

HOME AND



GARDEN

Summer Gardening Notes

By J. R. Foote

SUMMER PLANTING OF SHRUBS

Many times, residences are completed too late for the dormant season of planting, apartment buildings, likewise and public buildings of various sorts which requires rather elaborate landscaping. Now under all of these varying conditions, it is not desirable to go through the summer and early fall months without the benefit of landscape decorations, nor is it convenient to dig up the lawns to do planting after they have been seeded and good turf cultivated.

Nurserymen as a rule do not advocate summer planting, because it is often improperly done and losses result which are often blamed back onto the grower of the bushes.

Quite often it happens that someone sees some summer planting being done and assumes that all there is to it is to go ahead and plant the same as when shrubs are dormant. The fact is that planting shrubbery when it is in full leaf requires quite different handling than when the plants are dormant or at rest. In fact it requires somewhat more work to plant growing plants than it does to plant hardy shrubs in which the sap is not flowing and on which there is no foliage.

Many times, too, it becomes necessary to move shrubs around during midsummer readjustment of the gardens or you may wish to bring back some growing things during your summer outings.

In handling summer planting there are a few fundamental facts which need to be known and used freely as you decide just how to handle your own particular problems.

First, we find that if the roots are allowed to dry in moving so that the little mouths at the ends of the fine roots become dried, these mouths become unable to again function when moisture is again made available. Now the roots may be muddled or sealed so that the air cannot reach these root mouths and the roots can then be allowed to get somewhat dry without any noticeable damage.

Secondly, we find that when the plants are being moved and the water supply is thus interrupted, the leaves continue to throw off moisture and are soon draining the plant. When the plant becomes somewhat drained, the leaves will begin to wilt. A wilted leaf throws off moisture much more readily than one which has not wilted. It acts something like a sponge, evaporating moisture very readily. Therefore if the foliage becomes at all wilted, it becomes necessary to remove most of the leaves to prevent the dangerous let-down of the plant's vitality.

Thirdly, we find that whenever the foliage has been in any degree removed from the bushes, new leaf buds will form and new leaves will be provided quite readily to take the place of the lost foliage.

We find that often shrubs which are moved from the nursery into the gardens or borders during the summer, do quite as well as if they had not been moved, because of the fact that they get much better care in the new environment.

Two methods are used to prevent

the checking of the sap flow during the transfer, one being that of moving each plant with as much soil as will hang to the roots and the other method called the mudding method is that of shaking the soil off and dipping the roots in a mud bath so as to seal the roots so that while no moisture is available during the transfer, still the process of the flow of water or sap through the plant can be renewed just as soon as they are set in the ground. In both instances, the tops of the plants should be sprinkled, if possible, occasionally and should be kept from the sun and wind. Neither should they be packed closely together as they will scald or cook just like green hay in the barn or stack.

Just as soon as the planting is in the ground the roots should be flooded and the tops should be kept sprayed as much as possible. During the transfer, however, it is not best to apply water to the roots as that tends to wash the soil off from the fine roots.

Shrubs with fine root systems, a lot of fine roots near the base of the plant, are found to move much better, because they hold the soil well and because a much larger proportion of the roots system is retained in the digging process. Some bushes, as the honeysuckle which is very rank in growth, weedy we call them, do not move well at all as the sap flows so freely and evaporates so quickly when they are dug out of the ground.

We find a few sorts which had best not be moved at all when in full leaf, the hydrangea P. G., the elders, and all roses and the althea. The syringas (mock orange) have coarse roots and will drop the foliage if moved this way, but will readily throw new leaves as they are very woody and sturdy.

Let us name several of our common bushes which can be easily moved now or later. You can succeed with V. H. Spirea, Frobella, A. W. Thunbergii, Arguta, Colossa Alba Spireas, Barberry, Privets except Ibotas, Forsythia, Philadelphia, and you can do fairly well with members of the Cornus and Viburnum groups.

MOVING PERENNIALS NOW AND LATER

The moving of the perennial plants is generally managed by carrying along plenty of soil. This can easily be done since the roots are in smaller clumps and much more compact so that the soil will cling readily. Some plants have such unwieldy bloom stalks that it is necessary to cut off at least part of these top growths.

In fact quite a few sorts cannot be moved at all in midseason, because they are so growthy and do not lend themselves readily to being staked or tied up. Again, other sorts, which have fleshy and sometimes almost woody roots, are very easily moved provided they are given lots of water until they recuperate after the transfer. Ruthless cutting back of the top growth of perennial or hardy plants of any sort

is not good gardening as the plants need the tops during the entire growing period.

During the after-bloom period, plants devote themselves to ripening seed, sending out side suckers, and to the storing of food in the roots for the following year. In all these operations, the stems and foliage are an essential part, just as much needed as a man needs two lungs. Generally speaking, the tops may be cut back to correspond to the portion of the root systems which have been cut off or lost in the digging process.

TRIMMING ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS

There are several things to be accomplished in the trimming of the ornamental shrubs, correcting a too abundant growth, counteracting overcrowding, shaping for the greatest beauty and the removing of dead, crippled or diseased branches.

As soon as a bush has finished blooming, it may be trimmed and it may then form a supply of bloom buds for the next year. It should always be kept in mind to so trim each shrub that it will retain its natural shape and character. In general this can be done if the stems which are to be shortened or removed are cut out down to the ground. You will be cutting the older, the taller, the larger canes and in general, the younger shoots will be retained. Shrubs should be arranged, spaced and trimmed so that the sunlight and air can penetrate and keep them vigorous.

It is possible to cut a shrub back so severely that it will be permanently crippled. This is especially possible in the case of the more hard wooded kinds. Soft wooded bushes may be cut to the ground and will spring up again so quickly that the new stems can hardly support themselves, and will lay over to the ground. Do not trust the trimming of shrubs to amateurs.

NEED MORE HOMES

Survey Shows Reason for Resuming Building at Once

The need for a quick resumption of building was indicated in a survey just completed by Prof. Coleman Woodbury of the institute for economic research of Northwestern university. The Woodbury report was prepared for members of the large scale operations committee of the Hoover conference on home building and home ownership which Prof. Woodbury is assisting. It concerned itself with housing conditions in Chicago, but to an extent, coincided with findings by the Evanston Real Estate board's survey of apartment vacancies.

Present and probable future market conditions, according to Prof. Woodbury, are distinctly favorable to a program of large scale construction of housing for families with annual incomes under \$2,500.

Although there is a surplus in the higher rentals districts, the vacancy percentage in the lower rental but more extensive areas indicates a need for quick resumption of building, according to Prof. Woodbury. His conclusion was that private

Candidate From 13th



Immediately after the passage of the Congressional reapportionment measure in the Legislature last week, Rep. Ralph E. Church of Evanston, a member of the House of Representatives for eight consecutive terms, announced that he will be a candidate in the April primaries for Republican nomination for congress from the new Thirteenth district, which includes Cook county north of Chicago and all of Lake county.

In the primary vote in Evanston last year Mr. Church, who had the endorsement of many civic organizations, including the Legislative Voters league and the Civic Federation of Chicago, received the largest vote cast for re-nomination for representative in the general assembly.

Ralph E. Church is a member of the law firm of Church, Traxler and Kennedy, Chicago. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan and Northwestern law school, and has practiced law 22 years. He is a member of the American legion, American, Illinois and Chicago Bar associations, Masonic, Loyal Order of Moose, Union league, and many other organizations.

capital could safely and profitably be invested in projects similar to the Michigan Boulevard Garden apartments for negroes, built by Julius Rosenwald.

Commenting on the results of his survey, Prof. Woodbury stated that a definite program of such construction, reviving activity in the building industry, would do more toward promoting prosperity than almost any other plan which has been proposed. It would push the industry off dead level, move capital through a basic industry and supply employment.

BUYS COLONIAL HOME

Harold H. Egan, head of Harold H. Egan and company, has purchased the colonial residence at the northeast corner of Ridge avenue and Hill road, Winnetka, from E. Homer Ellis. Mr. Egan formerly lived at 420 Church street, Evanston.