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BEAUTIFYING WEEDS

Cultivating weeds for their beauty and marketable value seems a definite departure from the classification which man has placed upon the earth; but that is exactly what a graduate of Stanford University, is now doing in Los Angeles. Furthermore, he has built a business during the last four years which is a credit to the constructive idea upon which it is based.

The very weeds which men who till the soil have spent time and money in measuring, trying to destroy, are now being beautified by the decorative processes, and are making charming accompaniments to floral arrangements and decorations.

The unlimited scope of this new industry runs from tiny gift-pots, plaques, and beautiful arrangements attached in front of mirrors to elaborate requirements of ball rooms, clubs and theatres.

This business was started about four years ago in a small garage building, with the experimental tinting of laurel and Eucalyptus branches. Almost immediately these became popular with decorators, and the related ideas began to unfold to create a new art. Space for working soon became a problem and in a few months the building was made larger—more buildings were utilized and now the new factory is opened.

Last year more than 40 tons of tinted Eucalyptus went out of the plant, while lovely interesting decorations are made from Baker grass, justice caspia, cat-tails, lotus pods, pampas grass, dock, mullein stalks, double wood, yarrow, screw beans, cotton grass, furs-tial, Brazilian berries, teasel burrs, cockle burrs, bottle grass, bearded wheat, and many more. Materials are finished in many shades with plain, metallic, or glitter finish.

This business is an outstanding example of reversing man's revolution of things and the possibility of building a constructive business in the midst of so-called unemployment.

SOME INTERESTING TRAPSHOOTING FACTS

The Toronto Gun Club, flourishing members, was the first pigeon shooting club in the Dominion.

Until clay-pigeon targets superseded live birds, gun clubs usually retained the services of a veterinary surgeon.

The clay-pigeon was invented by Jack Trotter of the Winnipeg Gun Club.

Alex. Weiner, a prominent athlete of the time and a member of the Toronto Gun Club, was the first Canadian to break one-hundred clay-layers in succession. Weiner ran out the century in 1888.

The present world's record run is held by Joe Hiestend, 32-year-old farmer of Hillsboro, Ohio, who completed a run of 1,179 targets broken in succession on September 4, 1938.

In 1900 Harold Bates, of Ridgetown, became the only Canadian ever to win the Grand American, then and now considered the World's Championship.

The first Canadian skeet field was opened at the St. Croix Gun Club, St. Stephen, N.B. in 1929.

There are now over seventy-five skeet clubs in Canada, with a total active membership of approximately 3,000.

In winning the 1938 Dominion Marksmen Dominion Trapshooting Competition, the Saskatoon Gun Club became the first ever to win a nationally representative tournament.

APPLE EXPORTS INCREASE

Canadian apples exported to the British market during the current season, up to October 12, amounted to 500,000 barrels and 512,000 boxes, an increase of 52 per cent on boxes and of 25 per cent on barrels, compared with the corresponding period of last season.

The Poetry Hour

By MARCIA DENMORE Wheeler Syndicate, Inc. WNU Service.

ARLINE breathed a sigh of relief when the door of the den was safely shut. For the twelfth successive Monday her aunt had allowed her to clean this room promptly at 10 o'clock without question. And, though, in the bitter round of Arline's overworked days, it was no such treat to clean a room, the den was different. For here was the radio. And here, at ten on Mondays, March conducted his poetry hour.

The newspapers liked to make a bit of a mystery of March. No one knew who he was. Even the radio people professed ignorance of his real identity.

"This morning," the clear, beautiful voice began, "at the request of one of my audience who, like myself, prefers to conceal her identity, I am going to share with you some of the most beautiful sonnets in the English language."

"Arline!" The girl sprang to her feet, trembling. "So this is how you work! Using up my radio! Get to work now! Your uncle has an important con-

SHORT SHORT STORY

Complete in This Issue

ference tonight." The great diamonds on her aunt's fingers glittered wickedly. Arline had long since ceased to wonder why Mrs. Solls wore all her jewels even in the morning.

"Eleven o'clock! Arline slipped from her chair with a sharp gasp of dismay. She had forgotten her uncle's conference. How could she slip upstairs without being heard?"

Then the little red-and-gold book almost slid from her fingers. From behind the davenport by the window came an unmistakable sneeze. Fear held her rigid.

"Who is there?" she stammered. After a moment of silence, a rather sheepish young man unfolded himself and stood before her. "Does my uncle know you're here?"

"I hope not." Arline's fingers tightened on the back of the chair. Her eyes were wide. It was his voice! It was March!

"What do you want?" she gasped. "I had planned to see your uncle."

He glanced swiftly toward the door. There was no mistaking that furtive look. He had no honest business here. In a dreadful moment of understanding, Arline knew why he had kept his identity secret.

"My aunt's diamonds—did your errand concern them?" The young man's eyes hardened. He regarded her for a moment, speculatively.

"In a way, yes," he admitted. "Then it's no use," Arline told him bravely. "She wears them day and night." The young man did not move.

Oh, why didn't he go? Arline flushed with shame. She was protecting a criminal, just because she liked to hear him read poetry. On a sudden impulse, she thrust the book into his hands.

"See what I've been reading? I wrote you that letter!—Now, won't you go?"

For a long moment the man stared down at the book, a deep flush rising in his face.

"You wrote that letter—his niece?" He jerked his head toward the door. Arline bit her lip at the memory of her uncle's hard eyes, his grim mouth.

"He's hard," she replied, "but he's good." She tried to make that last phrase an accusation, but she was ashamed of the lack of enthusiasm in her tone.

The young man started and stared at her.

"Look here," he protested. "If he's good, then what am I?" He read the answer in her miserable eyes. "I see. I'm a thief and a robber, but I have a lovely voice!"

Arline never replied to that. For on a sudden the door burst open and her uncle appeared on the threshold. March's hand dropped swiftly into his pocket. Upstairs there was a shot.

The next moment the room was plunged into darkness. Somewhere, amidst a crashing of glass, her uncle and March were grappling fiercely.

Then suddenly it was all over. Half fainting in her chair, Arline knew dimly that her uncle, and the other men, too, were being led off by a squad of policemen.

"You didn't get hurt, did you?" It was March, bending over her solicitously.

"But who—who are you?" gasped Arline. "I'm a detective," admitted March. "I was supposed to hear what went on upstairs tonight, but my plans were almost ruined by a girl." He smiled down at her.

"But aren't you March? If you aren't—what I thought—why don't you tell your real name?" A pensive look crossed March's friendly face, and he sighed.

"Reason enough! Don't you know that the biggest joke outside a comic strip is a cop who likes poetry?"

Growing Rhubarb in Winter Months

It is interesting to know that a supply of fresh rhubarb stalks may be made available from January to the following Spring by forcing in the cellar for fresh growth during the winter months. The procedure is explained in a circular issued by the Dominion Department of Agriculture.

A few good sized crowns or pieces cut off the plants in the garden will furnish enough forced stalks for family. As the crowns or plants from which the stalks are to be forced have received the necessary nourishment during the season, it is not necessary to plant them in soil in the cellar, although this may be found the most convenient material in which to put the plants, as the roots must be kept moist for best results.

The roots are dug up just before winter sets in and before being put in the cellar they are left out to freeze solidly. An exposure to frost from ten days to two weeks is desirable, as roots force more quickly afterwards if they have been frozen. Next, the plants are set close together in the cellar, either in boxes or on the floor, they may remain in total, or almost total, darkness while being forced, as without light the colour of the rhubarb is a very attractive shade of pinkish red.

The one lot of plants will continue to throw up stalks for six weeks or two months, or until the roots are exhausted. To ensure a continuous supply, some roots may be kept frozen and not put in the warm cellar until stalks from the first lot are ready for use. The temperature in the cellar should not be high. Between 50 to 60 degrees Fahrenheit is a good range, and rhubarb will force at even lower temperature, though more slowly.

OBITUARY

HERBERT A. LOCKE

For the past twenty-seven years associated with division court offices, Herbert A. Locke, senior assistant inspector of legal offices for Ontario, died Saturday at his residence, 18 Lynwood Ave., Toronto. He was in his fifty-seventh year. He was well known in sports circles. Son of the late Rev. and Mrs. Robert S. Locke, he was born at Norval, Ont. He received his early education at St. Catharines, where he moved when a boy, and subsequently graduated from the University of Toronto. He was one of the oldest members of the Toronto Skating Club, and in his younger day an enthusiastic member of the Toronto Tennis Club. He was also a member of the Big Bay Point Golf and Country Club and the Ionic Lodge, A. F. & A. M. Active in the Church of St. Alban the Martyr, he was a member of the Parish Council, and for many years had served as sidesman. Surviving are his widow, Irene Anthes Locke, and four daughters, Betty, Rene, Audrey and Miriam.

Abbie: "Nowadays everything is done by machinery." Key: "Well, I dunno, talking is still done by hand."

MODERN ETIQUETTE

1. When an invitation is received over the telephone, is it all right for one to say, "I shall let you know this evening, or to-morrow?"

Ans.: Never. This invitation must be accepted or declined without a moment's hesitation. A pause of even two or three seconds is bad form.

2. Should a man remove his hat when in the elevator of a hotel or an office building, when a woman enters?

Ans.: He should do so in a hotel elevator, but it is not necessary in an office building or shop.

3. When passing a plate for a second helping, should one leave the knife and the fork on the plate?

Ans.: Yes. Under no circumstances should silver be placed on the table cover.

4. Should a young man, engaged to be married, resent it if the girl's father asks him questions pertaining to his financial affairs, business position, and health?

Ans.: No. The father has a perfect right to be concerned about everything that might affect the happiness of his daughter.

5. Is it discourteous when one is talking with a person, for this person to show a lack of interest in what is being said?

Ans.: Yes. This is one of the most frequent acts of discourtesy. To be a good listener is one of the surest ways to gain friends, and is just as important as to be a good speaker.

6. When a woman and her escort enter a theatre, and an usher is at the entrance of the aisle, which one should be first to follow the usher?

Ans.: The usher goes first, then the woman, and last her escort. If there is no usher, the man should go first.

7. Please mention about six of the most common forms of rudeness for either a husband or wife to be guilty of, when the other is entertaining friends at home.

Ans.: Refuse to talk, refuse to smile, appear bored, fall asleep, leave the room abruptly, sit and read.

8. Is it poor form to use the expression "Gents"?

Ans.: Yes. It is very poor form. It is no more correct than "ladies" would be for "ladies."

9. Should a hostess always rise when a guest is leaving, as well as arriving?

Ans.: Yes, always, and whether the guest be a man or a woman. It is exceedingly discourteous if she does not.

10. Is it all right for a man to give a woman an article of wearing apparel, as a gift?

Ans.: Not unless the woman is his mother, sister, or a close relative.

11. How long should a hostess wait for a guest who is late for dinner?

Ans.: No longer than fifteen minutes.

12. Is it proper to address a wedding invitation to "Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Brown and Family"?

Ans.: No. The words "and Family" are no longer used. An invitation should be sent to Mr. and Mrs. Brown, and a separate invitation to each other member of the family.

CANADIAN MACARONI

The quality of Canadian macaroni on the British market brings prestige to the Dominion, states the Canadian Trade Commissioner at Bristol, England. Due to its popularity, there are enquiries from time to time from distributors of food products who wish to act as direct representatives of a Canadian manufacturer. For the 12 months ended March, 1938, exports of macaroni from Canada to the United Kingdom amounted to 5,662,571 lbs., valued at \$312,945. For the previous 12 months, the amount was 4,768,077 pounds, valued at \$251,195.

Don't lose gladness! Every-hour blooms for you some happy flower. Though be foiled your plan, Don't lose faith in God and man. —Anon.

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