Garden Talks

Getting Off Early

It will soon be time to start thinking of getting seed sown indoors. Not only can one get the garden off to a much earlier start in this way but one can also grow those tender plants for which our season normally is too short. Supplies for the window box or hanging basket are also produced from seed planted indoors. Such flowers as Cosmos, Marigolds, Zinnias, Petunias, Foliage Plants and in fact practically every thing except Poppies, which do not replant very readily, may be started under glass in March or April and will actually benefit from being moved around a few times before they are placed in their location. Tomatoes, Cabbage, Head Lettuce, Cucumbers, Melons and even a few of the earlier Beets, Carrots and Corn can be started indoors from two to six weeks ahead of the time they would be planted outside. Select a box a couple of inches deep with holes bored in the bottom for drainage, and fill with sand and loam. If such material is not on hand often the nearest greenhouse man will supply some. Moisten the earth and then mark off the rows for the seed about an inch apart. Sow and then cover the box with a piece of sacking or burlap which hastens germination and will also prevent the seeds from being washed out when watered. Get the plants started in a warm, dark cellar and after they have pushed up through the soil remove covering and place in full sunlight about a foot away from the window if it is single or closer if a double sash has been provided. Make sure that your plants are protected on nights when the temperature threatens to drop to zero. If a large quantity of plants are desired it will be necessary to provide a hot bed. This is simply a glass protected bed placed on a pile of fresh horse manure at least eighteen inches deep. The uanure should be allowd to heat up and cool down again before planting. Have the bed face the south with the glass sloping a few inches in the same direction so that rain will run off and the sun's rays may be caught more fully. Water very sparingly in cold weather and then only on bright days. Ventilate a little by raising the sash and keep this open longer as the weather gets warm. Transplant at least once to a cold frame, that is a glass protected bed without horse manure, before the plants are set in their permanent location outside.

Planning the Flower GaGrden

When we come to planning the flower garden, we must adopt a different attitude entirely with regard to the rows than was the case with the vegetables. In very few cases is anything but clump planting advisable. A much better show can be produced where groups of ten plants of one variety are placed together with the smaller sorts, such as Alyssum, Calendulas and similar things at the front, with Hollyhocks, Dahlias, Cosmos, Marigolds and the large Zinnias at the rear. One must guard against clashing colors and also against blind spots. That is, there should be something blooming at all times. In the catalogues will be found listed the different colors, the heights of the plants, and the season of blooming, so that there will be no trouble in laying out our garden well in advance of planting and if we take a little time with our pencil and paper we should have continuous and pleasing bloom from late Spring until frost.

Seed

Although the cost of flower or vegetable seed is of minor importance and is the smallest item taken into consideration by the gardener, one's whole season's work depends absolutely on the quality of the seed used. Generally speaking, there is but one opportunity to plant during the season and if poor seed is used results are certain to be disappointing. The cost of the land, labor, equipment and fertilizer will be lost, as well as the pleasure of growing beautiful flowers and the satisfaction of producing high quality fresh vegetables if good seed which is the foundation of all this, is lacking. It is essential to use good seed and suited to Ontario conditions. A certain rose or a very fine Corn, for instance, may give wonderful results down in Virginia where the climate is much milder or in England where there is little trouble with frost but the same variety, if used here, will not do well. Because of this unalterable condition the gardener is well advised to obtain his supply of seed and plants from those sources which cater to Ontario gardens. Naturally, the seedsmen in the province select their supplies to suit our climate and conditions, and the fact that most of our seed houses have been in business for a generation or more is ample testimony of the suitability of their selections.

"When I was in the war I had a horse shot under me."

"Was it in the night?"

"What do you mean?"

"I thought it might be a nightmare."

A man named Dodgin was recently appointed foreman, but his name was not known to all the men under him. One day he ran across two men smoking in a corner. "Who are you?" asked one of them. "I'm Dodgin, the new foreman," he replied. "So are we. Sit down and have a smoke."

World Wheat King Off On Trip

Herman Trelle, of Wembley, Alberta, world wheat king who won five prizes at Chicago and Toronto last Fall, is here shown with Mrs. Trelle aboard Canadian Pacific liner Empress of France just before sailing from New York, February 3, on a 73-day Mediterranean cruise. At the International Livestock Show at Chicago he took two grand championships and one first prize and third prize for hard winter wheat, demonstrating thereby that he has moved the winter wheat line 700 miles to the north. At the Royal Canadian Winter Show at Toronto he also took a first, making five in all. The trip was presented to Mr. and Mrs. Trelle by E. W. Beatty, chairman and president of the Canadian Pacific Railway, in appreciation of his great work for Canadian agriculture, and for his demonstration that the Peace River country is one of the finest grain-growing regions on the continent. When he reaches Egypt, Mr. Trelle will try out the possibilities of causing wheat grains of the time of King Tut-Ankh-Amen to sprout and will return the compliment by planting some of his choice seeds in Egypt for experimental purposes.

Owl Laffs

A boy earned his first dollar. He put the dollar in the bank, in turn charged a quart of ice cream, some soda, and candy to his dad at the drug store.

Assistant—Have you no account with this store, maam?

Customer—No, but maybe I can arrange matters with your manager.

Assistant (to manager)—A lady of no account to see you, sir.

A girl's complexion doesn't always taste as good as it looks.

Father (after son had taken enormous bite)—Another bite like that and you'll leave the table.

Son—Another bite like that and I'll be through.

Life would be pleasanter for all of us if we didn't have to take sides in so many other peoples' rows.

. . . and Henpeck's inner thoughts at that moment probably were: "Its a great wife if she don't waken."

Mrs. Perkinson—Who's that impressive-looking woman over yonder?

Mr. Pennington—That's Mrs. Illington. She's a very remarkable woman, and they say she commands a very large salary.

Mrs. Perkinson—How does she earn it?

Mr. Pennington—She doesn't earn it. Her husband earns it, and she commands it.

Then there is the Scotchman who took out fire insurance on his cigars.

Just remember this: The poorhouses are chuck full of fellows who thought success was in a distant city and who never looked for it around home. . . Nobody can fight like a coward cornered. . . You might get a better bargain by leading instead of driving it. . . From the late hours some young men keep you'd think they were training to be night watchmen. . . Sometimes a man gets a reputation for being big-hearted when he is just soft-hearted and allows himself imposed on. . . And you may have noticed that the footprints a man leaves behind him on the sands of time are not made with his feet.

PEOPLE WE PREFER TO DODGE:

Book agents.
Distant relatives, with luggage.
Busybodies.
Patronizing plutocrats.
The gossipy women.
Gypsies.
Insurance salesmen.
Automobile salesmen.
Tax collectors.

A modern home today, is one where the two necessities of life are the bread and the Putter.

Suspicious Wife—Where have you been all evening?

Husband—I've been talking business with Tom Baker.

Wife—Yes! And I suppose that is baking powder sprinkled all over your shoulder?

The miniature golf may just fit in with the miniature salary.

THE WAY IT USUALLY HAPPENS

He fell for her, a charming miss,
So lovely and petite;
And, since he fell, we've noticed this—
He can't get on his feet.

How unfortunate that the only people who know how to run the world become authors instead of statesmen. —Richmond News-Leader.

Rhythm

They tell me new methods now govern the Muses,
The modes of expression have changed with the times;
That low is the rank of the poet who uses
The old-fashioned verse with intentional rhymes.
And quite out of date is rhythmical metre;
The critics declare it an insult to art.
But oh! the sweet swing of it, oh! the clear ring of it,
Oh! the great pulse of it, right from the heart,
Art or no art.

I sat by the side of that old poet, Ocean,
And counted the billows that broke on the rocks;
The tide lilted in with a rhythmical motion;
The sea gulls dipped downward in time-keeping flocks.
I watched while a giant wave gathered its forces,
And then on the gray granite precipice burst;
And I knew as I counted, while other waves mounted,
I knew the tenth billow would rhyme with the first.

Below in the village a church-bell was chiming,
And back in the woodland a little bird sang;
And, doubt it who will, yet those two sounds were rhyming,
As out o'er the hill-tops they echoed and rang.
The Winds and the Trees fell to talking together;
And nothing they said was didactic or terse;
But everything spoken was told in unbroken
And beautiful rhyming and rhythmical verse.
So rhythm I hail it, though critics assail it,
And hold melting rhymes as an insult to art,
For oh! the sweet swing of it, oh! the dear ring of it,
Oh! the strong pulse of it, right from the heart,
Art or no art.

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox. Originally printed in Lippincott's Magazine.

"These rugs are the finest obtainable. In material and workmanship they are superior to all other brands on the market. There is absolutely nothing to touch them at the price." "What is the price?" the customer inquired. "Just a moment, madam, and I'll find out for you," said the salesman.

The Irishman had been having a great argument and meant to finish off his opponent once and for all. "The sooner I never see your face again," he said, "the better it will be for both of us when we meet."

Man Has Bigger Brain Than Woman

Face is Gradually Receding While Mind is Expanding

Toronto—The brain of man is increasing in size and power, his cranium is becoming larger, and his face is gradually becoming less prominent, showing a marked tendency to recede backwards beneath the brain case, stated Prof. J. C. B. Grant of the department of anatomy of the University of Toronto during a recent address at an open meeting of the Royal Canadian Institute here.

Over a period of hundreds of centuries, as the brain of man increased in power and capacity, it became larger, stated Prof. Grant. This tendency may be proven by a comparison of the size of the cranial cases of skulls of different stages of man's development.

Professor Grant pointed out that the brain of a man is larger than that of a woman. He did not consider, however, that this could altogether be taken as proof that the mental capacity of the male was just that much greater than that of the female. Brain sizes, he considered, were to a certain extent proportional to the size of the person to which they belonged. He pointed out that the brain of the elephant and of the whale were larger than that of a man, but that this could scarcely be taken as proof that they had greater mental capacity.

The unmistakable tendency of the jaw and of the facial portion of the skull to recede under the brain pan was, in Professor Grant's estimation, a result of the fact that the human face has been relieved of many of its duties by the hands. Lower animals, he explained, must use their jaws to accomplish clumsily many things which a human now does easily with his fingers.

Discussing the ridges, depressions and other phenomena of a skull, Prof. Grant pointed out that the only connection between the face and the backbone is through the medium of the brain case and that the muscles which work the jaws are attached not to the face bones but to the walls of the brain. In consequence, he said, by examining the extent of the areas to which the muscles are attached—and these are usually marked by fairly sharp lines—one can discern accurately the muscular capacity of the skull's late owner. It is by the use of such methods as this, he stated, that deductions as to the nature of primitive man were formed by scientists.

DAY-TO-DAY REPORT OF POTATO MARKET

In order to keep potato growers and shippers more closely in touch with market conditions the Fruit Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture has instituted a day-to-day radio market report service. Staff inspectors of the Department at Montreal, Ottawa, and Toronto wire the salient features of their local market to the Branch at Ottawa at 10.30 each morning. At Ottawa these reports are consolidated and telegraphed to Moncton, N.B., where they are sent out through the courtesy of radio station CNRA during the noon hour broadcast.

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Humility

It is as one who stands by the margin of a lake, and gazes on his own image close beneath him; conceive this contemplator of himself borne gradually aloft towards the heavens, and the image which he still beholds as he soars will deepen in proportion as he rises.—Archer Butler.

Leisure is quite intolerable except in fairly small doses.—Aldous Huxley.

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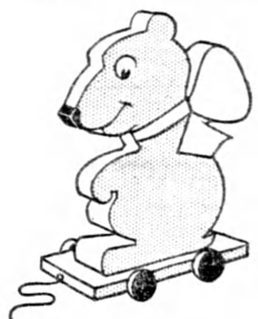

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