The GREEN THUMB

by Gordon Smith

There's probably no more favorable time of year than August for starting biennial or perennial flowers. This is chiefly because so much fresh seed is now available, for freshness is a most important factor in obtaining good germination for these two groups of plants.

Seeds of biennials will germinate almost immediately after being gathered, unlike the seed of annual flowers which is generally better for being stored a few months.

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Pansies, sweet william, canterbury bells, English daisies and foxgloves are all biennials easily grown; and seed sown now will provide young plants ready to be moved to garden locations in about two months. They will flower next year, but hollyhocks require two full years.

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It is almost impossible to estimate the number of seeds or keys that will fall from even one maple tree in a single summer. And the seedlings that grow from these seeds, and those of other trees such as the elm, add greatly to the gardener's task of weeding and cultivating.

One of the places were they give a lot of trouble is around a hedge. Unless the tree seedlings are removed, your hedge can be ruined by them. When the seedlings are only two or three inches tall it is fairly easy to uproot them; but when they get past this stage there is little that can be done about them as cutting merely stimulates more vigorous growth.

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Each season a few new tools are introduced which even the experienced gardener welcomes. One such is a cutter-holder that can be used for gathering flowers and for light pruning. It is made of aluminum, is eighteen inches long, and can be used with one hand. A push lever, worked by the thumb, works the razor cutter and the holder at the other end. Stems are cut cleanly, not crushed, which is an advantage with such flowers as roses.

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A combined hoe and cultivator is handy in dealing with the inevitable weeds. One of the newer ones has a three-prong cultivator and a narrow bladed hoe. Either tool can be brought into use by a flip of the wrist; and although quite light, it will do most of the weeding and cultivating in a fair-sized garden.

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Watering and fertilizing can be done at the same time with some of the new-type sprinklers. They feature a glass container in which any soluble fertilizer, lawn weed killer or insecticide can be mixed with water. The sprayer may be used for watering only, if you so desire.

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A new addition to the list of sprayers is one mounted on wheels with a boom on which three nozzles are mounted. This sprayer is used for applying 2, 4-D weed killers. It is simply filled, the tank pumped up, and wheeled back and forth over the lawn.

* * *

"Every time I go into a garden where the man or woman who owns it has a passionate love of the earth and of growing things, I find I have come home. In whatsoever land or clime or race, in whatsoever language, we speak a common tongue; the everlasting process of earth bind us one, stronger than League or Covenant can ever bind"

—Marion Cran.

New Arrivals—More than 200 Dutch immigrants had their first look at Toronto, when they arrived in Union Station en route to farms in Ontario. Left above, the children of Mr. and Mrs. Hendrick Griffioen dig into the cookies offered by Ruth Barclay of the Red Cross Corps. The Griffioens are headed for Embro, Ont. At right, guarding the family possessions is young Walter van der Heijden from Beek En Donk, Holland.

With the Movie And Radio Folks

By Grace Sharp

It's is rumored that Hollywood is getting ready to start a big anti-daylight saving campaign early next year. Movie bigwigs are convinced that shoving the clocks an hour ahead wrecks summer theatre attendances, and are said to be willing to spend plenty of money for lobbying purposes.

* * *

Radio folks are having attendance troubles too. The big networks are having plenty of trouble getting big enough studio audiences for dramatic, comedy or musical shows. What people want tickets for, these days, are the "give-away" programs where they will have a chance to win a refrigerator or some such.

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A film version of Lloyd C. Douglas's sensational best-seller, "The Robe" has long been expected and the latest word is that it will go into production shortly. Gregory Peck is slated for the leading role with Joan Fontaine a strong probability for the feminine lead. It is to be a four million dollar affair, with Maxwell Anderson doing the script.

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Although the Rexall people are replacing Jimmie Durante with the Phil Harris- Alice Faye show, it did not take "Schnozzola" long to find another sponsor. He'll be on the air for Camel cigarettes again on Friday evenings.

Most of the top-flight movie stars have been "ducking" television; but now that Ronald Coleman has taken the plunge there will no doubt be plenty to follow his lead. Colman has signed up to do a series of 26 half-hour films that are to be made especially for television. Half the stories will be by Dickens, the others by Robert Louis Stevenson.

* * *

This happened while they were filming a scene for "Loser Take All" or anyway the publicity man says it did. In the scene Anna Lee furiously polishes her silverware to mask her agitation as she berates Edgar Buchanan for deserting her eight years before.

It's a pathetic scene, all right, but when an assistant camerman broke down and wept, the director told him to get a grip on himself. "After all," he said, "it's just a picture so don't take it so hard." "Why, I feel fine," said the camera man, "It's that I never could stand silver polish with amonia in it."

TABLE TALKS

by Jane Andrews.

What are known as "low acid" vegetables, if improperly canned, are far more likely to spoil than fruits,, so it's of the utmost importance to follow the rules with the greatest of care. General rules, covering all the following varieties are—Use young and tender vegetables, and can them quickly while fresh. Wash them thoroughly but do not soak. When filling containers have vegetables as near boiling as possible. If the vegetables are to be packed in hot cooking liquid and there isn't enough of that liquid, use boiling water.

Snap Beans

Wash, trim ends, and cut into 1-inch pieces. Cover with boiling water, and boil 5 minutes.

Glass Jars: Pack hot to ½ inch of top. Cover with hot cooking liquid. Leave ½-inch head space. Add ½ teaspoon salt to pints; 1 teaspoon to quarts. Adjust jar lids. Process pints 20 minutes, quarts 25 minutes, at 10 pounds pressure (240 deg. F.).

Beets

Cut off tops, leaving taproot and 1 inch of stem. Cover with boiling water; boil 15 to 20 minutes, or until skins slip easily. Skin and trim. Can baby beets whole; medium or large beets cut in ½-inch slices, halved or quartered, if necessary.

Glass Jars: Pack hot to ½ inch of top. Cover with boiling water. Leave ½-inch head space. Add ½ teaspoon salt to pints; 1 teaspoon to quarts. Adjust jar lids. Process pints 25 minutes, quarts 55 minutes, at 10 pounds pressure.

Carrots

Wash, scrape and slice or dice. Cover with boiling water, and boil 5 minutes.

Glass Jars: Pack hot to ½ inch of top. Cover with hot cooking liquid. Leave ½-inch headspace. Add ½ tablespoon salt to pints; 1 teaspoon to quarts. Adjust jar lids. Process pint jar 20 minutes, quarts 25 minutes, at 10 pounds pressure.

Whole Kernel Corn

Shuck, silk and wash. Cut corn from cob. Add 1 pint of boiling water to each quart of corn. Heat to boiling.

Glass Jars: Pack hot to 1 inch of top, dividing hot cooking liquid among the jars. Leave 1-inch head space. Add ½ teaspoon salt to pints; 1 teaspoon to quarts. Adjust jar lids. Process pints 55 minutes, quarts 85 minutes, at 10 pounds pressure.

Green Peas

Shell and wash. Cover with boiling water. Bring to boil.

Glass Jars: Pack hot to 1 inch of top. Cover with boiling water. Leave 1-inch head space. Add ½ teaspoon salt to pints; 1 teaspoon to quarts. Adjust jar lids. Process pint and quart jars 40 minutes at 10 pounds pressure.

Summer Squash

Wash; do not peel. Trim ends, and cut into ½-inch slices, halved or quartered to make uniform-sized pieces. Add just enough water to cover; bring to a boil.

Glass Jars: Pack hot to ½ inch of top. Cover with hot cooking liquid. Leave ½-inch head space. Add ½ teaspoon salt to pints; 1 teaspoon to quarts. Adjust jar lids. Process pints 30 minutes, quarts 40 minutes, at 10 pounds pressure.

New, — And All Of Them Useful

Self-Powered Telephone. Although primarily designed for use on oil-tankers, or in plants making explosives or chemicals where standard phones present hazards, this telephone can be used as a communication system on farms and to provide service in isolated districts where commercial power is not available. Will talk and ring up to a distance of 20 miles.

Aluminum Identification Cards. You can prove who you are beyond a doubt as these featherweight aluminum cards carry all important identifying data, including the bearer's photograph and signature. Space also provided for complete physical description, as well as addresses and telephone numbers. Useful when cashing checks, establishing credit or in emergencies.

Personal Protectograph. Designed to make scientific check protection available to private individuals as easily as to business firms. Operates like its full-sized counterpart, shredding check amount into fiber in indelible ink, making alteration impossible without destroying entire check.

Rat Water Trap. For thousands of years rats have been lured with food, until they're food-wary. But they always need water, sometimes desperately. This new trap, made of rust proof metal, takes advantage of this need. It can also be used with conventional food bait.

Heat Saving Screen. New fireplace screen has venetian-blind-type glass louvers and is claimed to eliminate smoke and triple the amount of heat radiated into the room.

Plastic Car Lens. Amber fog lens for automobile headlights made of plastic. Suction cup holds the detachable lens in place.

Fan Lamp. Combination fan and floor lamp with the electric fan concealed within the shade of the lamp.

CHRONICLES OF GINGER FARM

by Gwendoline P. Clarke

This is Sunday, and after dinner Partner and I were all set for a nice, quiet afternoon—which we both needed. We had it—for about half-an-hour! After that brief period of peace, Tippy barked, voices shouted, and cows moo-ed and bellowed. The boys were both away so Partner ran out in slipperless feet to see what it was all about, and I soon followed. We found all our cows out in the front hayfield from whence, if they were not prevented, they could wander on to the road. Either they had managed to nose open the gate themselves or someone had left it open. John, going by in his car saw what had happened, so he and his chum drove in and were busy chasing the cows when we heard them. Once the cows were back in the yard Partner took over and drove them back to the bush pasture where they belonged. But would they stay there? Not a bit of it. "That alfalfa in the hayfield tasted pretty good," they thought. "Perhaps we could snitch another feed." So, hopefully, down the lane they came again, but when they found the gate shut . . . oh my, such bawling you never heard. Of course it wasn't long before Partner was out again and he and Tippy chased them up the back lane once more.

* * *

Presently I said to myself—"Those cows will never stay there; they will keep up that bawling all the afternoon and there will be no peace for anyone." So here I am, sitting on a tree stump in the pasture, herding the cows. That way, Partner, at least, will get a little peace. Twice since I have been sitting here the cows have made a bee-line for the gate but each time I got there first.

* * *

It is nice up here; in fact, it is no real hardship to stay here at all—except that a tree stump is not the softest thing in the world to sit on. The view is lovely—trees and fields and farm houses nestling here and there until the scenery as a whole merges into the background of "The Mountain" and the dark green of its evergreens. Not only that but as far as the eye can see there is wheat—ripe, rich and golden, all just about ready for the binder—and still standing straight and tall. That is what we are so thankful for—it could so easily have been flattened by wind or heavy rains, which would have meant so much more work for the farmers—and so much loss for their pockets. Last Friday we had a wonderful rain—it did much good to the gardens and yet no harm to the crops.

* * *

Right where I am sitting is all that remains of our bush—twenty-six trees in all—and under the shade of its elms and oaks the cows are now standing around peacefully chewing their cud. Laurence is the only one lying down and taking life easy! Ah, now they are heading this way again . . . excuse me a minute while I change their minds for them. Thank you . . . that's better.

* * *

Just imagine, by the time this column is printed my friend will have arrived from England. That is, if she doesn't get cold feet at the last minute—and I don't think she will. Thirty long years since we have seen each other—and thirty years is a long time for friendship to survive by correspondence, especially when even our letters have been haphazard and irregular. And yet, in spite of that, we have always been so sure of each other, always knowing that each would be welcome at the home of the other should the opportunity arise. We were the kind of friends who could sit for hours, if we felt like it, and never say a word. We used to scrap occasionally but I cannot recall a serious quarrel at any time—there were never "hurt" feelings because this or that was said.

It is going to be fun watching Cicely's reactions to Canadian life. Like most English people she has entirely wrong ideas about life on this side of the water. She is very excited about the trip. Every few days I get an airmail letter with original illustrations of herself flying, or the two of us meeting at Matlon airport. Neither of us has ever mentioned any possible risk in coming by air. After all, why think of it, when the proportion of accidents is so slight. I would imagine the odds for getting killed are far greater when driving a car through Sunnyside between five and six o'clock at night! "Suicide Stretch," one of our friends calls it.

Co-Stars With Mother—Although she is only seven weeks old, Candice Briskin acts like a veteran as she poses for her first picture with her movie star mother, Betty Hutton. Miss Hutton is the wife of Ted Briskin, camera manufacturer. They have another daughter, Lindsay Diane, 20 months.

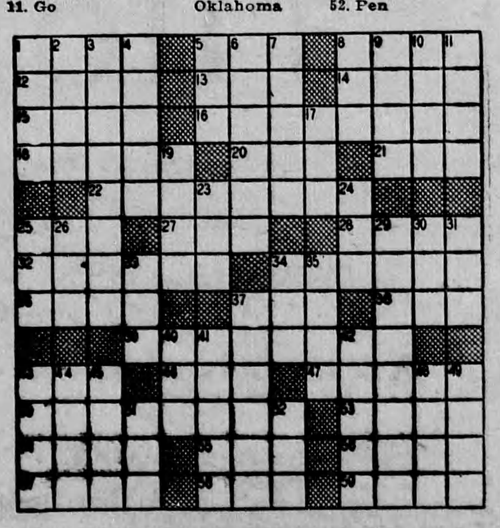
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1. Ready money
5. Dervish's cap
8. In a line
12. Drug-yielding plant
13. Fuss
14. Garment
15. Variable star
16. Gift
18. Man's nickname
20. Shred
21. Guided
22. Porcupine
25. Copy
27. Aurora
28. Open court
32. Crevice
34. Go away
36. Small bird
37. Study
38. Turmeric
39. Excessively demonstrative
43. Faint
46. Extended
47. Ventured
48. Works
49. Father
54. Ceremony
55. Corrode
56. Heroic
57. Vehicle on runners
58. Crafty
59. Search

DOWN

1. Mechanical parts
2. Dismounted
3. Disgruntled person (slang)
4. Rise and fall
5. Dream
6. Worships
7. Person who brings bad luck
8. Skill
9. Vex
10. Wind instrument
11. Go
17. By
19. Paradise
23. Non-Jewish person
24. Opening
25. Deed
26. Golf instructor
29. Kind of onion
30. Before
31. Luzon native
33. American humorist
34. Dowry
35. City in Oklahoma
37. Wedge-shaped
40. Brother
41. Goddesses of destiny
42. Flower containers
43. Beetles
44. Pacific island tree
45. Measure
48. Canal in New York state
49. Array
51. Color
52. Pen



Answer to This Puzzle Will Appear Next Week

R	E	S		S	P	E	A	R		T	E	A
A	R	C		N	O	R	S	E		A	A	R
P	R	A	L	I	N	E		Q	U	I	T	E
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S	Y	E		D	I	N	E	R		Y	O	N

Answer to Last Week's Puzzle

PENNY

By Harry Haenigsen