

STUDIES FOR DEGREE

Miss Alice Brainerd of Denver, Colo., has been a guest at the home of Miss Grace C. Roe, 835 Linden avenue, for the past four weeks. While here she is attending Northwestern Summer school, working for her Master's degree. She is a sorority sister of Miss Roe, a member of Sigma Alpha Iota. About August 1, she plans to leave for Denver by train, Miss Roe accompanying her, then motor to Mexico, San Diego, Los Angeles, and up to San Francisco, stopping en route to visit points of interest. Miss Roe expects to be back about August 23.

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HOME AND GARDEN

Is Your Garden
an Afterthought?
Expert Inquires

By Hilbert E. Dahl
(Landscape Architect)

That we are learning how to build attractive homes is attested to by the increasing number of well designed homes, particularly in the class of small houses. We are learning the wisdom and economy of using the experience of the architect in even the simplest structure. But, what of the garden? Are we using the same wisdom in its building? In the present building revival, we think of a cozy home in a pleasant garden and, despite the budget limitations, proceed to build the house first before we give much thought to the garden.

When Madam wishes a new gown does she first purchase the lace and other ornament and then proceed with the selection of a gown with which the ornament may or may not harmonize? Or does she first procure a piece of cloth and then concern herself with the type of gown that will suit the occasion? Nay, verily!—Madam is too astute not to know that if the gown is to match her particular color and personality and be an asset to her individual charm, the gown must first be visualized in her mind. She then selects a gown in accord with her concept, or proceeds to pick a pattern as a guide in selecting material and ornament and in the making of the gown, or, again, she may consult one who specializes in the individual design of gowns.

May Be Lack of Experience

But when Madam wishes a new home set in a garden, is she as alert to the procedure which will secure the harmonious result in an economical manner as she was in attending to the needs of her wardrobe? Too often, unfortunately, she is not! Perhaps Madam is to be excused on the grounds of lack of experience for, whereas a home is built but one or several times in a lifetime, the wardrobe is a matter of seasonal replenishment.

Even as we have learned that the wardrobe must be suited to the personality and to the occasion, and as we have developed a knowledge of how to build houses of good taste, however simple, we must learn how to approach our garden problem if the setting of the house is to reflect good taste and not be an embarrassment either to our budget or to the fine house we have built. The landscaping done as an afterthought is apt to be costly.

Unity Is Imperative

The present revival in building and the needs for wise budgeting renders it necessary that we recognize the unity of the house and grounds—that in building first and later adding such landscaping as may seem necessary, or within our budget, we are not availing ourselves of the opportunities for economies and for attaining a finer result—the opportunities usually uncovered during the process of house building when landscaping is considered before, or at the same time as, the architecture.

Surely, before the house is located, the picture of the completed unity of house and setting should be had as a guide lest the house appear crowded against the street or against the side line, or lest the use, convenience and

Garden Hints

By Dr. J. F. Fonder

Editor's Note: Dr. J. F. Fonder, of Evanston, recognized expert on gardening subjects, brings to these columns for the second successive year his highly instructive and practical suggestions to north shore amateur gardeners. These articles, appearing each week, include information on the general subject of garden planning and care, soil and plant physiology and related subjects. Dr. Fonder is associated with the Caldwell Seed company at 1502 Sherman avenue, Evanston, where he makes his headquarters.

CRAB GRASS DAYS

Again we come to the time of year when crab grass becomes the biggest nuisance on the home grounds. We have looked forward to its coming with dread, knowing that it would ruin the appearance of the lawn which has been attractive all season. Realizing how serious this problem is we wish to renew again the discussion given last year of one means of bringing this pest under control.

We suggested last year that crab grass could be brought under control by persistent raking and clipping the infested areas. Some of those who followed this suggestion were very successful and we are convinced that the degree of success depends upon the thoroughness with which the job is done.

Can Be Controlled

To understand that crab grass can be controlled to a great extent by raking and clipping, it is first necessary to know something of its growth habits. Of most importance is the fact that this grass is an annual, which means that the plants die in the fall and new plants arise the next year from the seed produced the previous year. Crab grass usually germinates in this area the latter part of July but the extreme heat of the past few weeks has given it a good start in some sections. It is very susceptible to injury by low temperatures and is killed by the first frost in the fall.

Cites Two Varieties

There are two varieties of crab grass common to this area but they are so similar in appearance and their habits of growth are so much alike that there is generally no reason for distinguishing between them. Each variety produces light green, flat leaves which in the early stages are about one-fourth inch

enjoyment of the grounds be placed in jeopardy. So often we wish the house had been five or ten feet further over so that we might have had space for a finer garden or other feature! Then, without a landscape plan in the beginning, we just dump or spread the excavated dirt where we think it should be, only to find that it really belongs somewhere else and that its moving cost money. The entire cost of the landscape plan usually is more than covered by such savings as can be effected by having the plan available during building operations as a goal towards which to work.

And so, in the present upturn of building and the growing desire for cozy homes with pleasant and livable surroundings, let us be as astute as is Madam in filling her wardrobe needs, employing competent architectural and landscape taste simultaneously.

wide. The plants grow upright until they have been clipped several times, when they assume a recumbent type of growth in which the leaves and stems grow so close to the ground that the lawn mower passes directly over them. A careful examination of the plants will disclose many fine hairs along the stem or at least at the point on the stem where the leaf leaves the sheath.

As the plants become older the leaves and stems become coarser and creep out from the crown for a distance of six or eight inches. It is at this stage that the greatest damage to the lawn occurs, the creeping stems and leaves forming such a dense mat that the desirable grasses are smothered and killed. Usually about the fifteenth of August seed stems and spikes are produced and the seeds become sufficiently mature during the next two or three weeks to produce new plants the next year. This stage has already been reached in some cases.

One Season Plant

The fact that crab grass plants of this year do not live through the winter to plague the lawn again and that next year's plants must arise from seed is the characteristic which makes possible the control of this grass by raking and clipping. Evidently if all of the seeds in the lawn germinate this summer and if their production is prevented there will be no seeds for a new crop of plants next year. Fortunately it is possible to prevent the production of the seeds but it is probable that all of the seeds present in the lawn will not germinate this season. Therefore, even though no new seeds are produced some will be present next year to give rise to new plants. Therefore, the fight against crab grass must be expected to cover a period of two or three years. It is this fact also which accounts for the presence of some crab grass in the areas which were thoroughly raked last year.

At times it may be advisable to dig out the crab grass but this method is too laborious unless there are only a few plants present. Furthermore, this digs up the lawn and produces spots at a time when the lawn should be green. At other times the infestation may be so heavy that the only logical procedure is to shave the surface layer of soil off and rebuild the lawn. But if the grass is not present in too large a quantity it is easier and much more economical to control it by raking and clipping. Next week a suggestion will be made as to how this can most easily be done.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES

"Truth" will be the subject at the services in First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Wilmette, Sunday morning, July 26, at 11 o'clock, held in the edifice at 1003 Central avenue. Sunday school convenes at 9:45 o'clock.

Miss Mona Gail Kinney of 126 Abingdon avenue, Kenilworth, returned Monday morning from a ten-day stay at Land o' Lakes, Wis., with the Frank Ketchams of Kenilworth. Her sister, Nadine, and Miss Nancy Olson of 320 Sunset road, Winnetka, left the following morning, to visit for ten days at the Eagle river home of some Chicago friends.

Mrs. Paul Cummins and her sister, Kay Wenter, and brother, Frank Wenter, of 1204 Ashland avenue, returned recently from a fortnight's vacation at Balsam Lake, Wis. Mr. Cummins visited them during week-ends.