to look at. And it was grown in just a very small space. Such a garden anyone could have. This one was in the front yard by the side of a paved terrace where the family were accustomed to sit in the evening. It seemed the only place where there was full sun. Certain flowers may be grown in a partly shady garden, but vegetables like lots of sun.

This garden was a rectangle surrounded by a formal hedge, with a perennial border and grass in the center. The flower border was left, but the center strip, about four by seven feet, was spaded up and fertilized. A strip of grass a foot wide was used for path, this separating the center from the flower border. The center was planted with lettuce, endive, Swiss chard, radishes and onions in geometrical pattern, and the whole was bordered with curly green parsley.

Since the plants were all low, they made an interesting pattern and the color scheme was pleasing. Nothing is lovelier in color than young lettuce. Some of the lettuce was in leaf form and some was transplanted, the latter heading up nicely. Only a few seeds were planted at a time, but subsequent plantings followed often. As fast as one row of radishes gave out, another was on its way. The flowers in the border shared space with a few tomato plants, green bell peppers and some little hot peppers, about 10 of each. The hot, red peppers furnished many bottles of sauce, and the dried peppers helped to decorate the kitchens of friends.

The tomatoes were trained on double wires, like a hedge, not on individual stakes, and they were tied with green tomato twine, making the supports inconspicuous. Garlic and onions took up little space and gave big returns. Okra in the border background was a good substitute for hollyhocks in the garden picture and furnished good food and flavor for the soup pot. And there were basil and mints and other savories.

**Gardenteria activities for the week beginning Sunday include:**

**Monday**—What, Where and How to Plant Your Garden; Building Beauty.

**Tuesday**—The Child's Garden Patch; Children Should Learn to Grow Plants.

**Wednesday**—The Flower Border; How to Acquire Massed Color.

**Thursday**—How to Plant the Orchard for Continuous Supply of Fruits.

**Friday**—Importance of Spraying, When and for What.

The Garden Center exhibition will be practical garden tools and implements for the amateur.

The Wild Flower Calendar features the redbud, Fort Worth's official flower.

March 21-1943

# Suggestions on Planting Garden Given

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Planting time for vegetables varies with kinds of plants and localities. Four types of plants have to be reckoned with—very hardy, hardy, tender and very tender. Under the first class come those that can withstand the hard freezes, such as horse-radish, rhubarb, parsnips and Winter onions. The second group lists those that can endure slight frosts and freezes, including lettuce, peas, radishes, spinach, mustard and turnip greens, cabbage, beets, cauliflower, carrots and endive. Next, those easily affected by weather conditions, green and yellow beans, cucumbers, tomatoes, squash; and lastly, peppers, mushmelons, lima beans and egg-plant.

The first and second groups may be planted any time now, with a measure of safety, but the latter two must be assured of settled weather with no frosts or freezes after plants emerge from the ground. Soil preparation is of importance. Be sure that rocks, stones and coarse fibered materials are cleared before planting soil, which should first have been plowed, harrowed and raked well. Good drainage is of great importance. Low places and soils that hold water are not good for vegetables, neither is a shady area. Vegetables, to be at their best, must have a full sun, or nearly that. While elaborate equipment is not necessary, the garden tools and implements must be adequate.

The garden plan is of particular importance, if a maximum yield is expected, the kind of vegetables wanted and the system of cropping to determine largely the space used. First, draw the garden plan to scale on paper. This should include planting distances, varieties and number of feet of row, with seed needed.

A few suggestions may be useful: If possible, run rows north and south, as this will allow equal distribution of sun. Such vegetables as horseradish, rhubarb, asparagus and small perennial fruits should be given a place where they can grow undisturbed from year to year, and where general cultivation of the garden plot will not interfere. Next, give attention to those plants that will remain in one place all year, such as tomatoes, parsnips, peppers, onions. Plant early crops together, that space may be given in the Fall to similar crops.

Tall plants, like cucumbers, squash, pole beans and corn should be given the sidelines where they will not over-shade smaller types. Practice, above all, succession of plantings, rather than to plant all things at one time. Such vegetables as mature quickly, like spinach, lettuce and radishes, may be planted between rows or in the rows with tomatoes, okra and melons. In this way, the early-growing plants may be out of the way long before longer-growing plants make much headway. This is called companion cropping, and it is a desirable way to economize on space.

March 21-1943

# Forget About the Freeze and Plant the Vegetable Garden All Over Again

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Let's forget about the freeze, and start the vegetable garden all over again. Now, we can at least avoid the mistakes of the first planting.

First, inform yourself as to best methods, varieties of vegetables for this locality (or your own locality) and when to plant what.

Year in and year out there are certain definite values to found in growing vegetables. There is always the spiritual uplift one gets from such a venture. The association with green and growing plants, and the fact that one has aided in the work, somehow is a good stabilizer in a chaotic world; a good tonic anytime. One could find no more healthful exercise than gardening offers. It is a super-delight to be able to eat from one's own table daily. A few vegetables grown with one's own hands in one's own garden. In the present emergency, your own home vegetable garden, mine, those of all of us, combined, will help relieve the burden of present day transportation of food stuffs. Furthermore, you will have had a very definite part in contributing to the stupendous task of total defense.

The health of the American family depends now on our ability to produce our own green and rooted vegetables, essential as we strive to maintain and preserve our democratic way of life. After growing the foods, we should learn how to cook and serve them nutritiously. Agricultural bulletins give us much valuable information as to how to grow, how to cook, and what to serve. Write to your State Agriculture Department, or to the

United States Bureau of Agriculture for such bulletin, and follow carefully for best results. Leafy vegetables provide calcium and iron and are good sources of vitamins. Thin, green leaves provide the richest food value. The following are in this class: romaine, parsley, mustard greens, lettuce, kale, collards, cabbage, beet greens, Brussels sprouts, dandelions, Swiss chard and seven-top turnip greens.

Similar in value to the leafy crops, we have green varieties of string beans, lima beans, peas, asparagus, broccoli, onions, green sweet peppers.

Yellow vegetables carry vitamin A, and include such foods as yellow corn, yellow squash, pumpkins, sweet potatoes, carrots, yellow turnips.

The tomato, sometimes called the "poor man's orange," carries C vitamins.

Other vegetables, each valuable in its own way, include parsnips, radishes, white turnips, eggplant, cucumbers, beets, corn. The root crops include carrots, beets and potatoes; fruit crops are peas, beans and tomatoes; leafy foods are such as cabbage lettuce and other leafy greens. Buy only of reliable dealers. Your seed and plant dealer will tell you the best time to plant the various vegetables. Inquire of him when you purchase your seeds and plants.

## Garden Color and Balance Are Important

In even the smallest garden, color and balance, where to plant and what, are important. Study nursery stock, good garden designs in private and public gardens, noting size, habit, type of foliage, time of bloom and color of bloom in each case. Trees and shrubs form the most essential background, therefore it is well to consider them. Allow for space in which specimens will grow. Most persons plant trees and shrubs too closely together, being desirous of quick results. Allow seven to 10 feet between walls of houses or fences for even small trees and shrubs; three to five feet for smallest kinds. Study full growth of certain trees wanted, also shrubs. Note how tall and wide the mature specimens grow naturally before selecting it for a particular

place. Specimens should have free play for development equally on all sides. Vines should be at least a foot from the wall upon which they will climb.

Take care not to plant too close to property lines. Remember that your neighbor owns a part of that property line also. Consider planting along drives, near paths or the street, allowing for growth of plants, and with due consideration for the traffic. Trees and shrubs should not be planted so that they will obstruct views from windows. Unless privacy is needed, only low growing specimens should be planted under windows. Fill spaces between the newly-planted trees and shrubs with herbaceous plant materials until specimens reach desired growth. Plant with a certain uniformity. Do not distribute plants, trees and shrubs all over the lawn areas; rather, reserve the

lawn as a unity, and let plantings be set out in border beds or in backgrounds. Try to keep the front lawn free of plants, trees and shrubs. Often materials set out in the front yard, aside from being unsightly, are a traffic menace.

Plants that grow to a good height should be given a place in the back of the border bed, next sizes coming along proportionately. If the premises boast an old tree, try to build the garden picture with regard for this specimen. Roses should be in a special garden to themselves, rather than to be placed, as is so often done, in a bed with other plants, trees and shrubs. Beds should assume a certain regularity that will fit in pleasingly with the garden picture. All shapes of beds should conform to the general plan of the garden. A flower border should not look as if it just happened to be at a particular place; it should act as a frame for the picture. The aim for a Summer and Spring garden is for more or less continuous bloom. Even the Winter garden should allow for some color, if only berries, fruits and foliage.



—Star-Telegram Photo.  
Mrs. R. T. Armstrong inspects the azalea bush, which has both white and red blooms and which she has loaned for exhibit Sunday at the Garden Center. Mrs. Armstrong lives at 1720 Martell.

## Planting of Vegetable Plot Urged but Only if Gardener Is in Earnest

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Our Victory Gardens will be means of Victory only, if we see to it that they are that. If they are merely gestures in the right direction, we had better give the matter over to safer, saner hands, and get about some other business. The growing of foods is not to be dealt with lightly. More war allies, more fighting fronts, declining world production elsewhere, all mean that the need is greater here—and now. Not only those persons actually in service must have a balanced and varied diet for the greatest productive effort, but those who build the machines of war must be equally cared for.

The tremendous success of last year's gardens justified the faith of the country. This year we must double and triple this performance. The Victory Garden program makes it possible for almost everyone, not only in the rural areas, but in suburban localities and even in city back yards to produce for Victory. Caution is advised not only in the selection of the soil, but in the choice of the garden's size, to avoid waste of time, effort, enthusiasm, as well as seed fertilizer, insecticides and other materials.

Your garden plot may be small but if you can grow gladiolus and dahlias, you can grow beets, carrots and potatoes. If you can raise petunias and pansies, you can also grow lettuce, turnips, spinach and mustard. Gardeners have a tremendous responsibility now, as well as an opportunity to serve their country in a very definite way. Your garden, multiplied by 15 or 20 million gardens of like size, will produce hundreds of

millions of pounds of vegetables to save millions of tin cans, to release thousands of freight cars and trucks, and to make available the necessary foods for those in the armed services, as well as for "the man behind the man in armed service."

Unless you plan to stand behind it do not start a garden. There should be no waste. Now is the time to begin, however; if you are in earnest. The land should be spaded and plowed, harrowed and smoothed down, eliminating sticks, stones, trash and other obstacles that will interfere with easy cultivation. Manure or other humus materials should be mixed thoroughly into the upper 10-12 inches of soil, the main feeding area of the roots of your plants.

Gardens should not be made in raw clay or bare lifeless sand, unless humus and fertilizer is available to make it productive. The compost heap, or rotted cowlot or stable manure, peat moss, woody soil and decayed leaves are all superb sources of humus, and will, if used generously, make for capacity production.

Flowers, trees and shrubs have their definite place in the wartime program. Because we should grow vegetables, and produce them over as long a period of time as possible, let us not fail to emphasize the need for the beauty that comes with the flower and good design in the garden. These are true morale builders.

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## There's Plenty to Be Done in Garden Now

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Be sure to plant your nursery stock as soon as received. If trees, shrubs and roses are not yet planted, get them out immediately.

If perennial borders and bulbous plants have had a mulch or covering for the Winter, take it off at once.

Dig up and divide Fall flowering perennials, enrich the soil and re-plant.

Cut back to the ground any shrubs that have been Winter killed. New shoots may yet come from them.

Native ferns and native biennials may be transplanted now. If transplanting bluebonnets, be sure not to break off the little nitrogen-holding nodes that form at the root, otherwise the plant will not thrive.

If roots of trees or hedges are getting out of bounds, now is the time to take off the offending parts.

Herbaceous plants should have fertilizer now. Cut back English ivy and trailing vinca to desirable proportions and mulch with a good humus.

Get the compost heap under way for use another year. Particularly valuable, now that fertilizers are scarce, is the compost bed.

Flowers being groomed for Mother's Day and Memorial Day, such as cinerarias, lilies and hydrangeas, should be carefully inspected for insect pests and should be given a spraying. Feed heavily and when in flower remove to a cool room.

Cyclamen should have a northern exposure during the Summer.

As soon as violets finish blooming, remove to new quarters, if possible, and take off diseased or broken parts and divide for next year.

Remember euphorbias and succulents need much sun and little water.

Acid loving plants, such as your devil's ivy, camellias, azaleas and cape jasmines, should be given a fresh supply of food, such as well rotted leafmould and river bottom loam, and a generous dose of aluminum sulphate, if available.

As soon as danger of frost is past, set house plants in the open, either take from pot or intrench both pot and plant.

Harden tender plants by removing to the cold frame.

Get garden beds in shape for seeds, if not already conditioned and planted.

Treat gladiolus corms for thrips and plant at successive intervals until mid-Summer.

Watch orchard trees for scab. Keep trees well sprayed.

Plant Summer-flowering bulbs.

Get your vegetable garden planted as soon as possible now.

Treat potatoes before planting for scab.

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# GARDENING

## Garden Club Presidents to Aid Victory Planters; Names, Phones Are Listed

The presidents of 17 garden clubs in Fort Worth agreed Saturday to act as "clearing houses" on information regarding the planting of flowers, vegetables, shrubs and trees in their respective sections of the city.

Under this arrangement, persons living in Oakhurst, Oaklawn or Monticello, for instance, can call the presidents of the clubs in those sections and either she or someone the president might designate will be able to help with whatever planting problem is presented.

This arrangement was worked out after the presidents of the clubs realized that because of the difference in soils within the city limits, information that might be suitable for growing vegetables and flowers in one section would not fit another.

The plan is thought timely because many persons will take advantage of the recent moisture to start their Victory gardens.

The presidents, their home addresses, phone numbers and clubs.

Mrs. W. J. Ritmanick, 1233 Davis, 9-2053; Better Homes and Garden Club.

Mrs. Hubert H. Crane, 3804 Bunting, 7-2851; Fort Worth Garden Club.

Mrs. Frank Genarlsky, 4517 Merida, 4-0633; Hubbard Heights Garden Club.

Mrs. Pauline Tankersley, 1321 East Richmond, 4-1432; Highland

Park Garden Club.

Mrs. C. F. Fry, 3565 Bellaire Drive, South, 4-4443; Junior Woman Club Garden Club.

Mrs. R. E. Hutchinson, Hotel Texas, 2-3151; Lake Worth Garden Club.

Mrs. Will Ed Kemble, 4008 Monticello, 7-1398; Monticello Garden Club.

Mrs. Ernest Petteway, Route 8, 7-2820; North Fort Worth Garden Club.

Mrs. Herbert Bearden, 2301 Lotus, 2-6417; Oakhurst Garden Club.

Mrs. E. H. Abbott, 4530 Jackson, 5-3785; Oak Lawn Garden Club.

Mrs. C. L. Fleet, 2605 Bomar, 5-3086; Polytechnic Garden Club.

Mrs. John H. Reeder, 4512 Hampshire, 5-2628; Sagamore Hill Garden Club.

Mrs. D. J. Nash, 2726 Travis, 4-4631; St. Mary's Garden Club.

Mrs. L. G. Moreland, 3601 Travis, 4-9144; South Side Garden Club.

Mrs. O. V. Campbell, East Twentieth, 2-8557; Sylvania Garden Club.

Mrs. H. B. Haynes, 3001 Lubbock, 4-6693; University Garden Club.

Mrs. C. N. Rosamond, 2932 Fairmount, 4-3320; Spade and Trowel Garden Club.

In addition to these presidents, persons seeking help on their planting problems may call Mrs. W. A. Zant, 3429 Dorothy Lane, 7-5477, who is president of the Fort Worth Council of Garden Clubs.

on the dewberry bushes, kerria shrubs and irises. Roses will be a little late because of recent cold weather.

Hostesses at Garden Center will help visitors who inquire for information to find all the interesting features of the garden.

A deciduous tree flower show is now being featured at the garden. Male and female flowers are out on cottonwoods, pecans, oaks, willows, black alders, elm and hackberrys. Smaller trees like the dogwood, elder, redbud, flowering quince, forsythia, wild adelia and wild plum have already budded and some are beginning to bloom.

Old trees, water grasses, aquatic plants, vines, fungi, birds and insects make the nature paths interesting territory for exploration.

Spring is already apparent in the Botanic Garden, and Easter flowers will soon be in blossom

## Flowers and Vegetables Good Mixers

Much has been said about planting vegetables in the flower garden. It is a good idea to plant flowering specimens in the vegetable garden. Many farm homes and suburban places grow vegetables, but fail to grow flowers. A bit of green grass and a few flowers growing about the doorway can transform an otherwise bleak picture into a glowing one. It means that there is life and beauty and that somebody cares.

A vase of flowers, or an arrangement of fruits and vegetables on the living room or dining table make an appreciable difference in the interior of any home. Just so, if a few flowers can be used to border the vegetable patch. One may use these border flowers in place of a cutting garden, if desired. It is not necessary to have many varieties for this purpose.

Six kinds of flowers, among them the following, would be a help: Large and small-type marigolds, baby and giant zinnias, single and double hollyhocks, Spring and Summer blooming phlox, including the tall perennials; blue, red and white morning glories; white, rose and purple petunias. These could be planted nicely in the vegetable plot and would take little space. Bachelor's buttons, peonies, cosmos, Shasta daisies, poppies, larkspur and coreopsis are other useful flowers for such a plan. Do not overlook asters, especially the showy natives, dahlias and chrysanthemums to bring you flowers for Fall.

In a little while now—they are already out in some cases—you will see the tulips, jonquils, narcissi, hyacinths and iris in other people's gardens (and I hope in your own), but these were planted in the Fall or early Winter. Remember to plant these at the proper time next Fall, that you may enjoy them in their season. As soon as danger of frost is over tender flowering annuals may be planted in the open garden; also it will be time to set out dahlia tubers for late Summer and Fall bloom. Do not overlook the possibilities with some of the more showy wild plants.

## Gardeners Must Fight Many Pests

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Now that the Victory Garden is well under way, the garden pests and insects are also in action. The wise gardener does not wait for the pests to make their appearance, but takes every precaution to prevent their getting a hold, knowing full well that as the warm weather comes the insects also will come. Frequent examination of garden vegetables, systematic applications of insecticides and vigilance will insure insect control, if not actual prevention. Stupendous waste can be avoided through constant care in this regard. It is recommended that persons having insects on plants go immediately to reliable dealer in insecticides and secure from this source the needed equipment and materials, also full directions for using.

It is difficult to suggest chemicals for such purposes, because certain insecticides are being taken off the market rapidly. It is a question now of securing whatever is available. Immediate action is necessary in all cases, as a horde of almost invisible insects can ruin a whole garden almost overnight.

Certain insecticides are not poisonous to human beings and these are the ones to use wherever possible. Extractive materials made from the roots of certain plants will offer resistance to insects and are at the same time nonpoisonous to human beings. Arsenical compounds must be kept out of the reach of children and animals. In most cases dusting mixtures have a guaranteed analysis printed on the back of the package, and a gardener can not make a mistake in purchasing this type of material.

### May Lose Strength.

Some of the mixture may lose strength with age, therefore only air-tight containers should be used in their preservation. Nicotine sprays are generally effective against sucking insects, such as aphids and plant lice; sulphur compositions are useful in mildew and black spot; and arsenicals are used for leaf-eating and stem-cutting insects, such as caterpillars, beetles and army worms. There are three general classes of pests: The leaf-eaters; or stem-sucking types; those feeding within the stem parts and those that prey on the ground or below the ground surface, affecting roots.

Flea beetles are frequently found on tomatoes and potatoes. Japanese beetles attack asparagus and sweet corn in the adult stage. This beetle is brightly colored and beautiful and about the size of the little finger nail. The head is a shiny metallic green, with wings a reddish brown and wing edges green. Cabbage aphid or plant lice are small, soft-bodied insects, usually found on the under side of leaves and clustered along stem parts. Cabbage worms consist of the looper (or measuring worm), the imported worm and the larva of the diamond-back moth. The little white and pale yellow butterflies, called cabbage butterflies, seen darting about in your garden patch in early Spring, lay their eggs on the leaves and these soon hatch into small green worms, about an inch in length when full grown. The diamond-back moth is a less serious pest than the others mentioned. Tomato aphid attack not only tomatoes but other vegetables as well, such as potatoes, eggplants and peppers. The Mexican bean beetle, copper brown, with six black spots on each wing, is a pest in whatever stage, adult, larva or grub. The chief delight of this beetle is the green bean and the lima bean.

### Leaf Hoppers.

Leaf hoppers, small wedge-shaped insects about one-eighth of an inch long, jump or hop from plant to plant, feeding on the underside of the leaves, from which they suck juices. The hopper likes tomatoes, lettuce, eggplants, beans and certain greens. Cut worms work mostly at night, during which time they can do a terrific amount of damage. This is one of the worst of the plant enemies, in that its work is done before you realize what it is about, since it works under-cover of ground. The most effective control is a poison bran mash.

A two-inch-high paper collar loosely wrapped about the stem of the plant, extending at least an inch underground, when the plants are set offers protection from the cutworm. The squash bug, or stink bug, as it is commonly called, is injurious to cucumbers and melons as well as squash. Both the adult and the nymph affect plants. The adult may be trapped through the use of pieces of board or cardboard laid flat on the ground. Under these the pests collect during the night, and they may then be disposed of at daybreak. Similar to the squash bug both in action and in manner of control is the pill bug.

Methods of controlling diseases are numerous, but prevention through the growing of healthy plants is the best method. Soils should be well drained in all cases, and they must be provided with an abundance of plant nutriment; use treated seeds wherever possible and select seeds from disease resistant varieties; do not plant too close, and rotate crops; do not cultivate garden while soils are wet, and keep away from plants while leaves are wet, as bacteria and fungi are carried on your clothing from plant to plant at such a time.

### GARDENTERIA.

#### Week of April 4.

Monday—What Annuals and Perennials Can Do for Your Garden Picture.

Tuesday—Native Rock Garden Plants for Local Gardens, Which Are Best.

Wednesday—Succession of Color, What Colors to Combine in the Garden.

Thursday—Your Year Round Vegetable Garden, How to Plant.

Friday—Insects Both Helpful and Harmful, Do You Know Them?

Garden Center Exhibition—Display of Actual Specimens of Local Insects.

The Wild Flower Calendar, featuring hawthorn blossoms, senecio, bluebonnets, puccoon, garlic and onions (the latter now giving a lavender-pink color to the landscape here and there) and henbit.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 1943.

### GARDENTERIA SCHEDULE.

Monday—The Rose Garden, Planting for Design.

Tuesday—Fundamental Requirements of Roses, Present Needs of Roses.

Wednesday—Flowering Shrubs in the Garden Picture, What to Plant Here.

Thursday—Berries and Vines in the Garden, Your Table Supply.

Friday—Do You Know Local Birds? Which Are Helpful? Which Harmful?

Garden Center Exhibition: The First Wild Flowers, What Are They? The Wild Flower Calendar, featuring buffalo clover (ground plum), henbit and wood-anemones.

rose garden, it is composed of seven units, the water areas, rose unit, nature trails, test garden, greenhouse, wild flower and cactus garden and Garden Center. The garden keeps open house the year 'round and is lighted at night. Music is broadcast through a loud speaking system on Sunday afternoons.

## Nettle and Other 'Weeds' Make Tasty Dishes but You Be Certain of Your Plant

Your pioneer ancestors knew and enjoyed as foods the indigenous plants that grew all about them in field and wood. England has been using the native plants for food for quite some time now. We in the Southwest have a large variety from which to choose, and we should at least acquaint ourselves with them, that we may know them by sight, if indeed we are not compelled to resort to them for foods.

The stinging nettle, a plant we scorn and do not wish to handle, is a delicious vegetable green, if gathered when only two inches in height, boiled and seasoned properly. As a child you probably liked to nibble on sheep-sorrel. It makes a good green vegetable when boiled like spinach. Other greens which we have at hand are poke, lamb's quarter or just plain old pig weed, the tender shoots of young alfalfa, dandelions and water-cress.

Be sure you have the right "weed" when you go a-gathering. Write your State Agricultural Department or the Government Plant Bureau, Washington, for information as to which species to use. Don't serve any of these at your table as foods unless you are sure about them. Certain weeds, such as some of the wild carrots, are poisonous; and be sure not to get any of the root of the poke berry, because it is also poisonous.

If your greens are mild varieties, cook quickly in a very little boiling salt water, or better still, wash thoroughly and serve uncooked. Start cooking with vessel uncovered, and when nearly done, cover for a few minutes. If greens are stronger, you may need to parboil for two or three minutes in a generous amount of water; then drain, and prepare as above. For seasoning, cook with a bit of bacon, salt pork or other meat fat. Hard boiled egg, lemon juice, Hollandaise sauce or even a cream dressing will add to the enjoyment of the dish.

If you run short of tea, there are any number of good substitutes right at your back door, if you have urban or suburban property. The New Jersey tea (*Ceanothus*), so called because the New Englanders used it during the Rev-

olution as a substitute, is one of the best. It is plentiful around the Lake Worth hills, and both its leaves and flowers lend themselves to this good purpose. The various native mints and salvias are useful in this manner, as are some of the crotons, the latter being a special favorite of the Mexican sheep herders and their families.

## GARDENING

### Thousands of Redbuds, City's Official Flower, to Greet Sightseers Today

Today will be Redbud Sunday for Fort Worth and vicinity, as thousands of redbuds present their rich magenta colors in Spring parade. The Botanic Garden, all the local parks, the entrance to T. C. U., Mount Olivet Cemetery, the campus at Texas State College for Women, Denton (the latter featuring several thousand redbuds on its grounds) and many local private gardens will hold open house for the visitors who will be sightseeing this Sunday.

The redbud, Fort Worth's official flower, is an early harbinger of Spring. It is a member of the Senna family, and its botanical name is *Cercis canadensis* and *Cercis occidentalis*, the local trees offering two species.

Many deciduous trees are in flower now in local parks, among the most interesting being the box elders, willows, elms, ash, hop hornbeam, buckthorns and cottonwoods. The long pendant greenish-yellow flowers of these native trees offer distinct type of beauty.

Victory Gardens are more than just the vogue of the hour. They are true indications that our citizens at least are in earnest in the matter of food production. In back yards, on vacant lots, even in front yards one sees the first green shoots of what will later be green potatoes, beans, carrots, tomatoes and other foods for Fort Worth tables. Not alone will there be food for tables but many persons will discover for the first time the true joy of garden-making, the satisfaction of working in the open in the fresh air and sunshine and better health generally.

Mr. and Mrs. George Eaton Reynolds, 3709 Country Club Circle are rejoicing over several large specimen evergreen trees recently planted on the grounds of their new home. The extensive terraced hillside Victory Garden at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Morris Berney, Rivercrest, now well advanced, is

challenge to others who have hillside properties and alkaline soils to cope with.

Mrs. George Adams, president, Fort Worth Audubon Society, has been entertaining some strange visitors in her home garden, 1941 Chatburn Court, lately, a derby flycatcher a bird with a beautiful sulphur yellow breast and a black-striped head, a *Pprhuloxia* (a bird with crimson breast and a crimson flaked body) that resembles our native female cardinal and any number of orioles (most of which are gaily dressed for the Springtime), are there.

Mrs. Pauline Tankersley, president, Highland Park Garden Club, 1321 East Richmond, is growing vegetables along with her flowers, and finds, through careful arrangement of the various combinations, that the plan is highly successful.

### Texas Trees Offer Woods for Crafts

Many of the Texas trees furnish woods of value to the craftsman. Cross sections of the tree trunks reveal otherwise hidden beauty of color and design. Some of these native woods lend themselves to furniture, ornaments and other decorative features.

Mesquite, a creamy tan, verging on reddish brown, has a fine grain and is not unlike mahogany. It takes a good polish and is very durable; often it reaches a height of 50 feet or more and a diameter of two feet or more in the trunk. Bois d'arc is yellow, hard and tough. It has a glowing green-gold color and is pleasing when finished with a high polish. Two other woods that are yellow when finished are the native barberry (*agarita*), a canary yellow, and the mulberry, of a darker color. The retama, or parkinsonia, is a creamy yellow, resembling satinwood, and excellent for inlay work.

Other oaks bear closely grained hard wood that offers possibilities. The markings of the liveoak are effective, being of a light tan color. The huisache has its pinkish tan often streaked with red, sometimes a true vermilion. The soapberry, a native chinaberry, has a rather soft wood, yellowish tan in color, with irregular patterns in line effect, as if placed there on purpose. Perhaps the loveliest of all our Texas woods is the ebony, with the sap-wood a light cream color, just off white, and the heart wood a brownish-black tinged with certain red, green and purple, mixed. The pioneers experimented with these and other woods and found them to be superior and of an excellent working quality. Trees may find themselves features of regional expression just as much as any of the arts, although they have to do with the crafts. Although these woods can not be obtained in large commercial quantities, they can be used in a limited way for furniture, picture frames, decorative boxes and other objects.

## Tree and Water Plant Gave Names to Scenes of Texas' Two Most Famous Battles

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Most famous of all the Texas flowers is the State Flower, the bluebonnet, so declared by action of the Legislature in March 1901. April 24 is National Wild Flower Day at which time conservation of wildlife will be emphasized throughout the Nation, more than ever this year, since natural living resources are especially useful in the wartime industrial program.

Two Texas items, one a tree and one a water plant, both members of the vegetable kingdom, are responsible, so tradition says, for the names of Texas' two most historic battlegrounds, the Alamo and San Jacinto; and both names were given by the early Spanish explorers. Spaniards who came into the southeastern part of the State found the waterways and streams clogged with a particular kind of floating aquatic plant and they called one of the streams the hyacinth river; Jacinto is the Spanish name for hyacinth. Alamo is a form of the word Olmos, Spanish for cottonwood tree. These trees growing on the San Antonio River suggested to the Spanish padres who were establishing a mission to call it the Alamo, or cottonwood, mission.

Members of Pea Family.

Notable members of the pea family, to which the Bluebonnet belongs, are the mountain laurel with clusters of lavender-blue flowers, which grows abundantly in the central portions of the State, and which has given Austin the name of "The City of the Violet Crown"; the showy blue baptisia, also a yellow one; the pink mountain locust of West Texas; the siene-weed, also called rattle-bush and coffee-bean, abundant in almost all parts of the State, with showy yellow flowers; the historic buffalo bean or ground plum; the "pink or purple bluebonnet" (commonly called by some persons), a genuine loco weed that is difficult to eradicate, due to its very long root which sometimes burrows to a depth of four feet or more in length, so well does it like its hold on Texas soils; the erythrina, a native of the southern part of the

State, which bears conspicuous red flowers, from which appear the brilliant "corolillo" bean which the Indians used for beads and decorations; the useful clovers and alfalfas and the pioneer's delight, a bread-root which the Indians and early settlers relished as a food, its roots, or little tubers, affording a delicious food, when roasted or boiled.

The bluebonnet has inspired the artist's brush, the poet's pen and caused the rest of us to look upon it with admiration, as it scatters itself broadcast over the State during April. It is a true soil builder, but the early settlers looked upon it as an undesirable plant because it seemed to grow only in poor soils. It reproduces from the seeds only, and if blossoms are destroyed, its life-cycle ends. The seeds fall during the early Summer, they come up in the Fall after rains, stand throughout the Winter, unless season is unusually cold, and bloom in April, the time of the month depending upon the locality in the State usually.

Vast Blue Areas.

It is not unusual for vast acreages to be blue with this regal but unassuming wild flower. Some sections of the State feature it with pageants, festivals and various kinds of celebrations. This year, due to the limitations on travel, Marlin, which usually has a two or three-day celebration, will hold its festival for one day only, today being set for the occasion. There will be field trips to the bluebonnet areas, and amateur photographers are invited especially to engage in the festivities.

A very good stand of bluebonnets is to be seen in the Texas & Pacific right-of-way on West Vickery Boulevard just across the drive from the south entrance to the Botanic Garden. Another good display is to be seen near the north line of West Oakwood Cemetery, Grand Avenue, some few blooming plants are growing in the Botanic Garden's wildflower area, and various private properties are featuring them. A drive out in any direction will give one an opportunity these days to see bluebonnets growing in their native setting. A wildflower law stands guard over the native plants and flowering trees and shrubs, so be sure to get a permit from the owner, to gather any native flowers that may offer temptation.

## Many of Holy Land Shrubs and Flowers Same as Plants in North and Central Texas

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

There is a very close geographic and climatic resemblance between Palestine and the Holy Land and North and Central Texas. This would account for the fact that many of our plants are the same as those found in Palestine, at least families are the same, with species closely related if not identical. Probably in looking at the pictures of the trees, plants and flowers of the Holy Land shown in family Bibles you have noticed the resemblance of many of the specimens to our native vegetation. Even the local landscape, with its rather stunted tree growth and rocky hills, resembles pictures we have seen of Biblical lands. What a hobby it might prove to be to develop a garden with plantations of Biblical plants!

The Cedar of Lebanon is one of the best-known trees of the Bible. In the Fourth Book of Kings, it is stated of King Solomon that "he spake of trees from the cedar that is in Lebanon, even to the hyssop that springeth out of the wall."

There are few plants of Bible times concerning whose identity so much uncertainty has prevailed, as may be asserted of the hyssop. South Texas, in the region of Columbia and Brazoria, grows a blue flower the old settlers call hyssop. Some botanists have claimed the Biblical hyssop was a Summer

savory which once grew on Mount Carmel; others have thought it to be the wild marjoram, and still others have said it is identically the same flower as our hyssop officinalis which once grew in the Mediterranean region. We have mention of the hyssop being used as a reed, and this carried a vinegar-filled sponge which was applied to the lips of the crucified Christ.

### Believed Thorny Caper.

By many botanists the hyssop is thought to be a low-growing thorny shrub, one of the capers. Bayard Taylor, in his "Lands of the Saracen," describes it as having white or purplish flowers, a plant that resembles the Texas Polanisia, or clammy-weed, which has an aristocratic present-day relative, the pink cleome. All American prize winner of last year, except that the latter is devoid of thorns. Bayard Taylor says further that "this thorny caper grew among piles of rubbish, on rocks, and on walls throughout lower Egypt, Sinai and Palestine." The buds of the thorny caper, when collected and preserved in vinegar, are used as a condiment, this being the basis for the well-known caper sauce.

Likely the authentic crown-of-thorns was one of the zizyphus trees to which the Texas buckthorn belongs, since there are a number of zizyphus trees there.

The wormwood is often spoken of in the Bible; and it is a fact worth mentioning that of the 50 species and varieties growing in the United States, four-fifths of them grew west of the Mississippi. The most common species in this region is *Artemisia mexicana*, commonly called dusty-miller. Our wild dusty-miller is related to the variety from which absinthe, so much used in France, is taken. To quote from Jeremiah: "He hath filled me with bitterness; He hath made me drunken with wormwood." The use of absinthe was at one time common with the soldiers of France, but on account of its harmful effects, its use is not now general.

### Rose of Sharon Is Althea.

The rose of Sharon mentioned in the Bible has been found to be an althea. When we think of

the flowers of the Holy Land, we think usually of the lily. Daisies, anemones, poppies, mallows and other flowers that keep the hills of Palestine gay are also those of our own locality. The lavender vetches, spoken of by Isaiah as "fitches," grow profusely on Tarrant County hillsides and in the meadows. The rabbit or Indian tobacco, a little grayish weed with us, was called the passion flower in the Holy Land, although there it is blood red. In Palestine there are many thistles just as we have them here. Salvias and the amaranth are common in the Holy Land, as they are with us. The sage or salvia of Palestine, is a perfect pattern of the seven-branched candlestick Moses had beaten out of pure gold. There are three branches on each side of the stem exactly opposite each other, and one upright branch towering above. Even the carvings around the little cups of the candlestick are in the form of the sage blossoms.

Cedars and oaks, also the chittim wood, species of which grow locally, were common in the Holy Land, as they are with us. The symbolic beauty of the cedars seems to have had a strangely deep significance of majesty and power for thousands of years. In ancient times they were noted for their strength, resistance to rot and great beauty. The limestone ridges of Lebanon were probably never fully covered with cedars, but the mountain slopes of Syria and Palestine probably were, but now they are mostly waste lands. Here and there today are to be found mostly small groves of trees. These survivals of the past owe their preservation to the veneration held for them by Moslems and Christians alike.

### Flowers in Holy City.

The Holy City is holier for her flowers. When the time of singing birds rolls round and the rains of early Spring have drenched and quickened Palestine's scared soil with resurrection of life, then the flowers appear, just as in Texas. On the hills around Jerusalem there is a profusion of wild pinks, lace flowers, yellow flax and the blue ones, ochre mustards, golden groundsel and hosts of others similar to our own flowers.

The Judean hills are sprayed with the sun-hearted daisy and the fields are invested with the purple mallows, although Judea does not have the profusion of flowers that some of the other localities offer. Southern Palestine has many flowers, but Galilee is loveliest of all. Maidenhair fern grows everywhere on banks of streams, as it does with us, along roadways, and even in the chinks of the old walls. The heights are rich in blossoms of all kinds. More than 2,000 varieties of flowers are attributed to the Holy Land.

## Schedule of Flower Show Announced

Schedule for the Spring Flower Show of the Junior Woman's Garden Club May 5 at the Junior Woman's Club, has been announced by Mrs. Gordon Wiley, general chairman.

All flowers must be grown in home gardens, except house plants, which must have been in possession of the exhibitor at least three months. Any foliage combination will be allowed.

One class will be specimens, divided into three groups: First, garden flowers, including annuals, perennials, bulbous plants, flowering shrubs and house plants; second, vegetables, those featuring leaf and foliage, those featuring roots and tubers, and those featuring seed; third, fruits or berries, any kind or variety.

No limit is placed on the number of exhibits a member may enter as long as they are in separate classes.

Following is the schedule for the arrangement classes, with members who have agreed to make arrangements to assure at least one entry in each division. Every member of the club will be expected to submit an entry.

1. Sunroom Arrangements—Plants, flowers, fruits, vegetables, or combinations permitted, Mrs. C. H. Ruddell.
2. Living-Room Arrangements—Plants or flowers permitted.
  - (a). Free standing arrangement for occasional or console table. Accessories permitted, Mrs. Marvin Van Orden.
  - (b). Arrangement for piano, Mrs. Robert Arnold.
  - (c). Arrangements for the mantel. Accessories permitted.
    1. Identical, Mrs. Houston Sawyer.
    2. Center, Mrs. Ed Hamann.
3. Dining-Room Arrangements—Flowers, plants, fruits and vegetables or combinations permitted.
  - (a). Arrangements for dining table, accessories permitted.
    1. Formal, Mrs. C. D. Pyeatt.
    2. Informal, Mmes. Homer Davis and Lonnie Hellums.
  - (b). Arrangement for Buffet, Mrs. Tim H. Dunn.
4. Bedroom Arrangements—Flowers or plants permitted.
  - (a). What-not arrangements. Accessories permitted, Mrs. C. F. Fry.
  - (b). Sickroom tray. Accessories permitted, Mrs. W. T. Anderson Jr.
  - (c). Shadow boxes. Shadow to be considered. Accessories permitted. No composition should be so small as to look lost in the space, nor so large that it touches the sidewall of recess or fills it too much, Mrs. L. C. Weatherby.
  - (d). Miniature arrangements. To be not over six inches in height or width including container, Mmes. Paul Sanborn and Gordon Wiley.
5. Personal Accessories and Arrangements—Ribbons permitted.
  - (a). Dress corsages, Mrs. J. V. Hampton.
  - (b). Hair corsages, Mmes. Al Wilson and J. B. Cowan.

## Many Wild Flowers in Bloom Now

The wild flowers in this locality are engaging the attention of the many visitors from out of State. Just now flowering is the yellow daisy-like flower, the Engelmann's daisy. There also is a deep buff-yellow flax, and there are two other flaxes blooming now, two species (one a perennial) that bear blue flowers and one that has white flowers.

The prairie potato, with a bloom and foliage similar to the blue-bonnet, except much coarser and larger, offers a tuber that is edible. The winecups are in their wine-red glory, and there are white winecups also; the little wild geranium that recently looked (in flower) somewhat like the red winecup is now making its crane's bill seed pods. The patches of pink flowers and of white flowers that one sees on railroad embankments and on vacant lots, with flowers at their best in late evening and early morning are the hartmannias of the evening-primrose family.

And have you seen those clumps of large yellow flowers hanging on to the chalky hillsides? These plants are called Missouri evening-primrose. Close beside the primroses may be found a round or flat bush, not too large, of a blue-flowering plant. Likely this is one of the skull-caps (so named from the fact that the little hood-shaped bloom covers a fancied skull), botanically known as scutellaria.

The tall spindle-like plant with dainty flowerets in pinkish lavender is possibly the spiked verbena. Of course, everyone knows the heavy-headed, coarse-foliaged flower that gives so freely of its lavender blooms, the verbena.

There are Indian blankets (gallardias) now in flower; some blue-bonnets, although many are going into the seed stage now; some tall-growing weedy, rather hairy plants that feature a curly (caterpillar-shaped) azure-blue bloom, known as phacelia—and there's a little sister to this tall weed that also bears blue blossoms and has a white eye, it going by the name of baby-blue-eyes, also a phacelia. Among the lovely white flowers are the varieties of Queen-Anne's-lace, angel-wings (polygala), wild cauliflower, poppies, yuccas (candles of the Lord), bull-nettle, daisies and achillea (milfoil). One of the choicest of our rock garden natives is the little grassy tuft with dainty deep, but bright blue flowers, known as blue-eyed-grass. A choice specimen of wild iris, with delicate blue flowers, is *nemastylis*.

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—Star-Telegram Photo.

Mrs. W. A. Moncrief stands beside the tulip tree growing in the yard at her home, 313 River Crest Drive. A rarity in this section, the tree is a native of the eastern part of the United States. The Moncriefs' tree is 35 feet high and is now in bloom.

## Climbing Rose Is to Be Seen on Fences, Bowers and Gates Over Fort Worth

The Paul's Scarlet rose, a climber that really has made a place for itself in Fort Worth, is to be seen rambling over fences, bowers, portals and galleries, alike, on the unpainted shack and the palatial home. One unusually attractive grouping is growing on the side wall of a home in the 3300 block on Bluebonnet Drive, Oakhurst Addition.

Did you see the parade of the irises on Easter Sunday, as they came forth in their rainbow dresses? Some gardens are featuring rare and choice varieties in bloom, among them the Hampton gardens, 4501 East Lancaster, the W. K. Rose gardens, corner Lipscomb and Elizabeth Boulevard, the Sheridan gardens on Merritt, the S. W. Ray gardens on Lipscomb, and the Fox iris gardens, all of these being open to the public now.

Mrs. E. Bickham Cartwright, Route 2, Weatherford, says that rabbits are a constant menace in her ranch garden; however, she has discovered that they do not like vegetables around which liquid manure has been poured. Further, she says she sometimes puts strychnine on a piece of apple or sweet potato and places this on a stick about two inches above the ground near the plants; and as a result she often finds several dead rabbits next morning near the bait. One should watch carefully about children and pets, if the latter is employed.

A highlight of interest just now is the luxuriant tulip tree in the W. A. Moncrief front yard, 313 River Crest Drive. It is in full bloom and the orange-green flowers and shiny rich green leaves afford a treat to lovers of the unusual in trees. The tree is a member of the Magnolia family; botanically it is known as *Liriodendron tulipifera*; the flowers are followed by long, cone-like fruits. The Moncrief tree is now about 12 years old, probably 35

## May in the Garden--- What to Do

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Clean the lily pool, plant additional aquatics, and do not fail to get some of the new hybrid tropical water lilies for this season, since they will produce bloom much more heavily than some of the older forms.

Fill empty places in the flower border with larkspur seeds, marigolds, nasturtiums, poppies, candytuft and stocks. Get dahlia tubers into the open beds as soon as possible now. There are some amazing new forms and colors for the lover of new varieties.

After bloom season is over, cut achillea back to the ground to insure a second season of bloom; also cut back aubretia and arabis.

Pinch tops out of chrysanthemum plants to keep them dwarf and make them spread; pinching back of buds will make for greater bloom in the Fall. Pinch back all annuals that show a tendency to become leggy. Rotted oak leaves, straw and grass clippings will make a good mulch for the broad-leaved evergreens. Lilacs and peonies should have a good top-dressing. Prune lilacs when removing dead sprays of bloom; be sure to get all early flowering shrubs pruned as soon as possible now.

### Window Boxes.

Repair and get under way porch and window boxes. Leave the dead fronds of last year's ferns around new plants, as they make a good mulch. Try begonias for your hanging baskets; also the fountain plant (sometimes called fire-cracker plant because of its miniature red cracker flowers) and ivy geranium, the two-toned wandering jew and the common house-leek make good plant materials for hanging baskets. Do not use dandelion greens from lawn areas, as the cutting of the top leaves has a tendency to flatten the plant and spread the root, making it more difficult to eradicate.

Train canes of climbing roses in horizontal fashion, as this allows for more blooms from the vertical stems that come along on the horizontal branches. Leave fallen leaves beneath branches of spreading shrubs, as this acts for a mulch. Destroy all seeds of winter rye, unless stand is wanted in same place next year. Keep a good watch for chewing and cutting insects. Some of these pests can ruin an entire garden overnight. Stake and prune tall-growing tomato vines; brush the tall-growing varieties of peas.

Be sure to get a good mint bed started; mint is useful in salads, jellies, drinks and as a seasoning for meats. Okra can be used as a vegetable in itself and as an addition to meat stews and gumbo dishes; it can be neatly arranged in the rear of the flower garden beds.

### Asparagus Cuttings.

If your asparagus bed is a new one, cut sparingly now and do not cut at all after the last of June this year. Such vines as silver-lace and clematis varieties that flower on new wood can be given a severe pruning in the Spring.

Chrysanthemums intended for November showing must be kept growing without check; do not over-water, but watch for aphids;

## Gardenteria

Monday—How to Care for Iris After They Bloom, Iris Culture Generally.

Tuesday—Your Rose Garden, What to Do Now.

Wednesday—A Wild Flower Rockery, What to Use and How to Use It.

Thursday—Your Water Garden and Pool, How to Plan and Make.

Friday — Vegetable Garden Diseases and Pests, What to Do Now.

The Exhibition Table—Table arrangement will be made this week by Mrs. James D. Collett, for the Fort Worth Garden Club.

The Wildflower Calendar—Exhibits of native plants that lend themselves to the wild garden or rockery, plants for sun and shade, the primroses, skull-caps, valerians, daisies, blue-eyed-grass, iris, callirhoes, verbenas, hyacinths and larkspurs (delphiniums).

Special Feature—The Garden Center will feature a special showing of a local collection of antique iris prints throughout the week, some being unusually rare. All garden center features and programs open to the public free of charge.

## Crowd Due at Garden Today

Rosces in Fort Worth's Botanic Garden are at the peak of their blossoming season and are expected to be seen by thousands of visitors this weekend.

All seven units of the garden are in readiness for the expected Sunday rush. The wildflower and cactus garden is creating a lot of interest, the water gardens are gay with lily blooms, the nature trails offer interest to lovers of nature in the raw and the greenhouse is featuring unusual and rare plants.

Sensation of the garden this Spring is the Christopher Stone dark red rose and McGrady's scarlet rose. Two new roses this year are the Charlotte Armstrong cerise and the peach or pale salmon Sierra Glow by the same originator.

Questions will be answered at the Garden Center at the west end of the greenhouse.

tie and stake whenever necessary and give bonemeal along in moderation.

Get in your second plantings of vegetables, beets, beans (all varieties), carrots, cabbage, cucumbers, okra, parsnips, radishes, lettuce, pumpkins, peppers, onions, corn, and even if your place is small, grow a few peanuts for fun; if space is large, grow many peanuts for food, as they are satisfying and health-giving.

Study the wildflowers now in bloom as rock garden possibilities. Mark some of the specimens from which you would like to get seeds, and then be sure to get permission from the owners before gathering, after seeds ripen. In the sandy lands of the eastern part of the county there grows a native passionflower vine, one of the favorites of nurseries in the North. This plant would make a choice addition to any home garden that values distinctive specimens.

## Mother's Day Flower Is Carnation

The Mother's Day flower, *Dianthus Caryophyllus*, is the familiar florist's carnation. It is sometimes called clove pink or grenadine. When grown under glass it reaches a height of from one to three feet, the flower stems are noticeably long, with the nodes quite large. Leaves are thick, very glaucous and keeled. The forcing type, variety *longicaulis*, has very long flower stems, and the habit of almost continuous blooming. Red carnations are worn in honor of living mothers and the white are worn for deceased mothers.

*Dianthus* is a group of beautiful, fragrant flowers, with the florist's carnation easily the most popular, due probably to its use as the official emblem of Mother's Day. The group also contains two other classes, old-fashioned garden pinks and the sweet-williams. *Dianthus plumarius* is the common grass or garden pink. It is also called Scotch pink and pheasant's-eye pink. It is a low-growing perennial about a foot tall with thick blue-glaucous leaves which with the stems arise as a very tufty mass. Flowers, which are medium in size, have a petal-blade that is fringed to about one-quarter inch. The usual rose color may vary to purple and to white. *Dianthus Barbatus* is the perennial sweet-william, with broad, flat, green shiny leaves. The flowers are grouped in dense heads or cymes. Colors are many and beautiful, ranging from red, through rose, purple and white, with many variations in color. The new types are bred for larger flowers and a longer blooming season.

Almost all species of *dianthus* desire a good rich loam with a lime content that is relatively high. They will not live long in a soil that is damp or in soil poorly drained. Propagation is mainly from seeds, but it can also be from divisions of plants and from cuttings of suckers. Sow seeds directly where plants are to grow or in a specially prepared bed or cold frame. Divisions can be made either in early Spring or late Summer after bloom season ends.

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## What to Do Next in the Iris Garden

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Now that the iris flowering season is on the decline for this year, many persons are asking questions about the next step in iris culture. Local iris authorities recommend that all stems be cut back to the ground after blooms fall, the reason being that the stems, if left on, have a tendency to cause the rhizomes to decay. Dead foliage should be kept off the plants. Leaves should never be cut back except when transplanting. The reason for cutting the green leaves off is to enable the newly established plant to get a good root start; if much top foliage is left on, the wind blowing against the foliage may have a tendency to keep rhizomes from setting themselves in soil.

Mrs. W. K. Rose, local iris authority, says iris should be given water if rains are scarce and evaporation from winds great. Just now, with blossoming season on the wane, the plants are beginning to make new root growth, and they need moisture. Iris, says Mrs. Rose, must have good drainage, and if the Summer continues to be dry, plants should be given a thorough soaking every two weeks. Mrs. Rose says further that if we expect to have berries on nandinas and Pyrachantha bushes this Fall they must be given water generously throughout the Summer months.

Now is the time to re-set iris rhizomes for another year and to divide or set out new rhizomes. Mrs. Rose suggests that rhizomes should be covered only slightly, but securely set in soils. She thinks most rhizomes are buried too deeply for their best good.

Mrs. Ireland Hampton, whose test garden for the American Rose Society is located at her home, 4501 East Lancaster, suggests that persons who wish to get the most from their roses this year look well to the watering while dry weather and high winds continue. Mrs. Hampton recommends that frequent dustings with Tennessee dusting sulphur be given in order to keep down black spot. A good soaking of beds once a week at least is essential during the dry season; frequent sprinklings are worse than no water. If the ground begins to cake over, cultivate freely, taking care not to go deeply as this will disturb roots.

As soon as rose petals shatter, the bloom head should be snipped off the stem, taking care to leave as much stem on the bush as possible. Many persons, Mrs. Hampton thinks, injure their rose bushes, particularly those that have been recently planted, by cutting away too much of the stem with the blooms they remove. This year especially, roses had to be pruned severely on account of the late freezes and no more should be pruned than has to be from now on. All wood that looks dead should be cut back only to where the stem shows green.

**Garden Club to Meet.**  
Polytechnic Garden Club will meet at 2 p. m. Monday at the home of Mrs. M. F. Markward, 3600 Avenue L, with Mrs. J. M. Fry, program director. The club's annual Spring flower show will be a feature of the meeting. The flower show committee will be hostesses. Mrs. George Adams will speak on "Conservation and Preservation of Birds."

## Extermination of Victory Garden Pests Is Aided by Grapefruit Rinds, Toads

Grapefruit rinds and toad frogs are earning a spot in the hearts of victory gardeners as ace "traps" for saboteurs—the sour bugs—that have been destroying tender growth.

Mrs. M. B. Higgins, 1818 Washington, says she read in a garden magazine that grapefruit rinds

South Henderson and two outside of Fort Worth.

"We'll have enough to can if Dr. Ladd doesn't eat it all before hand," Mrs. Ladd said. Last year garden thieves picked their garden clean. One of the tracts is located on the Dr. Alden Coffey farm on the Weatherford Highway.

Dr. and Mrs. Coffey also have a large garden at the farm and because of the labor shortage, Mrs. Coffey has been doing the work in it.

The J. T. Speeds, 4709 Collinwood, are planning a watermelon and cantaloupe party later in the Summer when the vines begin to produce and the melons ripen. Since Speed is a lieutenant at the Fort Worth Army Air Field, and busy as exchange officer, Mrs. Speed has been doing the family gardening.

Mrs. Dan Hudson is taking care of the family garden at 305 North Bailey while Captain Hudson, mess officer, attends to duties at the Fort Worth Army Air Field. She spends a lot of time spraying and her first attempt at gardening is proving a success.

Mrs. D. C. McRimmon, 5801 Merrymount Road, has proved to be one of the best gardeners in the city with a fine crop of celery, purple cabbage and four gallons of strawberries from plants only two years old. She says strawberries grow good in caliche clay.

A small tract that once was a rock pile is now an attractive garden for Mrs. R. M. Bowen, 6008 El Campo. She has purple cabbage bordering her flower gardens and also parsley as borders. "It's my first year and it's an interesting garden." She will soon have potatoes ready to eat.

Mrs. R. C. McRimmon, 208 West Ramsey, is growing spinach for the first time and it is a success. She has been eating beets, onions, and greens.

### GARDENTERIA.

Monday—Care and Culture of Bulbous Plants—Summer Lilies.

Tuesday—The Lawn, How to Care for It, What Grasses to Use Here.

Wednesday—The Rock or Stone Wall, How to Plant It.

Thursday—The Pool and Its Setting, What to Plant Locally.

Friday—Wild Flowers in the Garden, How to Use Them.

Exhibition Table: Arranged by Mrs. C. O. Moore for Fort Worth Garden Club.

Wildflower Calendar: Mimosas, Larkspurs, Wallflowers, Valerian, Butterfly Weed, Indian Paint Brush, Coreopsis.

Special showing of Botanic Garden scenes, photographs taken and developed by S. O. Bissett, amateur photographer, 1001 East Marion Street.

would attract the sour bugs. "I decided to try it and you'd be surprised at the number that will be in a rind overnight," she said.

The rinds are placed near the plants in hills and then Mrs. Higgins empties the rinds, full of bugs, into a bucket of water and drowns them.

Dorothy Hedberg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hal Hedberg, 1108 Clara, started a victory garden for her high school botany work and now with year-end school activities keeping her busy, Mr. and Mrs. Hedberg have taken over. Mr. Hedberg has been all over the neighborhood looking for frogs to place in the garden. He uses broken flower pots for shelter for the frogs.

"The frogs will eat the bugs and a rope is keeping the dogs out," Mrs. Hedberg says. "We have been eating radishes, greens, onions, spinach and will soon have beans." Hedberg gave up golf to work in the garden but Mrs. Hedberg has been doing the work.

Dr. and Mrs. Arnett D. Ladd have three victory gardens, one at 1109

## Botanic Garden Flowers Abloom

Visitors to the Botanic Garden Sunday will find roses, wildflowers and peonies in full bloom for Mother's Day.

In addition to the colorful blossoms, springs and waterfalls make pleasant views for the spectator and good subjects for the camera fan. The garden visitor will take the Arlington Heights bus downtown, transferring at Montgomery to the T. & P. short line.

The Forest Park Zoo also is ready for one of the largest crowds of the year. Persons who wish to take picnic lunches will find plenty of shade, good walks and concessions, tables and other accommodations. The TCU bus goes near the zoo, which also is within walking distance of the Botanic Garden.

## Fort Worth Garden Club Will Sponsor Tour Today

Hostesses will preside at each home and garden and special flower arrangements will be featured at each when the Fort Worth Garden Club sponsors a tour of three River Crest homes and two additional gardens Sunday.

The tour hours will be from 2 to 5 p. m., with tea served in the garden at the home of Mrs. W. A. Moncrief. Hostesses here will include the club president, Mrs. Hubert Hammond Crane, and Meses Malvern Marks, Bert Walker, W. A. Robertson, R. W. Bridges, Pierce Flack, A. C. Helm, W. K. Hall, H. R. York, Tom Freeman and D. C. Lipscomb.

The other homes which will be open will be those of Mrs. Stanley Thompson, 500 Alta Drive, and Mrs. J. D. Collett, 429 River Crest Drive. The garden at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Lee Johnson Jr., 900 Alta Drive, and its small greenhouse will be open to visitors as will the garden at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sam B. Cantey Jr.

Tickets for either part or all of the tour may be bought, and proceeds will be used to continue

flower arrangements at the United States Public Health Service. The tour was planned with several ideas in mind, Mrs. Crane points out.

At the hospital, where many men from the Solomon Islands and other Pacific war areas are recuperating, flower arrangements are placed in the day rooms and wards for the enjoyment of many convalescents, while bedside flower arrangements are made to fill the requests of recuperating service men. Funds derived from the tour will be used in carrying on this work which is a contribution towards the recovery of the patients.

The main one was to conserve gasoline and shoe leather. Second was variety of design, treatment and planting, one of the places being English, another early American, and another French. The tour also will offer a view of such interesting flowering trees and shrubs as mimosa trees, a tulip tree, terraced and sunken gardens.

The tour will be open to all interested.

## Picnic Season Is Here and It's Time to Learn to Identify Poisonous Plants

Now that the picnic season is here, with more people than ever substituting picnics for ration-hampered vacations, extra attention should be focused on poisonous plants that may spoil the picnicker's pleasure.

While few of our native plants are poisonous (many may even be eaten) those who like wild greens should learn to recognize those that are harmful. In this group are some toadstools, the hemlocks, larkspurs and jimson weeds. Those poisonous to touch are poison ivy and poison oak or poison sumac. This couplet identifies them:

Leaves of three, quickly flee;  
Berries white, take your flight.  
When poison ivy contamination occurs, the American Red Cross textbook advises: "If the case is severe, a doctor should be con-

sulted immediately. A very good and simple treatment is a wash of two-thirds per cent boric acid solution followed by an application of zinc ointment.

"Lime water for the wash and carbolyzed vaseline for the ointment are fairly good remedies. The ointment should be washed off daily with the wash, the parts dried gently and ointment re-applied. An old household remedy was made by putting a copper cent in vinegar. Lately a saturated solution of Epsom salts has been highly recommended. Poisoning may be prevented if the affected parts are scrubbed with laundry soap as quickly as possible after contact."

The Virginia creeper, harmless, but often mistaken for poison ivy, may be differentiated by the fact that it has five leaves in a cluster instead of three.

## Wild Plants May Be Used to Augment Vegetables

MY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

The North American Indians and the pioneers had no corner grocery, nor vegetable establishment de luxe from which to draw for physical sustenance, but it is said the Indians used more than 1,000 wild plants for food and drink. Housewives of today might do well to augment their food supply with some of these indigenous plants of field, forest and streams.

Throughout the year certain wild food are available: Greens and leafy shoots in early Spring, seeds and fruits in Midsummer, and roots, bulbs and tubers in the Fall and Winter. Cooking and seasoning may be the same as for the cultivated vegetables, steamed, boiled or baked, and combined with butter, flour, eggs or flavored with onions or herbs.

Earliest among the greens to appear are the tender sprouts of young onions, and there are several edible kinds in this locality. Probably all onions are edible, but are sweeter than others.

The Indian bread-root or prairie potato, which resembles the blue-bonnet, is now in bloom here. The tubers make excellent salad and are good when roasted or broiled. Another plant with a small edible tuber is the Apios (tuberosa).

Another local wild plant is the wild hyacinth which grows profusely in moist places. They should be baked in a longtime process.

Poke greens, (botanically known as Phytolacca Americana), are delightful in their early stage. One

should parboil them through two waters in order to remove the strongly toxic purgative elements; and care should be used not to cut the leaf close to the roots since the root is more or less poisonous.

Others which grow in this area are the Urtica or stinging nettle of which only the tops should be cooked; lambsquarter which should be cooked as the poke greens; amaranth, which has delicately flavored tops; common purslane, for salads or boiling; dandelions, for greens or salads; yellow lotus, water chinkapin and water sagittaria.

## Manures as Fertilizers--- Barnyard Variety Usually Is Suitable for Most Soils

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

In the vegetable kingdom we find the complete cycle of the elements of animal life; more figuratively speaking: "All flesh is grass." Animal digestion and partial decomposition by fermentation are the common means by which the various elements are prepared to return to the earth, that they may be gathered in new forms, again consumed and again returned, over and over, in the incessant circle of changes which will only end with time. The operation of giving plants fertilizer is to furnish the plant with elements essential to its healthful growth. Excrements and fluids from animal organisms contain life-giving properties necessary to vegetable growth. Thus it is that those factors we call filth are vital and operative in garden matters.

Manures, regarded as powerful stimulants to vegetables, may be conveniently classified as animal, vegetable, earthy or saline. In the first class we have decaying animal matter, or certain natural or prepared manures, in which, with the other ingredients, animal matter or the products of its putrefaction, in the form of ammonia, fixed or free, may to some extent abound. Secondly, we have vegetable manures, stable and barnyard, green crops, swamp-muck, in all of which vegetable matter predominates, though they are neither destitute of animal matter nor free from admixture of earthy matter and salts. Specific manures consist of lime, gypsum or sulphate of lime, ashes, etc., in which earths and salts are almost exclusively present, and with these we may consider charcoal, its chief value

consisting in its capacity to absorb or "fix" ammonia.

There is another classification which is important in garden culture: that which rates manures according to their power to absorb moisture. Those which are highly absorbent, as the manure of hogs, oxes, cows, are termed cooling; those which are less, or slightly so, as horse manure, are called heating, and the earthy ones, more highly absorbent than all, because of their ability to "fix" ammonia. But with all the manures, we should understand their functions, if we wish to use them properly. If soil is sandy, or hot, especially if the sand has a gravelly base, we should use cold or moist manures, and stable manure should be entirely decomposed and reduced almost to a state of vegetable mould before it is applied. Applications of manure to such soil should be frequent, rather than heavy, and ash compost and liquor manure applied to growing crops throughout the season will be found of special benefit.

If soils are loamy, one may use all kinds of manures, their application being regulated by the necessities of the particular crop or season. And if soils are cold, as strong loam or clay, stable manure should be used almost exclusively, and if possible, soils should be mechanically improved with the frequent addition of sand or road-wash. Every garden, no matter how small, should have its compost heap, a corner or hollow at least, where refuse matter of all kinds may be piled together as it accumulates, upon which even the dishwater may be thrown. Layers of soil, leaves and other vegetable and animal matter, accumulated over a period of a year, will furnish valuable fertilizer for the garden.

Barnyard manure, as a general rule, is suitable for most garden soils. If well rotted, it may be applied unmixed to the soil; or it may be made a part of the compost. Garden soils should be prepared in the Fall or Winter, manures applied then and allowed to settle naturally, after spading or plowing. Liquid manure is the drainage of the stable or the barn-

### GARDENTERIA.

**Monday**—Evergreens for Foundation Planting, What to Use.  
**Tuesday**—Soils and Plant Foods, How to Improve Soils.  
**Wednesday**—Succession of Bloom, How to Obtain.  
**Thursday**—The Lawn, How to Improve It.  
**Friday**—Garden Accessories, What to Use and Where.  
**Exhibition Table**—Arranged by Mrs. Hubert H. Crane for Fort Worth Garden Club.  
**Wildflower Calendar**—Interesting Weeds You Should Know: Sow Thistle, Ragweed, Henbit, Lamium, Sorrel Compass Point, Cotton-string Weed, Purslane.

yard, preserved in a tank or barrel, and applied by means of a watering pot. Each 40 gallons is equivalent to an ordinary load of barnyard manure. This should be used moderately, and applied in the evening. Good commercial fertilizers are still available.

## Garden Club Luncheon to Follow Tour

Reservations for a luncheon after the Spring pilgrimage of the Junior Woman's Garden Club Wednesday must be in before Tuesday. Members may have guest privileges, and reservations may be made with Mmes. J. V. Hampton and A. S. Cooper.

The pilgrimage will begin from the home of Mrs. W. B. Paddock, 2831 Sixth Avenue, at 10 a. m., and will be concluded with a barbecue picnic luncheon at 1 p. m. at the home of the sponsor, Mrs. Jack Knight, 2810 Alton Road. Mrs. Paddock will feature Siberian and Spuria Iris and has made a specialty of growing Maiden Hair fern and lilies-of-the-valley out of doors.

Other gardens to be visited include those of Mrs. C. F. Fry, who will feature native materials and is working for special color effects this season; Mrs. Paul Sanborn, who will feature cape jasmine and is experimenting with mixing dahlias and flowers this year, in addition to raising a victory garden.

Mrs. A. O. Melton's garden at 2600 Shirley will feature continuous bloom, and the garden of Mrs. Luther A. Pharr, 3701 Country Club Circle, will be distinguished for its orchid and pastel coloring of perennials against the gray-to-green effect of its foliage plants.

Mrs. Knight's garden was chosen as observation garden of the Fort Worth Garden Club last year, due to its versatility of sun, shade, water pool and greenhouse.

## Gardeners Gird to Fight New Weeds

Victory gardeners are amazed at the rapid growth of vegetables after last week's moisture and are resting in preparation for a new crop of faster growing weeds.

Many housewives have been canning English peas. Potatoes, in some parts of the city, are now ready for eating.

Mrs. Howard Carrell, 4633 El Campo, has hired a new gardener, her six-year-old son, Douglas Creed, after her husband picked up the wrong spray (fly spray) to kill insects around tomato plants. The tomato plants wilted and new ones had to be set out.

The Carrells have onions, carrots, radishes, okra, beans, peas and tomatoes planted in a small tract that was plowed up in the back yard.

A. W. West, 2525 Lotus, and his son, H. D. West, 3402 East Belknap, each have a garden at their home and a partnership garden on a vacant lot.

In the partnership garden they have brown crowder beans, pintos, and Kentucky Wonders, several rows of potatoes and 200 tomato plants. They have had to buy only potatoes this Spring.

The garden of Mrs. W. G. Swenson Jr., 2205 Hawthorne, which has peas, greens, spinach, carrots, radishes and other vegetables, is showing progress.

L. C. Aker, 3608 Fifth Avenue, who works in Dallas, rushes home each afternoon to look after a small tract which includes potatoes, carrots, beets, peas, egg plant, peppers, tomatoes, onions and radishes. He did such a good job of canning beans last year that Mrs. Aker plans to let him do it again.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Taliaferro, 3621 College, have a five-acre farm near Kennedale with most of the acreage in vegetables. It's the first time they have had a large garden.

Mrs. J. E. Hajek, 3612 College; Mrs. James T. Peterson, 3608 College, and Mrs. R. L. White, 3613 Lawton, have a partnership garden on a nearby vacant lot. The Hajek garden was started by their daughter, Norma Lee, as a high school Victory Corps project. While the father has been in the hospital, two sons, Edward and William, have been doing the work.

Mrs. Hajek says you can see the garden grow overnight since the rain.

## What to Do in the Garden During May

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Take up your choice hyacinth roots, place them horizontally on a bed of earth to ripen, leaving leaves and stems out of ground to decay. Place pots of callas on their sides to dry out. Give camellias and azaleas water, set plants out of doors, and stimulate cape jasmines to bloom. Trim straggly growth of all hardwood plants. Clean garden of all weeds, as weeds not only sap the life of soil, but they are more difficult to remove as they grow larger.

Continue to sow annuals in the border, such as zinnias, for continuation of bloom. Give pinks and sweet-williams plenty of water for bloom. Be sure to cut away bloom stalks as soon as they finish flowering, that useless stems not take too much strength from other blossoms which will come later.

If you have a greenhouse, put such plants as are not going into the outdoor garden in larger pots. Make cuttings of cereus, sedums, euphorbias and other succulents. Stake tall-growing perennials, and pinch out tips of bedding plants to make them bushy. Cut coreopsis and boltonia close to make for greater bloom. Keep fuchsias in shade and plant ferns around them. Feed roses freely with liquid manure and keep irises well watered after blooming season ends. To check mildew on roses, dust with sulphur or spray with a weak solution of carbonate of soda. Rake and roll walks and drives frequently. Train up straggling shoots of climbing plants. Pinch out side shoots of evergreens to induce bushiness. Spray for elm-leaf-beetle with arsenate of lead.

Potatoes, cucumbers, tomatoes and such vegetables as are subject to blight should be sprayed with bordeaux mixture. Continue to plant beets, radishes, lettuce and spinach. Cultivate constantly, especially if weather is dry. Stake tomatoes. Stop cutting asparagus and spray tops to kill beetles, using arsenate of lead. Sow cover crops of peas, rye or clover on land not in use. Keep after weeds in vegetable garden. Spray evergreens.

## Plants Need Sun, Drainage

There is no one panacea for all the ills of plants but good drainage, sunshine and a healthy soil condition will go a long way in building up the plant's resistance to disease and insects.

Plant diseases should be prevented, they are not easily cured. Most plant diseases yield to treatments of copper and sulphur or a combination of the two with the addition of other substances.

Mildews are brought on by too much shade, moisture, lack of good air circulation, hot days followed by cool nights and night watering. In the morning when foliage is wet, plants should be dusted with sulphur. The sun, acting upon the sulphur, has a tendency to vaporize the sulphur and kill mildew spores. Without sunshine sulphur is not effective.

Cutworms chew or cut off plants at the surface of the soil generally. This pest works at night and hides in the soil in the day. Wheat bran and molasses, made into a thick mash with the addition of arsenate lead is effective.

Plant lice may be controlled by use of nicotine sprays. For chigger control try dusting the lawn with sulphur.

## Captain's 'V' Garden Idea Is Paying Off

An idea of Capt. J. W. Snyder of the Flying Training Command for a victory garden is reaping fresh vegetables for the captain and three fellow officers at their bachelor apartment, 1945 Chaburn Court.

The other officers are Maj. James Goode, Capt. Ed Uhler and Capt. Carl Peterson, all of the Flying Training Command. The garden has shown good progress and each has done his share in keeping it in good condition. When they have been out of town, friends of the bachelors have weeded and watered it. A maid does the cooking.

Miss Thora Elam, 3009 Golden Rod, an employee of Stanolind Oil and Gas, has been busy this spring in getting her garden in shape. She had to call for help in removing tree stumps and trees but now she is getting her reward.

She has been eating potatoes, beans, peas, onions, greens, lettuce and radishes. She has had trouble with bugs and rabbits. She canned three quarts of green beans. This is her second year as a victory gardener.

Mrs. Howard Norris, 814 South Lake, has a partnership garden with her daughter, Mrs. Floyd Smith, at 3412 Townsend Drive.

A neighbor, Mrs. Lee Phoenix has an adjoining garden. They have four lots in cultivation.

Mrs. Morris has been busy picking bugs off of potato plants and spraying. They have been eating greens, onions, lettuce and peas.

Mrs. M. Bracewell, 2329 Irwin, is trying gardening on a small scale. She has tomato plants, potatoes and onions planted.

At 3555 Westcliff Road South, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Telger have "one of the prettiest gardens in the entire Southwest." They were having their front lawn landscaped and a floral company threw in a bit of extra work and laid out a victory garden in the back yard.

It is designed in a semi-circle with rock walks and every plant is in its appointed place.

The garden is bordered by potato plants. Friends have photographed it in color. Lattice archways are at either side.

In the same block Ed Williams of Safeway Stores and Elden B. Busby, principal of Stripling Junior High School have a partnership garden at the rear of their homes. Several of the plants were started in the Busby hothouse at the rear of his garage.

At 2931 East Lancaster Miss Latane Worsham and Miss Emma Brown of OPA and FHA, respectively, do the weeding and watering for Mr. and Mrs. Ben F. Sullivan. They have been eating lettuce, greens, radishes, peas and onions.

Snails and slugs must be lured on poisoned vegetation. One might place arsenate of lead on pieces of cabbage or potato near the plant affected. A line of salt or rim of lime or even white road dust will keep them away from plants.

## Botanic Garden's Nature Trails Now Are at Height of Their Varied Appeals

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

The Fort Worth Botanic Garden offers a variety of interests to the nature lover, students of botany, persons interested in biology and those casually concerned as well. The nature trails are at the height of appeal just now, with great pecans, oaks, elms and ash trees fully leafed, and with vines, interesting in themselves, climbing to the topmost branches. Among the latter we find the smilax or greenbrier, the Virginia creeper, the Carolina moonseed, or wild sarsaparilla, the climbing milkweed and the poison ivy. It is easy to confuse the Virginia creeper and the poison ivy vine; however, the latter has three parts to the leaf and the former has five.

The wildflower and cactus garden is in full bloom, with Indian blanket, Texas Indian plume (a tall phlox, botanically known as *Gilia rubra*), spiderworts, verbenas, white rock daisies, evening primroses, daturas, the South Texas erythrina (a native that Northern horticulturists value highly), not hardy in the North, however, varieties of cacti in flower, the buck bush and the wild barberry (*agarita*) in full fruit, the yuccas and aloes in bloom (Candles of the Lord" the Westerners call the yucca blooms), coneflowers (both the yellows and the pink flowering types) and a host of other favorites.

Roses (with bloom on the wane), still have much color, and the water lilies and grasses make the water gardens of interest. Ferns wave their fronds from under the banks of the springs, and other water plants, such as the water canna (a South Texas native) and the pickerel weeds give a note of color with their blue blossoms. The

### GARDENTERIA.

The Fort Worth Garden Center, Botanic Garden, offers the following subjects for the week's Gardenteria, free to the public—telephone, 7-3330.

Monday—Porch and Window Boxes, How to Make the Porch More Attractive for Summer.

Tuesday—Your Dahlia Garden, What to Do Now.

Wednesday—Propagation, Hybridization and Plant Breeding.

Thursday—Flower Arrangement, Indoors and Out, Color Schemes.

Friday—Texas Wild Flowers, How to Know and Grow Them.

Exhibition Table—Arranged by Mrs. A. C. Helm for the Fort Worth Garden Club.

Wildflower Calendar—Coreopsis, Pink Coneflower, Black-eyed Susans, American Star Thistle, Jimpson Weed, Spiderwort, Indian Blanket, Indian Plume, Wild Cauliflower, Purple Nightshade.

test garden near the greenhouse has a number of rare plants from all parts of the world. The greenhouse is gay with crimson-like bougainvillea.

The Garden Center, hostess house for the Botanic Garden, is in the west end of the greenhouse, and is glad to furnish information to the public at all times. It is also the repository for the Ruth Herbarium of 8,500 plants from all parts of the world. Here is to be found a comprehensive library of several hundred volumes, featuring civics, gardens, horticultural interests, flower arrangement travel, nature interests and landscape art.

## It Isn't Too Late to Plant Gay Annuals

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Gardens of annuals should be well under way now. However, there are certain seeds that still may be sown, such as zinnias, portulaca, cosmos and gaillardia. With the long growing season in this locality, if your earlier plants did not get off to a good start, try planting seeds again. In addition to the above plants, the following will insure good Summer bloom for this locality: petunias, phlox, kochia, scabiosa, verbenas, morning glories, caliopis, argemone, alysum and cleome. For your rock garden you may like the sand verbenas, California poppy, candytuft, sea lavender, blazing star, phacelia, nemophila, moss vervain, dwarf marigold, phlox, sweet william and asters.

As night comes on, no doubt you have noticed the transformation that takes place in your garden. The light changes and softens, and there are a brief moments when each plant seems to be illuminated as if by magic. Although the time of enjoyment is brief, one may prolong the picture well into the night, by the planting of certain annuals and perennials that glow, even in the darkness, such as the datura, white petunias, moonvines, nicotiana, star jasmynes, cape jasmynes, white altheas, philadelphus, Shasta daisies, white cosmos, white lupines, white delphiniums, snapdragons, four-o'clocks and white dahlias and zinnias.

The evening garden should be planted with a few fragrant herbs and flowers. Nothing can be more enchanting than the perfumes of certain flowers, as the heavy night air wafts the fragrance over the garden. Care should be used, however, that flowers bearing the heavier odors be not planted near windows of sleeping rooms. For the shady garden there are godetia, forgetmenots, nemophila, China asters, schizanthus, nigella, torenia, ajuga, bee-balm, columbine, foxglove, anchusa, lobelia, anemones, lily-of-the-valley.

Two sisters, Misses Frances and Evelyn Jenkins, have a small Victory garden at their home, 1305 Elmwood.

A garden which covers a fourth of an acre is doing good for Mr. and Mrs. Glen McCarley at 1301 Roberts Cutoff. Mrs. McCarley has canned 53 jars of vegetables and fresh pineapple.

## Gardeners Should Look to Needs of New Trees, Shrubs

Plant propagation, hardwood cuttings and grafting may be done now. Such measures afford an interesting study and will, if properly done, add immeasurably to the pleasure of gardening. Keep hedges well pruned. Look well to the needs of trees and shrubs planted this year. Train up struggling runners of climbing plants. Keep side-shoots of evergreens pinched, that they may become more bushy. Stake tall-growing perennials.

## Constant Care Needed by Garden

It is easy enough to plant a victory garden and to see it through its first growing pains, but what of the garden now? Past experience has led to the belief that there is much waste among vegetable growers, even the best and most thorough. Watch the angles where loss is likely to take place. If the garden is on a hillside, as so many local gardens are, take care that soils are not washing away, together with seeds and plants. Greatest of all plant enemies are the pests and insects; next, diseases that attack plants. Constant care is needed to protect the vegetation. Inroads of insects, or sometimes just one insect, can destroy a great deal overnight. Cutworms are especially troublesome. Go to your dealer for supplies and best methods of control. He will supply your needs, with full directions for use.

Look well to the garden tools. Garden implements are scarce now, and they may become even more scarce. Every gardener needs a hoe, a rake, a spading fork and a trowel. A hand cultivator and a wheel hose save time in a large garden. Handle tools carefully; clean well immediately after use. Two stakes and a string long enough to reach across the garden will help in keeping rows straight. Cultivate often, as this is more important than water at this season. Every city gardener should consider it a duty, if he or she is physically able, to spade his or her own garden, now that farm labor is scarce. In this way, farm equipment and farm labor may be released to work the larger rural farms. Spade soils to about 7 to 8 inches deep, but not deep enough to turn up the sub-soil. Spade under all trash, straw manures and composts. Turn spadefuls upside down and be sure that all soil is turned.

Vegetables need at least five or six hours of full sun daily, except New Zealand spinach and snap beans, both of which can be grown in some shade. Avoid shade for most vegetables. The roots take moisture from plants; do not plant directly under branches of trees.

Be sure that soil is well drained and not subject to flood. When the first vegetables are out of the way, get the garden in shape for successive planting. Continue to cultivate lightly the hardy crops, such as tomatoes, corn and the vine crops. If there is an extensive area, sow rye, alfalfa or clover for a cover when early crops have been harvested. Grow some luxury crops, such as melons and sweet corn. The Fall garden is very successful in this climate, due to the long season before frost. Good late Fall crops are kale, endive, turnips, spinach, carrots, Brussels sprouts and broccoli.

## Ornaments in Garden Can Be Useful

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Sundials, bird baths, tables, chairs and ornaments, Summer houses, walks and paths, trellises, gates and fences all give a note of interest to the garden. In addition, most of these items are useful. The beauty, as well as the utility of the sundial, depends of course upon the ability of the maker. Fences, pergolas and arbors should be well proportioned and should be so made and placed as to add to the garden picture. Gates especially should serve a real purpose and should connect garden units or should give entrance or exit to the garden or some of its parts.

Although walks and paths are fundamentally for utility, they may be mediums of beauty as well. The beaten, natural soil is very satisfactory material for the path, if underlaid with crushed stone, cinders or ashes. Flagstones set in mortar or laid flush with the lawn turf are satisfactory. Simplicity of line and trimness are desirable features for walks. Furniture should be in keeping with the general character of the garden. Bird baths are necessities in any garden. Birds are useful and decorative and should be enticed to dwell within the garden confines. This is easily accomplished by the placing of water in convenient stations and by the planting of berry bearing trees, shrubs and vines.

Garden labels, while not ornamental (nor should they be), are very useful to the amateur gardener. Metal materials are the most desirable, in that they do not wear out easily, as does wood. Wooden labels should be painted with a thin coat of white paint. Write names on with red, yellow or orange wax crayons, as this becomes brighter with time.

Keep suckers removed from base of dahlias and disbud for perfection of bloom. Prune your climbing roses after they finish blooming. Watch carefully about insects and plant diseases. The vegetable garden is most susceptible to destructive insects just

now. Keep blooms and seeds from all annuals, allowing for freer bloom. Keep after the weeds; they, next to insects, are the vegetable gardens' worst enemy, for they take nourishment from the soil. Sweet alyssum, baby's-breath, zinnias, cosmos, petunias, asters and marigolds may be planted now for Fall bloom.

Take care not to sow annuals too deeply or too thickly. Thin out the young plants early and keep well watered from now on, with a thorough watering at least once a week.

Cucumbers, tomatoes and potatoes, if subject to blight, should be sprayed with bordeaux mixture. Continue to plant beets, lettuce, radishes, onions and spinach. Nitrogenous manures should be applied to all crops grown for their leaves. Beetles can be controlled with preparations of arsenate of lead. Keep tomatoes staked and continue to cultivate the vegetables. Remember to dry some of your food crops as well as to can and preserve. Get coldframes ready for Winter use. Paint and repair the greenhouse.

SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 1943.

## Victory Garden Raisers in Fort Worth Cashing In

The J. W. Shugarts Jr., 2436 Winton Terrace, West, are cashing in this weekend on their Victory garden and their first attempt at raising chickens.

The food at the Shugart residence this weekend will come from the garden and the meat dish will be one of the 75 frying chickens raised by them.

The Shugart Victory garden is in the family flower beds. A new flower bed was dug this year but vegetables held a priority over the flowers. They have had trouble with tomato plants but since the rains they have been doing better. At 3244 Bellaire Drive, West, Barron McCulloch has been doing most of the work in the family garden. They have planted vegetables in the flower gardens, and on a nearby vacant lot.

Some of the largest squash in the city is being raised by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Campbell at 2435 Winton Terrace, West. Their corn is beginning to tassel. In addition to many varieties of vegetables they have cantaloupe and watermelon vines in a new rose bed.

Mrs. Bob J. Roberts, 2424 Winton Terrace, West, is doing all of the family gardening while Roberts is out of town for his firm, Traders Oil Mill Company. Mrs. Roberts gave many vegetables to neighbors but now she is busy canning beans.

Mrs. Zenith Robbins, 3206 University, has a small garden with several rows of beans, onions and tomato plants along the fence.

While Maj. R. H. W. Drechsel is on duty at Camp Howze, Gainesville, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Bagaley are sharing the work and harvests of a garden with Mrs. Drechsel at 4300 Kenwood Court. They have one-third of a vacant lot in cultivation.

Mrs. J. A. Kilmer, 3232 Baylor, has a garden that covers a half of a lot. She has been canning beans.

Another small garden is at the rear of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Warren R. Neal, 1620 Virginia Place, but the recent rains have made it one of the pretty gardens in Arlington Heights.

Mrs. Donald McHugh, 3136 Odessa, is planning to can her tomato crop. She has three varieties of tomato sets. Her vegetables are planted in the flower beds.

Paul Mathis, 2004 Ash Crescent, has had trouble with blooms falling off of tomato plants. He believes it is because the vines are growing too large. Mrs. Mathis has already canned green beans. Although they have a fence at the rear of the yard, Mathis suspects rabbits have been eating his lettuce.

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SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 1943.

## Botanic Garden Greenhouse With Crimson Bougainvillea Attracting Many Visitors

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

The Botanic Garden greenhouse with the crimson lake bougainvillea and the now blooming night-flowering cereus, a Zybocactus species, continues to attract many visitors.

Also in the greenhouse is the Pandanus, a gift of a friend of the late Mrs. Frank Naugle. This tropical and exotic variegated plant commemorates the memory of Florence Naugle whose love for flowers, art and beauty was well known to her friends.

Another favorite of visitors is the tier-tree, or Norfolk Island pine. With its black-green foliage, it is a queer looking member of the Juniper family. Another novelty is the firecracker plant, or fountain plant, with graceful, drooping foliage with trumpet-shaped, red firecracker-like flowers. A sensation in bright orange is the bed of pot-o'-gold marigold.

### Blooms on Pink Lotus.

The answer to the often-asked question concerning the blooming of the pink lotus, is that there are a number of blooms on the decorative plant now, and there will be many more later on. A number of water-lilies are also in bloom.

Now flourishing in the lagoons and waterways at the garden are pickerel weeds and water cannas, both natives. A rather new water plant in the garden is the lizard's tail (*Saururus cernuus*), with a creamy flower and a fuzzy spike that curls at the top.

A collection of photographs of *Hydrosme rivieri*, the world's largest flower, is now being featured at the Garden Center. The photographs show the development of the plant and flower grown locally by R. H. Schweers. The plant is now Summering in the open ground at the Schweers' residence.

### Wednesday Reception.

On display at the center is a seed pod of a *Darringtonia*, a plant of the Myrtle family. Dr. C. R. Lees recently presented this giant seed pod to the center.

Last Sunday a wedding reception was held in "Wedding Bell Court," the outdoor room adjacent to the Garden Center, which is planted with daturas overflowing with great white, trumpet-shaped flowers. Fragrant white cape jasmines are now in flower in the corner beds of the shelter house terrace.

Also in bloom in the woodland border are the pink queen cleome, golden hypericum (St. John's-wort) and anoda (a snowcup).

Native trees now in flower are the tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus*), wild chinaberry (soapberry), elder and buckeye.

Birds frequenting the garden are the red-tailed hawk, red-shoulder-

**GARDENTERIA.**  
Monday—Shade Plants for the Garden, Which Ones to Use and Where.

Tuesday—Sunloving Plants, Their Likes and Dislikes.

Wednesday—Ferns and How to Grow Them.

Thursday—Texas Plants for the Cultivated Garden.

Friday—Nature Walk Through the Botanic Garden, 10 a. m.

Exhibition Table—Flower Arrangement and Setting by Mrs. Sam B. Cathey III.

Wildflowers—Willow Primrose (now in flower in sandy lands), Cotton-string Weed, Verbenas, Horsemints (*Monarda*), White Mexican Poppies, Gaillardias, Varieties of Coneflowers.

ed hawk, sparrow hawk, quails, ducks, roadrunners, doves, barn owl, screech owl, burrowing owl, whippoorwills, goatsuckers, night hawks, scissor-tails, belted kingfisher, chimney-swifts, thrushes, wrens, mockingbirds, chickadee, vireos, robins, Eastern bluebirds, yellow-breasted and Maryland yellow-throat warbler, painted and indigo buntings, dickcissel, cardinals, meadow-larks and blackbirds.

Now colorful with many varieties of daylilies, cannas, roses, flowering shrubs, annuals and perennials is the Garrett Ranch, south of Arlington 1½ miles on Main Street south. Mr. and Mrs. Garrett have placed a most attractive entrance gate on the historic old road to Johnson Station which is used as an approach to their property.

The house, constructed of Austin white stone, is delightfully situated among oaks, and an extensive victory garden adjoins the flower garden.

### Day Lilies in Gardens.

Mrs. Ireland Hampton, 4501 East Lancaster, and Mrs. J. C. Vaught, Arlington, now have hybrid *hemerocallis* (day lilies) in their gardens. William B. Fitzhugh, formerly of Shreveport, now serving with the armed forces, is a *hemerocallis* hybridizer of note.

A highlight of the wayside park at old Frenchtown Crossing, Justin, which was built by Mrs. Erskine Lumpkins, is the tall scarlet Texas phlox, known generally as standing cypress or Indian plume. The garden slopes to historic Denton Creek and is shaded by giant pecan trees, oaks and other native specimens.

Mrs. Lumpkins owns several rare tables, the handiwork of her father, R. C. Whitfield, and they are fashioned of Texas woods, rattan, oak and walnut. The unusual tables may be seen at Mrs. Lumpkin's home near the park.

## GARDENTERIA

Gardening information given free to the public at the Fort Worth Garden Center, Botanic Garden in Trinity Park, telephone 7-3330.

Monday—Good Small Trees for the Lawn, Study Them Now While They are in Foliage.

Tuesday—Tree Surgery, How to Care for Garden Trees.

Wednesday—Propagation, Grafting, How to Make Hard-wood Cuttings.

Thursday—The Garden Pool, What are Good Local Aquarium Plants?

Friday—Amaryllis and Cannas, How to Use Them in Your Garden.

The Exhibition Table—Flower Arrangement and Setting This Week for Mrs. Charles F. A. McCleure, for the Fort Worth Garden Club.

Wildflower Calendar—The White Rosin Weed, Horsemint (*Monarda*), Star Thistle, tall Gauras (*Lizard's Tails*), Stenophyllons, Yuccas, Moth Mullein, Standing Cypress (*Phlox*).

Special showing of serial photographs of the world's largest flower, the *Hydrosme*, grown locally and photographed by R. H. Schweers, 4705 Byers. The collection of photographs will remain in the Garden Center throughout the coming week.

## American Star Thistle Now Has Spotlight on Highways, Byways Around Fort Worth

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Out Granbury Road way the American Star Thistle, one of Texas' showiest composites, is putting on a show just now. Highways lead past uncultivated fields with acres of these orchid colored thistle-less flowers. Common names are Powder-puff, Sweet Sultan, *Cardo del Valle*, Star Thistle and *Centaurea*. Mixed in profusely with the Star Thistle are deep magenta-colored horse-mints, also called Indian Mint (*Monarda*). Strangely clannish are both the Star Thistle and the *Monarda*. Although they like to associate with each other, they group to themselves, as will be easily noticed. Other wild flowers to be seen on the highways now are the white Rosin Weed, Indian Blankets of Gaillardias (going to seed in a big way), Verbenas, tall swaying weedy-like plants with yellow flowers growing up and down the stems, known as the Willow Primrose, members of the Evening Primrose Family.

Mrs. Earl Jones, 5329 Windowmere, great-granddaughter of the famous Texas hero, Davy Crockett, is a garden enthusiast. She is not only a fancier of flowers, but her Victory Garden is the envy of her friends. Roses, gladiolas, snapdragons and other gay blossoms thrive in the Jones garden, with canning vegetables the order of the day at this home. Mrs. Jones' great-grandmother, Elizabeth Crockett, wife of the Texas hero, pioneered in Hood County, near Granbury in the late "fifties." Here she had her old-fashioned garden and grew the food for her family. She died in 1860 and is buried in the old Acton Cemetery, 40 miles west of Fort Worth. The State erected an imposing monument at her grave in 1913. In 1936, the Centennial Marker Committee, designated the routes to the cemetery and Mrs. Crockett's old home, where the road crosses Granbury Highway, with a large granite boulder, appropriately inscribed. Mrs. T. H. Hiner, granddaughter of Crockett and mother of Mrs. Jones, resides at the Jones home. Ashley Crockett, grandson of Crockett and brother of Mrs. Hiner, now in his eighty-sixth year, resides at Granbury.

Charles Mitchell, one of the oldest Tarrant County early settlers, resides at Haslet. His wife, Martha Gilmore, was the daughter of Tarrant County's first judge, Seborn Gilmore, and she was said to be the first white girl born in Tarrant County. Mr. Mitchell, now in his ninety-third year, is enjoying the vegetables from his Victory Garden which is looked after by his daughter, Mrs. Quail, who resides at the old home with her father. Quantities of blue nightshades (*solanums*) grow profusely in the areas just outside the front yard; Mrs. Quail's particular pride just now is her garden stand of pink gladiolas.

The family of Tom Frasier, 1406 Grand Avenue, are rejoicing over the big flower on a Century plant (*Maguey*). Known as Century plant because it must stand several years before it reaches the bloom stage, it does not, however require a century to make its bloom. The Magueys are among the best known and most useful of the plants of Latin America. Their products furnish sustenance and industrial materials of value to the natives.

The wildflower and cactus area at the Botanic Garden is especially interesting just now. A spectacular bloom is that of the Sawtooth Sotol. The blossom spikes stand nearly twenty feet in height and the flowerets that appear on the tall stem are a rich creamy color. The Moth Mulleins are in bloom in this area now also. There is wealth of native material to be seen in this garden unit, with many plants now making their seeds. The main lagoon in the water garden is showy now with the pink-flowering lotus, a plant that is honored highly in the Orient and in Egypt. While not as showy as some other plants, a *Tradescantia*, variety *humilis*, with pure, bright blue flowers, flaunts itself gaily over the ledges of the water areas near the springs. The cape jasmines, although planted only last Winter, are blooming profusely near the main shelter in the corners of the terrace, and their perfume is wafted to visitors in passing. Each Sunday afternoon, there is music in the garden, recordings furnished through the medium of a loud speaker.

## Water Lotus Attractive to Visitors

The pink water lotus in the Botanic Garden are attracting many visitors daily, particularly over the weekends. In the last month almost every State in the Union was represented in the registry kept by the Garden Center. Visitors also were from Alaska, Holland, Australia and England. The zinnias are beginning to give good color in the beds near the greenhouse, and the "Weddingbell Court," adjacent to the Garden Center, is fragrant and spectacular in the late evening, at night and early morning with the large-flowering, orchid-white daturas. This variety of datura (*stramonium*) is one of the native Texas plants that can be used industrially. From the seeds may be obtained a vegetable alkali. It also produces a narcotic property.

Zinnia beds throughout the city are coming into color. One of the showiest is to be seen at the home of Miss Bertha Williams, 1421 Virginia Place. Another attractive small intimate garden, with many colorful flowers, and a producing victory garden, is that of Mrs. Morgan Bryan, 901 Hill Crest. Mrs. Bryan's daughter, Mrs. Russell Firestone, of Akron, Ohio, introduced some very fine tangerine pedigreed tomatoes into this garden, through seeds sent to Mrs. Bryan.

Community victory gardens are popular in Fort Worth. One of the most successful is in an area 168 by 165 feet in Monticello. This project is looked after by Mrs. W. A. Zant, Mrs. R. P. Woltz Jr., Mrs. E. D. Ingram, and Vaughan Wilson. Young Zant has a portion of the garden under his control, and here he grows "Ioana" sweet corn, an unusually good variety from Iowa, with the stand now about 8 feet in height, with 2 to 3 ears on each stalk. The neighbors have had a real fight here to eradicate a long-time stand of Johnson grass, but it has been worth the effort. Not only have these families made a community project of their garden, but they have done their canning together, thus releasing pressure cookers. Dozens of containers of green beans are on pantry shelves, and the same is true of small new potatoes. Many pounds of potatoes are in storage. Squash, cucumbers, tomatoes, green beans, onions, lettuce, spinach and other vegetables have supplied the tables of these families since early Spring.

Mrs. Zant's greenhouse has furnished the community garden its tomatoes for continuous plantings. Here also she has gotten off to a good start many a local herb bed. Best among the new herbs grown by Mrs. Zant is roquette, a tangy, zippy plant that is an addition to salads, tomato cocktails or cooked greens.



# Botanic Garden Greenhouse Offers Unusual Plants; Test Unit Also Interesting

# Brown Lawn Spots May Mean Grubs

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Brown patches or dead spots on the lawn should be looked after at once. It is disappointing to have these large dry areas appear, and they have a way of spreading, once they get a good start. Frequently such patches mean nothing more than that there has been a lack of water, but more often the condition is due to an infestation of May beetles or June bugs. Skunks and woodpeckers are very fond of the nice juicy larvae, and their presence is an indication. Sponginess of the sod is another warning of the presence of the beetle or its larvae.

Eggs are laid in the ground in late Spring and these hatch during the Summer, the larvae burrowing deeper into the soil as Winter approaches, emerging as full grown beetles in April or May. When grubs attain their full size they are about as large around as a lead pencil, creamy white with a black tail and a light brown head, the latter equipped with a set of formidable jaws that enable them to chew grass roots. Infestations seem to occur in cycles of about every three years. Applications of arsenate of lead will control the pest.

The poison should be applied at the rate of seven pounds to 1,000 square feet (a heavier application might injure the tender grass roots) by broadcasting with a distributor used in fertilizing or by hand. Equal proportions of slightly damp sand or humus mixed with the arsenate of lead will make for easier distribution. This should be followed by a thorough watering, to wash the poison from the grass into the ground, so that danger to pets will be removed. Such procedure should make the lawn grub-proof for a period of 5-6 years, according to soil texture. Light sandy soils require more frequent applications than heavier ones, such as clay.

Where large areas are damaged, deep spading or cultivating may be necessary to rid the lawn of grubs, working in the arsenate of lead at the same time. Fertilizers can then be applied immediately, and raked into the soil, which should be leveled and prepared for the seeding that should follow in three or four days. If soil is very dry, it should be thoroughly soaked at least a day before seed is sown. Rake the surface lightly to break up any crusts which may have formed.

# The Pests in Your Garden: They Can Be Controlled but You Have to Keep At It

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Aphids, or plant lice, are among the commonest of garden pests. They may be looked for on almost every vegetable crop. Small and soft-bodied, these insects are of every color and they double in number every few hours. Although they may be found swarming over the old plants, they likewise attack the tender new growth; in fact, they generally prefer the latter.

The curling of the leaves of a plant indicates the presence of aphids. This insect is not difficult to kill, provided you can give him direct action treatment with the insecticide, however, the aphid often gets inside the curled portion of the leaf and is hard to contact. It is fortunate for the gardener that the aphid has a number of natural enemies. Nicotine sprays, pyrethrum and rotenone, in continued applications, should control this nuisance.

Ants do little damage to the vegetable garden, other than to construct their galleries around and under the plants, thus drying out the soils and causing the loss of seedlings. They colonize and protect aphids, both the common leaf aphids and the root pest. It is possible to discourage ants by the addition of organic matter in the soils and through frequent cultivation. If troubled with a number of hills or ant beds, make a hole six inches deep with the wooden end of the hoe and sprinkle with water. Properties that have thallium sulphate as the active ingredient are particularly helpful in ant control.

## The Blister Beetle.

That half-inch long, somewhat soft-bodied, slender black or black-and-gray striped insect, known as the blister beetle, can destroy a lot of your beans, beets, and potatoes and peas. Dust plants where he abides with rotenone every day. The flea beetle, that little hard, round, shiny black jumping insect that cuts small holes in plant leaves, may quickly destroy much vegetation. Get a good duster and use it frequently on the flea beetle. Grasshoppers and crickets can cause much damage to vegetables. You have to be on the alert to get them when they are feeding. Thorough dustings of rotenone may discourage them, but the most efficacious bait is that given to cutworms.

Cutworms are the smooth gray or brownish caterpillars that cut plants off at the surface of the ground or climb the plants and eat the tender leaves. During the day the cutworm conceals itself underground or in nearby trash piles and emerges at evening to feed. Because they are especially active on a warm evening, this is the best time to apply the poison bait. When fully grown the cutworm burrows into the soil in the Summer and changes to a pupa, from which a grayish moth comes in the late Summer. Eggs are laid on grasses and weeds, these soon hatch and the young worms feed on nearby plants. In late Fall they bury themselves deep in the ground for the Winter. It is well to broadcast paris green bran mash twice each Spring, just before setting out cabbage plants and again before setting out tomato plants. If broadcasts are light and even, small pets or birds will not generally be harmed by it.

## A Standard Preparation.

The following preparation is a standard one for army worms, crickets, cutworms and grasshoppers: one peck bran, one-fourth pound paris green, one pint molasses and about three quarts of water. Mix bran and paris green well; dissolve the molasses in a little warm water first, then add the remainder of the water; add sweetened water to the poisoned bran until it is crumbly wet, not soggy; let mixture set a few minutes and scatter along rows of sprouting seeds or around plants. Do this on a warm evening when no rain is in prospect. The above proportions should take care of about 1,000 square feet, or say, a garden 20x50 feet. Many persons have found pasteboard collars of value for young plants.

If you have trouble with damping off, treat all seeds before planting. There are several fungus organisms that go by this name. Ask your dealer what to use for seed treatment. Mosaic diseases are becoming more common in vegetable gardens everywhere. Insects can spread this disease, which is caused by a virus. Indications are a yellowish green mottling, producing definite tracers or patterns on the leaves, making a sort of mosaic, hence the name. Parts of the plant may be affected, or it may become dwarfed or stunted in growth; there may be a crinkling or a puckering of the leaves, with or without distortions or malformations; yellowing foliage; tall weak spindly leaves and shoots. It is exceedingly difficult to control mosaic; better not take a chance. Pull out and destroy affected plants. Do away with insects that might scatter the virus. In the Winter, clean up and destroy weeds and other plants that might harbor it.

Watch out for June-bugs. They are alluring in looks with their bright metallic colors, but they

produce that insidious pest we know as the grub, almost an inch-long larvae. The grubs feed on the roots of a number of plants and they like especially corn and potatoes. The Japanese beetles produce a smaller grub. There is practically no 100 per cent control, except hand picking after cultivation. Wireworms are the larvae of the click-beetle, that long, narrow dark brown beetle which snaps itself into position up into the air when placed on its back. Wireworms burrow into root crops and are difficult to control. Ask your dealer if new products are proving efficacious in the destruction of wireworms.

## GARDENTERIA.

Monday.—Texas Wild Flowers, How to Grow Them.

Tuesday.—Southwestern Native Plants in the Wartime Industrial Program.

Wednesday.—Herb Gardens in War, How They Serve.

Thursday.—Zinnias for Southwestern Gardens, New Varieties.

Friday.—Dahlias for Show, What to Do Now.

Exhibition Table.—Flower Arrangement by Mrs. Hatcher Garden Club.

Wildflower Calendar.—Useful Local Weeds—Poke, Mullen, Water Cress, Psoralea (Bread-root), Milkweed, Martynia (Devils-horns), Datura (Jimson-weed).

While not a conservatory in any sense of the word, the Botanic Garden greenhouse offers a number of unusual plants. Visitors to the Garden miss many interesting plants and special features if they fail to see the greenhouse and Garden Center. These two units lie across the road from the main garden. On that side of the road is also the test garden unit. In the latter are to be found a number of plants sent in by the United States Government and the plant bureaus, specimens ranging from trees to small rockery items. Blooming in the greenhouse this week is one of the rarer night blooming cereus types, with a flower that measures nearly a foot across, white tinged with pink, and very fragrant. In flower also is the firecracker plant; and there is one of the carrion flowers, the latter with a large spotted star-shaped flower that bears an offensive odor. Unpleasant as it is, it affords botany students and plant lovers a great deal of interest.

In the greenhouse also one may see a number of Euphorbia plants, these varying in kind and shape. Here stands a giant specimen 10 feet in height, a member of the cactus family. Close by are the crown-of-thorns, some pencil-types and a specimen like a candelabra, each members of the Euphorbia group. Several unusual begonias are now in flower. These plants, inhabitants of tropical lands, are always the occasion of interest because of their gay foliage. Here also are some of the tropical crotons; and there are several philodendrons, all tree climbers. Polynesia has furnished a Pandanus Screw Pine family, one of the decorative foliage plants, variegated in green and white. A symmetrical tier-shaped juniper is known as Norfolk Island Pine, indigenous to the islands.

The Pink Queen Cleome is in flower now, a real sensation, in the woodland border beds. The South Sea Island red Hibiscus is in flower and calls for attention with its flaming scarlet blooms. This flower is a great favorite with the humming birds, and it is generous in dispensing hospitality to the little feathered friends that flit in and out among the flowers. The French baby polyantha rose, pink Chantillon, is easily the highlight of the Garden picture, as one views the vista from the main shelter on top of the Hill. The ramp owes much to this prolific color bearer. The mimosa trees, like big tree ferns, have been a mass of pink flowers for the past several weeks, some of which still prevail. A continued symphony in green is offered by the various evergreens, the junipers and the broad-leaved kinds.

Zinnias now blooming in the borders are making a flower show all their own. Most of the present flowers are from dahlia-flowering types; others are California Giants and the Zinnia striata. The Perennial Phlox, a deep pink, offer a highlight of color in the rockery. The climbing Mermaid Rose, clambering over the main rock shelter, a rambler that delights in entertaining the visitors, is easily a favorite with the public. Its delicate creamy coloring and fragrant bloom help it to hold the spotlight. The watermelon-pink crepe myrtles, a Texas origination, are starting to bloom along the southeast entrance to the Garden. This variety of crepe myrtle and the bright deep blue vitex, both hardy and both drouth resistant, recommend themselves to local gardens as background material. These two

## GARDENTERIA.

Monday—Edible Wild Plants, How to Use Them.

Tuesday—Plant Propagation and its Values to the Amateur Gardener.

Wednesday—Desert Plants, Cacti and Sedums, Yuccas and Agaves.

Thursday—The Use of Herbs in the Landscape Program.

Friday—Against Sunny Walls, the Dry Hillside Garden, What to Plant.

Exhibition Table—The Garden Center table will be arranged this week by Mrs. George Kemble for the Fort Worth Garden Club.

Wildflower Calendar—Sow Thistle (wild lettuce), compass plant, croton, ambrosia (common ragweed), partridge pea, large flowering sandy land pea, dusty miller.

Special Announcement—For a limited time the Garden Center will feature a loan exhibit from the Lowthorpe School of Landscape Architecture, Groton, Mass., consisting of colored photographs and photostat plans and models made by the students of the school. These plans will prove especially helpful to persons wishing to change their garden landscape or to make a garden along right lines. The exhibit is free to the public.

Hostesses for the Botanic Garden and Garden Center Sunday will be members of the South Side Garden Club: Mmes. O. B. Craddock, R. R. Bostwick and A. R. Day.

introduced shrubs are almost as impervious to disease and to climatic conditions as any indigenous tree or shrub.

Proper pruning and proper care should make both of these shrubs especially desirable locally. If every garden planted crepe myrtles plentifully in the background of beds, the display in mid-Summer would present an unforgettable sight, affording as much color as the azaleas of the Old South gardens in early Spring. Generous plantings of this variety of crepe myrtle are to be seen on the Centennial grounds, west of the Will Rogers Memorial buildings, also bordering the area on the south.



PARK NEAR OLD FRENCHTOWN CROSSING • Mrs. E. C. Lumpkin, left, and Mrs. Nevada Whitfield, who live nearby.

## French Communists Who Sought Utopia in Texas Succumbed to Frontier Trials

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

For a decade or two after the annexation of Texas to the United States, 1845, a period that ended temporarily with the War Between the States, Texas was a haven for the war-torn, war-oppressed peoples of Europe.

The German-peopled towns of Castroville, D'Harris, New Braunfels and Fredericksburg tell only a part of the story, however. The early French settlement, "La Reunion," Dallas, has had recognition by historians and is the site designated by a Centennial marker, but a similar and earlier settlement in Denton County, known as "New Icaria," has received little attention.

The original plan of this particular French influx was probably to locate the colonists somewhere near Red River, likely in Cooke County. Circumstances were against this location and the settlements were scattered about in North Texas, Collin County, Denton, Dallas, Parker Counties, and elsewhere.

### BRAVE FAILURES.

Short and simple annals seem to tell the story of the struggles of the early French Communists in Texas. Their brave failures should win more than a mere passing line of reference which seems to be their sole epitaph. The little group that was located in Denton County about 1850, "Icaria," Republic of Unity and Brotherhood, deserves to be remembered.

There were privations and deprivations. The climate was cruel; the water was unwholesome; mosquitoes were merciless; food was costly and wretched in quality.

For the first months they lived almost entirely upon beans. An early historian quotes a charter member: "Beans are good, madame, yes. But not for the months entire. Also, the grand part of heem is sprout." No man of us has tasted of meat that year. No, nor coffee, nor fine bread. We'll be dressed in those clothes, some of silk, some of rags, which we'll bring into the commune; there'll be no money to buy of new. Madame my wife has the robe of lace, but no shawl; I'll have five velvet waistcoats, but no shoes. Happy? Surely, madame. We'll be making the mos' grand work that the world will ever see. Ah, we make of mistakes, yes. And we have failed. But the plan—it was perfect."

Such was the spirit of "New Icaria." For all its flaws, it held a spark of the divine.

The revolution in France, 1830, found Etienne Cabet, born in Dijon, Jan. 1, 1788, in the front rank. Son of a cooper, he received his education from Jacotot, the famous Revolutionary patriot. By 1825 Cabet was making his mark in Paris as a leader of the democratic movement against the reactionary policy of Charles X. He was equally active in the secret doings of the Carbonari. However, his views were too radical, and he was made procureur-general of Corsica. After a checkered career, during which time he suffered imprisonment, exile and torture, he published a notable piece of propaganda, "Le Voyage en Icarie." Herein was presented a new paradise, "Icaria," decked with every beauty, free from crime and suffering; and this blissful state of affairs was due entirely to the form of government. Equality in all things, class, possessions, labor, these formed the basic principle.

### CALLED IT STEWARTSVILLE.

"Icaria" was to be a democratic republic, divided on the 10-system into a multitude of tiny self-gov-

erning communes. All industrial and social functions were to be under control of the State, all property was to be held in common. The family life alone was to be strictly individualistic. Equality was to be absolute, therefore, comfort would prevail.

In 1847 W. S. Peters, a land colonizer, went to Europe to obtain settlers for his project. The President of the Republic of Texas had made a contract in 1841 with Peters and 18 others, most of whom lived in Louisville, Ky., to settle colonies on the Trinity and Red Rivers in Texas. Peters' Texas Emigration and Land Company was to settle within the prescribed boundaries 250 families each year any time after July, 1843. They established the boundaries of their reservation and made their headquarters in the southeast portion of Denton County, on a branch or stream which was known to the old settlers as Office Branch. They built a few rude log and clapboard structures and called the place Stewartsville. They then invited settlers from other States. Many came, but most of them returned to their former homes or wandered elsewhere.

In 1846, the year of Texas' annexation, Denton County was organized. In 1847 Peters found it to his advantage to be in Europe. Cabet was counting his disciples, by the tens of thousands, with 400,000 having signed the Social Compact. Applications for membership poured in by thousands. Many Icarians saw in the downfall of Louis Phillipe a magical opportunity to build up Icaria in France. In May, 1847, Cabet published a glowing proclamation, calling upon all faithful Icarians to join him and build up a real Icaria, a true Utopia, in America. The idea of a migration to America swept France like wildfire.

For years Cabet had been in close touch with Robert Owen and other Communistic leaders in America, and it was through Owen's advice, with the help of Peters, no doubt, that the advance guard sailed from Havre Feb. 3, 1848, to take up the pioneer duties of the settlement in Texas. If Peters had any Socialistic views, it is not known. The promotion of the settlement of his colony seemed his only motive.

Their departure presented a dramatic and touching scene. Standing on the pier at Havre, in the presence of thousands of their friends, they took the solemn oaths of the Social Compact, declaring their devotion to the cause of humanity and promising loyalty to equality, the principle of their faith and belief. As the vessel sailed away, amid shouts and cheers, they sang in unison the farewell hymn, "Partons pour Icarie." More dramatic and tragic than all were the years that followed in America.

### DOOMED TO FAILURE.

Cabet reached New Orleans early in 1849 and took command of the Icarians, about 500, including many women and children. They came up Red River to Shreveport and then by way of the ox-wagon route to Denton County. It is said that some of them pushed handcarts between Red River and their destinations. The lands so vividly described as fertile fields, bordering directly on Red River, proved to be scattered sections of unbroken prairie, which they reached after a terrible overland march of several hundred miles. They were

burdened with absurd and useless baggage, and they had no speaking knowledge of the English language. Although they were a cultivated and refined people, idealists, musicians, scientists, authors, botanists, artists, naturalists and tradesmen skilled in handicraft, mostly from the cities of France, principally Paris, they were not trained in matters of agriculture and farming, which fact proved their downfall.

Dr. Adolph Gonnough (English spelling), a Frenchman and a physician, was the leader of the Denton County Colony. With magnificent courage, the colonists toiled like slaves throughout the cruel Summer of that first year, doomed to failure. By mid-July half the colony was down with malarial fever. Many died, a few moved to other localities, others made their way painfully back to New Orleans. Vicissitudes, trials, failures and tragedies of this unhappy experience offer a lengthy story in themselves.

Dr. Gonnough was appointed state geologist of Texas. He married Elizabeth Martin, a sister of Judge J. E. Martin, in Denton County, and was killed in a railroad accident in Missouri while en route to New York on business pertaining to the chemical and geological affairs of the State.

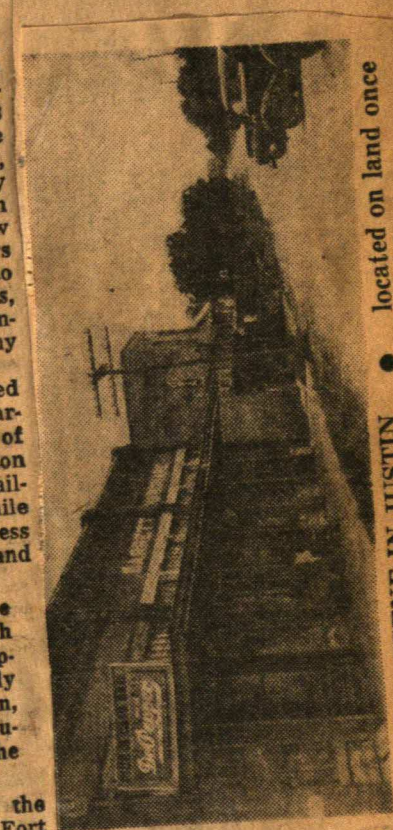
After the dispersion of the Icarian colony, Dr. Gonnough became a member of Maj. Ripley Arnold's military family in Fort Worth. He had a son, Ernest, who was chief musician under Forrest in the Confederate Army.

The suggestion of one of the first graves in what is now Fort Worth came from Dr. Gonnough, it is said. Fort Worth's first cemetery, formerly known as the Old Cemetery, now Pioneer Rest, on Samuel's Avenue, was located on land owned by Dr. Gonnough, a part of his headright survey. In 1853 Major Arnold moved his command from Fort Worth and established Fort Graham, according to the late Judge C. C. Cummings, early historian of this city. Shortly after this Major Arnold was killed in a personal difficulty by his surgeon, Dr. Steiner. Dr. Gonnough, being greatly attached to Major Arnold, induced his soldier friends to exhume his remains, temporarily interred at Graham, and bury them here on his land. Major Arnold had buried two of his children on the land of Dr. Gonnough, near the same site selected by friends for Major Arnold's grave. Today these twin graves of his children are covered with a large sandstone slab, bearing the date, 1850, placed there by Major Arnold's own hands.

### TOWN IS A MONUMENT.

The fertile lands adjacent to Oliver Creek, where it merges with Denton Creek, in the southwestern part of Denton County, and where Justin is located, give no sign of their early French inhabitants. Only a few people in the village even know that their town is the monument to this brave French colony of long ago, a people who in their way also loved liberty, freedom and justice, and who were willing to undergo any and all hardships to try to establish the Utopia of their vision and dreams. The Santa Fe Railroad cuts through the heart of the Frenchtown settlement, "Icaria," of the long ago, and the shrill whistles of the train disturb not the early patriots, many of whom rest in unknown graves near by. The meadowlands along the creeks are fertile and thriving today with Victory gardens, as are the gardens in Justin, but those of the colonization era failed. The people were not trained for their tasks, and they were not schooled to endure the hardships of pioneering. Today one may find other evidences of the occupation

of the French in Denton County. A roadside park near the rusty old iron bridge that crosses Denton Creek, where the highway leads from Justin to Argyle, marks the early site of "Old Frenchtown Crossing." A few miles west of Pilot Point there is a small stream which still goes by the French name, "Isle du Bois" (Isle of Trees).



STREET SCENE IN JUSTIN • located on land once occupied by French Communists.

### GARDENTERIA.

Monday — The Water Gardens.

Tuesday—The Rose Areas.

Wednesday — The Nature Trails.

Thursday — The Wildflower and Cactus Garden.

Friday—The Greenhouse and Test Garden.

Note: This week the Garden Center's program will feature brief trips through the various Botanic Garden units, starting at 9:30 daily. Persons interested in the hikes through the Garden will be personally conducted, if they will be at the Garden Center in the northwest end of the greenhouse at the appointed hour.

Exhibition Table: The table setting this week will be made by Mrs. Guy Pitner, for the Fort Worth Garden Club, featuring an informal lemonade table for Summer.

Hostesses for the Garden and Garden Center for today will be Mrs. C. D. Reimers, Mrs. Roy Saunders and Mrs. William K. Hall.

Wildflower Calendar: Native vines that have landscape possibilities — Greenbrier (Smilax), Carolina Moonseed (also called Wild Sarsaparilla Vine), Pearl Milkweed, Rattan, Trumpet Vine, Honeysuckle (Madreselva), Virginia Creeper, Clematis (Old Man's Beard, also called Love-in-a-Mist).

Special Feature: Additional photographs have been added to the collection sent in by Peter J. Petrony, Government Staff Photographer, featuring the Botanic Garden. These may be seen today at the main shelter in the Botanic Garden, and throughout the coming week at the Garden Center.

# Now Is Time to Plan Color Effects for 1944 Gardens

Plan now, while flowers may be seen, for the color combinations in your next year's garden. There are many standbys from which to choose, as well as a lot of new flowers, annuals as well as perennials. Try a combination of Lady Banksia roses with wistaria; also plant this rose alongside the pink and white Cherokee rose; thunbergia vine likes to associate with lavender lantana. Of course, every garden should include a few plants for fragrance, some of which might be the night-blooming jasmine, the mints, lavenders, lemon verbenas, thyme, nicotiana, petunias and daturas.

A modern garden might be attractive in plants that bear red flowers and those that are white. The early Spring brings red and white hyacinths in beds bordered with white pansies, red tulips and white, and sweet alyssum. For late Spring and Summer there could be verbenas, the red and white, white and red zinnias, phlox (Rheinlander and Miss Lingard), portulacas in beds and for borders (reds and whites), Texas Indian plume (a red phlox), white periwinkles, roses and old fashioned pinks, all in the two colors. Shrubs, carrying red flowers and white, are the flowering peach, crepe myrtle and the white althea, the quinces, pomegranate, the red or coral yucca and the startling red-spiked erythrina. Fall bloomers are zinnias, artemesia and red salvia, periwinkles, dahlias and chrysanthemums, in colors red and white.

The Colonial Garden might start Spring bloom with hyacinths, pansies, tulips, iris and rain lilies and the annual lupines. Flowering shrubs offering possibilities for this type garden are vitex, hibiscus, mimosas, yuccas, tamarix, pink deutzia, double pink altheas, pink flowering peach, double flowering plum, wistaria, pink flowering almond, crabapples—and don't say you can't grow them here—watermelon red crepe myrtle and the bright, but delicate pink one, lilacs, both the white and the lavender. For late Spring and Summer bloom there are polyantha roses, cornflowers, gladioli, anchusa, English daisies, scabiosa, anemones, larkspurs, phlox, Chinese forgetmenots, bluebonnets, blue and pink salvias, Columbines, garden pinks, delphiniums, plumbago (copensis), hollyhocks, heliotrope, mignonette, and many sweet old fashioned roses. In late Summer and Fall the Colonial Garden can be glorious with blue

# Perennial Phlox Should Be Dusted With Sulphur to Combat Red Spiders

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Dust perennial phlox with sulphur in order to keep down red spider infestations, and do not allow it to make seed. A weak solution of sheep manure, liquid form, added to soils in which caladiums and agapanthus grow, watering thoroughly afterwards, will be greatly appreciated by these plants.

Arrange for supports to Fall cosmos and asters. Asters, if cut back to about a foot in height will spread and make for greater masses of bloom. All too often we let asters get leggy and thereby deprive ourselves of their greater flowering beauty. Tiger lillies grow easily from seed but seed pods should be guarded this time of year. Mealy bug is prevalent and a mid-Summer evil. Do not mistake mealy bug for cotton scale,

## GARDENTERIA.

Monday—Cactus Growing as a Hobby, Many Fine Specimens Available.

Tuesday—Yuccas, Agaves and Aloes in Landscape Design.

Wednesday—Native Flora of the Big Bend Park.

Thursday—Texas Lupines, Their Value to the Land.

Friday—Planning the Fall Vegetable Garden, Fall Gardens Useful Here.

Exhibition Table—Setting this week by Mrs. Marvin Leonard, for the Fort Worth Garden Club.

Wildflower Calendar—Texas Bluebell, Mountain Pink, Meadow Pink, the Sunflowers, Siene Bean, Liatris (Texas Blazing Star) and Eryngo (Purple Thistle), Ironweed.

Hostesses for the Botanic Garden and Garden Center over the weekend will be furnished by Mrs. C. D. Reimers, chairman of the Garden Center Committee, for the Fort Worth Garden Club.

morning glories, queen's-wreath, pink zinnias, platycodon, Michaelmas daisies, azalea mums, rain lilies, ageratum and chrysanthemums.

The following native flowers will gladden the garden of any lover of indigenous plants, and will, with proper care, thrive as well, probably better, than the more cultivated plants: Early Spring—dog-tooth violet, puccoon, buttercups, larkspur, the bluebonnet, false foxglove, sweet-william, evening primroses, wild hyacinth, baptisia (a heavenly deep blue in color), Indian paint brush, cereopsis, goat'srue, and the ground plum; late Spring and Summer—yarrow, orange milkweed, winecup, gailardia, blackeyed-susans, white rock daisies, two-leaved sennas, butterfly pea, meadow and mountain pink (gentians), datura, standing cypress (a phlox that is best known as Texas Indian plume), pink coneflower, tansy aster, Tahoka daisy, the mints and monardas, prairie clover (this comes in a rose shade and in yellow), the American star-flower (one of the best of the centaureas), the dusty miller for grey foliage; late Summer and Fall—the perennial sunflowers, the asters, Texas blazing star (liatris) lobelia (cardinalis), the bright but deep purple ironweeds and the goldenrods.

# Home Garden Tom Plants 6 Feet High Garden Ready for July 4 Visitors

Perhaps the tomato is responsible for more fun among local gardeners than any other plant. Beans run up the highest in point of production, and growers are having difficulty in keeping ahead of them, what with eating, canning and drying.

One of the most enthusiastic, and at the same time most successful tomato growers is E. B. Hendricks, 2824 Travis.

On a 7x20-foot space in his yard, he has produced more than 100 pounds of luscious "love apples" since June 5. First, he saw to it that stones were removed, then several loads of sand were added to the black waxy soil of the garden, and barnyard manure, for nitrogen—which tomatoes like—was added in generous proportions. Soil was well worked to a depth of about 20 inches, two feet is a better depth, according to this tomato grower. One application of vigor was given a few weeks ago. Now the tomatoes hang in great clumps, red and ripe, green and ripening, all the way to the top of the well-staked plants (twenty in all, in this space, and six feet tall), some of which astonish even the owner by their amazing size. Watering is highly important. Since tomato roots have a way of spreading sidewise, rather than growing down vertically, cultivation should be light, thus allowing for greater water intake, but soil should be well soaked. The "nozzle treatment" is a potent menace, according to Hendricks.

Ponderosa is Hendricks' favorite, but he grows Stone, Marglobe and others. Hendricks also grows peppers, cabbage, beets, turnips, egg plant, onions and broccoli, the latter with remarkable success. The secret of growing broccoli successfully in this locality, Hendricks believes, is to get it off to an early start, planting it in Feb-

The Botanic Garden is ready for Fourth of July visitors, with its wealth of bloom. The zinnias are nearing a peak of interest, the pink water lotus (India's masterpiece) continues to draw hundreds of visitors each weekend, and there are other highlights of interest.

The special loan exhibit from the Lowthorpe Landscape School, Groton, Mass., at the Garden Center is attracting many visitors. The posters, featuring colored models and photographs of good garden design, offer suggestions for local treatment.

One which is attracting unusual interest is the herb garden plot; another, a brick terrace treatment. Students at the Lowthorpe school have prepared these plans. They are busy helping in the war effort through planning war housing projects, as draftsmen and engineers in war industries, and in advising individuals and communities as to the planning and supervision of wartime gardens. These projects are shown in the posters at the local Garden Center this week.

# Garden Wise Rate Zinnia in Top Row

Among the most satisfactory Summer and Autumn-flowering plants for Southwestern gardens are zinnias. The various types, shades and heights now to be had make effective and showy plantings for sunny borders or even those that have semishade. They give definite color to the garden and keep well as cut flowers. Planting of seeds can still be made with good returns. It takes usually six weeks to produce bloom, but with frost still four months or more away, it is well to continue plantings. Frequent waterings must be given, as roots are sparse and they feed from the surface.

The zinnia, a native of Old Mexico, is easy of cultivation and will grow well in almost any kind of soil. Soils, however, should be rich and deep, well dug and plentifully manured. Since they require plenty of water in hot, dry weather, a mulch of straw manure or hay will help retain moisture. Seeds should be sown now directly out of doors in the place where they are to grow. Sometimes plant pests occur, such as stem borers, but these can be controlled with arsenicals. Mildew sometimes attack zinnias, but this can be helped by watering beds only, not foliage, and through dustings of sulphur preparations.

Many new types of zinnias are now being produced. One may buy seeds of species no bigger than a hat-pin head, and from that up to giants that vie with the dahlia in size. Practically every color is to be had, except blue. Some are single, some double; many are queer in petal formation. Named for Johann Gottfried Zinn, professor of medicine at Gottingen, the zinnia remains in a class to itself when it comes to producing mass color in the garden quickly. Try out some of the many species in your garden this Summer. There is still plenty of time to grow zinnias. They pay big dividends.

more free-flowering next year if it is fed well and watered occasionally this season.

Water lily leaves which show signs of tunneling by leaf mining insects should be removed immediately and destroyed. Keep seed-pods picked from annuals in order to prolong blossoming period. Ferns, begonias and other house plants may be repotted now for Winter use indoors.

Water tomatoes well while fruits are developing to maintain an even rate of growth and mulching is desirable for full fruiting. Potatoes should be lifted as soon as the vines are ripe. After digging spread thinly on a dry storage place until used.

Continue spraying. In using any spray materials, take care to follow directions. Do not exceed recommended dosages. Also be sure to wash out the spray equipment each time after using. Remember to plant madonna lilies early, before rosettes of Winter leaves appear. In attempting to kill insects on water lily plants or other aquatics, do not use preparations that might injure fish.

Install a box of sharp sand some place in the garden or garden room. It will prove highly entertaining in the rooting of certain plants. Cuttings of scented geraniums would make a pleasing hobby, and now is the time to get them started for indoor use.

when additional potatoes are immersed, as each immersion cools the water.

When cutting lilies see to it that too much stem is not removed. Plants need all foliage possible to ripen their buds. Take care not to remove withered stems in such a manner as to leave holes or pockets which may induce rotting of bulbs. Many garden flowers, especially the yellow and white ones, can be successfully dried in

natural form and color by burying them carefully in borax for three weeks at ordinary room temperature.

Herbs, for Winter culinary use, should be cut and dried in a cool airy place, and they will be spiciest if cut just before their flowers open. Do not let late growing weeds set seeds in areas from which crops have been removed. All weeds should be fought on areas between now and Winter.

Do not fail to give continued water to berry-bearing shrubs and those that will flower in early Spring. Lack of water at this season is responsible for sparse fruiting and flowering later. Even though a lily-of-the-valley bed may not need replanting, it will be

## GARDENTERIA.

Monday—Summer Garden Enemies, What to Do to Exterminate Them.

Tuesday—Day Lilies, How to Grow Them in the Southwest.

Wednesday—Asters for Your Fall Garden, Which Varieties Are Best.

Thursday—The Rose Garden in Summer, How to Care for It.

Friday—Autumn Lawn Making. Make Plans Now.

Exhibition Table—Table arrangement this week by Mrs. Anthony Canning for the Fort Worth Garden Club.

Wildflower Calendar—Decorative Plant Material, Eryngo, Liatris, Dusty Miller, Martynia, Buckeyes, Soapberries, Locust and Mesquite Beans.

Hostesses—Hostesses at the Botanic Garden and Garden Center today will be Mrs. Charles D. Reimers, Mrs. Roy B. Saunders and Mrs. Guy Pinner.

# GARDENTERIA *July 18 1943*

Monday—Our State and National Parks, What We Should Know About Them.

Tuesday—Texas and Southwestern Grasses, Their Uses and Possibilities.

Wednesday — Texas Trees, Their Uses and Abuses, Care and Culture.

Thursday—The Birds of the Botanic Garden, Year-round Visitors.

Friday—Local Lakes, Some Interesting Facts About Them.

Exhibition Table—Flower Arrangement by Mrs. William P. McLean Sr. of the Fort Worth Garden Club.

Wildflower Calendar—Flowers of the Gulf Coast Region: Sea lavender, asters, goldenrod, marshmallows, sea holly, portulacca, marsh grasses, tamarisk, milkweed, pennyworts, cinquefoil, elders, greasewoods, agarita.

Special Feature: Now on exhibition at the main shelter in the Garden, and throughout the coming week at the Garden Center, is a collection of photographs featuring views in local parks and the Botanic Garden. These photographs were made by Peter J. Petrony, 165 Signal Photo Det., Dir., 8th Hdq. Corp., Camp Carson, Colo., a Government Staff Photographer.

## Children Who Are Staying Close to Home Can Find Fun, Education in Back Yards

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Now that children are being kept in their own back yards, the child may enjoy excursions into unknown realms of adventure, just through exploration and curiosity. Every back yard, no matter how small or with what limitations, has something of interest.

Here one may find a replica or a counterpart of a more remote or more adventurous area. Armed with a notebook and a camera, or with only interest or curiosity, a child can have a lot of fun studying the birds that frequent his locality. The earth worms, snails, insects (of which there are untold numbers), the soils, stones, snakes, lizards, toads, bats, humming-birds, wild grasses, flowers (whether cultivated or native), and above all the making of a garden by the child himself (if it be only a box filled with soil in which he may plant a dead-looking brown seed and see it emerge transformed) will prove a Summer highlight for him. Here, too, a mother or play supervisor could teach the child the plain facts of life, about geography, simple facts about good landscaping, and even simple flower arrangement for indoor use. What pleasure any child would find in taking over the flower decorations for the daily breakfast table!

The following items and activities may be found in this locality during the coming month, and these may furnish the child who must play in his own back yard with a wealth of interest: tree toads may be going into trees from breeding pools; spiders may be

seen with young on their backs, or there might be the intriguing spider web which is ever profoundly entertaining; tent caterpillars may be hatching or depositing new egg masses; peeper tadpoles are completing metamorphosis every day; scorpion flies are depositing strings of eggs in the ground; meadow grasshoppers begin singing full songs at night; katydids are singing day and night; thistles are sending seed babies out into the world; this is the height of the butterfly season; moth mullin flies are emerging; nasturtiums and other plants are hosts to aphids; many birds are coming into late maturity, flitting from tree to tree, mocking birds (Texas state bird), cardinals or redbirds, wrens and many others; bees reaping harvests from flowers; wasps drinking nectar from sumacs, most of them intoxicated; daddy-long-legs coming into the lights at night; poke berries, elder berries and sumacs ripening their fruits; snake skins being cast off; turtles depositing eggs; digger wasps and mud-dobbers actively engaged in personal affairs; ants carrying food to their underground larders.

The above mentioned interests are only a few of the thousands that each child may find in his own back yard, or in a nearby park or countryside. Members of the Audubon Society, garden clubs, Boy Scouts, Campfire groups, Girl Scouts and other nature organizations will be glad to help anyone interested in making the most of close-at-home situations. The Fort Worth Library and the Garden Center, telephone 7-3330, is well equipped with nature and garden books along all lines of activity.

Give attention at this time to your vegetable garden. Several important suggestions, according to County Agent Counts, should be borne in mind at this season. If dry weather continues, Irish potatoes should be sprouted for about two weeks before placing in the ground. This may be done by piling straw or hay over the slips and keeping it moist. Water should be available (and used plentifully) at all times. Hard seeds, such as spinach, may be soaked overnight in warm water before planting, and one-fourth more of all plant materials should be used now, allowing for present day climatic conditions. Three planting seasons should be observed with correct types of plants for each: (1) Plants and seeds to be set out now; (2) those that can withstand a light frost, and (3) those that can endure the Winters. Among those in the first class (such as those that mature within six weeks) are mustard, collards, onions, potatoes, radishes, turnips and spinach; in the second class we have carrots, cabbage, turnips, stringless green beans and pintos, English peas, broccoli, beets, Swiss chard and kohlrabi, the latter often called turnip cabbage or turnip-rooted cabbage; and the last-named class, those plants that can withstand the severity of cold weather, such as collards, kale, onions, rape, rutabagas, spinach and shallots. Be sure to make preparations to fight insects which will be prevalent this Fall, especially in the early vegetable garden.

## The Water Garden---a Beauty Spot *July 18 1943*

No form of gardening is more enjoyable here in the Southwest than the water garden. Additional water in any form is acceptable in our hot, dry Summers, and its extreme ease of care and culture give it an added value. This type garden may vary from small tub gardens and artificial or natural brooks to the large formal or informal pool. In each case it is a joy not to have to contemplate weeding, cultivation and spraying to the extent that one must do it in other kinds of gardens where soils alone are used. Proper construction in the first place and abundant sun are requirements necessary for a successful water garden. Although this locality is inland, there are numbers of native plants that lend themselves to water garden treatment. As far as possible we should use such plant materials.

Water, having no shape of its own, may be made to take on whatever contour is desired. Dependent upon outside influences, it may vary endlessly in type and character, as well as in emotional appeal. Trickling water is always relaxing in its effect, whether it is the eye or the ear that is appealed to. Water gardens always have the ability to give off moisture and to reflect light and shadows. Where the main purpose of a pool is to reflect, one should use care in the placement of balustrades, hedges or tall plant materials. If there are trees, light should be allowed to play through the branches that reflections may be pleasing. Evergreen plants allow for less cluttering of the waters through the falling leaves.

## Thousands Visit Botanic Garden *July 18 1943*

The Fort Worth Botanic Garden entertains thousands of visitors each month. Weekends bring the greatest number of people. While the large majority come, no doubt, out of sheer curiosity, there are many who enjoy the spot for other reasons.

Now that Fort Worth is in the center of military activities, service men and their friends and families frequent the garden, especially on Sunday. These men, removed from the esthetic interests of their own communities, are finding a great deal of pleasure in wandering through the rose corridors, along the lagoons, through the wildflower and cactus area—and

## Now Is the Time to Plan for the Fall Garden---Get It Ready for Autumn Rains

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

No doubt you, along with all the rest of us, are caught in the Summer gardening slump. It is hot—and dry—and the garden looks dejected maybe. The Spring-blooming perennials and annuals have gone to making seeds—the vegetables have been eaten or canned and only the straggly dry plants remain. Faithfully for months you have tended with care, or stood by to do whatever was needed. You have exhausted garden funds, patience and strength fighting insects, disease and pests, and now you want to rest for a time.

Maybe it is well that you should do this, bringing to your Fall program new zest, the excitement of new conquests. However, there is no time to lose. If you plan your Fall gardening activities properly. Study the new Fall flower and seed catalogs, both for vegetables and for flowering plants. Get your orders in early and have your garden space in readiness, your seeds and plants in the ground when the first Fall rains appear.

Remember this, the thrill of new flowers in your garden will be due to your knowledge and expectations. You will gain this information and enthusiasm through the reading of the new catalogs, the new garden books and plant encyclopedias. Likely you will find no joy in the new plants that you have not felt in the old. Beauty, and our reaction to it, is ageless; but it will be fun to entertain these new and attractive strangers in your garden and to introduce them to your friends. If your garden has been desirable in the past, it is indispensable today. You will want to make it more beautiful, more serviceable, more thrilling than ever before. It is very essential and necessary for your own morale and that of your loved ones.

Demand Is at Peak.

Nurserymen and seed houses tell us that the demand for flowers, roses, bulbs and shrubs is greater than ever before. Thousands of new and eager gardeners are getting their first thrills from their gardening ventures. They are enjoying, just as true gardeners always have, the mild exercise, the pleasant relaxation and the soothing peace that flowers bring to tired minds and bodies. Floral beauty must be arranged for in advance. Shortage of manpower and certain importations have crippled the services slightly, but by proper planning and placing of early orders, you may be assured gay splashes of gorgeous color, or the symphonic greenery—whatever it is that your taste desires—to offset the drab Winter and war days that lie ahead.

Think first of your springtime garden, getting into the ground as soon as possible the bulbs that will herald the new season. There are many new originations and a host of the old standbys from which to select your garden associates for the coming year. Daffodils and narcissi are your main dependables. Remember that the narcissus bulb possesses different degrees of hardiness. Give adequate protection to your bulbs in Winter, particularly those you will plant this Fall. One thing most gardeners fail to appreciate is the fact that plants, like humans, must have food regularly. It is not

enough to give them one or two supplies and then take it for granted that is all that will be required. Study your plant as you study the needs of your child, and see to it that nothing is lacking. Plants and bulbs need balanced, organic food, not just a stimulant. Do not be misled by some of the shot-in-the-arm kind of fertilizers, although they too have their place; be sure that the regular, periodic, steady diet which each plant needs is forthcoming at all times.

Give Plenty of Water.

Your Fall garden for this year lies ahead. Give plenty of water to Summer flowering shrubs. See to it that the chrysanthemums, asters and roses get both food and water in sufficient quantities to produce adequate bloom. Remember too that the Fall and Winter berry-bearing trees and shrubs must have food and water now and it must be continued, if they are to give the big performance you desire in mid-winter. Plan now for some of the new day-lilies and the sensational new bicolor poppies, "Snowflake" being one of the exciting poppy breaks for this year. "Pearl Harbor" is a new rose that no doubt will be a great favorite, since it is intended to commemorate, in some degree at least, the memory of the deeds of our fellow Americans who were in service, a true "memory rose." The new rose, "Douglas MacArthur," called the "Commander's Rose," is proving to be vigorous, hardy and free blooming.

with polyantha roses, just for the sheer joy they would have in adding further to the project. Plans were designed and supervised by Hare & Hare, landscape architects of Kansas City.

The garden is municipally operated, being under the direction of the Park Department. This living library of thousands of plants—37½ acres—lies in the southwest part of Trinity Park, about two miles from the heart of the business district. Here in a natural and picturesque setting, skirting the Trinity River, one may enjoy the wooded lands, rolling lawns and formal and informal landscape features.

## Real Garden Lover Will Select Plants With Eye to His Own Plot, Writer Says

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

At least we can blame it on the war, this present vogue for color gardens. Gardens take on color and hues, just in proportion to the desires and taste of the owner. It is even possible to have a succession of blends and shades that will characterize the owner's momentary whim and fancy.

In fact, one's garden may wear a complexion; and it is quite possible to alter it, just as the woman of today changes her complexion to suit her costume. Nature provides the organisms and necessary elements for a garden, but it is given to man to arrange the forms according to his own plan. The musician selects his tone harmonies, the painter his subjects, colors and effects; just so must the gardener determine what plants and color schemes will grace best his particular garden plot.

### Blue Universal Favorite.

In all the world of colored flowers, blue is perhaps the universal favorite. Novalis, the old German poet and philosopher, used the blue flower to symbolize poetry, and Henry Van Dyke suggested the same symbol to typify happiness. Maeterlinck's bluebird carries the idea further; and there is a Mexican legend that has to do with the mystical blue color of the dress worn by Our Lady Guadalupe. Sir John Lubbock, after a prolonged study of evolution, decided that blue is not only the favorite color of the bees and insects, but it is the ultimate shade the flowers strive to attain.

Texas is particularly blessed with indigenous blue flowers. If we wish to stress interest in our loveliest, rarest blue flower, we think first of the bluebell, an incomparable native blue gentian (*Eustoma russellianum*). It is also called blue marsh lily. Greatly admired and valued because of its classical beauty, it is now very rare and scarce, in spite of a Texas wildflower law that stands guard over the herds of botanical specimens of many plant families.

There is something fascinating about the bright, solitary, ultramarine blossom that comes with the waning Summer months. It is difficult to grow in cultivated gardens. Its native habitat is a boggy swag, or moist land, but a full sun.

### Texas State Emblem.

Easily the most popular of Texas' blue flowers is the official state emblem, the bluebonnet (*Lupinus texensis*), a member of the Pea family. It is a fitting emblem of our patriotism, featuring in the flower parts the colors of red and white and blue at some stage of the blossoming period. Many legends have clustered themselves about this favorite flower. Once it was thought to impoverish the soils in which it grows, but now we know it is a true soil builder, furnishing as it does little nodes that attach themselves to the roots, storing and carrying nitrogen into the soil.

Close to the bluebonnet in popularity is the blue salvia, a perennial that blooms in early Summer, and another variety, a tall-growing one, that flowers in the Fall. This plant is sometimes called blue-bottles.

Both the bluebonnet and the blue

salvia are easy of cultivation. Both like a full sun, but can not stand much moisture, which fact makes them especially desirable for local gardens. The life cycle of the bluebonnet is just one year. Seeds are falling now; when Fall rains come these seeds produce small plants that grow throughout the Winter; they flower in this locality usually in April, make their seeds and the parent plant then passes out.

### Rivals Summer Sky.

The Virginia day-flower, one of the *Tradescantias*, commonly called spiderwort because of the spiderly-looking roots, is of the family, *Commelina*. This flower is a real rival of our azure Summer sky and is considered one of the truest of the deep bright flowers. There are several varieties of the Virginia day-flower. Linnaeus who liked a good joke is responsible for the botanical name. Two of three brothers, Commelyn by name, Dutch botanists, published their works, but the third brother seemed to be quite lazy and made no contribution to life—like the inconspicuous whitish third petal of the flower, hence the name. The *Commelina* brings its blossom into being about the hour of the dawn and steals it away soon after noon; thus we have the name day-flower.

Another native blue-flowering plant that abounds in local creeks and river beds is the *ageratum*. It is plentiful, or used to be, along Mary's Creek near Benbrook. This plant is especially satisfactory for flower and hedge borders. It should be kept pruned to a desirable size, otherwise it has a habit of becoming leggy. The commonest of our *ageratums* bears a soft, periwinkle blue flower, giving the effect of a fuzz or haze when seen at a distance in masses of color. There are also white and rose variations. The blue *batisia*, another member of the lupine or pea family, is a large spectacular flower, one that should be better known and grown more generally.

## Now's Time for Planting Fall Vegetable Gardens

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Now is a good time to plant the Fall vegetable garden, according to Dr. J. F. Rosborough, extension horticulturist of A&M College, and he is urging everyone to plan and plant with care. The main idea is to get the job done as quickly as possible now. He urges every community to give all possible publicity to this program by all possible means, newspapers, radio, seedsmen, educational agencies, service clubs, and in club programs generally; in fact, wherever groups are gathered together.

This is a very definite contribution to our wartime efforts, and quick publicity is needed if we are to produce foods this Fall. In the matter of information, look well to some general suggestions: Soil preparation and fertilizing, heat-resisting Fall vegetables and those that withstand cold.

Be sure to cut weeds and remove all plant refuse before plowing the soil. Molding and heating takes place, if turned under, and this dries out the top soil, preventing thorough cultivation. Spread a coating of manure over the top surface and plow in to a depth of four to five inches. This will prevent packing and will increase the water-holding capacity of the soil. Soil is also improved with the addition of materials from the compost bed. Remember that deep plowing will have a tendency to dry out the soil; further, more moisture is required to wet a deep seed bed than a shallow one. After plowing, see that all clods and lumps are broken. Rake soil fine and smooth before sowing seeds.

Soils lacking fertility should have the addition of a commercial fertilizer as well as barnyard manure. Commercial fertilizers should be used only in areas where there is as much as 30 inches annual rainfall and where soils are sandy. Fertilizer analyzing 3-8-7 or 4-12-4 may be applied at the rate of three pounds per 100 feet of row at time of planting. The planting furrow should be opened and the fertilizer mixed into the soil, chopping thoroughly to a depth of three or four inches. Although the soil may be dry at planting time, such vegetables as spinach, beets, carrots, cabbage and lettuce mature slowly and likely will be subjected to considerable rainfall. Therefore, planting should be made in well-drained locations where water will not stand.

Give the stands of Spring vegetables a side dressing of fertilizer. Green and hot peppers, okra, field peas, eggplant, pole butter beans and Summer tomatoes may be in this class. Apply fertilizer in a furrow, 8-12 inches from the plant,

on both sides of the row, using 3 pounds per 100 feet of row. If soil is dry, irrigate before or after applying the fertilizer.

Suggested demonstrations include the following: Make a small plant bed from an old tub or box for cabbage seed; for quick germination soak spinach seed, roll beet seed to break them up and sprout Irish potato seed before planting; prune Summer tomatoes for Fall production; treat cabbage, cauliflower and broccoli seeds against disease; inoculate English peas and bean seeds for quick growth.

## Best Soil for Bulbous Plant Is Rich, Sandy Loam and Much Humus

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Certain localities are especially well adapted to the growing of bulbs and bulbous plants, but anyone can grow them if a little care and thought is given to the subject. The best bulb soil is a rich sandy loam. Only a few, such as bearded iris, prefer a heavy soil; but nearly all bulbs do well in heavy soil if plenty of humus is added.

All soils should have large amounts of humus. All weeds, leaves, grass clippings, vegetable refuse and even small branches should be committed to the compost bed. If possible, add manure to this and, when well rotted and fine, turn under and mix thoroughly with the soil. Animal manures are best, do not use fresh manures for bulbs near the time of planting. Fertilize only healthy, thrifty plants. Get bulbs and bulbous plants into soil as quickly as possible now for Spring bloom.

Study the life cycle of your bulbs for the answer to your bulb problems. Luther Burbank once said: "A failure is an accomplishment, if you learn by it." Do not blame the bulb family for your failures, but rather try to understand the needs of the various kinds and supply this need intelligently. A dormant bulb contains a bud. If it is a Spring bloomer this is a flower bud. There is also much stored food which is used by the bulb in developing the roots, the perfection of the flowers and the first growth of foliage. By the time the bulb finishes its flowering season, it will have become much smaller and more or less soft, due to the fact that the needed properties have been used in processes of development. Then the process of rebuilding of the bulb begins.

### Bulb's Size Will Increase.

If the bulb is well cared for until its next dormant period, the bulb will become larger than before, producing offsets and sometimes seeds. The period of growth after the plant flowers is an important one in the life of the bulb. Give sufficient water and cultivate as long as the foliage is green.

Bulbs generally have sufficient adaptability to do well under widely varying conditions. Gardeners sometimes give too much attention to depth and spacing. In general, bulbs should be about two or three

times their diameter apart. Small bulbs, like *Ranunculus* No. 3, may be covered to one inch; those the size of a daffodil, 4-6 inches; bulbs with a heavy top need deeper planting in order to maintain an erect position. In light sandy soils, planting may be deeper than in heavy soils. In very cold climates, deep planting is a protection from the elements. Even when left in one place for several years, some bulbs adjust themselves readily. Most plants thrive in neutral, mildly acid or mildly alkaline soils, but a few require definitely alkaline soils and some, such as rhododendrons and callas, demand distinctly acid soil.

### Humus Best Remedy.

If soils are too alkaline, or if plants to be grown in them require more acidity, the best remedy is to incorporate much humus. Peat is the most acid usually, though some American peat has a definite tendency to be alkaline. Oak leaf mold is more acid than other leaf molds. Use much leaf mold, preferably imported peat, for gladiolus, callas, arums, lilies, haemanthus, nerines and all plants that require acidity. Daffodils announce the arrival of Springtime and reward one richly. They grow with little attention and provide quantities of cut flowers, and they endure unseasonable cold weather without damage. They multiply rapidly and thus dividends of beauty are doubled year after year. They harmonize well with other flowers and no garden is too modest for them. *Narcissi* multiples rapidly also, is a novelty that offers considerable variation. *Ranunculus* and anemones are the delight of the Springtime garden, as are tulips and hyacinths.

One of the most enjoyable ways to use bulbs is to feature them in pots for window gardens and indoor bloom. One of the most desirable and at the same time most popular bulbs for pots is the *amaryllis*. Sometimes, they bloom as early as February, if potted in December. Others come along as late as May. *Amaryllis johnsonii*, an old favorite, bears cheerful red flowers even in late Winter. *Clivias*, though rare, are now priced within the reach of all. *Amarcrimums* require a rather large pot.

## Now Is Time to Plant Fall Gardens

For the Fall garden, plant first heat resisting vegetables such as beans, Irish potatoes, mustard, leaf lettuce, radishes and onions, as these must mature before frost. Now is planting time in Central Texas.

In North and Northwest Texas plantings may be earlier; South Texas plantings later. Bliss Triumph and Katahdin Irish potatoes are good varieties for Fall planting, and these require a growing period of from 70 to 85 days. The small potatoes from your Spring raising are suitable for Fall seed if they have had a rest period of as much as six weeks. Potatoes no larger than a 50-cent piece may be used whole as seed. To encourage sprouting, place potatoes in the shade on the ground a week or 10 days before planting and cover with damp sand, shavings, sacks or straw. Keep them moist until sprouting begins, then plant at once, dropping them 14 inches apart in rows four to five inches deep and three feet apart.

### Irrigate the Soil.

Irrigate soils where sprouting potatoes are to be planted a day or so before planting. After they come up and begin to grow, keep potatoes supplied with adequate moisture. If Katahdins are used, keep soils well pulled up about the plants when plants are about 10 inches high, as this variety produces potatoes close to the surface.

Beans should be inoculated with nitrogen bacteria to stimulate quick growth. Sow four to six seeds to each foot, covering one to two inches deep. If all seeds germinate, thin plants to four inches apart. Plants should have more space in which to grow at this season, on account of lack of moisture. Stringless Green-pod and Refugee are good varieties for the Fall garden. Pinto beans are heat-resistant, and they give a larger yield than green snap-beans, but are not as desirable as green beans, for food in the Fall.

### Winter Vegetables Listed.

Use leaf-type lettuce only, as head lettuce is a cool-season plant and must be planted later. Grand Rapids and Black Seeded Simpson varieties of leaf lettuce are recommended for early Fall planting. Seeds should be covered only one inch deep. Tender green and Southern Curled varieties of mustard are recommended. Make two or three plantings, a week or two apart, if you would like to have fresh, tender greens maturing throughout the season. Greens are best in quality when the leaves are small and tender.

Winter vegetables, such as cabbage, collards, spinach and carrots, must be planted later. Beets, lettuce and English peas will withstand light frosts, but can not survive temperature below 32 degrees. If cold-resistant vegetables are planted in September or early October when the weather has cooled a bit, they will have an opportunity to make some growth and become toughened before the beginning of cold weather.

## Gardening, Landscaping

### Texas Phlox in Several Varieties

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

More than 100 years ago, a plant collector by the name of Drummond, sent seeds of a Texas phlox back to England. Today the wild sweet-william, a common name for this same phlox, is known botanically as *phlox drummondii*. The old-fashioned pinks, used by our grandmothers, with which to border garden beds, no doubt suggested the common name. There are several native Texas phloxes. One, a deep scarlet with velvety flowers, grows abundantly in the Southern cross timber lands. Another, called Texas Indian plume and standing red cypress, grows in the limestone regions of Central and West Texas. The name, phlox, comes from the Greek language and means flame, the brilliant colors ranging from red to crimson, coral to salmon, purple to pink.

Of the 48 known species of the phlox, 47 are of American origin. Although the garden variety of phlox has been developed from the wild phlox, the finest originations have come from European hybridizers. We have at present four commonly recognized types of phloxes: the flower garden annual (the little native Texan); the Summer perennial phloxes mostly derived from a wildling of the eastern part of America, *phlox paniculata*; the moss pinks, *phlox subulata* and *phlox nivalis*, eastern North American varieties, and the various rockery types, the dwarf perennials. New varieties of the phlox are coming to light all the time, and with careful selection, one may have phloxes in bloom throughout the greater part of the year.

Seeds of the native Texas phloxes (Drummond's) may be sown from September through March and there should be blossoms from January through June. This variety likes a light sandy soil. The plants, which are easily transplanted, start blooming when quite small. They like a full sun, and are excellent border plants. Most gardeners prefer the quicker method of growing the plants from the roots or divisions which may be transplanted in the Fall or early Spring. Phlox has proved to be one of our most reliable and trustworthy perennials. Varieties are listed in catalogs as early and late, also as dwarf, medium and tall.

### Super-Giant Violet Full of Fragrance

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

No doubt you have always loved the little woodland violet that comes in early Spring, a real harbinger of the Springtime. Now comes a modern perennial violet you will surely want for your garden this year, the super-giant violet, Royal Robe, with magnificent, extra large flowers of lustrous deepest violet-blue. It is intensely fragrant and a few plants will fill the air of your garden and send their delightful perfume even hundreds of feet away. It is ideal for corsages,

## Plants Need Inspection Frequently for Prevention of Damage From Insects

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Inspect your plants regularly for the many pests and insects that may attack them. Consult your spray chart and your dealer in insecticides as to the best methods of control. In the case of large caterpillars, hand picking is recommended. The best stomach poison for leaf-eating insects is arsenate of lead, two tablespoons of the poison and two tablespoons of flour to one gallon of water. Red spiders can be controlled by using five tablespoonsful of lime sulphur to one gallon of water. Be sure to keep dusting sulphur off of blooms or burning will be the result. Keep plants clean through the use of a strong spray of water. Plant foliage should be kept dust free and cleaned periodically.

One of the plants most susceptible to mildew in the South is the crepe myrtle. Control measures are as follows: Foliage should not be watered except during hot, dry weather, and watering should be done during the day, never in the evening. If branches remain moisture-laden overnight, mildew will have more favorable conditions for growth. Keep foliage thinned somewhat, that air may circulate freely through branches. If possible, plant shrubs in the open rather than near a wall, that air may have free passage. Cut off affected branches and burn them. Do not allow leaves that are affected with mildew to remain on

the ground near plants. Keep plants well fertilized that they may be in a good growing condition at all times. Spray at least once a month with Bordeaux mixture, following directions.

Arsenate of lead sprinkled over the lawn area, followed by a thorough soaking, will kill earth worms. Take care to look after children and pets if this process is followed. If necessary, the above treatment may be administered several times during the Summer. Pill bugs or sow bugs may be killed by sprinkling arsenate of lead on the inside of discarded halves of grapefruit. These halves are then placed, with the cut side down, among the flowers. Sycamore blight has been proving quite destructive of late. All sycamore trees should be sprayed two or three times a year with Bordeaux mixture in order to kill whatever blight the branches might harbor. Sometimes cutting the branches back to the green wood, burning the cut portions, will cause the tree to leaf out again and overcome the effects of the blight.

Root-rot causes a lot of loss among trees and shrubs in this locality. Wherever trees and shrubs have died from the effects of this menace, it will be desirable to remove all parts of the plant and burn the roots, leaving the hole open and exposed to the sun for at least two or three weeks. In addition, it is desirable to fill the

hole with a good strong fertilizer. Take care when replanting in the same hole to omit poplars, American elms and such as are easily given to root-rot. Plant instead, cedar elms, the oaks and pecan. Tree girdlers cause no end of trouble to conifers and other trees and shrubs. At this time of the year, one may find branches or twigs cut off in a smooth trim from the main branch or tree. They work inside the bark and partially girdle the stem, and when the branches are exposed to the breeze they break off easily, after having been girdled.

## Here Are Hot Weather Tips for Gardeners

Cut lawns less often and less closely than last month and allow clippings to settle on grass. Spray constantly and fight insects and plant diseases. Use weed killers on gravel paths and drives. Carefully remove all seeds from shrubs and perennials. Order bulbs for Fall planting. Cut back early blooming perennials and remove all dead flower heads. Sow perennial seeds, such as bluebonnets, standing cypress (Texas Indian plume) and four-o'clocks. Stake perennials where necessary. Cultivate the garden frequently and

water wherever needed badly. Pinch back chrysanthemums, cosmos, asters and the laterals of dahlias. Guard against leaving the hose in the sun. Spray rhododendrons with Summer strength lime sulphur for lace fly. Remove and burn all dead and sick parts from plants. Tie up vines and roses.

Immerse hanging baskets for at least an hour in weak liquid manure, once a month and from now on; likely plants have used up original food in soil. Make cuttings of ivy, geraniums and other plants wanted for indoor use this

Winter. Reset perennial seedlings started in June and July. Turn over the compost heap, and remember to use it when ready. Chrysanthemums and dahlias can be given food from now on. A thin glue solution with water will help get rid of red spider, if it is sprayed on forcibly. Sow new lawns, trim hedges and spade up ground to be planted this Fall or next year. Get frames ready for Winter. Renew mulches on all newly transplanted stock. Fertilize phlox, water frequently and cut off old flower heads.

boutonnieres and bouquets, and a few flowers will fill an entire room with their fragrance. The rugged plants have sturdy foliage and bloom abundantly in early Spring, also in the Fall again. The graceful blossoms open wide like a pansy or viola. It is perfectly hardy in this climate, but will relish a leafy mulch or protection, with a bit of now-and-then moisture throughout the long hot Summer, when blossoming period is dormant.

There are other contemporaries you will want to grow in your garden this year, among them a new *Vinca minor* (Bowles), with repeating blooms of Alice-blue flowers, and superior to the old-fashioned *Vinca minor*; it is most satisfactory as a flowering plant to be used as a ground cover, especially where there is much shade. *Tritomas* are sensational for color here in Southwestern gardens. A new one, *Tritoma Comet*, offers compelling spires of riotous color all Summer, and one does not have to dig up this new variety every year as was the case with the old "red-hot poker plants." *Golden Pride* is a deep golden yellow color, and one clump will produce from 15 to 20 eight-inch spikes in a single Sum-

mer. *Primula cashmiriana* is one of the earliest of the Spring Primroses. Its lovely globes of deep-orchid lavender florets are exotic and interesting. Although the flower-heads progress slowly, the blooms last a long time and are rather continuous. It prefers a moist, semi-shady location.

*Sussex Queen* is a truly fascinating new golden yellow *Trollius* of the improved *Ledebouri* type. The two rows of petals instead of staying cupped as in other types, flatten out gracefully and effectively, making a beautiful picture with their very interesting stamens, strong filaments and richly colored anthers. It does well in either sun or shade. And there are a number of new hardy perennial phloxes. Clumps of three or more make an attractive group in a border. In masses they produce unexcelled radiant Summer color. The glory of their immense florets, mounds of color, large and varied color range recommend them to the lover of new introductions. The following are very desirable for this locality: *Apple Blossom*, disease resistant and with apple-blossom pink pyramidal

flower-heads; *Harvest Fire*, a mammoth salmon-orange colored cluster, branching from the bottom, and a long-time bloomer; *Mikado*, a deep violet color with a white eye, and most striking in color; *Blue Boy*, a very deep bright blue, with large flower-heads, and a free bloomer; *San Antonio*, with immense heads, deep, non-fading blood red florets, and *Fairy King*, a heavenly lavender, with large, shapely, rounded heads, and dark green foliage on a firm stem.

# City Child Likely to Be Deprived of Birthright— A Garden of His Own!

Aug 29 943

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

In the hurry and frenzy of everyday living, the city child is liable to be neglected; those matters that are his heritage, his birthright, are overlooked or crowded out of his life. A little knowledge of the elements, at least, the purpose and use of the soil, a close association with animals—and pets and natural history objects—sun, rain and dew—these and much more he has a right to know intimately. Such associations develop the curiosity, the imagination, a knowledge of natural growth in the various kingdoms; protective measures for the child himself, and afford endless interests that are constructive and helpful. The child who is deprived of rural life in his early development will be the better for the substitutions that may be his in the city, if plans are properly carried out.

## Association With Beauty.

Every child has a right to the association with beauty, order, system. The well-ordered home provides these essentials, but it does not always include the care and maintenance of a garden, an interest that should be close to the heart and life of the child. There are many object lessons that will be of value to the child in the association with green and growing plants. He will learn how and where to induce growth and spreading tendencies, where to curb and direct. Growth does not necessarily mean running wild over everything, either with the plant or the child. Here he may learn early in life how to overcome failure and disappointment. As the child works to produce order, harmonious and artistic arrangements, he will, to an extent at least, come to weave these ideas into his own consciousness.

Given a patch for his own, everything should be done to make the garden a success. Sometimes failures loom as insurmountable to the child. He should be made to see that prolonged effort will reap a reward. The area must not be too large, a space 6 x 8 feet being good for a start. The soil should be properly prepared and enriched in the beginning. Do not expect the child to do the heavy preliminary work for the first time, but let him assist, if possible. For a first venture, quick results are most heartening. Help him to se-

lect the seeds and flowers that will sprout quickly and make a colorful display as soon as possible. The same should be true of the vegetables; and there should be a ready market in the family for the child's financial returns.

## Should Keep Books.

Beans might be sold to the mother or father at a penny each; tomatoes at five cents. Books should be kept by the child. Given an avocado seed, he would enjoy planting this and watching it develop. He would find out after the first Winter, that he would have to remove another planting to shelter during the cold season. He could be taught to grow seedlings from peach, oak and plum seeds; also to grow plants from slips. Geraniums root easily, and willow twigs, ivy, oleander and bulbs all grow quickly and well, for a time at least, in water. A wealth of useful information could be had for the child who plants and maintains a garden—at which season to sow, plant and transplant; how to cultivate, water and stake; how to collect and store the products of his garden; how to buy first stands to advantage.

For the early Spring the child's garden should grow lettuce, spinach, radishes, carrots, peas and beets; late Spring, beans, okra, corn, squash, cucumbers and New Zealand spinach.

## Birds Vital for Success of Gardens

Birds are essentials in any well regulated garden. In fact, if the truth were known, there could be no garden were it not for these friends of man. The great value of attracting birds to the garden, other than for their sweet songs and flashing colors, can not be over-estimated. They are invaluable as destroyers of worms, insects and other garden pests. The three needs, if a garden is to invite birds, are adequate food and water, protection from cats and the small boy's gun. Berry-bearing bushes, such as the haws, mulberries, the Virginia creeper and blue cedar berries are relished especially. Birds also like the fruits of the hedgehog cactus.

Humming birds relish the columbine, malvaviscus (or turk's cap), larkspur, thistle, foxglove, sweet-william, hollyhock and day lilies. The following suggestions may be helpful in bringing other birds to your garden. Plan now to use as many berry-bearing and fruit-producing trees, shrubs and vines as possible in your next year's garden. Plant arbor vitae, asters, astilbe, barberries, buttercups, cedars, chickweeds, china-berries, clover, coral berries, haws, dandelions, elder berries, grapes, honeysuckles, ligustrums, mulberries, oaks and oxalis.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1943.

## Rose, Queen of Flowers, Is Neglected in Texas; Deserves More Attention

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

The rose, queen of flowers throughout the ages, has somehow or other been sidetracked in the Southwest. Although a few people will always grow roses here, the majority seem to feel that the effort is not worth the cost. This is to be regretted. Maybe we have allowed the idea of mass production, the desire for masses of color in our gardens, to overshadow the value of perfection of bloom in a single flower. It is an enviable achievement just once in a lifetime to bring a rose bloom to the height of perfection. Must we expect a rose to bloom all Summer, please us with continued fragrance, display the most exotic charm through color, and last forever?

The rose reigns as the most beautiful of all the flowers in every part of the globe. Bards of all nations have sung its praises and yet none have been able to do justice to this, the choicest flower that ornaments the earth. The rose is thought to have given name to the Holy Land, where Solomon sang its praise. Syria appears to be derived from Suri, a delicate species of rose, for which that beautiful country has always been famous; hence it is called Suristan, the Land of Roses. The rose of Kashmir has long been proverbial in the East for its brilliancy and delicacy of odor. Oriental poetry abounds in flowery allusions to the rose. According to the heathen mythology, Pagoda Siri, one of the wives of Wistnou, was found in a rose. The Island of Rhodes owes its name to the prodigious quantity of roses with which it abounds. The Ghebers say that when Abraham, their great prophet, was thrown into the fire by the order of Nimrod, the flame turned instantly into a bed of roses where the child reposed sweetly.

Ludivico Verthema, who traveled in the East in the year 1503, observes that Taessa was particularly celebrated for roses, and that he saw a great quantity of these flowers at Calicut, red ones and white ones and yellow. Sir William Owsley, in his work on Persia, says that when he entered the flower garden belonging to the governor of a castle near Fassa, he was overwhelmed with roses. In Persia wine and other liquors are brought to the table with a rose in the bottle instead of a stopper or cork. It is said that the roses of the garden of the ruler of Morocco are unequalled, and that mattresses are made of their petals upon which men of rank may recline. In Father Catrou's "Histoire de Mogol" we read that the celebrated princess, Nourmahal, caused an entire canal to be filled with roses and with rose water, that she might revel in the perfumed atmosphere. It was here that "otto" of roses was first discovered, we are told. The sun's heat, disengaging the essential oil of the rose from the water, produced the attar that floated on the surface of the canal. Parisian perfumers who made attar of roses for Louis XVI reported that it required four thousand pounds of rose leaves to produce 17 ounces of the oil.

It is related in fable that Flora, having found the corpse of a favorite nymph, whose beauty of person was surpassed only by her purity of heart, resolved to raise a plant from the precious remains of this daughter of the dryads, for

which purpose she begged the assistance of Venus and the Graces, as well as all the deities that preside over gardens, to assist in the transformation of the nymph into a beautiful flower, that would then be proclaimed by them as queen of all vegetation. The ceremony was attended by the Zephyrs, who cleared the atmosphere that Apollo might bless the newly created progeny with his beams. Bacchus supplied rivers of nectar to nourish it, and Vertumnus poured his choicest perfumes over the plant. When the metamorphosis was complete, Pomona strewed her fruit over the young branches, which Flora then crowned with a diadem that had been specially prepared by the celestials, to distinguish this queen of flowers.

## Your Roses Need Plans Right Now

In a few weeks now it will be time to plan the new rose garden, or to revamp the old one. Any good garden soil will grow roses. They should not, however, be planted in shade or near shrubs or trees. An open sunny area is best.

Of course you will want one or more plants of the new rose, Pinocchio. It is lovely in the garden and for the indoor bouquet. And there are some wonderful Floribunda types, extremely hardy, and exciting in color and quality. Try a rose temple this year for your climbers. Erect eight posts, each 10 feet high, and connect at the top by rods. Plant two climbers at each post. Most of them will have grown to the top in six months. Make the center of the temple bed into a rich loam, with generous proportions of manure worked well into it. Dwarf roses, or polyanthas may be planted in outer beds and inner as well; and a border of wild camomile, if planted as an edge will keep aphids away. Among the new and better climbers in use today are the following: Dr. J. H. Nicolas, June Morn and the new King Midas, respectively pinkish red, a lovely rich yellow and the latter, pure gold, as the name implies; the everblooming strain of the most popular pink climbing rose in America, New Dawn; the large pale pink, fragrant Dr. W. Van Fleet; the climbing Talisman, President Hoover, Blaze, Summer Snow, Doubloons, and the inimitable Paul's Scarlet.

Let's remember that the flower garden is necessary during wartime. Continue to grow vegetables for food, but let's keep the beauty of our flowers intact, that our boys who are now in service may know that the beauty they left behind—this same beauty, and more, will await them upon their return. To some of them, at least, it is of importance. Gardening is one of the institutions that has helped to make America great. Boys overseas and at the front write that it means much to them to think of the quiet and beauty in the garden back home; or they tell of the loveliness of some Old World garden they have visited. War must not cause us to lose the joys of life which we claim as an inalienable right.

## Garden Is Ablaze for the Weekend

The Botanic Garden is ready for the thousands of visitors who will spend the weekend in Fort Worth. Although the Fall season for rose and dahlia blooms has not yet set in, there are already many roses blooming and a few dahlias. The court adjacent to the Garden Center and greenhouse is a bower of beauty each night, and very fragrant with hundreds of datura blossoms. Probably tonight there will be at least three flowers on one of the showiest of the night-blooming cereus in the greenhouse. This exotic plant is a native of the tropics, and causes wonderment whenever it blooms. The greenhouse will be open tonight to anyone who may wish to see the cereus in flower. It should be at its best about 10:30.

The first planting of zinnias near the greenhouse are on the wane, but still colorful. The crepe myrtles with flowers a watermelon pink, at the south entrance to the Garden are inviting. The South Sea Islands hibiscus and the turks-cap (malvaviscus) vie with each other as they flaunt their scarlet colors. Anisacanthus and the dwarf pomegranates are flowering now. Golden-flowered cro-tellaries and bright, but deep, blue ruellias make a pleasing contrast, as they stand side by side in the test garden unit.

In the wild garden area the two-leaved senna and the ashes plant, sometimes called barometer bush (senisa), botanically known as Leucophyllum texanum, are highlights of interest.

Some of the trees are especially attractive just now: the bois d'arc, hanging heavy with its green orange-like fruit which caused the pioneers and Indians to call it Osage orange; the Mexican persimmons, a native of Southwest Texas, is loaded with satiny round olive-green fruit; the honey-locust, carrying many twisted pods, is especially decorative; Eve's necklace, with constricted bean-like pods, dull jet black in color, belongs to the Sophora family, and is a close relative of the sacred pagoda trees of the Orient; the liveoaks and the South Texas wild peach afford interest as evergreens and for contrast in color.

The exhibition table at the Garden Center will be featured this week by Mrs. A. G. Fewsmith, in a special Labor Day setting. Hostesses for this month at the Garden and Garden Center will be members of the Sylvania Garden Club, Mrs. O. V. Campbell, president. Those on duty Sunday will be Mrs. Frank Estill, Mrs. Frank Albrecht and Mrs. W. A. Ingraham. Monday's hostesses will be Mesdames W. R. Lenox and J. E. Nelson. Special music will be featured in the Garden both Sunday and Monday afternoon.

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BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

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The dahlia took its name from the Swedish botanist, Professor Andreas Dahl, a pupil of Linnaeus. The plant, a stout perennial herb, sometimes woody, is in some 10 or 12 species, at least, a native of the higher plateaus of Mexico. It is not always easy to classify the dahlias of today, due to the fact that the nomenclature of the group is confusing to some of the systematists who do not agree on the rank given to the various forms.

Although the old favorites are popular, the newer varieties bid fair to be still more pleasing. The new types, "cactus," "decorative," "peony-flowered" and "collarete" are all more airy, fluffy, looser and more open. In certain sections there seems to be a sort of unfavorable reaction to these newer kinds, but it is strictly prejudice. The old-time dahlias were round, hard and stiff like a ball and there are still persons who prefer the conventional pattern in a dahlia.

### Demands Are Few.

Although the demands of the dahlia are few, failures result because the growers do not or can not meet the requirements, such as they are. Seeds and tubers are only desirable when secured from reliable dealers. The plants like a full sun, but are easily affected by high winds, therefore they should be well staked, as they begin to grow.

The garden in which they are to grow should be always well drained. They should be given plenty of water at all times, especially as they near the bloom stage, but cultivation of beds is even more important. Soil is not so important, but it should have the ability to hold moisture.

Any good soil that will grow corn will also grow dahlias. The plant grows equally well in clear sand, clay or even gravel, if the proper kinds and quantities of plant food are added, and worked in thoroughly. Do not, however, expect dahlias or any other garden plant to grow and thrive in a hard clay, devoid of humus, easily baked and never cultivated.

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Sucking insects do a great deal of damage to dahlia plants before the gardener realizes it, due to the fact that they are small and not easily observed. The red spider and the leaf hopper are two of the worst which affect plants here. Their antidote is a good contact spray of nicotine sulphate. Leaves should be kept clean and free of dust through a gentle overhead spray.

The Fort Worth Botanic Garden is growing most of the following plants, and shortly now—some are already in bloom—they may be seen to advantage, as the various varieties come into flower: Reds—Cherokee Brave, Maffie, Oakleigh and Monarch; pinks—Victory, Mrs. Ida Warner Cherokee Rose; whites—Darcy Sainsbury and Miss Oakland; yellows—Lord of Autumn, Kentucky Sun, Limelight; two-tones or mixed colors—Margrace, Monarch of the East, Aztec Chief and Mayor Frank Otis; miniatures—(red), McKay's Purity; (white) and in two-tones, Buckeye Baby; dwarfs—Fred Springer (red), Gertrude (yellow), Elsie (two-tones) and Maria (white). New dahlias to be had this year are Bess Smith (white), Dorothy Schmidt (lilac), Pearl Harbor (pink), Adele Henderson (Autumn tones) and Josephine Hayes (yellow). While the time can not be definitely determined yet, it is likely the first Sunday in October will be designated as Dahlia Day at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden. Do not miss the "Parade of the Dahlias" at the Garden this year. It will be a sight worth remembering.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1943

## Name, Sunflower, Applies to Many Plants That Follow Sun, Are Blooming Now

When we think of sunflowers we usually refer to those tall-growing, swaying, weedy native plants so familiar to us all this time of year when they are at the height of their blossoming season, known as the Helianthus family. However, there are a good many flowering plants whose blossoms follow the sun, which are dependent upon sun for fruition of bloom, and which take the shape and color of their flowers from the sun, hence the name, sunflower. These annual plants, like dahlias and chrysanthemums, live throughout the Summer and bloom annually about this time of year. And there are many perennial sunflowers. Now the countryside is golden with the flowers of the families of Helianthus, Helianthemum, Heterotheca and Grindelia. No matter how otherwise drab the setting may be, or whether it be in the lowlands or on the hills, the so-called flowers-of-the-sun give a gay, bright atmosphere. We owe them much.

At this time of year our native Helianthus annuus (the common sunflower) spreads itself over hundreds of acres of Texas lands, and lines the roadsides for miles. Not only does it flourish in this State, but it is rather generally distributed throughout the Nation, so much so that it has been mentioned as a possibility for national honors in the matter of official flowers. Helianthus petiolaris, with smaller flowers and a more delicate foliage, grows from the sandy soils of Red River to the Gulf Coast. The common sunflower is the floral emblem of Kansas. The name, Helianthus, is from the Greek and means sun and flower. Helianthus tuberosus, commonly called Jerusalem artichoke, while not from Jerusalem nor an artichoke, is a close relative of the common sunflowers, and its root is edible, one of the few plants really cultivated by the American Indian.

Sunflowers are grown in cultivated gardens, both for ornament and as utility plants. The plant is effective when used in the border and kept pruned according to needs. The tall-growing, large-flowering kinds are cultivated for their seeds which are useful as feed for chickens, parrots and other birds, and their oils are a base for many products. In fact, there are more than 100 commercial uses for the sunflower seeds and roots. The sunflower family is comparatively free from insect injuries. Leaf hoppers, leaf feeders and aphids are only occasional pests.

The Maximilian sunflower, a kind that has the flowers close beside the stem, flourishes in Mexico and grows profusely in this locality. It is one of the prettiest of the sunflowers, and is adaptable for cultivated border backgrounds. Helianthemum majus, better known as Sun Rose and Rock Rose, produces two sets of flowers, one of which gives the general appearance of miniature wild roses and the other, in clusters at the leaf axils, has no petals. Grindelia of rosin-weed, named for a Russian botanist named Grindel, is in flower here now, as is the camphor plant, Heterotheca, with the flowers of the latter closing at night and opening with the sun next morning. The camphor plant emits an odor which resembles that of camphor.

## Certain Plants Adapted Well to Texas Climate

Study of local gardens that are composed of native or naturalized plants which resist extreme drouth conditions may prevent a repetition of the discouraging experiences many gardeners have had in the Southwest during the dry, hot Summer.

Plants such as the Yucca, certain cacti, flowering willow, salt cedar, and Eucalyptus tree, have proven their worth in Old Mexico and are well adapted to this climate. A few of the trees that flourish despite arid conditions are the wild chinaberry, vitex, Mexican persimmon, redbud, redhaw, liveoak, red cedar, mesquite and honey locust. Flowers well suited to Southwestern Summers are goldenglow, asters, liatris and snow-on-the-mountain.

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Through survival, and natural selection of the fittest, these plants today are overrunning the earth. Likely the early forbears of the aster were simply green leaves around the vital parts; gradually they took on petals and color as a medium of attracting insects, that they might survive. Perhaps nothing is lovelier than white asters. Their delicate structure, both of the plant and the flowers, makes an appeal always.

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## Texas Has Many Kinds of Grapes

Growing with a good deal of rank in Texas is the grape, of which there are 16 native Texas species, with the following plants offering possibilities: the mountain grape, the mustang, sand, sugar, Summer and wild. The mustang grape is a typical river-bottom vine and it is not at all uncommon to find it growing in trees to a height of 100 feet. The fruits from the mustang, while green, make good pies and preserves. After ripening, they are useful in the making of wines and jellies. It is said Indians smoked the bark of the mustang.

Pioneer children enjoyed the great, swaying trunks of the vine for swings. *Vitis berlandieri*, called Summer grape, is peculiar to the hilly limestone regions of Central and Western Texas. The mountain grape, *Vitis rupestris*, also called sand grape and sugar grape, and *Vitis monticola*, has very fragrant blossoms, similar to those of the wild plum. Its fruits are in dark blue clusters, a grape much sought after for preserves. No matter the weather, the mountain grape is always fresh looking and green. It makes a nice covering for fences and trellises.

The muscadine grape, *Vitis rotundifolia*, grows in ravines and along river banks. It produces abundantly the most peculiar fruits of all the grapes. The thick rind covers a juicy pulp that is quite pleasing. This grape is of commercial value and should be grown more extensively, especially in Eastern Texas. Lincecum's grape, more like a shrub than a vine, will grow in almost any kind of soil and it possesses large, beautiful leaves. It should be used oftener in gardens as a covering for fences, walls, foundations and as a wind-break. Its abundant fruits are fair sized and edible.

Other members of the grape family are the simple-leaved *Ampelopsis*, *Cissus*, which is a strong growing vine, good as a cover for unsightly places and for river banks and for ground cover along ravines and on steep, moist hills. Its blue, grape-like fruits, which are not abundant are nevertheless edible. *Cissus arborea* and *Cissus incisa*, respectively the pepper vine of South Texas and the cow-itch vine (*Yerba del buey*) are both great favorites of the birds. The seven-leaved ivy (*Parthenocissus heptaphylla*) is sometimes called woodbine; it is the Texas Virginia creeper, not unlike poison ivy in appearance, but harmless. Its foliage turns to beautiful red-to-gold in the Autumn woodlands. It is highly recommended as a garden vine.

## GARDENING

### Dahlias and Roses in Full Bloom; Many Visitors Due Today at Botanic Garden

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.  
Thousands of persons will visit the Botanic Garden Sunday to see the dahlias and roses, now at the peak of Fall bloom. Rains have given new impetus to blossoms and fresh clean coloring to the foliage; and the garden itself is a delight to the eye.

Many persons, with only a little time to spare, stop at the main shelter just to get a birdseye view. However, a majority of visitors wander through leisurely, enjoying the plants and flowers.

The nature trails are picturesque, with vines and a tropical verdure beyond expectation for this climate. The dense thickets along the lowlands of the Trinity River are rank in growth, affording a study of some types of plants not found elsewhere to any considerable extent in this vicinity. The dahlias are in the edge of the woodlands, near the nature trails. Chrysanthemums, just beginning to flower, will be a mass of color in a week or two. Snowcups and the second-crop of zinnias complete the woodland border.

Hostesses, on duty at the main shelter, will take the vote of the public as to their favorite dahlia. The winner will be announced later, and will then be appropriately tagged for future sight-seers to enjoy. Hostesses who will greet visitors today at the main shelter and the Garden Center will be members of the Highland Park Garden Club, as follows: Mesdames J. N. Patterson, R. F. Harwell, Jessie Click and Orris Mitchell.

Those who look closely will see

many interesting plants. In the wild garden, on a clump of mammillaria cacti, there is a dainty native West Texas passion flower, one of the smallest of this family, a plant greatly prized in the Garden. It is greenish-yellow in color, with flower parts running true to form. Its elliptical leaves are mottled, and are about three inches wide, much wider than they are long. The plant would make a valuable addition to any collection of rare or choice rock garden plants. It was brought in to the garden, quite by accident, with the cactus specimen a year or two ago. In the same area one of the native mimosas, the "tornillo" (*Prosopis pubescens*), close of kin to the mesquite, is busy making its little tightly-twisted screw-bean fruit, a spiral formation that is unusual.

In the Spring, there will be a new drift of bulbs under the mimosas near the rockery, the recent gift of a former Fort Worth woman now living in Atlanta, Ga., Mrs. B. C. Settle, president of the Atlanta Federation of Women's Clubs. Mrs. Settle is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jere Reeves of Fort Worth. The 300 bulbs were grown on the Settles' estate in Atlanta.

In walking through the nature trail on the south side of the vista, you will not want to miss the new foot-bridge, an elm tree trunk recently constructed into a one-person bridge across a rivulet.

Many birds are in migration now. Listen for their voices as you walk through the garden.

### Horticulture and Conservation Will Be Garden Club Objectives

Horticulture and conservation will be the general topic of study meetings of the Fort Worth Garden Club this season, with day lilies and cold frames as the topic for meetings this week, Mrs. Hubert Hammond Crane, president, announced.

Instead of outside speakers this year, members of the circles will be the speakers. Capable members of the groups will present programs at the group meetings, which are being continued in the interest of conservation of time, tires and gasoline.

Mrs. William Holden's group for women of Berkeley Addition will meet at 10:30 a. m. Tuesday at the home of Mrs. R. K. Campbell, 1920 Rockridge Terrace, and Mrs. Henry S. Green's group, for women of Monticello and River-view, will meet at Mrs. Green's home, 401 Crestwood, at 10:30 a. m. Thursday with Mesdames Howard Kittel and W. K. Hall co-hostesses.

The other groups will meet at 10:30 a. m. Friday as follows: Colonial Hills group, with Mesdames L. A. Pharr and Olin Smith, chairmen, at the home of the former,

3701 Country Club Circle; Park Hill group with Mrs. E. E. Taylor, chairman, at the home of Mrs. Ralph Bristol, 2424 Medford Court, West; Westover-River Crest group, with Mesdames T. M. Prettyman and Lorin Taylor, co-chairmen, at the home of Mrs. Bert N. Honea, 4736 Crestline; Ryan Place group with Mrs. J. G. Clark and Mrs. L. W. Bevan, chairmen, at the home of Mrs. C. C. Gumm, 1418 Elizabeth Boulevard, with Mesdames Clark and Durward McDonald, cohostesses; Arlington Heights group, with Mrs. N. E. Ross and Mrs. Hugo Mueller, co-chairmen, at the home of Mrs. D. T. Costello, 4051 Modlin, and South Side group with Mrs. K. H. Beall and Mrs. Nancy Taylor, co-chairmen, at the home of Mrs. Taylor, 807 Fifth Avenue.

## Start Now for Beautiful Spring Garden

No doubt you resolved last Spring when you saw your neighbor's lovely bulbous plants in flower that you would have these beauties in your own garden. Now is the time to bring that resolve to pass. What a wonderland Texas might become if every garden lover would plant 500 or 1,000 bulbs in his garden this Fall! Not alone should bulbous plants be set out in the garden now, but some bulbous plants should be Winter stored, such as gladiolus, caladiums and dahlias, the latter as soon as they have finished this year's blossoming period.

The bulbs should be dug, sun dried for several days, and then placed in a dry cool place where a freeze can not reach them. Dahlias should be covered with dry soil or sand, with stems protruding to light and air. Inspect bulbs occasionally, and if found to be shriveling, place wet newspapers over them until they start swelling; then remove papers and dry out again.

### Hold Garden Spotlight.

Just now dahlias, roses and chrysanthemums hold the garden spotlight. Gardeners who plan to have flowers in Fall shows should look well to good blossoms. Quantity must always be sacrificed for quality. Pruning with care will bring desired results, other needs being provided. Arrange to protect late blooms from early frosts. The first frost may be of light and short duration. There may still be many flowers if care is used to give this early protection.

Divide bearded iris if this hasn't already been done. Now and next month are good times to plant peonies and all Spring blooming perennials. Likely bluebonnets and standing cypress are already peeping above the soil since the rains, but if these favorite Texas plants do not now grace your garden get the seeds out right away, soaking them first over night in luke-warm water. The life cycle of both native bluebonnet and the scarlet standing cypress or Indian plume is just one year. The old adage, "April showers bring May flowers," is not always totally reliable.

Fall planning and planting is also necessary if your Spring gar-

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### Plans Made for Garden Show

Plans for a competitive show of flowers and vegetables to be given by the Garden Club of the Junior Woman's Club Nov. 3 have been announced by Mrs. J. O. Elliston, flower show chairman. Mrs. C. H. Ruddell will be staging chairman and Mrs. Robert Arnold will be in charge of classification.

Judges will be Mesdames Julian Meeker, H. S. Kittel and H. H. Crane. Mesdames Elliston, Ruddell and Arnold will act as clerks. The sweepstakes winner will receive a crystal flower bowl and accessory as prize.

All entries must be at the club by 10:30 a. m., the day of the show and the show will be open to the public from 1 to 4 p. m.

## Sunday Is Dahlia Day At Garden

Roses and Hibiscus Are Also In Their Full Glory Now

Sunday has been designated as Dahlia Day at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, according to Mrs. Will Lake, secretary of the Park Board and director of the Garden Center.

"While the dahlias," says Mrs. Lake, "may be in better bloom the following Sunday, the weather is uncertain at this season."

The dahlia, a great favorite in the Southwest, is a native of Mexico. It took its name from one Andreas Dahle, Swedish pupil of Linnacus.

Special hostesses will be provided at the Garden and the Garden Center on Sunday to receive the poll of the public as to which dahlia is the favorite. First, second and third choice will be selected by vote of visitors. Names of three favorites will be announced later, and winners will be appropriately tagged and labeled that future visitors may see the result of the poll.

Roses in the garden are at the peak of bloom also, as are the South Sea Island hibiscus. Chrysanthemums will be at their best in about two weeks.

Luther Pope, garden supervisor, will be on duty all day Sunday to answer questions about dahlia and dahlia culture.

## Bird Lovers Here Find Egret Heron

Mrs. Wade A. Smith and Mrs. Robert Bowman, bird enthusiasts, had a big surprise last week in the Botanic Garden.

In the main lagoon they saw an egret heron, snowy white, and even with aigrettes in tail and wing feathers and on the top-knot. The bird, with its long slim black legs and yellow feet, was paddling away, tempting the small fish and insect larvae to come within its range.

This rare bird, so records show, has never been recorded before in this county. In fact, it is rather in the extinct class, nationally, or was until the bird sanctuary was established at New Iberia, La. About a month ago Mrs. Bowman saw this same bird (or another of the same kind) at Wandry's Lake, north of town. The range of the egret heron is from the Carolinas to Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, Texas, to the tropics, Argentina and Chile. It is commonly called "golden slippers" due to the color of its feet.

Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Bowman have another discovery to their credit. They have recorded the Parula warbler, a choice bird-find for this locality; it was feeding its young in the Botanic Garden in June, July and August.

# GARDENING

## Fort Worth Crepe Myrtles Now Gorgeous Flower Show

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Fort Worth, the Red Bud City, might well be called the Crepe Myrtle City, judging from the great number of crepe myrtles that are blooming now everywhere in this locality. This condition has been created by the unusual 60 to 70 days of dry weather, followed by the coming of early Fall with plenty of moisture. Weather conditions in the late Summer produced a dormant, or near-dormant sap-flow, especially in shrubs and certain fruit trees, pears, apricots and plums blooming profusely now will probably mean a reduced fruit

crop in the coming year. Fruiting buds will likely not have time to set before frost arrives. Flower lovers have revelled in the deep pinks of the crepe myrtles, the unusually large flowers on abelias, azure blue vitex, the fresh lilac blooms, the scarlet flowers of the pomegranites, golden cosmos, the blue and red salvias, heavy fruiting dogwoods and pyracanthas, the attractive blooms of the hibiscus and altheas, the indigenous senisas, the native orange lantanas; and oaks are showing a heavy crop of acorns. Sunflowers, bewildered and confused, due to much cloudiness, have turned this way and that, trying to locate their sun-god that they might face the light with their flowers.

### Finest Bloom of Years.

The Botanic Garden, with more bloom than it has shown for years at this season, is in readiness for the many visitors who will spend much time here over week-ends. Roses, dahlias, South Sea Island hibiscus, chenille or comet plant (euphorbia), anoda or snow-cup and the pampas grass are near the peak of their fall-blossoming season, and shortly the chrysanthemums, asters and late plantings of cleome and zinnias will bring additional color and bloom to the garden.

Highlights of interest in Mrs. Alfred McKnight's garden, 2212 Pembroke Drive, a newly made garden with just a year to its credit, are the golden celosias, distinctive edging plants in borders and the rhododendrons. Mrs. Jack Knight's garden, 2810 Alton Road, is unusually lovely just now with the silver lace vine over terraces and bowers, and with well-planted cannas for bloom accent.

### Pleasing Planting.

Edith Alderman Guedry's planting of purple bachelor buttons against a background of abelias gives a pleasing effect at her home, 2600 South Adams Street, with zinnias, cockscomb and pink altheas for variety.

Miss Edna Burchill's latticed porch, overlooking a lavender-bordered terrace on Burchill Road, is the envy of her friends. For several years Miss Burchill's friends have enjoyed sprigs of Old English lavender from this intimate little garden, these sprigs having been gratefully placed in linen chests. Another ardent gardener is Mrs. Pauline Tankersley, president of the Highland Park Garden Club, 1321 East Richmond Street. Highlights of this garden just now are choice vines, morning glories, clematis and queen's wreath, with chrysanthemums and native French mulberry bushes (callicarpa) close rivals.

Word comes from Mrs. E. L. Hayes, president of the Mansfield Garden Club, that the municipal garden there is creating a great deal of interest. The Mansfield Garden Club keeps a ready interest in this community civic project.

### October Hostesses.

Hostesses for the month of October at the Garden and Garden Center will be members of the Highland Park Garden Club, those on duty today being Mrs. Pauline Tankersley, Mrs. Arthur Holmes, Mrs. H. O. Wilson and Miss Carolee Browning. Each Sunday afternoon from 2 till 5 there will be a musical program in the garden.



—Star-Telegram Photo.

These are some of the dahlias that have been attracting crowds to the Botanic Garden. The plants, representing many new varieties, are still in full

bloom and are expected to be viewed by a record number of visitors Sunday. The late rains have also made other sections of the garden attractive.

## Pecan Tree Is Not Fully Appreciated Here

Why do we not plant more pecan trees in our yards and gardens and on our farms? Is it because they are indigenous to the State and we are so accustomed to them here in Texas? Is it because we know the tree as our State's official tree emblem? Are pecan trees among the commonplace in our consciousness? Is it because we are not familiar with the services rendered by this remarkable tree, a member of the hickory family, that we do not reap the rich harvests it has in store for us?

Particularly now, that we are searching every where for foods and substitutes for the usual foods, we should become better acquainted with the pecan and its products. In addition, the tree is very desirable for shade and beauty in the home garden.

Today there are in Texas alone more than 70 million trees, bearing trees, and most of them wild; but pecan orchards are offering large yields throughout the State. On March 25, 1775, George Washington planted pecan trees at Mount Vernon, and three of the original planting are still there. Thomas Jefferson brought these trees to Washington from the Mississippi Valley.

The pecan is now grown far beyond the wild range of the original species which was from Iowa and Indiana to Alabama, Texas and Mexico. Mature pecan trees yield from 100-600 pounds of nuts yearly; smaller and younger trees in relative proportions. The food value of pecans is very high, and they are especially rich in proteins. The pecan tree may help us solve the food problems. It behooves us to know more about the tree and its useful products.

There are more than 100 named varieties of pecans already in the trade, but many of them are not giving abundant yield because of climatic conditions to which they are not suited, or to improper varieties. Therefore it pays to be sure about the kind one plants, and to obtain the trees from a reliable dealer, one experienced in growing them in this locality.

Due to the fact that the heavily pecan-loaded branches fall very low, the tree is undesirable as a

sidewalk tree. They should be planted in yards or orchards where the tree can have its way, unmolested. Further, pecan trees on sidewalks are an accident hazard. Children are induced to run out into the street to pick up pecans where the nuts fall, and in this way might be injured by passing cars.

The wild population of pecans is very notionate as to size of nut and yields, and the tree rarely comes true from seed. Because of these facts it is necessary to bud or graft really fine varieties upon existing trees, and thousands of relatively old trees have been remade to produce bigger and better yields.

The Mahan variety of pecan, one of the best producers for local conditions, is steadily gaining in popularity. It is claimed by its champions that 10 acres of land, planted with 120 Mahan pecan trees, with other trees between, can earn \$3,000 per year over a period of 100 years in Texas. And the nuts are among the world's largest. It increases in value over

a span of many generations, and the individual tree may even last for centuries.

There are many specimens of Mahan pecans growing in and about Fort Worth, among them the following: At the residence of W. E. Schroeder, 1005 East Arlington, a tree not four years old until this coming December, which is loaded with huge nuts, with 5-7 in clusters, which will probably amount to a 75-pound yield this year; the outdoor living room of R. O. Dulaney, corner Elizabeth and College, is flanked by four large pecan trees, now eight or nine years old, which will produce heavily this year, several hundred pounds; and the front-yard planting at the residence of Mrs. R. H. Oliver, 1125 Hawthorne, with several trees, now about 10 years old, loaded with big pecan clusters, which will produce heavily this season.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1943.

## ... Nature's Lavish Hand

The hills of Oakhurst, the drives around the lakes, the cross-timber belts of the White Settlement Road, particularly the point where the Morton Potts home is located on North Rivercrest Drive, the lower road back of Burton Hill in Arlington Heights, the Westover Road to the Bomber Plant all afford unusual views.

The Botanic Garden, offering a new picture every week is especially picturesque with crepe myrtle, the rich waxy greens of the junipers and broad-leaved evergreens for contrast. Bronze and gold colors prevail also on the cottonwoods, willows and other deciduous trees.

The orange and scarlet berries of the pyracantha shrubs, the red-haw fruits and the swamp holly berries, together with the red-berried vines (wild sarsaparilla, also called Carolina moonseed) are reminders that Christmas is just around the corner.

The Christmas rose (Hellebore family) and the greenhouse poinsettias, as well as the crimson bougainvillea, are getting ready also to say "Merry Christmas" with flowers. Members of the University Garden Club will be hostesses at the Garden and Garden Center Sunday, and there will be a special table setting at the Garden Center, featuring Thanksgiving theme.

# Dahlia Day Attracts Thousands

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Last Sunday, being Dahlia Day at the Botanic Garden, attracted thousands of visitors, with many from out of the State. Although "Monarch of the East," a rich mel-low golden-yellow bloom, won first prize in the Popularity Contest, other dahlias had their enthusiastic admirers who claimed equal merit for their favorites. Second place was a tie between the rich royal purple, "Thomas Edison," and a lively pink, "Victory," with third award going to "Oakleigh Monarch," a vivid scarlet bloom.

Other dahlias which have won the hearts of visitors are "Omar Khayyam," a golden yellow and red, very tall, with 26-28 blooms open now; "Flash," perhaps the sensation of all the dahlias, a good bi-color, medium-sized red-tipped white, a pet of children who call it "the clown," an unusual amount of open blooms on the almost black red variety, "Adolph Mayer," with 20 six to eight-inch blooms now open, with nearly 100 buds ready to burst into bloom; the majestic pure white blooms of Darcy Sainsbury; the small-flowering variety, "Scarlet Century," seven feet in height, with many blooms and buds, and a number of the dwarf types which, while not as majestic or as large as some of the more spectacular ones, have their own particular charm and enthusiastic admirers. If bad weather conditions hold off a week or two, the dahlias will continue to offer entertainment to flower lovers, for as yet they are not at the height of their beauty, but will be soon.

The queen's-wreath (*Antigonon leptopus*), family Polygoniaceae, a tropical American tendril-climbing vine, is performing unusually well just now for Fort Worth gardeners. This delightful bright coral vine, commonly called queen's wreath, pink vine or Confederate vine, can transform the spot where it blooms. The terrace windows and wire fence at the residence of Miss Allye Rich, 2104 Hillcrest, and the rear window trellis at the residence of S. D. Shannon, 1413 Grand Avenue, are unusually attractive just now in drapes of queen's wreath loaded with vivid blooms.

Mrs. C. L. Crump, 2123 Clinton Avenue, is enjoying her roses just now. They have given big returns in beauty this year, as have her fruit trees and a pecan of which she is very proud. Mrs. O. L. English, 3825 Birchman, takes great pride in her rose garden, and this year the stems of the roses have been unusually long and heavy. Mrs. English is especially pleased with a beautiful mimosa tree which has blossomed continuously all Summer, and her native standing cypress plants (*Gilia rubra*), members of the Phlox family, with picturesque and prolific bloom, excite the wonder of her friends.

Among the local cactus fanciers are J. I. Sherman, 4012 Wayside, who this year purchased the C. E. Papworth collection of cacti and sedums; Dave Hall, 3032 Glen Garden Drive, S.; R. J. Newton, 2701 Cockrell; A. L. Austin, 4800 Gordon; Milton M. Morgan, 2729 South Jennings; Dr. Ernest R. Johnson, 3624 Purington. The cactus family is a large and notable one, and Texas leads the States of the Nation in native specimens. We would do well to spend more time in trying to understand and appreciate the unusual plant materials that are native, their history, grotesque formations, uses in the landscape design in the Southwest, and the economic uses to which they lend themselves.

# Botanic Garden and Center Are Answer to Question of Where to Go on Sunday

BY MARY SEARS.

THE answer to the question on the lips of many of the newcomers "Where can I spend Sunday afternoon in Fort Worth?" lies in a double-barreled garden spot: The Fort Worth Garden Center—and the Botanic Garden.

Sponsored by the Fort Worth Garden Club, the Fort Worth Board of Education and the Park Board, the Garden Center is maintained for the public. The Center is a hostess house for the Botanic Garden and is one of the seven units of the garden which is an ideal place for picture making, strolling and enjoying a Sunday afternoon.

Contained within the Center is a library of several thousand volumes treating of botany, gardens, gardening, flower arrangements, nature study, civics and related interests. The Center is equipped to give out information on those subjects, and it also houses and interprets for the public the Albert Ruth Herbarium of 8,500 plant specimens from all parts of the world.

## Seasonal Garden Displays.

The herbarium, a collection of dried, pressed and mounted specimens arranged by the late Albert Ruth, noted botanist and educator, is the property of the Park Board and the Fort Worth Garden Club.

Throughout the year, seasonal garden displays, arrangements of antique flower and botany prints, and bird prints are displayed at the Center. An added feature of special interest to women is a weekly table arrangement showing use of flowers, foliage, fruits and grasses in actual combination with linens, china, brass and other table service details, both for formal, informal and tea table use, as well as mantel arrangements. Other programs at the Center include field trips to study native plants and birds; Botanic Garden tours; seasonal flower shows by amateur growers, and a special week-before Christmas Bird's Christmas Tree program for school children and the general public. The tree program is directed by the Fort Worth Branch of Administrative Women and is a feature which has had national acclaim.

## Programs Arranged.

From time to time at the Center, reviews are given of garden and travel books or kindred subjects; seasonal programs are arranged in landscaping courses for small homes, in care and culture of seasonal plants and flowers; Victory gardens and vegetable growing; history and lore of particular plants; conservation and use of native plant materials, gardens and plants in literature and many other subjects.

Hostesses are provided Sunday afternoons and on special holidays at the Garden Center from the 17 garden clubs of the city. Secretary of the Park Board, Mrs. Will F.

Lake, is director of the garden center. She formerly was president of the Texas Federation of Garden Clubs for three years, during which time the Garden Center was headquarters for Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.

At present Mrs. Lake is program chairman of that organization, is chairman of the conservation committee for the South Central Region of Garden Clubs. She was chairman of the Garden Centers Committee of the National Council of Garden Clubs from 1940-42 during which time interest was centered on the Fort Worth Center. In 1940 at the National Council's annual meeting in New Hampshire, the Fisher Award, an engraved bronze plaque, for national-

ly important garden center work, was given to Fort Worth, and is now on display at the Center, here.

## Latin-American Books.

A comprehensive library of Latin-American books on gardens and plants is available for use at the Center. Included are the following titles: "Cultivation of Plants in Flower Pots," "A Catalog of the Names, Common and Scientific, of Mexican Plants," "The Cacti of Mexico," "Mexican Plants for American Gardens," several antique herbals dealing with Latin-American plants, and numbers of special bulletins from the National Preparatory School of Mexico City, and the University of Mexico.

The Botanic Garden is a living, growing library of thousands of plants, native and cultivated, with an interesting landscaping which combines both the formal and informal making a delightful promenading place for thousands of visitors every week. "The garden offers a different picture every hour of the day, every day and every season," Mrs. Lake says, adding that it is entertaining visitors from all over the world every day each year, with a growing list of distinguished visitors who have heard, in far away corners, of the beauties of Fort Worth's Botanic Garden.

## Interpret Garden.

The objective of the Center is to interpret the garden for the public, and to give information to visitors to the garden as to what is of interest in Fort Worth, what to see and where to go. Many servicemen and their friends and families enjoy wandering in the gardens finding recreation and relaxation in the beautiful pastoral vistas.

Guest books at the Garden list each week visitors from distant States and other nations, including many men in uniform and their families who are here en route to new stations.

A great need at present is for better transportation facilities to the Garden from downtown areas. Mrs. Lake will consult with drivers who are willing to take visitors to the Garden.

Further information concerning the Garden Center or the Botanic Garden may be obtained from Mrs. Lake, 7-3330; the Park Board, 2-6221; Mrs. Hubert Hammond Crane, president of the Fort Worth Garden Club; or Mrs. C. D. Reimers, chairman of the Garden Center Committee.

The executive board of the Texas Garden Clubs, Inc., will meet at 10:30 a. m. Oct. 27 in Wichita Falls. Prior to the opening meeting, Wichita Falls members will entertain with a coffee at 9:45 a. m.

Reservations for the 1 p. m. luncheon should be made with Mrs. G. T. Buchanan, 905 Bluff, Wichita Falls by Oct. 26. Theme for the meeting will be "The Garden Club in Wartime Programs." Committee chairman and officers will make their reports, and the meeting will conclude the evening of Oct. 27.

# Many Plants Adapted to Hot Climate

Those of you who tried to take a garden through heat and drouth may be more or less discouraged. A plant must have staying qualities to withstand the continuous bombardment of Summer suns this locality. And yet there are a number of trees, shrubs and plants that offer satisfaction here at this season.

Look about you in your own garden, that of a neighbor, or visit the Botanic Garden and study those plants that can qualify for local Summer conditions. Plan now for the effects that you will want in next Summer's garden. There will be less loss and dissatisfaction and more real pleasure if you look ahead and give more attention to those plant materials that have drouth and heat resistant qualities. This does not mean that your garden will be limited in any way; it merely means that you may introduce new and different types, with a definite aim,

and to your greater garden enjoyment.

In such a garden program, we should think of the yuccas and agaves. These two great plant families that thrive here in the Southwest have much to offer the garden lover. One finds a surprising list of variations from which to choose in what is usually thought to be a strictly limited class of plants. Add to those the sotols and opuntias (prickly-pear types) and there are unlimited possibilities before you for garden design.

The blossoms of many of these plants are as lovely as tropical water lilies, and as delicate. Probably the most universally grown of all the large cactus family are the modernistic-looking opuntias, whose economic habit of growth has dispensed with both stem and stalk, retaining only the large fleshy thorny leaves, usually about the size and thickness of a man's hand. Even the exultate

flowers have no stem, but emerge directly from the thin edge of an upright leaf. The golden blossoms appear, by some strange chance to be poised lightly in an extremely uncongenial environment.

The ocotillo, sometimes called "the manicured fingers of the desert," will thrive in this locality. The scarlet bloom cluster is at the tip of the long slender, narrow whip-like "fingers" which seldom appear singly. Several tall spike-like stems sprawl irregularly, in as many varying lengths as there are fingers on a human hand. Sotol, a determining factor of good design in many Southwestern gardens, grows in a very large rosette of long, very slender saw-tooth leaves, from which an extremely tall, sand-colored flower stalk emerges.

This plant is very odd and makes a striking addition to the planting scheme, particularly adaptable to the Spanish-type house.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1943

# Best Roses for 1944 Are Announced

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Roses continue to interest the home grower as landscape possibilities. Some 50 new varieties which have been tested are introduced annually by the committee on All-America Rose Selections. The release on the list for 1944 sounds interesting. And strange as it may seem, and as rare and scarce as are good yellow garden roses, three leading and highest scoring All-America varieties for 1944 are yellow roses, without even a trace of pink. One coral-pink variety made the All-America Rose Selections, and another, a reddish apricot color blend is recommended for the Pacific States, where it was the outstanding leader.

Only Charlotte Armstrong passed the committee in 1941 and only Heart's Desire in 1942. Then Mary Margaret McBride and Grande Duchess Charlotte to divide honors in 1943. And now, for 1944, we have four for general recommendation. Guess which name came first this year. Mme. Chiang Kai-shek, the light yellow leader for 1944. As gracious as its namesake, this recurrent blooming hybrid tea-rose has long pointed buds and beautifully formed flowers, rather freely produced on long canes or stems, from a vigorous, upright bush. The foliage is said to be near disease-resistant, large, leathery and dark green, takes Summer heat well and with flowers fine in texture and double, petals about 35 in each rose, with moderate fragrance.

A popular news commentator, Lowell Thomas, is honored by the name for the second of the winners. This choice was off but a point from the lead scorer, and it is of strong vigorous growth, blooms a colorful butter-yellow with about 30 petals; perfume is alluring and delicate. Mme. Marie Curie, of radium fame, is responsible for the name of the third of the yellow winners. The plant is probably the most profuse and most continuous of the selections. Foliage is abundant and of a leathery, bronzy green.

Katherine T. Marshall, the wife of the chief of the Army staff, is the person selected for honors with the fourth new rose, but it is not yet plentiful. Get this rose if you can this year; but if not, place your order now for next year. This rose is a beautiful deep coral-pink, with petal bases of gold, equally beautiful in the garden and indoors under artificial light. Fred Edmunds is the reddish apricot rose which topped them all on the Pacific Coast, this rose having been named by the All-America rose judge and creator of the International Rose Test Gardens at Portland, Oreg.

## Display at Center Today Unusual One

Members of the Highland Park Garden Club, Mrs. Pauline Tankersley, president, will be hostesses Sunday and next Sunday at the Botanic Garden and the Garden Center. They are: Mesdames Tankersley, C. M. Burton, C. Glanton, C. E. Dinkins and Miss Carrolee Brown-ing.

The table exhibition will feature an arrangement of native Calli-carpa berries (Spanish mulberry), a showy berry-bearing shrub that

Known for its intimate charm, especially for color and succession of bloom, is the terrace garden of Mrs. A. H. Hilgert, 2412 Boyd. The wall adjacent to the drive is bordered with Etoile de Hollande roses and with boysen-berries, both of which have been a sensation to visitors to this delightful garden, and to the owner as well. Color in the main garden is supplied now with dwarf chrysanthemums, asters (which have been kept pruned to a desirable border height), and zinnias, particularly in shades of yellow. This garden may be seen by appointment.

has a bright cluster of pinkish-purple berries bunched at the leaf intersection. These berries were grown by Mrs. Tankersley in her garden at her home, 1321 East Richmond, and were arranged by her at the center. Featured at the center also this week is a huge cocoon in its outer shell, from Florida, and a mammoth pine cone from the Sewanee River, both sent in by Mrs. Tankersley's son who is now in service.

In addition to the dahlias and roses, the chrysanthemums in the woodland border and the boltonias in the rockery and test garden area are highlights of Botanic Garden interest just now, well worth a trip to see. W. B. LaCava, well known dahlia grower of this city, says the garden dahlias are the finest he has seen anywhere this year. They continue to draw thousands of visitors each weekend, and are close rivals of the new animals at the zoo.

## Fruit Trees Pretty and Productive

The United States Department of Agriculture is asking co-operation in growing more fruit trees. Shortage of labor and transportation problems mean a shortage of fruit and prices will be considerably higher unless home gardeners, farmers and fruit growers heed the warning. It is imperative that we plant fruit trees in our Victory gardens, the products of which will contribute greatly to healthful and enjoyable meals.

Trees may be planted any time now and throughout the Winter. Some of the advantages of Fall-planted trees are (1) the season is longer which enables the tree to establish itself before Spring sets in; (2) roots that were cut when the tree was dug will have a chance to heal; (3) frequent Fall rains will help to settle soil around roots; (4) the tree will form a good supply of young roots which are very essential to the future good growth of every living plant; (5) Fall planted trees guarantee themselves 100 per cent while those planted in the Spring show half that percentage.

## Changing Colors of Leaves Reveal Nature at Work

Just now we are enjoying the changing colors in the foliage of the trees and woodland vines. We admire the yellow, red and purple hues but do we know what causes these changes? Maybe we have been thinking that frost is responsible for the carnival of colors. It really has very little to do with the matter. At best it can only hasten the process, or perhaps cut it short. Even as early as June and July a tree begins to prepare for its losses later, the fall of the leaves. By midsummer, the tree's winter buds, each containing the germ of next year's leaf-shoot, are already formed.

Around the base of each mature leaf-stalk there comes a well-marked line, indicating where the break will occur when the leaf falls. A layer of corky cells forms on each side of this line, replacing the tougher, fibrous tissue which, in the spring-growing season, is almost too tough to tear apart. When the moment of separation comes, the falling of the leaf, the lightest breath of wind, even the little weight of the leaf itself, will break it off.

Some very important work, however, must be done by the tree before this happens. Summer's green leaves contain quantities of valuable substance, called "cambium," and this substance the tree can not afford to lose. The thrifty tree undertakes to withdraw this "cam-

bium," or leaf pulp, before the fall of the leaf. Slowly the green pulp is drained from the edges of the leaf and is drawn back into the twigs through the stems.

As the green "cambium" goes, it leaves behind much of the mineral matter that was brought up from the soil in the sap. Iron compounds remain behind in the form of the yellow, red and purple dyes that give the ripening leaves their gorgeous colors. Our local woodlands reveal the reds in the oaks, sumacs, and the Virginia-creeper (vine), the yellows in the soap-berry (wild chinaberry and Spanish buckeye), the ash, willow, hackberry, elm, honey locust and mesquite. The purple tones are found in the wild plum, the persimmon and the native euonymus, the latter commonly called Indian Wahoo, or Strawberry Bush.

It is highly important not to burn leaves as they fall. If the leaves are undesirable on the lawn or sidewalk area, they should be collected and worked into the flower beds or the vegetable garden soil. The decayed leaf will put back into the soil the mineral compounds needed by the roots for Spring growth, and will afford a good and adequate mulch for plants. No wonder our soils become impoverished, if we burn the leaves that fall year after year. Nature is a wonderful restorer, if unhampered by the inadequate knowledge of man.

## Clubs Offer Garden Courses

To say nothing of the good advantage from fruit trees, the flowering trees add immeasurably to the picturesque and scenic interest of the community. Some States feature the trees as inducements for tourists. Nothing is more inspiring than to drive through a countryside when the fruit trees are in flower. Shall we not add these features to our Victory garden this year?

Crabapples, peaches, pears, apricots, plums and cherries will thrive in this part of Texas. Each tree has its own particular needs, and it is our part to try to give them what they require. A carefully planted orchard should pay big dividends in fruits for home use, to say nothing of advantages commercially.

Clark's mighty extra-early peach is a desirable top-notch for this locality, and is said to be an earlier and sweeter peach than the Elberta. Elbertas, however, like standard brand clothing, are always satisfactory.

Here is an interest, once the luxury of the wealthy only, that is now within reach of all. Make your garden more beautiful with espaliers, pruned and trained trees for walls, fences or trellises. Dwarf espaliered fruit trees were devised by European horticulturists to make the most of limited space. Like vines, they take up practically no room, thus leaving the precious ground space for flowers and vegetables. In Europe, where they have been grown for centuries, the primary object is fruit, rather than display. The yield is unusually excellent, of large size and of much better flavor than ordinary fruit.

President's Council of Fort Worth Garden Clubs will sponsor a school of judging Nov. 8-9 at the Woman's Club from 10 a. m. to 12:30 p. m. and from 1:30 p. m. to 4 p. m. Examinations will be given on last afternoon.

This is the first opportunity local clubs have had to present a judging school since standardization of schools. The first year course will be given as outlined by the National Council with work covering staging and managing amateur flower shows, horticulture, flower arrangement.

Mrs. Maude Jacobs of South Carrollton, Ky., who will lecture on staging and managing amateur shows on horticulture, has lectured in this field for about 20 years and is an outstanding authority in the National Council. Mrs. Margaret Scruggs Carruth, Dallas, speaker on flower arrangement, is chairman of the committee on Texas judging schools and member of the national committee on judging schools. Her work with the Texas Federation of Garden Clubs is known to all Texas clubs.

Optional examinations will be given for those wishing credit toward a Texas judging certificate. Luncheon will be served to those who make reservations with Mrs. O. V. Campbell, 2-8557; Mrs. Will Lake, 7-3330; Mrs. William A. Zant, 7-5477. Admission tickets may be obtained from garden club presidents, the garden center or Mrs. Zant.

## Many First Citizens Are Buried in Pioneer's Rest

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Many of the people who helped to make early history in Fort Worth and Tarrant County are buried in Pioneer's Rest on Samuels Avenue in one of the oldest parts of the city.

In 1850 this land was owned by General Gonnaugh, one of the Franch Icarian Colony which first settled in Denton County in 1941. Likely the first graves were those of two children of Maj. and Mrs. Ripley A. Arnold. Major Arnold, with a detachment from United States 2nd Dragoons, established the first Army post, Camp Worth, here June 6, 1849.

General Gonnaugh, a friend of Major Arnold, suggested the children be buried on a part of the Gonnaugh farm. Two soldiers were buried there in 1850.

Tarrant Marker Erected.

The two most important graves are those of Major Arnold and Gen. Edward Tarrant (for whom the county is named), whose remains were brought from Ellis County. In 1831 the Willis Brewer Chapter, Daughters of 1812, erected a marker for General Tarrant's grave.

Near by are the graves of Judge C. C. Cummings and Mattie Sill Cummings. Enclosed by an iron fence is the grave of James J. Byrne, who was slain by Indians. Members of the pioneer Hirshfield family are buried in another lot enclosed by an iron fence.

In a lot near the main entrance is the grave of Capt. Ephriam Merrill Daggett, known to pioneers as "The Father of Fort Worth" because of his many benefactions to the city. His farm lay south of Seventh Street. A facsimile of Daggett's bust was used on the official city seal for more than 50 years.

Peak Family Graves.

The Peak family, which provided the city's best historian, Howard Peak, is represented by several graves in the family lot. Among them are graves of Dr. Carroll M. Peak and his wife, and Mrs. Clara Walden, their daughter, early-day school teacher.

Near the Peak-Walden lot is that of

## Cut Dahlias Back Now

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Frost has ended the reign of dahlias in the Botanic Garden, but several thousand visitors saw them during the height of their blooming.

Now is the time to plan for next year's dahlias by cutting off the plants killed by frost about three inches above ground. The plants may be left in the ground until about March 15, then replanted, or they may be dug about Dec. 20 and stored in sand or peat moss until Spring. Selections of dahlias from seed catalogs should be made early this year, because of limited plant materials and transportation.

Ed Collett, Park Board vice president, is an enthusiast of Caladiums, and grows fine specimens at his home on Elizabeth Boulevard. One specimen of Caladium has been blooming this week at the home of Tom Shaw, 2019 Lincoln. The house at 1907 North-west 25th has a delightful planting of morning glories. The two-story white house, with blue trim and blue awnings, now has a crown of blue flowers near the entrance.

Chrysanthemums and asters will continue to bloom at the Botanic Garden for a few weeks, and trees and berries are colorful now.

of Capt. Zane Cetti, perhaps the most conspicuous in the cemetery with its sweet myrtle, ornate marble monument and unique designs.

Close to the main entrance is the grave of "Old Squire Nance," county judge for 20 or 25 years. An angel in marble marks the grave of Mollie Dawson, daughter of John Nichols. The William G. Newby lot, covered with rosemary and ivy brought from England by Mrs. Newby, is of particular interest.

Baldwin Samuels.

Baldwin Samuels, for whom Samuels Avenue is named, gave part of his farm for the cemetery.

Among the representative families that have one or more persons interred in the cemetery are Jesse Jones, Col. Abe Harris, B. C. Bennett, W. B. Garvey, Charles Nash, Jerry and John F. Lehane, Brown, Creswell, King, Asbury, Pendery, Shelton, W. B. Tucker, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Gambrell, Miss Ada Gambrell, Miss Anna Shelton, W. A. Darter, the Dingeses, Hollowsays, Lovings, Frosts, Swayne, Johnson, Hill, Greene, Magruder, Rushing, Haywood, Burton, Coner, Morgan, Estes, Duncan, Bowdry, Chambers, Chapman, Wills, Mark-lee, Patton, Alford, Martin, Poe, Alderman, Ship, Newman, Ellis, Mitchell, Maddox, Adams, Fairfax, Overton, Lutz and Yankee.

If interested further in the history of the city's oldest cemetery, call Mrs. Bess Ellis McCullum, president of Pioneer Rest Cemetery, 2-8671.

## Harvest Show Opens Today for Public

Some of the arrangements and booths exhibited at the Harvest Show, given by the Fort Worth Garden Club, will be shown the public in the court adjacent to the Garden Center Sunday. There will be a special table setting in the Garden Center also.

Chrysanthemums continue to draw attention. Scarcely less interesting than the recent blossoms on the crepe myrtles is the scarlet foliage of the shrubs, now in effect.

The Virginia-creeper holds its own as a red color bearer in the tree tops. The locusts, mesquites and elms are adding the note of gold. Roses are still a peak of interest in the formal areas, with the ramp a mass of bright pink, as the baby polyantha, Chantillon, shares its beauty with an admiring public. This little French rose has blossomed continuously since May, earning well its "board and keep."

Botanic Garden and Garden Center hostesses for Sunday will be members of the University Garden Club, of which Mrs. Victor Tinsley is president.

# GARDENING... Timely Tips for Autumn

Some suggestions for gardeners in November:

Between well-sprouted bulbs set out small plants of verbenas, candytuft, forgetmenots and primulas. Replace zinnias and asters with wallflowers and stocks in open beds. Flower seeds sown in the open this month may be slower in germination, but many perennials and hardy annuals such as browallia, clarkia, godetia, phlox, poppies, larkspur, linaria, nemophila, nigella, Virginia stocks and the like do well. Bulbs should be through their flowering and out of the way before annuals come into bloom. The strawberry bed should not be mulched until after a hard freeze, and be careful that the mulch does not contain weed seeds. Clean up the vegetable plot as carefully as you do the flower garden. Leave the vegetable ground rough-surfaced over the winter. Cover soil with a thin layer of manure and spade in later. Before putting away for the winter, clean and oil all garden machinery, and store under cover.

perennial rosettes, such as hollyhocks and foxgloves, but do not cover the tops. Mulch the lily-of-the-valley plants with a light covering of well rotted manure or leaf mold. Plant roses, trees and shrubs any time now, but after the first good freeze will be a better time. Remember it is important to get orders in early for plant materials.

Now is the time to combat the peach tree borer, a clear-winged moth that looks something like the bumblebee. Use one ounce of paradichloro-benzine to each full grown tree, one-half ounce to a tree 3 to 4 years old, and three-fourths ounce to a 7-year-old tree. To apply: dig a trench about two inches deep, four inches from the

trunk of the tree and scatter the insecticide in the trench, pulling the soil back over the trench after application is made. The shot-hole beetle is also active now. All tree branches that have fallen from trees so infested should be burned. For San Jose scale use oil emulsion. Treatment for the above conditions should be given immediate attention.

## Schedule of Garden and Fruit Shows

Calendar of Events, Fort Worth Garden Clubs.

**Flower and Vegetable Show—** Wednesday, 1 to 3:30 p. m. Junior Woman's Club Garden Club, at the club. Mixed bouquets, specimens and arrangements. Mrs. J. O. Elliston, chairman.

**Harvest Show—** Thursday, 11 a. m. to 5 p. m. Fort Worth Garden Club, at Anna Shelton Hall, Woman's Club. Open to public, with no admission. Mrs. Murray Kyger, chairman.

**Flower Show—** Friday, 5 to 9 p. m. Oaklawn Garden Club at Oaklawn School auditorium. Featuring garden flowers and vegetables. Mrs. R. E. Barr, chairman.

**Flower Arrangement Clinic—** Friday, 10 a. m. to 12 noon. University Garden Club at Alice Carlson School. Holiday ideas, set tables and gift wrapping. Mrs. Victor Tinsley, chairman.

**Flower Show and Tea—** Nov. 8, 2 p. m. Polytechnic Garden Club at home of Mrs. Claude Cunningham, 3012 Avenue A. Mmes. C. L. Fleet and F. B. Lee, chairmen.

**School of Judging—** Nov. 8 and 9. Sponsored by Fort Worth Council of Garden Club Presidents at Woman's Club. Mrs. W. A. Zant, chairman.

**Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Show—** Nov. 9. Sagamore Hill Garden Club at the school auditorium. Mrs. W. A. Brents, chairman.

**Flower and Vegetable Show—** Nov. 10. Southside Garden Club at home of Mrs. W. T. Wilson, 3005 Jennings. Honoring all garden club presidents of Fort Worth. Mrs. L. G. Moreland, president.

**Flower Show—** Nov. 10, 11:30 a. m. to 6 p. m., at Oakhurst Garden Center. Featuring acorns, seed-pods and dried fruit, weeds and uncultivated plant materials, with classes for cultivated flowers in arrangements. Mrs. D. L. Bunday, chairman.

**Flower Show and Fall Festival—** Nov. 13, 4 to 8 p. m. University Garden Club at Garden Center. Fruits, flowers and vegetables. Mrs. Victor Tinsley, chairman.

**Chrysanthemum Exhibit and Flower Show—** Nov. 18, North Fort Worth Garden Club at the golf shelter house, Rockwood Park. Mrs. Jesse Martin, president.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1943.

## GARDENING

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

An exhibit prepared by the Regional Soil Conservation Service here, and on display at the Garden Center, is attracting more than usual interest. There are charts, photographs, models of two miniature farms and typical soil profiles which describe many of the conservation measures now used by Texas farmers and ranchers in co-operation with soil conservation districts. The exhibit, which was displayed at the Harvest Show at the Woman's Club, and sponsored by the Fort Worth Garden Club, is open to the public.

In one of the models there is no erosion control treatment shown. Fields and pastures are gully-ridden and much of the top soil has disappeared through sheet erosion. Woodlands have been cut over and burned, with much of the land idle. Soil erosion has lowered the crop yield and farm income, and living standards of the family have been reduced, with residence and farm buildings "run down" in appearance. The companion model features soil conservation in effect. Neither soil nor rainfall is wasted and no land is idle. Fields are contour-tilled, strip-cropped, terraced and farmed with soil-improving crop rotation. Pastures show a lush grass coverage, producing timberlands are protected against fire, buildings are adequate, well-built and in a good state of repair, and crop yields are at a maximum, thereby increasing the production of foods that "fight for freedom."

Statistics featured in the exhibit map show Texas farmers and ranchers lead the Nation in soil conservation organization, with 106 conservation districts covering more than 96,500,000 acres. The Dalworth Soil Conservation District, including all of Tarrant and Dallas Counties is one of the 77 Texas districts with which the Soil Conservation Service is co-operating.

The place at the south end of Ridglea Golf Course, skirting the home grounds of the Harry Brants residence on the Stove Foundry Road, is resplendent just now with Fall coloring. Nature has used a lavish hand here, as the deep rich greens of the liveoaks are played against the brilliant splashes of scarlet of the Spanish or spotted oaks, with the oak bronzes, the burnished and shining gold of locusts, pecans, cedar elms, wild chinaberries, water elms and hackberries for contrast.

The place has been visited by many persons over this past week.

Pot out-door chrysanthemum for indoor flowering. Pot bulb now for winter bloom. Plung pots in a cold frame or store in cool dark, frost-free cellar. Keep moist until roots appear; then bring to the light. Paper-white narcissus, if started by the fifteenth, should be in flower before Christmas. Choose only heavy bulbs. Repot foliage plants for indoors. Boston ferns and any others which are showing roots through the bottom hole. Christmas plants, such as poinsettia, should be given all possible sun and light and considerable heat from now on, if Christmas bloom is wanted. Do not over-feed or over-water. Cuttings, after flowering, should be cut back and rested. Take cuttings for next year's plants in the Spring, when new growth starts. Give begonias a warm, moist house, and propagate from leaf-cuttings. Nasturtiums, mignonette, calendula, nemophila and sweet peas may be planted in flats to insure early Spring bloom.

Remove some of the water from the pool to allow for expansion due to freeze, but allow enough to remain to care for hardy goldfish. Collect leaves now for the compost pile. Rake and burn all diseased foliage. Cover undecayed leaves for mulching so they will not freeze. Continue to plant tulips and lilies, or any bulbs not already planted. Mulch around

One of the best ways to say "Merry Christmas" to a garden-lover is with a good book on gardening.

Oliver Perry Medsger's "Edible Wild Plants" will open many a door of the imagination, as well as providing valuable information as to how to satisfy the palate with non-poisonous plants. "Bounty of the Wayside," by Walter Beebe Wilder, is the story of a grandfather and his grandson who enjoy the natural bounty of the countryside in their wanderings. It also contains practical suggestions on how to use and enjoy the wild life about us.

"Just Weeds," by Edwin Rollin Spencer, puts emphasis on one particular type of plant. "Of all the forms of nature, unless it be insects, nothing is so sure to come into one's life as weeds," the author says. A real aid to the weed-weary farmer or gardener, the book tells how to fight and control pestiferous and obnoxious weeds.

Helen Morgenthau Fox's book, "Good Eating," is for the person who gardens with his mind on food for the table. Information on herb patches, home-grown teas and small fruit gardens is included with recipes.

# Garden Club Harvest Show Will Stress Conservation

"Food Fights for Freedom" will be the feature of the Fort Worth Garden Club's Harvest Show from 11 a. m. to 5 p. m. Thursday at the Woman's Club, when production, conservation, sharing and saving of food will be stressed. The show has been planned to encourage and educate gardeners in all fields of activities, and to give the information required to understand the problem of providing an adequate food supply for our armed forces, our Allies and the home front.

The Harvest Show will stress conservation of food, and each study group of the club will maintain a booth displaying canned and preserved foods in every form. Canned goods entries will be judged by Miss Lucy Maynard, county home demonstration agent, and Miss Lucy Lee Carley of the home economics department of the Lone Star Gas Company. Awards will be made for the most original displays by a judges committee composed of Mmes. Pauline Belew, Paul LeMay and Jimmie Cook.

Home canned vegetables and fruits will be offered for sale under OPA regulations, funds from

which will be used for war work in which the club is engaged.

The Soil Conservation Service will have an exhibit of soils from Tarrant County, and a representative who will discuss advantages of various types.

Business houses will participate, with booths and displays, and Miss Carley will speak by loudspeaker at 3 p. m. on the employment situation of women in war work. While this year's show has been planned to promote the Government's food program for victory, other activities of the Garden Club have not been overlooked. Flower arrangements by members of the club will be judged from booths, and 16 other local garden clubs have been invited to enter arrangements for competitive judging. Judges will include Mmes. Alfred McKnight, W. B. Paddock and William Holden.

The Fort Worth Garden Club has been active in various war work, among which has been the regular visits to the Veterans' Hospital which members have provided with flowers. Similar exhibits will be shown the public at the show, which is open to all interested.

## Exhibit Is Attractive

are always in vogue as gifts, and proper planning now can bring many pleasant garden surprises for Christmas. If you plant anemones, primulas, ranunculus and calendulas now and coax them along with proper watering and protection against the cold, they may furnish delightful Christmas surprises.

The white anemone, Whirlwind, and the Crested Pink, among the finest of Autumn-blooming plants, with favorable weather conditions should flower for your Yule garden. Two other plants for your garden or for gifts are the English Osmanthus delavayi and the Thryallis glauca, also known as the

"Shower of Stars" or "Gold Shower."

Several flowers and plants are named for Christmas: The Christmas-berry, Christmas-berry tree, Christmas cactus, Christmas or Jerusalem Cherry, Christmas Rose, Christmas Fern and the Christmas-Flower, or Poinsettia. Also dependable for the Christmas garden, if the Winter is mild, are African and French marigolds, violets and pansies.

Garden tools or materials, such as peat moss and fertilizer, are also welcome Christmas gifts for your friends who are garden lovers.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1943.

# Colorful Fall Shows Are Held Here by Three Garden Organizations

Fall shows of three garden clubs featuring flowers, vegetables, cacti, weeds, grasses and seed pods were held recently.

The Oakhurst Garden Club held a show at the Oakhurst Garden Center. Mrs. Cy Martin received a special award for taking the most first places. Mrs. C. K. Boatner was sweepstake winner for the most outstanding weed arrangement.

First place winners included Mmes. H. C. Beardon, Martin, Ray Pinkston, Boatner, W. T. Anderson Jr., E. R. Martin, A. A. Allen, I. P. Barrett, O. W. Bynum and George Rand.

Mrs. J. T. Moore was sweepstake winner for the Sagamore Hill Garden Club show, which was held in the school auditorium. Mrs. W. A. Brents won the most outstanding exhibit award.

Others winning ribbons were Mmes. H. H. Collier, George McCraw, H. C. Austin, S. D. Higginson, J. S. Reeder, J. J. Walker, W. M. Beheler, J. G. Hacknery, F. G. Campbell, H. M. Butts, J. R. Fowler, Edwin McGee, W. E. Bilderback, Sam Pickard, J. C. Wilson and Miss Anna Mae Hicks.

Junior Garden Club winners were Marilyn Christian, Ruth Butts, Mary Ann Parker and Dorothy Teason.

Presidents of all garden clubs in the city were guests when the South Side Garden Club held a show at the home of Mrs. W. T. Wilson.

Mrs. J. W. Roddy won sweepstakes on an arrangement of grass. First prize winners included Mmes. Glen Smith, W. E. Crew, L. G. Moreland, L. G. Kelly, O. T. Bell, S. R. Smith and C. O. Martin.

## GARDENING---Invite the Birds to Your Backyard

November in our gardens, parks and backyards offers many interests, if we know how to interpret these places. From your own room you can see shadows of birds flitting across your window shades. Mostly these flying friends are blackbirds, starlings, cowbirds and sparrows. Here and there a redbird startles you, as he perches on a tree, and the State bird, our inimitable mocker, defies the Winter. House wrens dart about seeking a resting place for the cold season.

The Southern migration is still on, but most of the winged travelers have gone to the remote South. Some Winter residents choose to remain here, however, such as the starlings, orange-crowned warbler, juncos, white-throated and white-crowned sparrows, yellow-bellied sapsucker, and the little brown creepers.

### WICHITA FALLS, Dec. 4 (Spl.)

The Wichita Falls Garden Club has 105 members. Co-operating with the National Council of Garden Clubs, this club is aiding the war effort. The project this year has been to extend cheer and good will to the boys at Sheppard Field. Shrubs and flowering plants have been placed around the entrance, esplanade, hostess house and grounds around the hospital buildings.

Outdoor living room furniture has been donated. Throughout the Summer flowers, cigarets, gift boxes, magazines and coat hangers were sent to the Sheppard Field hospital once a week, and since October gifts to be used as prizes, flowers, magazines and candy, have been sent once a month after each regular Garden Club luncheon. After the Autumn flower show, two tubs of flowers were taken to the hospital.

A large tree was furnished last year for the hospital at Christmas and flowers have been sent to the chapels and USO buildings. Floral decorations for a Mother's Day party at the Eighth and Lamar Street USO were presented by this club. All soldiers were presented with Mother's Day flowers in addition.

Contributions were made to a fund to furnish England with garden seed. The club purchased a \$100 war bond, and several of the members have taken the Red Cross nutrition course. The club served in an advisory capacity in landscaping grounds at Hardin Junior College, donated two live oak trees and several wisteria vines. The club assisted in purchasing a beaded movie screen for the Forum.

During the year a chrysanthemum show and iris and rose show, a pilgrimage and two plant exchanges were held, and 1,862 irises were planted by members. The club co-operated in a Community Harvest Festival at Thanksgiving. The Junior Garden Club prepared educational exhibits for the Fall Flower Show, under the direction of the high school botany teacher.

The club has presented one speaker on horticulture and one on flower arrangements at each meeting. Beside its own members, Edwin Bebb, a national flower show judge, lectured on shadow boxes. A Government experiment farm agent talked to the club on victory gardens and conservation. A horticulture bulletin, with timely suggestions of things to do in the garden, has been issued and distributed each month at luncheons.

If you expect to have a garden or are a farmer, by all means encourage the birds to reside with you. Regular food and water will do much to keep these helpful friends around your premises. A few handfuls of grain or a lump of suet tied to a tree—a simple thank offering from you—will win the gratitude of multitudes of birds, and will be a small return for the good service rendered by them. And don't forget to plant berries and fruited trees and shrubs. Many persons keep their fruit trees and gardens relatively free of insects through feeding of the birds during cold weather.

Winter is a good time to study birds, because there are fewer of them. A good beginning could be made by attending the Birds' Christmas tree which will be held at the garden near the Garden Center just before Christmas.

November was known to the Indians as the month of the mad moon. The field mouse, muskrat, pack-rat, the gopher, rabbits all are hard-put to escape Winter cold. They can not fly to warmer and more comfortable lands, as do the birds.

Most of the amphibians and reptiles have gone to bed for the Winter, but an occasional snake may be found. Have you ever thought of what happens to a frog in mid-Winter? He has no skill as a builder of shelters. He merely takes what comes. He wriggles into the mud at the bottom of a shallow pond and there Jack Frost may find him and freeze him "solid." This does not harm the frog. In the Spring he thaws out again.

In local gardens Winter irises are in bloom, and soon the wild honeysuckle will put forth its fragrant blossoms. A few woodland asters are still in flower. Notice how the post oaks hold their leaves even after the leaves turn brown and sore. Examine some of the trees which have already shed their leaves; see how quickly and perfectly the leaf scar has been healed. On the sycamore the base of the leaf-stalk completely covers the bud; this does not happen with a lot of other trees. It would be interesting to keep tab on buds of different trees and see when and where they appear.

Mrs. A. G. Fewsmith will speak on "Holiday Decorations" at a meeting of the Garden Section of the Junior Woman's Club at 10 a. m. Wednesday at the club. Mrs. Robert Arnold will make the arrangement for the SMC. Plans are being made for a meeting Jan. 5 in the home of Mrs. A. Ben Clark when Mrs. Will Lake will show garden slides in technicolor.

## GARDENING.. Try the New Plants

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Maybe you are tired of the old standbys in your garden and would like to try some different plants. The new flower and seed catalogs offer plants that sound intriguing.

One is the largest of the Centaureas, a new Mexican variety, *Centaurea rothrockii*. These flowers are lace-like and the blossoms have big cream-colored center cushions with a wide and airy fringe of marginal florets in a delightful tone of lavender-lilac. This biennial blooms continuously from June until late Summer and seeds should be planted now for next year's flowers. *Centaurea babylonica* is the stately cornflower of Babylon. Its silver-leafed pillars grow to eight feet in height, a perennial easy to grow and is closely set with tassel-blossoms.

Then there are gentians, rare and of a deep blue in color. They like rich soil with straw or leaf mulch on the soil surface. The seeds need cold weather and can be sown outside in beds in late Autumn, or in pots during the Winter, and transplanted later. The following plants will bloom in one year but increase in size and beauty for several years: *Gentiana Phlogifolia*, with rich blue bloom, flowers relatively small but a profuse bloomer; *Gentiana scabra*, five-lobed, clustered up-facing bells, in particularly fine deep blue, and *Gentiana andrewsii* (mixed), a closed gentian, with intense ultramarine blue blossoms, in form somewhat flask-like.

For edging beds, mass plantings, in rock gardens, hanging baskets and porch boxes try *Commelina crispata*. Since it is an annual, wait until Spring to plant it. They come in deep indigo flowers, crowns of upright spikes in mid-blue. And there are a number of varieties. Painted a peacock blue, a most unusual blue of silver-veiled pastel quality, are the inch-wide starry

flowers of the annual, *Oxypetalum caeruleum*. The flowers are really stars, and the color looks as if it had been painted on. It is an Argentine plant.

A new baby salvia, and a very likable one, is the rare little Mexican species, *Salvia microphylla*. It is a tight, compact grower, with blossoms of a charming coral-rose color. It is as easy to handle as zinnias or the usual scarlet sage.

The new Milas, an *Agrostemma* lately from Turkey, is slender-stemmed, with three-inch flowers, lilac-tinted violet with white striations; a good flower for the cutting garden, it will insure two months of bloom if planted in early Spring. *Milligania densiflora* is found only near the snow-line in the mountains of Tasmania. Creamy white when they first open, going to a blush pink later, this flower carries a sweet perfume.

A lovely stray from the hills of Portugal is *Linaria triornithophora*, with long slender spurs and flowers rather like snapdragons. Flowers, however, are in a glowing shade of deep purple which the snapdragon never shows. Then there is the pheasant daisy which will allow for banks and masses of Autumn brightness in your garden, blooms

which you may cut in great armfuls.

And don't forget the multitudes of tiny roses in varied lovely colorings which are now to be had.

### Church Group to Meet.

The Eighth Zone of the Women's Society of Christian Service of Central Methodist Church will meet at 10 a. m. Tuesday at the church.

red candles, and a red satin bow at the base of the candles.

Mrs. Theo F. Cromer, president of Oakhurst Club, is using white bells and cedar as the principal note of her decorations, suggested by the theme, "A White Christmas." These materials, with the addition of silver ornaments and red candles, are on the mantel and buffet.

Mrs. Robert L. Arnold, president of Junior Woman's Club Garden Club, has grouped nine white candles on a reflector, intermingled with evergreens and red berries, two crystal angels and a star, for the dining table. The mantel has an arrangement of greenery, with a Madonna figure, on one end, and on the other end is a miniature white crinoline Christmas tree decorated with silver stars.

Mrs. H. M. Petershagen, president of Spade and Trowel Club, has placed a huge red satin bow in the center of her mantel, just below the mantel board, and in the center of the mantel there are two musical gold horns crossed, with red berries and the mantel itself is adorned with a snow scene. The dinner table is centered with a silver bowl carrying greenery, an oblong arrangement of nandina berries and red candles.

Mrs. E. C. Walsh, president of St. Mary's Garden Club, is using the traditional red berries and evergreens on mantel and in dining room.

Mrs. R. E. Hutchison, president of Lake Worth Garden Club, has her hotel suite decorated with miniature white trees and red candles. A double candle board, carrying eight red candles each, is in the windows.

Mrs. O. Lee Jones, president of Hubbard Heights Garden Club, is using various evergreens, nandinas and berries, poinsettias, red candles, a figure of the Madonna as a central mantel feature, and a cedar Christmas tree.

Mrs. Frank Dunham, president of Monticello Club, is using traditional greenery in the entrance hall, and a particular arrangement of pyracantha berries in an old blue pitcher as the principal feature. Silver bells and red berries, red satin bows and mistletoe are used on the mantel, and the front door spray is of pine cones decorated with a large red satin bow.

Mrs. Pauline Tankersley, president of Highland Park Club, is displaying plant materials from her own garden, evergreens and red berries for living room, dining room and doorway.

Mrs. James Schubert, president of Oaklawn Garden Club, is using a Washington fir Christmas tree, and the dining table has a crystal bowl in which are water lilies.

of the table and four tall white candles. The idea of the star is further carried out on the buffet, as the evergreen symbol rests in the center against a candle board holding graduated white tapers. Again a star of greenery is used in the center of the mantel against a candleboard holding 15 graduated red candles, with nandina berries massed for bright effect.

Mrs. J. L. Terrell, president of the Polytechnic Club, is featuring English holly on mantel, chandeliers and dining table, with the addition of red candles for the table and the front door is hospitable looking with its wreath of holly.

### Tree in Bay Window.

Mrs. John S. Reeder, president of Sagamore Hill, is using a Washington fir tree in the bay window of the living room. Miniature trees and a snowfield with reindeer are on the buffet in the dining room. The dinner table is to be laid with a lace cloth with crystal candelabra and red tapers, and the centerpiece is a reflector on which is a silver epergne filled with holly. The front door features a pine tree bough decorated with a large red satin bow. The mantel in the living room carries lighted blue candles, tall at the ends of the mantel and receding in height to the center where there is a figure of the Madonna, the arrangement flanked with sprays of silver evergreens.

Mrs. L. G. Moreland, president of Southside Club, is using a fir Christmas tree and a rather free employment of evergreens for the front windows, the entrance door and the buffet. A United States flag is the center of interest above the mantel, which is also decorated with sprays of evergreens and red berries.

Mrs. Victor Tinsley, president of University Club, has arranged sprays of Arizona Cypress, decorated with a special treatment of Lux to represent snow. The mantel decoration is effective with its white graduated candles, interspersed with bois d'arc apples, snowy-treated grey-green cypress and a figurine of the Madonna, the whole overhung with angel's hair. The dinner table carries red glassware on a white cloth, with the centerpiece a flat arrangement of English holly, a grouping of five

## GARDENING

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Christmas decorations in the homes of local garden club presidents will be traditional but simple this year.

Mrs. Hubert Hammond Crane, president of the Fort Worth Garden Club, will confine decorations largely to the living and dining rooms. In the living room there will be an arrangement of red roses with white candles. Between the living and dining rooms will be a swag of evergreens with gold berries and leaves. The dining room will have gilded corn stalks and red candles in brass candelabra.

Mrs. Jesse Martin, president of the North Fort Worth Garden Club, is making her own decorations from materials in her garden. The living room will be gay with a large line arrangement of evergreens and swamp holly berries in a flat with pottery container on the piano. On the dining room buffet there will be a candle board with six red candles, and banked and flanked lengthwise on the long arrangement of evergreens there will be white bois d'arc balls with a large red bow in the center. The front door will welcome guests with a shaft of cedar for the background upon which are studded various fresh colorful fruits.

Mrs. O. V. Campbell, president of the Sylvania Club, is emphasizing her family dinner table. In the center of the white linen cloth there will be a flat star made of evergreens, red nandina berries and strips of red crepe paper, lengthwise of the table, with a smaller arrangement at each end

## GARDENING ... Redbuds Being Planted

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Many Texas cities and towns are planting redbuds now in gardens, on school grounds and along highways.

In 1929, Fort Worth, by a vote of the people, after planting thousands of redbuds, declared itself the Redbud City, using this delightful flowering small tree as its official flower. Since that time other thousands of redbuds have been planted and Spring pilgrimages have been over Fort Worth's Redbud Trail.

This popular small tree is a native in almost every section of the State, and with little or no care it sends forth its floral beauty unstintingly year after year. Of the genus Cercis, Pea family, but three of the seven known species are grown for their showy flowers. The flower clusters are small and numerous, pea-like or nearly so in shape, and the color of the cultivated ones is rose-pink or pinkish-purple. Leaves are simple and heart-shaped.

Redbuds are easily cultivated in rather a sandy loam, but they do well in any good garden soil. They like, however, good drainage and soils must not be too moist or too heavy.

### BOTANIC GARDEN IN CHRISTMAS ATTIRE.

The Botanic Garden is going to be in Christmas attire this year with its wealth of evergreens and red-berried shrubs, among the latter the pyracantha bushes, nandinas, swamp holly and yaupons. The little French polyantha rose, Chatillon, in varying shades of pink, has bloomed continuously on the ramp at the garden ever since April, and it is still lovely for the holiday season. Grotesque cacti in the wildflower area are of interest now. The Spanish or spotted oaks in the garden have produced unusual shades of red, copper, bur-

nished tones and rich deep purple browns. There are several Christmas roses (Hellebores) in the rockery, but they do not bloom for us here until well after Christmas usually.

### BIRDS' CHRISTMAS TREE WEDNESDAY.

The annual birds' Christmas tree program to be held on Wednesday at 4 p. m. will be the highlight of the Garden Center's Winter activities. Two large mesquites, several redhaw trees and pyracantha shrubs loaded with little red apples near the Garden Center form the bird sanctuary where the program will be held.

The exhibition feature at the Garden Center for this week is a painting of St. Helena Canyon in the Big Bend, done by Willa Price and presented to the center. The artist's mother, Mrs. H. L. Price, was the organizing president of the University Garden Club, and now is membership chairman and first vice president.

Several large evergreen Chinese holly trees, covered with brilliant red berries, in the 3100 block on Odessa, are attracting more than usual interest. The Bob Baker garden on Eagle Street, Sylvania, has two outdoor Fall blooming camellias, variety "Dawn," flesh pink in color.

Bonnie Brae Boulevard, the approach to Amon Carter Riverside

High School, is being planted now with Spanish oaks, a native tree that should be used more for sidewalk and specimen planting.

Twelve large poinsettia blooms at the residence of C. D. Reimers, 5000 Crestline, are creating much interest these days.

Several years ago these Christmas flowers were planted in the south side of the Reimers' new home, and here they have continued to grow ever since, recurring each year and flowering at the Christmas season in the out-of-doors. Cold weather kills them back to the ground each season, but they come up again in the Spring. Another tall and beautiful stand of blooming poinsettias is to be seen at 606 West Belknap Street.

Hostesses for this Sunday at the Garden and Garden Center will be Mrs. Roy Stephens and members of the North Fort Worth Garden Club, Mrs. Jesse Martin, president, and Mrs. A. V. Lewis.

Mrs. M. W. McCormick, 1404 May, will be hostess to the Notre Dame Club at 1 p. m. Tuesday at her home. Luncheon will be served and gifts exchanged.

Miss Rita Louise Stewart, daughter of Mr. W. L. Stewart, 2237 Winton Terrace, W., was initiated into Alpha Phi Sorority at U. of T. Dec. 5.

## Yuletide Still Theme Here

Fort Worth's greenhouses and conservatories are in holiday attire now, although some of the decorative plant materials have been used for home decorations.

The conservatory of Morris E. Berney, River Crest, Fort Worth Park Board president, furnishes cut flowers throughout the year, including chrysanthemums, orchids, coleus, hibiscus, geraniums, anthuriums, calla lilies, pedilanthus and begonias.

The orchid conservatory of Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Bird, 3551 Dorothy Lane, is one of the city's show places with its rare varieties.

Mrs. John W. Herbert, River Crest, is growing miniature button chrysanthemums in her conservatory. In addition to orchids, the Herbert gardens feature new pink-flowering dogwoods, which Mrs. Herbert introduced this year from Augusta, Ga.

The W. D. Smith greenhouse, 3300 Avondale, has many rare tropical specimens such as euphorbias, crotons, jacarandas and various succulents. The Jack Knight greenhouse, 2810 Alton Road, is devoted mostly now to seedlings and seedboxes.

The C. A. Gantt greenhouse, 1824 Clover Lane, is still in holiday attire with poinsettias, geraniums, orchids and echeverias.

The W. A. Zant greenhouse, 3429 Dorothy Lane, is being prepared for Spring with pansies, Shasta daisies, seedboxes of tomatoes, sage, fennel, caraway, anise, thyme, rosemary and other herbs.

Local Composers and Artists' Chapter will meet at 8 p. m. Tuesday in the Lecture Room of the Public Library. Speakers will be Mmes. A. Grant Fewsmith, W. E. Boswell and Gatha Wood Taylor.

Installation of officers of the Woman's Relief Corps will be at 2 p. m. Monday at the home of Mrs. Nellie Graba, 358 Missouri. Mrs. Nellie Ryals is newly elected president.

## GARDENING

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Our Christmas customs of today have been taken partly from the pagans—Romans, Saxons and Scandinavians. Although we celebrate the birthday of the Christ, our methods of celebration are built upon heathen festivals. For this reason flowers and plants play an important part in the Christmas decorations of today. There are many quaint and curious legends connected with our Christmas celebration.

Our "Merry Christmas" comes from medieval England. The use of evergreens and mistletoe goes back to the time of the Druids. Priests in white robes carried golden sickles as they strode in solemn procession to cut the mistletoe. Mistletoe would keep away witches, and the people would pay almost any price to the Druids for a piece they could use as a charm. Other forms of evergreens offered shelter to kind woodland spirits who were deprived of Spring and Summer verdure. An old Danish legend claims that the crown of thorns used on the Christ's head at the crucifixion was of the holly tree, and that the bright red berries symbolize the drops of blood that fell from his brow. Even today the cradles of children in the Mediterranean region are decorated with holly branches to keep evil spirits away. Herrick refers to the custom of removing all Christmas decorations by Candlemas Day, that goblins may not appear.

To the Scandinavians we owe the Yule log, for they so honored their god, Thor. Now we bring it in with much ceremony, and save a piece for next year's lighting. We burn wax candles today in our Christmas celebrations, as did the Romans. The fragrant bayberry candle belongs definitely to the Puritan Christmas, and we think of the domestic life of these early American settlers with their spicy kitchen odors. Near the sea in the salt marshes grew the gray berries and it was from the bayberries that these sturdy people made the candles, or "dips" as they were called. These lovely, pungent, translucent green candles are believed to bring good luck to the house that uses them at Christmas: "A bayberry candle burned to the socket, brings good luck to the home and gold to the pocket." The burning of candles at the holiday season is a beacon to the wayfarer, either spiritually or physically, it is said, its purpose being to light the way to warmth and shelter to any poor wanderer who might be about; most of all to guide the Christ Child to a home as he visits the worthy on Christmas Eve.

### Tree May Not Be German.

Although we have always attributed the Christmas tree to Germany, it may be that the idea dates back to the sacred ash tree which the Scandinavians thought grew at the roots of the world. Martin Luther may have been re-

sponsible for the origin of the Christmas tree in Germany. The story is that as Luther journeyed homeward one Christmas Eve, over a snow-covered ground under a glittering, starlit sky, he was moved by the glorious mystery of the stars. In his efforts to portray to his wife and children the wondrous beauty he had seen, he went out into the garden and cut down a small fir tree, brought it into the house and hung it with candles which he lighted; and behold! the first Christmas tree.

### Victoria Set Style.

Legend has it that the first Christmas trees appeared in England about the year 1846, when the Princess Victoria, daughter of Queen Victoria and her German prince husband, was about five years old. The father of the princess, in German fashion, set up a tree for Christmas in the nursery. The tall tree was topped with the figure of an angel with outstretched wings, and on the tree were dozens of wax tapers, candies and fancy cakes of all kinds, gingerbread, toys and dolls. This set the style for Great Britain, and the next year Christmas trees blazed and twinkled in every household. Early German settlers brought the Christmas tree custom to America, however, before it was introduced in England. The first trees to be sold in this country were a sidewalk venture. An enterprising young man by the

name of Mark Carr paid one dollar for the privilege of using a strip of sidewalk in New York City in 1851, and here he stood and sold his fir trees which had been brought in from the hills. His project was evidently successful.

In view of the fact that trees are being used in this country more and more each year.

## Gardening

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Green vegetables throughout the Winter may be something more than just a desire, according to the A&M College Extension Service. It is quite possible even to grow one's own green vegetables the year round, if one plans for it and gives the vegetables the necessary attention. A frame garden is the answer and this type of garden doesn't require much space. The hot bed or cold frame which has been generally used for young plants may indeed produce quantities of full grown vegetables, if properly handled.

The frame garden should be in a sunny protected spot, near a building or windbreak. The space should be about three feet wide and 10 to 30 feet long. On each 100 square feet, spread 50 pounds of well-rotted barnyard fertilizer or three to five pounds of 5-10-5 Victory Garden fertilizer. Spade this into the ground five to six inches. Proper watering facilities are important. A good way to water fairly tight subsoil easily and economically, provided it is not more than 18 inches below the surface, is to lay a row of sub-irrigation tile made of concrete or other material, or tin cans or waste pipe with holes in it, lengthwise down the center of the garden six to eight inches below the surface.

Level off the soil, lay off the rows and plant a few quick growing vegetables. For a frame garden three feet by 20 feet, a good plan would be to plant one row parsley, five rows spinach, six rows tender greens, four rows lettuce, three rows Bermuda onions, two rows radishes; if garden is large enough, add two rows of beets and two rows of carrots. Build a substantial frame of new or scrap lumber, 18 inches high at the back, eight to 12 inches high in front, and long enough to enclose the entire space.

Make two covers, one light and well built of frame covered with wire netting small enough to keep out chickens and birds; the other should be a wall canvas covering, with all sides well hemmed, and with loops at the ends, and in between as needed, which can be attached to rails placed on the frame. On very cold nights any heavy discarded covering may be placed on top of the above, such as old blankets, quilts or carpet materials.

Before fastening the covers in place, give newly planted seed a good soaking. On mild days roll back the cover that plants may get the benefit of full sun. Replace used vegetables with other seeds as soon as taken out of the ground. Further suggestions on frame gardening are to be had by writing A&M College Extension Service, College Station, for bulletins C-121, "Frame Garden Suggestions," and B-92, "Sub-irrigation for Gardens."

Maj. and Mrs. Jeff S. Henderson, 3116 Greene, will keep open house from 3 to 6 p. m. Sunday at their home in honor of Maj. and Mrs. Harry B. Kennedy. Major Kennedy is stationed here, and his wife, who has been living in Bellingame, Cal., is here for the holidays.

## :- Vegetables Year 'Round



**GARDENTERIA.**

Monday—Plan and get cost estimates for new pools, arbors, seats, fences.

Tuesday—paint pots of house plants or use glazed pots.

Wednesday — Bring in branches of trees or shrubs with swelling buds; plant bulbs for use as house plants and for Easter.

Thursday—Prune out the cankers from fruit trees; remove dead wood and burn.

Friday—Look at flowers and plants used indoors at Christmas. Poinsettias that do not appear healthy should be put in basement until Spring, then planted outdoors.

Saturday — Invest in a tiny greenhouse or frame garden. Make plant cuttings now.

Garden Center Exhibition Table—A showing of new garden and flower books, plant, seed and nursery catalogs. The center will be open all day Sunday.

**BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.**

The boys returning from Australia are bringing delightful pictures of the native flora, many of them rare and exotic to us.

We visualize first the gum trees, known as Eucalyptus, the graceful

monarch that Mexico and California have adopted. Their noted wattle-bushes are of the famous Acacia family, of which Texas has so many, among them the huisache, retama and others we call cat-claws. One need only to visit Southwestern Texas in late March

to envision the flowering wattle-bushes of Australia in their beauty.

Of lovely blue flowers there is no end. Among the more showy we find the blue Halgania. The blue Lobelia is found in the mountains. Most famous of all is the Chieranthera, the "hand flower."

Among the more conspicuous red flowers are the South Sea Island Hibiscus.

There are innumerable less showy flowers, violets, daisy types, mints, balms, rare wax-like flowers, heaths and vetches.

The annual free Garden School and Clinic of the Fort Worth Garden Center will be held June 24-25 in the Public Library lecture hall.

Subjects will include garden design, floriculture, community beautification, flower arrangement, vegetable gardens and orchards, conservation, nature appreciation.

Local authorities will be in charge of the program and Donald Obert, city forester and landscape

architect, will be general chairman. Additional information may be obtained by telephoning the Garden Center, 7-3330.

The wildlife calendar now highlights the appearance of dandelions and hebit on lawns, some in flower. Mockingbirds, blackbirds, cowbirds and redbirds are seen now, going to roost at the lakes and hovering over the public dump grounds at night. Also on the wildlife calendar is the need to eradicate mice and rats.

# GARDENING... Let It Be Your Best Gardening Year

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

This year should be the best home gardening year the Nation has ever had. Those who grow at least a part of their own vegetables and fruits will be healthier, happier and better fed. The growing of plants that produce flowers should be encouraged. The Government is asking for more Victory Gardens this year. Twenty million families had them in 1943. The Department of Agriculture has set as its 1944 goal 22,000,000 gardens. Much of this will be expected to come out of the South and Southwest.

The following suggestions are timely for January gardeners:

Keep in mind your rose planting program—the new All-American Selections for this year are, Mme. Chiang Kai-Shek, a light yellow, recurrent-blooming hybrid tea, which heads the list; Lowell Thomas, a colorful butter-yellow; Mme. Marie Curie, a third yellow; Katherine T. Marshall, a coral-pink, and Fred Edmunds, a red-dish-apricot. Get roses into beds as soon as possible. Do not prune old roses until latter part of February or first week in March, according to weather.

Get trees and shrubs out immediately. Seeds of annual vinca, hardy larkspur, centaureas, daturas, calliopsis and coreopsis should be planted now, if not already in the ground. Where

**MONDAY**—Look well to your garden materials, plants, soils, types of each for your home grounds.

**TUESDAY**—Get a good garden or plant encyclopedia and study it.

**WEDNESDAY**—Plant berried and fruited shrubs that birds may be attracted to your garden; learn the names of some of the birds that frequent your place; be sure to give birds feed and water on cold days.

**THURSDAY**—Study the design of your garden; how to improve it for another year; put good garden principles into effect—they cost no more and give far greater satisfaction.

Winter grass, such as wild rye, is not doing well add a little fertilizer. Apply dormant spray for roses and fruit trees. Collect garden soil and store it under cover, that seed boxes may be gotten underway at the right time. Try not to plant trees and shrubs over or near the sewer system. Arrange for some native trees, shrubs and plants in your new garden area. Many of them are worthy of cultivation, and will surprise you at their response to a little care. Plant trumpet vines, abutilon, honeysuckles, lilacs, columbines,

**FRIDAY**—Make evergreen selections now, allowing for a good mixture of broadleaved as well as juniper types; select roses, old standbys and some of the new ones as well.

**SATURDAY**—Lay plans for the home fruit garden; peaches and pears furnish beauty as well as food; get ground ready for the vegetable garden.

**CALENDAR**—Watch for rosettes of bluebonnets, standing cypress, thistles, mullein.

**EXHIBITION TABLE AT THE GARDEN CENTER**—Featuring native shrubs useful or ornamental in the home garden.

vitex, fragrant jasmine and buddleia if you wish to attract humming birds to your garden.

Hardy perennials, such as delphiniums and campanulas, may be given a greenhouse or indoor start, if early Spring bloom is wanted. Cuttings may now be made of geraniums, coleus and other bedding plants, starting them of course indoors; pot all cuttings as soon as they start growing.

The Fort Worth Garden Center's annual Garden School, consisting of 14 programs, open to the public without charge, will be held in the Public Library lecture room

Jan. 24 and 25.

Subjects to be discussed on Jan. 24 will be, "Garden Planning and Types of Gardens," "Floriculture, Annuals and Perennials," "Community Beautification" (illustrated with color slides), "Conservation of Native Life," "Flower Arrangement," "Victory Gardens and Vegetable Growing," and "Nature Appreciation." Time will be allowed at the end of each one-hour program for questions and discussion.

Subjects for Jan. 25 are, "Fundamentals of Garden Design," "Seasonal Gardening," "Town Building" (illustrated with color slides), "Soils and Soil Treatment," "Flower Arrangement Effects," "Orchards and Berry Gardens," and "Uses of Native Plants in the Wartime Industrial Program." Donald Obert, city forester, will be general chairman of the school.

## GARDENING... Some Exotic Pictures

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 1944.

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

The annual garden school, sponsored by the Garden Center, will be held Monday and Tuesday in the lecture room of the library.

Program for Monday follows: Garden Planning and Garden Design. Obert; Elemental Principles of Rose Growing, Luther Pope; Dahlias for Southwestern Gardens, W. B. La Cava; Community Beautification, talk illustrated with colored slides, Obert; Is Soil Conservation Important? Leon J. McDonald, chief of Soil Conservation Service; Tricks and Trends in Flower Arrangement, Mrs. Alfred McKnight; Your Wartime Vegetable Garden, County Agent Counts; Some Texas Birds, How to Attract to the Garden, Mrs. Robert Bowman; Friends and Foes Among the Insects, Mrs. C. A. Gantt.

Program for Tuesday: Trees, Shrubs, Lawns in the Garden Picture, D. D. Obert; Bulbous Plants Give Garden Charm, Mrs. W. K. Rose; Color and Succession of Bloom With Annuals and Perennials, the Importance of Herbs, Mrs. Jack Knight; Beautiful Gardens as Town Assets, illustrated talk, Obert; Knowledge of Soils Basic in Importance, R. M. Marshall, Soil Conservation Service; Church and Altar Arrangements, Mrs. Alfred McKnight; Your Orchard and Berry Patch, O. S. Gray, Arlington; Nature Appreciation, Its Value to the Child, W. E. King; Texas Vegetation in the Wartime Industrial Program, Miss Jessica Lloyd.

Hostesses for the Garden School will be presidents and members of the local garden clubs, as follows: Fort Worth, Mrs. Hubert H. Crane and Mrs. William G. Hall; North Fort Worth, Mrs. Jesse Martin; Polytechnic, Mrs. J. T. Terrell; Monticello, Mrs. Frank Dunham; Oaklawn, Mrs. James Schubert;

Highland Park, Mrs. Pauline Tankersley; Lake Worth, Mrs. R. E. Hutchinson; Mrs. P. Sanders; Hubbard Heights, Mrs. O. Lee Jones; Sylvania, Mrs. O. V. Campbell; Oakhurst, Mrs. C. O. Cromer; South Side, Mrs. L. G. Moreland, Mrs. Glenn Smith, Mrs. J. W. Roddy; Sagamore, Mrs. John S. Reeder, Mrs. J. M. Fry; St. Mary's, Mrs. E. C. Walsh, Mrs. Milton Withers; University, Mrs. Victor Tinsley; Junior Woman's Club, Mrs. Robert Arnold; Spade and Trowel, Mrs. H. M. Petershagen.

Timekeepers for the two-day school will be Mrs. Victor Tinsley and Mrs. H. C. Austin.

Many garden club members are expected to attend the school from Grapevine, Graham, Decatur, Denton, Justin, Jacksboro, Glen Rose, Weatherford, Mineral Wells, Alvarado, Cleburne and Arlington.

Monday—Read Faulkner's "Plowman's Folly," the most highly controversial garden book of the year. What is your opinion?

Tuesday—Take an inventory of your garden; make notes of needs and improvements for this year.

Wednesday—Make a bird feeding trough adjoining a window of

your home. It will afford entertainment to you and food for the birds.

Thursday—New possibilities for your garden this year are amazing and brilliant hybridized perennials. Look over the new catalogs and select a few.

Friday—Try some of the large, double-flowered sweet-scented white violets. They are very useful in troublesome shady spots, and alluring in nosegays and small bouquets, charming in with Russian violets.

Saturday—Study your own backyard. Herein is a world in itself, ready for exploration. Do you know all the little weeds and grasses that grow there? Some may even be useful as foods.

Wildlife Calendar—Visit the zoo; watch squirrels in parks; study the prairie hare and cottontail. Two of the Nation's most beautiful trees offer a lifetime of study—the American elm and the black walnut; they both thrive here, being indigenous. What do you

know about them? Look for the thaw-butterfly; he should be about now in woodlands.

Garden Center Exhibition Table—Many new plant, seed and nursery catalogs are now available for inspection on the Center table. Service open to the public.

Be sure to attend the Victory

Garden School Jan. 24-25, lecture room Fort Worth Library, daily 10 a. m. to 5 p. m.

### Garden School Opens Monday Will Be Held At Public Library

Garden Center's Garden School will open at the Public Library Lecture room at 10 a. m. Monday. There will be a continuous program every half hour from 10 a. m. to 5 p. m. on both Monday and Tuesday, Mrs. Will Lake, Garden Center director, has announced.

Visitors from Graham, Mansfield, Grapevine, Denton, Decatur, Jacksboro, Weatherford and Mineral Wells.

The program will include the following talks: "Feature Landscape Design," D. D. Obert, city forester; "Floriculture," Luther Pope, W. B. La Cava, Mrs. W. K. Rose and Mrs. Jack Knight; "Flower Arrangements," Mrs. Alfred McKnight; "Soil Conservation," Leon McDonald, chief of Soil Conservation Service, and R. M. Marshall; "Vegetable Gardening," M. C. Counts, county agent; "Orchard and Berry Patch," O. S. Gray of Arlington; "Nature Appreciation," W. E. King; "Texas Vegetation in the Wartime Industrial Program," Miss Jessica Lloyd; "Texas Birds," Mrs. Robert Bowman, and "Insects, Friends and Foes," Mrs. C. A. Gantt.

# GARDENING - - - Bring a Few of Those Swelling Buds Indoors

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

What to do in the indoor garden now:

Bring indoors a few of the swelling buds and branches of your flowering trees and shrubs. They lend themselves as a decorative note. Place the branches in water and allow them to open naturally; better still, cut branches, place in a large open container or tub filled with water and set in the basement, spraying the branches with hot water several times a day. Shrubs that will respond as decorative to this treatment are: golden-bells (forsythia), flowering quince (cydonia japonica), pussy willow, redbuds, spirea, buckbush, Winter honeysuckle magnolias (especially magnolia soulangeana) and fruit tree branches, if there is a need to trim these.

Water house plants carefully this month. Those flowering freely and growing rapidly will dry out quickly. Have your poinsettias gone into the dormant, or rest period? Do not tax them with water, but lay aside in their pots and allow to dry a bit. When Spring comes place in the outdoor garden. Plant lilies of the valley. In three weeks from the time of planting they should be in bloom, if temperature is about right for first week, 75-80 degrees. Hyacinth flowers will have short flower stems unless bud is developed in the dark. As soon as leaves appear and buds show, cover the pot with paper or an inverted pot to keep light away. As stem progresses to its majority, give light gradually.

Do not overwater cactus specimens; especially will the Christmas cactus resent this, and show its resentment by dropping its flower buds. Examine your glad bulbs; be sure that they are in good condition. Also look about damping off or dry rot on the tuberous rooted plants in storage. Pinch back all straggling and weak growth from house plants. Fuchsias and begonias, the ivies and geraniums will show growth this month. Give them needed attention now. Oxalis bulbs, potted last Fall, should be coming into flower soon. Dip fern foliage to clear off dust accumulation. Knock plant out of pot and examine roots; these may need repotting, or attention given for root diseases. Single tulips may be brought into heat; the double ones should not be forced until later.

The exhibition table at Garden Center will feature a woodland arrangement, set for an informal luncheon, this week. Members of the Sagamore Hill Garden Club, of which Mrs. John Reeder is president, will be hostess for the Botanic Garden.

"Gardenteria" designates this week as a good time for getting garden food soil into shape. If making a new garden, find a sunny spot far away from tree and shrub roots. Make sure that trees, shrubs or deep-rooted plants are not placed near sewer lines, for the roots grow into the pipes in search of water. Drainage should be good where you plan to have a garden.

For abundant yields, fertilize well; 10 pounds of "4-12-4" commercial fertilizer or 200 pounds of rotted stable manure should be

applied 5 to 10 days before planting, for a small city garden. The amounts should be doubled for a larger garden. When planting, try not to waste seeds. The usual small packet contains more than enough for an ordinary garden, so save some for later Spring or Fall sowing.

Destroy weeds when they first appear—don't let them get a start. Cultivate your plants between the rows with a hoe once a week, but not so deeply as to disturb root growth.

In the Botanic Garden this week flowers of the golden-bells and wild honeysuckle are appearing, and wild forsythia buds are swelling. They may get a setback from a sudden freeze. Bird activity is unusual because of the warm, Springlike days.

Speakers for the Garden School, held last Monday and Tuesday, gave garden lovers who attended pointers on landscaping, flower arrangement, color planning with perennials, garden arrangement and food growing in gardens. Excerpts from some of the lectures follow:

Don Obert, City Forester—"You should have a design of some sort in your garden, if you have a garden. It really costs less to have a good design than to have poor landscaping—it's merely a matter of knowing how."

Luther Pope, Superintendent of the Botanic Garden—"Rose growing can be a pleasure. Try it

again this year, but be sure to get your roses from reliable growers."

W. B. LaCava, Dahlia Grower—"Dahlias repay a thousandfold, and are not difficult to grow. The largest tuberous roots are the least desirable. Select instead a good, sturdy, smaller type, with an eye at the end, and lay them in the bed horizontally."

Mrs. Alfred McKnight, Former President of the Fort Worth Garden Club—"Let your arrangements express your own thoughts and ideas, with beauty as a living quality. In church and altar arrangements, flowers should affect dignity and should be conservative rather than light. Pastel shades and gay flowers are not for church arrangements, but the royal colors, white for Christmas and Easter, and greenery for all occasions are safe."

M. C. Counts, County Agent—"Food, more food and still more food should be the goal of every gardener this year. The city garden will have to do its share in the production role if we are to keep our forces in the war front and our men and women in the production shops and our children healthy in our home."

# GARDENING.. It's Shrubbery Time

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Some plants are sensitive to change at any time; others may be transplanted successfully any season. Trees, shrubs and roses do best when planted in December, January and February in this locality. There have been enough freezes by this time to drive the sap down into the body of the tree and roots, and less chance is taken if transplanting takes place at this season. The advantage in planting during Midwinter is to allow the roots to become well established before the growing season sets in.

However, some plants, trees, shrubs and roses may be set out successfully just as the growing season begins, provided the roots are not badly disturbed. Herbaceous perennials do best when moved in the Fall. Winter storms and Summer heat are always difficult on plants, therefore every precaution should be taken to insure against season disturbances. Good drainage is essential in all cases. Plants, trees, shrubs and roses should not enter the Winter season in an excessively dry stage. A hot, dry Summer and Fall can do more harm than the backsets Winter offers generally.

If soils are clayey, heavy or excessively wet, dig holes wide and deep, but fill in holes after planting with a suitable mixture, taking care to plant shallow. Many failures in planting are due to setting plants, and seeds as well, too deeply in the ground. Roots should never be "buried." This is a good rule to remember. Plant an inch or two deeper than formerly, bringing soil to the color marking at the collar. Plants that have low-graftings should be set just below the graft. Roots should have ample space in which to grow in freshly mulched soil. Holes should be flat and level on the bottom, with side walls perpendicular. When digging a hole the first 8 to 12 inches should be laid aside to put back in the hole, as this is preferred soil. The secondary soils just underneath may then be placed on top. The top layer should be porous, not easily hardened and baked by the sun. Peat and humus may be mixed with soil in holes. If possible, mix fertilizer well with the added soil, rather than to place on top of the ground around newly planted specimen. Finally, be sure that the soil is well soaked with water.

Old perennial beds should be overhauled every four or five years. Mostly perennials should be divided and reset in the Fall. Plants that flower in the Spring and rocky plants should be set out in the Fall. Mulch properly to avoid bad results from heaving after heavy freezes and frosts. Roots should always be amply covered, with only the tip of the cutback plant exposed. A light mulch of leaves or humus may be spread over the newly transplanted clump, or specimen. Observe natural tendencies of roots, and help them to get into the same position in new beds. Due to the fact that perennials do not bloom the year round, it is well to plant a few bulbs and annuals that bloom may be had in between seasons of perennial blooms. The roots of trees and old shrubs dominate the soils. Take care not to plant too close to these, as grow-

ing, thriving plants will have difficulties under such conditions.

## FOUNDATION PLANTING.

If you have recently purchased or built a new home, and the grounds are not yet planted, you may wish to know just what to do, what plants to use in this climate.

Of first importance—the house should be united with the ground with a foundation planting. House and grounds in a few years should appear as if they had sort of grown up together, into a permanent unity. Dwarf evergreens and refined types of flowering shrubs are useful in the basic plantings.

The two commonest mistakes made by most persons, particularly the amateur, are over-planting and the use of too much miscellaneous material. A few varieties, well placed, is a good rule always. For the average house choose a few accent points across the front and maybe on the sides of the house, such usually to be placed at the entrance, corners, porch pillars and windows. Emphasis should be given at these points with the largest and most conspicuous plants, spaces between to be filled with smaller plants, of softer texture and neutral in type.

Above all, keep material in scale with the building. For the average

home use refined plants and avoid the coarse materials. For places that must be partly shaded at least, try viburnums, privets and the barberries. Photinia, mahonia, agarita, bush honeysuckles, wax-leaved ligustrums, common myrtle and the abelias all do well in this locality. The juniper types, of which there are several that vary in height, will lend themselves very well for contrast and for particular places. Use symmetrical plants for balanced formal buildings, planting them in balanced groupings. If space will permit, graduate plantings from the lawn to higher materials in the background. Planting should have accent toward the center if house appears to be low and squat in type. Use good-sized groups and gradually lead to the lawn, if house seems high at each end. Don't use thorny shrubs near walks or steps. Don't buy a lot of plants just because you can get them cheaply. Don't crowd specimens and over-plant. Fertilize shrubs well when planting, using rotted manure with humus. Keep shrubs moist for at least the first year; a mulch of peat moss will do worlds for the first year, which is always the hardest.

FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM Sunday, February 13, 1944.

## You and I Explorations

First of a Series.

### THE CHILD'S GARDEN.

You and I want to be healthy. Good health means good looks, more fun and more friends. How strong and healthy our boys in the service look! Why? They have three good meals a day, the right kind of food, with lots of outdoor exercise and regular habits. Wouldn't we like to look like them—and serve our country too? Then let's plant a garden right now!

How much fresher and more beautiful are the vegetables that we grow in our garden than those we buy. Our home-grown vegetables are packed full of vitamins (which we must have) and minerals; they are unbruised and unsoiled by pickers, packers and shippers. Foods fresh from the garden and direct to our own dinner table, foods grown by our own hands, are so much better—even spinach tastes good.

A garden will save us money, too, with which to buy stamps and bonds; we will have more food for ourselves and the armed forces,



and even some to share with the very hungry children in other parts of the world.  
—LILLIAN HALBERT GANTT.

# Beautify With Fruit Trees

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Fruit trees not only add to the beauty of the garden and home grounds, but they bring necessary foods to the table. A few dollars invested in an orchard of carefully selected trees will repay the owner a hundredfold. Foremost, of course, is the land. One must consider the place, whether or not it is well drained and of reasonable soils. A little time spent in the orchard occasionally will bring big dividends in the matter of proper foods for the family. Any Texas home may have fruit in abundance, and of several different kinds, such as will provide every member of the family with two servings daily, or the 300 pounds needed yearly for good nutrition. And each of us knows the beauty that comes with recurring Springs when the apricots, plums, peaches, pears and cherry trees bloom.

The Botanic Garden will feature several new plants this year, among them *Thunbergia gibsonii*, an annual vine; an interesting *Solanum* vine which bears blue flowers; *Rhodea japonica*, a sacred Chinese native plant which is used in rituals and widely appreciated; two new zinnias, all-giant Indian Summer, and Burpee's all-double giant; five varieties of asters in white, pink, red and blue; the *Hibiscus* manihot, an East Indian species; about a dozen new varieties of roses and a number of new varieties of dahlias; the new Single Jewel Portulaca, a bright red in color, with flowers almost four times as large as the older types of Portulaca.

The nature trails at the Botanic Garden are beginning to be very green with new Spring-growing native plants familiar to local residents: A spindly, square-stemmed trailer plant, exceedingly hairy, with six leaves in whorls at nodes, known as *Galium aparine*, commonly called cleavers, turkey straw and bed tangle—a close relative of this plant is used a great deal for bedding stock in Bethlehem, and it is supposed to have been the plant that was in the manger and upon which the Christ was laid; and another equally common plant which intrigues us at this season because of its fern-like foliage, *Ptilimium nuttallii*, also known as lace-flower, which belongs to the carrot family, and bears dainty white flowers.

Here is a list of some rather desirable native ornamental, berry-bearing shrubs that may be used successfully in Fort Worth and vicinity for home-ground beautification: The *Agarita* (*Berberis trifoliata*), a shrub which J. F. Rosborough, extension horticulturist of A&M College, says should be used much more extensively than it is, not alone for itself, but as a plant with which one could hybridize; the native Skunk Bush (*Rhus trilobata*), an early harbinger of Spring; the wild forsythia (*Adelia pubescens*); the red buckeye (*Aesculus discolor*); New Jersey Tea (*Ceanothus ovatus*), a good substi-

tute for tea, and so used during the War of the Revolution and the Civil War; in indigenous dogwood (*Cornus asperifolia*); the Little Hog Plum (*Prunus gracilis*); the yellow Buckeye (*Aesculus arguta*); the wild Bush Honeysuckle (*Lonicera albiflora*), now a mass of creamy white blooms at the Botanic Garden and in local yards; the Missouri Gooseberry (*Ribes odoratum*), with very fragrant flowers, and the Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*).

The Garden Club Presidents' Council will meet at 10 a. m. Wednesday in the Garden Center with Mrs. L. G. Moreland, vice president, presiding due to the illness of the president, Mrs. H. H. Crane.

February group meetings of the Fort Worth Garden Club will be as follows: Mrs. E. E. Taylor's group at 10:30 a. m. Feb. 25 with Mrs. Ned Lydick, 2428 Colonial Parkway; Mrs. William Holden's group at 10:30 a. m. Friday with Mrs. Marvin Evans, 2141 Warner Road, with Mrs. Alfred McKnight, speaker; Mrs. Henry S. Green's group at 10:30 a. m. Thursday with Mrs. J. E. McKinney, 4200 Lone Oak, with Mrs. C. B. Collins, co-hostess, and Mrs. W. A. Zant, speaker; Mrs. J. G. Clark's group at 10:30 a. m. Friday with Mrs. W. L. Wilson, 3005 S Jennings, with Mmes. W. N. Hinkley and P. E. Moreland, co-hostesses and Mrs. Zant, speaker; Mrs. Hugo O. Mueller's group at 10:30 a. m. Friday with Mrs. Clyde Mays, 1300 Thomas Place.

## Gardening

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Jonquils are blooming in the woodlands of the Botanic Garden. Flowering quince, golden-bells (*forxythia*) and bush honeysuckle continue to bloom in spite of the recent cold weather. The greenhouse is colorful with the flowers of several different plants, among them the bougainvillea, the chalice vine, a new variety of flowering pea, azaleas and succulents. The Lenten or Christmas Rose (*Hellebore*) is in bloom now in the rockery. Bluebonnets are making headway in the wildflower area, although none are in bloom yet.

From now on local gardens will vie with one another for the first Spring blossoms. The Iris Gardens of Mrs. W. K. Rose on Lipscomb, those of Mrs. M. J. Sheridan on Merritt, and Mrs. S. W. Ray's garden, Lipscomb, will have much of interest to offer in a short time. The rainbow beauty of iris collections in flower is a pleasing spectacle, especially so because these plants bloom early before the vast hordes of other flowers make their bloom. Many new varieties of irises will be seen in local iris gardens this year, as the

# The Lavender Magnolia Is Described

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

A recent letter to The Star-Telegram from Katherine Lee, Baton Rouge, La., a former resident of Texas, tells of the beauty of the flowering shrubs there now. She describes the lavender magnolia (*soulangeana*) as a miracle flower, with its huge petals and coloring; the magnificent beauty of the azaleas in various shades of pink to almost a fuschia tone; and the fairyland that surrounds the State Capitol with a predominance of azaleas of every shade of pink, with generous plantings of camelias.

The North Fort Worth Garden Club, Mrs. Jesse Martin, president, planted a memorial tree, a pink mimosa, in the garden of Judge and Mrs. Dave McGee recently, in honor of the McGees' son who lost his life in an airplane accident while in service. The custom of planting memorial trees for the boys is gaining in favor and it is adding to the beauty of the gardens the boys knew and loved.

The small golden blossoms of the dandelions on the Cass Edwards lawn, Summit and Pennsylvania, offer a cheering Springtime note, after many days of cloudy skies. The home grounds of Mrs. J. R. Newcomb, 3125 Rodeo Road, Glen Garden, will be bright this year with a new rose garden. The old bois d'arc trees on the sidewalk in front of the home of Mrs. A. W. Terrell are landmarks on the ancestral Terrell property, Terrell and South Adams.

Southwest Texas and the Rio Grande Valley region are blossoming with the retama, the huisache and many of the catclaws and acacias. More of these typically Southwestern plants, together with yuccas, aloes, agaves and varieties of cactus should be used in our gardens.

Gardening days are here again, and there is almost too much to do. First, we should prune roses at once; the warm Spring days will cause them to put on new growth. Trees, shrubs, roses and perennials should be set out immediately if they have not yet been planted. Plan now also for the annual garden, get beds in shape. Decide upon what colors and types of plants you will want; purchase seeds and be ready to plant when danger of frost is past. Better to have a riot of color, even though good taste is lacking, and thin out to other locations as your standards of good taste improve. Try not to waste seeds, however, as they are now scarce and will be more so as the war continues.

One of the choicest of the perennials which will afford color and help to bring succession of bloom is the chrysanthemum. Chrysanthemums do well in this climate and should be used more generously. It is not so difficult in this locality to have abundant color in Spring and early Summer with annuals, but the Fall season proves more difficult. With chrysanthemums, it is possible to keep the garden gay until the hard freezes come. If cuttings are not already made, start them now. Purchase plants from reliable dealers only, if new plants are needed. Ground should be well prepared and enriched with well-rotted barnyard manure, mulched thoroughly to a depth of 18 inches. Planting should be done in moist soil, but it should not be in poorly drained locations, as chrysanthemums can not endure continued wet roots. Distance apart should be not less than 15 inches, 18 to 20 inches is better. Branching or busy growth is promoted by systematic pinching.

# :- Blooms Continue You and I Explorations

(Second of a Series). LETS MAKE A GARDEN. First we must find just exactly the right spot for the baby plants that come from our garden seed. These baby plants must have the



right things to make them grow bigger and better—good beds, the best food, air, water and lots of sunshine.

hybridizers have developed a number of unusual colors.

Get the Victory Garden under way at once. Plant English peas, green beans, Irish potatoes, onions, cabbage, beets, carrots, lettuce, mustard, spinach. Second plantings should follow in about three weeks. For green beans and English peas, inoculate seed with nitrogen bac-

teria (available at seed stores) to stimulate early growth in first plantings. Place seed in fruit jar or glass with dust, shake well until seeds are coated, then plant. Vegetables may be used in flower beds, as border plants, and used alternately when gathered, that the design may not be spoiled. Do not plant too much at one time. It is better to have subsequent plantings than so much all at once.

**PLOWMAN'S FOLLY**, a new book by Edward H. Faulkner, has thrown a bomb into agricultural circles all over the country. The author claims the soil will take proper care of itself if man does not interfere too much. He is against deep-plowing methods, and says the mold-board plow, dear to the hearts of Thomas Jefferson and his followers, was all wrong. Erosion, he claims, soil impoverishment, decreasing crop yields and many adverse effects, following droughts and periods of excessive rainfall, can be traced directly to the practice of plowing fertilizers deep into the soil. Winds and rains carry away soil loosened by deep plowing. Deep plowing also places the nutrient top soils below the reach of the roots of the plant. Top soils are being constantly renewed and improved through natural accumulations.

Faulkner claims that through improper methods of cultivation troublesome insects have become more bothersome. Once vegetables, properly grown, contained sufficient vitamins for the plant and the plant's consumer. If a hen laid an egg, the egg was sufficiently vitalized. Butterfat was good butterfat, no matter what. Now it is known that the vitamin content of the egg yolk is dependent upon the type of food consumed by the hen. Today we insist that the cow that nourishes our children must be fed upon quantities of green grass and richly colored foods which provide the cow with essential vitamins. All over the country we are finding deficiency diseases among people where the disease was unknown before. We have discovered that the soil, life's ultimate source of supply, has declined sharply in its ability to nourish properly the

plants upon which we depend. Today we must resort to the drug stores for our vitamins.

Let's look all around the house, the front yard, side yard and back yard, and find the plot," not too big and not too small, about twice as wide as you are tall," and with "each row as long as you can hoe."

The plot must be far enough from the houses and trees to get the sun's rays at least at noon and half the day; it must be away from shrubs whose greedy roots will rob them of water and minerals.

Let us see if water stands too long on the garden spot after a rain. We shouldn't want the roots of our young plants to drown. We must be sure that there is good drainage in our garden.

We must make a garden. If necessary we may be able to borrow a part of the grassy lawn, even a flower bed or a corner of it, or neighbors may lend us a part of their extra space. Somewhere—you and I are going to have a garden! — LILLIAN HALBERT GANTT.

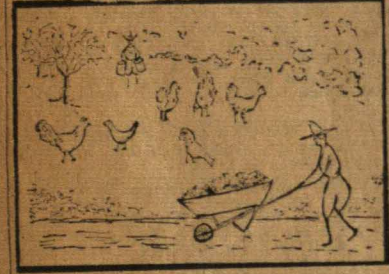
The disk-harrow is the answer to this revolutionary author's plowing problems. He prefers crop rotation as a means of weed eradication. He believes that seeds grow better in soil that has been compacted, rather than loosened, the capillary water climbing the vertical column of soil immediately underneath. Man, through improper handling of the soils, through the faulty use of fertilizers and manures, has rather deprived crops of their natural and generous heritage. The author claims that mankind owes not everything to the soil, but much to the air. Many plants, such as legumes, obtain nitrogen almost solely from the air, through the nitrogen-gathering bacteria that become parasitic on the plant's roots.

We have been becalmed agriculturally, Faulkner states, like the famous shipwrecked sailors: thirsty for days as they floated in the mouth of the Amazon. Lack of knowledge, lack of proper application of principles, even when we have the proper information, are responsible for America's agricultural dilemma today. Likely the chief advantage of such a book as "Plowman's Folly," urging us back to nature, and against conventional and scientific methods of soil management, is that we shall begin to think in terms of soils and of their basic value to the human family.

# You and I Explorations

## THE CHILD'S GARDEN.

You and I need powerful magnifiers over our eyes to see the millions and billions of little plants living in our garden soil. These small plants called bacteria are jumping and dancing around like little jitterbugs in drops of soil-water. Bacteria are hungry, too; they eat moist bits of old leaves, stems, flowers or animal waste; then they change these into min-



erals that our green garden plants must have in order to grow and produce. The soil that has the most

bacteria and bacteria food is called humus.

We need sand and clay and humus to make good beds for plants. Sand gives them plenty of air; clay holds water and furnishes some minerals, but humus provides the greatest amount of food that plants like best. Let's experiment on our soil in this manner—put a teaspoon of dirt on an old saucer and add a teaspoon of vinegar. See! It bubbles. That means the soil has plenty of lime but needs more humus.

You take these buckets and get some humus from the chicken yard and I'll get some from the dairy down the road. We could get sandy loam, which is humus and sand, from the river bank under the trees. We must scatter this good humus over our garden to be sure that our plants will have all they need with which to grow rich green leaves and to make our garden the prettiest in the country.—Lillian Halbert Gantt.

# March 19 Will Be Redbud Day Here

March 19, has been declared Redbud Day in Fort Worth, "the Redbud City." The native blossoming tree was adopted as the official flower here by popular vote in 1929.

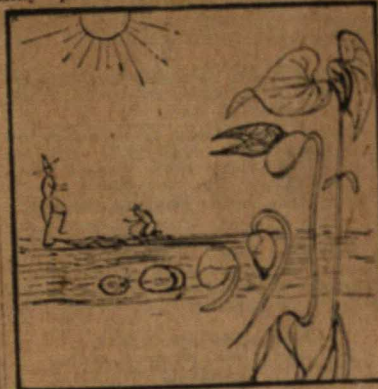
Besides the many native redbud trees growing on hills and in lowlands around the city, thousands have been planted in parks and gardens to provide a spectacular Spring blossoming season.

The redbud is a member of the pea family, and its botanical name is *Cercis canadensis*. It grows in most parts of North America, Southern Europe and Asia, and thrives best in fertile, sandy loam. Propagation is possible by seeds or cuttings.

Flowerlets of the redbud were once used in relishes and salads.

## A CHILD'S GARDEN.

Our Government has asked us to grow twice as many yellow and green vegetables as we grew last year. You and I will choose those that we like best from the many different kinds that we see in the market. Carrots will top our list of yellow vegetables, and later we may plant seeds of yellow corn



and squash; we will also set out little tomato plants.

We'll lay our seeds in shallow trenches and cover them with dark earth not more than four times as deep as the seed is thick. Then press the dirt down firm and smooth with hand, trowel or by foot.

First, though, we must pick out some rocks and break the clods to make the dirt soft, for we really

are putting babies to bed. Each is a baby plant now sound asleep, and the beds must be just right for them to sleep in—oh no—to wake in, for it is Spring time, just the right time for these babies to wake up and start growing.

These are outdoor babies and are well protected with the dirt cover we put over them. The peacan, peach, and acorn wear wooden jackets; the radish seeds wear heavy brown coats; tiny lettuce and mustard seeds are covered by strong, dark coats too. Some beans look as if they were wearing transparent rain coats. The moist dirt packed tightly around them will help to soften their coats.

Inside the coats are pockets of food, prepared just right to feed these little plants until they can make their own food. You and I will not put too much dirt over them, or their food might give out, and they couldn't come out on top. If we could peep under the cover of these dirt beds, we would see magic indeed. These seeds of ours take in rainwater through a tiny hole; then they, the seeds, swell and swell and swell until they burst their coats; then they stretch down their roots into the soil, and push up their leafy heads to greet the sun. Now they can grow into a real garden of beautiful plants.

—LILLIAN HALBERT GANTT.

# GARDENING It's Time to Get On With Planting

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Make dahlia cuttings now. Plant English daisies (*Bellis perennis*) as a border for the pansy bed. Remember to cover unsightly places with vines, such as the scarlet runner bean, the Madeira vine, the hyacinth vine, clematis, Virginia creeper and the ivies. Keep pansy blossoms picked to insure continuous bloom. Continue to plant trees, shrubs and roses. Plant sweetpeas at once in good soil. Seed them in two-inch deep trenches, and fill trenches gradually as the plants grow. Be sure to give a base of well-rotted fertilizer to sweetpea bed. Do not be in too big a hurry to uncover protected plants, perennial and bulb beds. Give the rockery a quarter-inch dressing of one-third each sand, soil and peat moss. Look about house plants and report such as may need it. Late-flowering perennials and hardy chrysanthemums may be divided when they begin to grow. Replant as soon as divisions are made. Chrysanthemums should be divided each Spring. Start the seeds of blue lace-flower indoors now.

Burn all garden trash, tree prunings that show signs of infestation, and all leaves that show traces of disease. Do not prune early flowering shrubs until after they bloom; a good way to prune is to cut as needed for the house. Plant orchard and small fruit trees as soon as possible now. Such shrubs as bloom in the late Summer and Fall may be pruned now. The pruning of trees should be finished before the sap starts to rise. To prune magnolias, start at the bottom and work up. Magnolia stellata should not be pruned. As weather moderates remove mulches from beds. When days get warm, spray beds, soils and plants with lime-sulphur or Bordeaux mixture. Hardwood ashes make good fertilizers for delphiniums, roses, irises and grapes. Keep ashes dry and apply as soon as cultivation begins. Keep a garden record book this year. It will surprise you to see your accomplishments. Remember to provide a compost heap. Lawn work, to be effective, should be done early. First, rake lawn with an iron rake, then feed with a lawn fertilizer. Reseed old lawns as soon as possible now.

## The Story of the Soybean.

The story of the soybean is a fascinating romance. "Soybeans Gold From the Soil," a book by Edward Jerome Dies, gives much history, lore and legend concerning the plant, as well as instructions for care and culture. How much do we know about this valuable product? As we study the history and uses of the soybean we have a greater appreciation of its value to mankind. The story of this vegetable wonder is at once the story of Bill Morse, and of the tutor of Morse, Dr. C. V. Piper, for years with the Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington. With steady hand Bill Morse has carried the lamp lighted by Dr. Piper.

It is a staggering thought that even when the Pyramids were being built, 300 years before the tower of Babel was constructed, 12 centuries before Solomon opened his Temple, the soybean shone hoary with age. The first record of the soybean is from "Materia Medica," written by Emperor Shenung, 2838 B.C. It describes many plants of China, including that of the soybean, but the name is clouded in mystery. The product was in use in the Orient thousands of years before it found its way to the Western World. A German botanist, Engelbert Kaempfer, introduced the plant to Europe in 1712. The generally accepted botanical name of the soybean is *Soja max*; and even the name of the plant is shrouded in romance.

In 1804, according to the author, a Yankee Clipper ship in full sail glided down the coasts of China searching the ports for a return cargo. Not too sure of the length of the return journey, the captain ordered several bags of beans tossed into the hold as a reserve food supply. Thereby the first soybeans came into America. There have been bloody wars in the Orient, class struggle and rebellion over the soybean. Political parties have been formed and fallen in this strife. Wars have been fought, and it is claimed by some authorities that Japan's attack on China was inspired by the soybean. The measure, at least, of immense value in the last decade

have averaged about 200,000,000 bushels a year.

In the present World War the soybean is playing an important role. It played a material part during the first years of the war. While Hitler and Stalin were still friends, the supply was siphoned from the Orient to Germany over the single track railroad across the wastes of Siberia. In the stream of agricultural history few events are more exciting than the dizzy rise of the soybean in the United States. The rapidly expanding soybean empire traces back in America to a comparatively small group of pioneers who possessed faith and courage—the agricultural explorers, adventure-some growers, plant scientists, the processors, the brilliant men of the test tubes. These pioneering men created a new industry for us, an industry that has brought substance to the dreamer, Charles Vancouver Piper, and much joy to the indefatigable worker, Bill Morse. The United States has seen another miracle from the soil, "vegetable gold." And the end is not yet, with literally hundreds of by-products already being offered, with yet more to come—in a range from soybeans to socks, and even maybe to pianos and automobiles with all their parts.

# You and I Explorations

MARCH 12 1944

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

Get the compost pile under way. It will offer humus and plant food, properly handled. Wire is the best support for the material, in that drainage can be cared for. If a wooden box is used, be sure that the bottom is open enough to allow for proper drainage. If chicken wire is used, fasten the ends of a strip together, and pile materials inside in alternate layers. Stakes may be used to hold the wire in place.

If the compost heap must be visible from the garden area, vines may be planted on a trellis in front of it. All vegetable discards and foods from the table may be used. Place about six inches of these materials and then cover with six inches of good soil. Repeat the alternate layers until the container is full. Leave undisturbed until a year later, two years would be better. When ready to use, fork over the compost, mixing thoroughly. Leave exposed to sun and air for 24 hours, then repeat the process of turning for several successive days, when it should be ready to use.

About this time of year annually our thoughts begin to travel southward, to the Gulf Coast areas, to Natchez, Mobile and the Old South, and we yearn for a sight of great bushes of azaleas and camellias, for the fragrance of magnolias and cape jasmynes. While there's a war to win, we can not travel to these places, but we can, in a more or less limited way, enjoy some of these same plants in our own gardens and conservatories, if we study the needs of these particular plants and give them the required attention. First, there must be acid soil conditions and sufficient moisture. If planted out of doors, protective measures must be used during the Winter and Summer.

Just now Mrs. N. M. Rippey, 1606 Oak Knoll, is enjoying and sharing with friends, a deep pink-flowering camellia. The bush is several years old, planted in highly acid soil on the north side of the house. It is loaded with blossoms.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Gantt, 1824 Clover Lane, have an orchid in flower in their greenhouse. Throughout the years the orchid has reigned supreme in the world of beautiful flowers. Botanists claim, however, that the blossom of the magnolia comes more nearly up to standard of perfection for blossoms than any other flower.

An old agricultural journal suggests the following as a fertilizer for vines and berry-bearing shrubs: Break or cut pruned branches of these plants into small pieces and work into the soil around the vines and shrubs. It is suggested that the properties in the branches themselves offer much enrichment and should go back again into the soil around the plants from which they were cut. Persons who have tried this method say it is quite sufficient and causes the vines, particularly grapevines, to develop prolific fruits of excellent quality.

The beauty of flowering peach, plum, pear and apricot trees is creating considerable attention these days. Not alone will a stand of fruit trees, or even one or two, improve the beauty of the landscape, but there is the added value of good fruits later on.

The Botanic Garden is well on its way with Spring blossoms. The Christmas or Lenten rose is in full flower in the rockery, as are pansies, a few phlox blossoms, jonquils, star-flowers; forsythia in the main garden; scencio in bloom in the test garden area; the native trees making their flowers, with graceful catkins hanging from every branch; and in the greenhouse the bougainvillea, solanums and thunbergias offer floral beauty, the two latter with blue flowers.

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## Bear From Australia



—Star-Telegram Photo

In the Children's Department of the Public Library, Mary Lake shows her gift from Australia, a realistic-looking toy native bear, to Dan Beckelman, 4, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Beckelman, 4837 Morris. Mrs. Beckelman is a library employe

## Wildflowers of Texas Are Good Hobby

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

If the amateur gardener is really looking for a thrilling hobby, he may well turn his attention to experimentation with native plant materials. Forgetting the possibilities of indigenous plants in the new wartime industrial program and in postwar activities, important as this is just now, there is the matter of color and design from the use of native plants in the flower border and in the rockery.

Known throughout the world for its beautiful wildflowers, Texas leads also in varieties. A noted horticulturist recently remarked that the native Texas barberry, (familiar to stockmen and ranchers as the agarita, or algerita) has undreamed of potentialities as a base for innumerable originations which might prove useful for foods. Many Texas and Southwestern plants are already in the industrial field, and chemurgy is a basic interest.

From now on as they come into bloom, one might study the wild flowers with regard to their use in the flower border. Color and succession of bloom could well be accomplished with the use of the native plants taking notes as they appear. Horticulturists have also claimed that the indigenous plants of the central part of the State particularly are ideal rock garden materials. In the first place, the chalky or limestone hillsides are gay throughout the Summer with colorful flowers. Many of these are drouth-resistant, making them especially adaptable for our long, hot Summers. Since most of our colorful plants are rather small in type, they are especially interesting in the rockery and in the flower border.

Just now the large yellow evening primrose, familiarly known as the Missouri evening primrose, is coming into flower on the limestone hills, as is the dainty golden daisy and the lighter-colored yellow puccoon. Soon the skull-cap, one of the Scutellarias, with quantities of massed blue flowers, will grace the slopes. These will be followed by several so-called star flowers in brilliant yellow and the bluebonnets will flaunt their colors on the prairies. The wild geraniums, (filaree, these are called by stockmen); winecups in lavender, red, pink and white; pink and white buttercups, also of the evening primrose family; sweet williams; Indian blanket (Gaillardia) and the Indian paintbrush; the coneflowers and coreopsis; spiderworts and milkweeds; the beautiful blue Baptisia and the three incomparable Gentians (the meadow and mountain pink and the Texas bluebell—all these and many others will lend themselves exceptionally well to the cultivated flower garden.

Among the most delicate and beautiful of the white flowers is the white rock-daisy. A graceful fragile white-flowering plant is Polygala alba, with small white wing-shaped flowerets along the ends of the delicate swaying stems. A bog-plant of importance is the white orchis, with a spiral flower. Another white-flowering plant is the Marshallia, with a fuzzy flower head that resembles somewhat the blue lace-flower. A strange little creeper type that has accumulated much lore and considerable history is the sensitive plant, or mimosa, with flowers of pink, yellow and white. A delicate lavender (Dalea) grows on embankments and in well-drained limestone areas. This latter is not nearly as well known as it deserves to be. Straw flower or pink dandelion is the name of one of our loveliest chicory plants. The little wild onion or garlic in colors of white and pink has great possibilities as a border plant. Difficult to transplant, but well-worth the effort it takes to grow it, is the loco weed, sometimes called a pink or lavender bluebonnet.

## MARCH 26, 1944 Victory Garden Is No Longer Hobby; It's Vital Interest

BY MARY DAGGETT LAKE.

While food alone may not win the war, lack of it could lose it for us. Paul Stark, president of the National Victory Garden Institute, say that food is definitely recognized as a war munition, as important as ships, tanks and planes. The Victory Garden is no longer a hobby; it is a vital and major interest. Many people who had small gardens last year must branch out into larger production areas wherever possible this year. The 1944 campaign of "More and Better Food" is already under way, particularly in the South. The Department of Agriculture will have two regular programs over the radio bearing on this subject.

Our State colleges of agriculture and their extension services are doing, and will do much, but communities should be organized in co-operative units. In many cases this has been done, but groups of laymen should be supplemental to the larger work. There should be thousands of Victory Garden volunteers in every locality of any size, whose business it would be to give out information, inspect work and if possible lend a helping hand in the physical end of gardening.

The time for gardening is now, even earlier would have been better. Study your catalogs, use the information services offered through the government agencies, through garden clubs, Victory Garden organizations. Read your newspapers and magazines that deal with such matters.

### Local Gardening Notes.

Gardening is not as glamorous as some other wartime activities, maybe, for it entails much hard work and considerable knowledge, but it is highly important in winning the war.

A specimen of hydrosme, one of the world's largest flowering plants, is making progress in the matter of producing its flower stalk, at the home of R. H. Schweers, 4029 Locke. If you are interested in studying the steps of development of this unusual and entertaining plant, the owner will be glad to have you inspect it. A large and handsome wistaria covers the porch at 1000 Park Street. It is a wonder that more people do not grow wistarias in this locality. The plant does well here and may be used as a vine or a shrub. And in addition, the flower heads, before fully open, are most decorative. A white-flowering, fruit-bearing peach tree at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. McLean, 904 Kellis, interested the McLeans and their friends last week. Nurserymen claim that the white-flowering peach does not usually bear fruit heavily, but this one seems to be an exception.

The Botanic Garden is ready for fair weather visitors, with many plants, trees and shrubs in full flower, among them the redbud trees, the kerrias which bear rose-like golden blossoms, the pansies in the rockery, orange trees in flower, an ambitious century plant which is now sending out its tower-blossom, and in the test garden the senecio is a mass of yellow blossoms, as is the Chinese buckeye. The Garden Center is featuring a freak object for this week—a bois d'arc post with hackberry tree roots growing through the post. The abnormality was discovered by F. D. Thomas, 1816 Broadway, who was endeavoring to remove the post from its location, when he found that the tree roots were interwoven. The exhibit reveals the power of vitality in tree roots.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1943.

## Christmas Comes Ahead of Time for Secretary

It was Christmas gifts in reverse for Mary Lake this week.

While most Fort Worthers were hurrying to get Christmas packages for men overseas wrapped and mailed, Miss Lake, secretary of the Fort Worth Art Association, was unwrapping a gift from Australia. The package, from Lt. John L. Lewis, contained an 18-inch top native bear with realistic brown fur. The mailing date showed it took only a month to make the long trip.

Lieutenant Lewis, who was formerly with Mitchell, Gartner and Thompson, has been in Australia since last January. He is with the Army Airways Communications System.

## Invitations Issued for Soil Conference

Fort Worth and Texas citizens interested in soil conservation were invited Tuesday by Mrs. Will Lake of Fort Worth, chairman of the conservation committee, South Central Region of Garden Clubs, to attend the "Save-the-Soil" clinic to be held March 27-28 in Oklahoma City.

Speakers will include Louis Bromfield, the novelist turned farmer; Chester Davis, Dr. H. G. Bennett, Dr. Paul B. Sears, William A. Albrecht and Elmer T. Peterson.

Mrs. Lake said there would be no registration fee at the conference, but hotel reservations should be sent to the hotel headquarters, Biltmore Hotel, Oklahoma City.

## You and I Explorations

Which flowering trees do we like best? It wouldn't be hard to guess; the fruit trees, of course—so many blossoms on each tree, and each blossom as beautiful as a pretty girl in a party dress; pale pink for peaches; white for pears,



cherry and plum. And what perfume could be nicer than that of the plum blossom?

Better than all their present good looks, these blossoms give promise of more beauty and delight when they produce luscious, healthy fruit. Let you and I pull aside the petals and look down the calyx cup or shucks. There it is; the baby peach surrounded by many slender pink threads; each topped by a sac of pollen. Peaches, this young, are called pistils and are peaches in the making with the help of pollen.

Many bees, out in this sunshine, buzz around the blossoms as if they thought this flower glamour were all for them. Bees may be right, for they do carry pollen from flower to flower, but there are other six-legged aviators, insects, flying around these blossoms, and they are enemies.

The worst of these enemies is Mrs. Billbug, who has been hiding all Winter. She is only one-fifth of an inch long, covered by a blackish armor and armed with a wicked weapon, a long snout with a cutting mouth at its tip.

This Billbug wants her children, wormlike things, to have fruit for breakfast, lunch and dinner, so she bites a hole in a very young peach or plum or other fruit. Mrs. Billbug lays an egg in this hole and pushes it down further with her beak; she may lay hundreds of eggs in this way, usually in different fruit.



The egg hatches; the worm eats to the seed and all around the seed, getting fatter and bigger on this rich vitamin fruit diet. Most of this bitten fruit falls off; sometimes it stays on and we bite into it—alas, alack—for worm and us.

You and I can find the fruit on the ground and burn it before this worm graduates into a Billbug; yet better than that we must find a man with a strong spray gun to cover the young fruit and the entire tree with a coat of poison, so biting bugs will die. Spray as soon as the petals fall, and again 10 days later when the fruit is in the "shuck" stage. Government bulletins from A. & M. station or our county agent will tell us how to do it. (Lilian Halbert Gantt).

