

## ANOTHER EXCERPT FROM EGAN PAPERS

### Says Cardinal Flower of Swamp Takes Kindly to Cultivation; Details

Following is another selection from the writings of the late William C. Egan of Highland Park. The topic of this paper is "The Cardinal Flower":

"The Cardinal flower (Lobelia Cardinalis) of our swamps takes kindly to cultivation and may grace the borders or enjoy the more damp open situations in the wilder parts of our grounds. If one wants to see an unusually fine display in the border certain conditions must be adhered to. Many of my plants this season were four to five feet tall, possessing from 20 to 30 side blooming branches—one plant had 38.

"If we study a plant in its native haunts, considering its surroundings, and the conditions under which it thrives, we may obtain hints as to what course to pursue when it is brought in to our borders. Acting upon the information gained often assures success.

#### Shallow-Rooted

"The Cardinal flower is shallow rooted, and like all plants of similar character, does not like to have the sun beating down upon its roots. It even endeavors to protect itself by a growth of rosetted leaves at its base; but, in addition to this, in its natural habitat, the foliage of the adjoining grasses shades it.

"I grow the plants as biennials, because they do not always winter well. It often happens that plants which look fairly well when first uncovered in the spring die when exposed to the sun and winds. If cut, allow the melting snow and rains to enter and often causes a rot at the root that extends to the young plants clustered at its base. Place some leaves over the roots and hold them in place by perennial tops cut from the flower border. In the swamps their tops are never cut unless man with a scythe is after slough grass. I sowed the seed in February in the greenhouse, planting the seedlings in May on the north side of a solid board fence, giving them the ordinary watering any plant would have in dry times. Here they have the required shade, and by fall they have made fine plants. They are then placed in a cold frame and transferred in the spring to their blooming quarters.

"About the middle of June I place over their roots, and for about six inches beyond them, a three inch mulch of well rotted manure. If the manure is "strawy" and looks untidy, an inch of soil is added. The ordinary watering that all my beds get in dry times is all they ask."

At an evening party the guests were asked to take a part in a game in which everybody was to make a face, the one who made the worst face to win the prize. It seemed as if all did their worst. Then the judge went up to one woman who was sitting off in one corner.

"Madam," said he, "I think you have won the prize. Allow me to—"  
"Excuse me," she said, haughtily. "I wasn't playing!"

## Increase in Waukegan Population Permits Official Salary Raise

Members of Waukegan's next city council, to be elected next year, will be eligible to a raise of \$1,000 apiece in their salaries as a result of the recent census, it was learned today.

The provisions for the salaries of the mayor and the commissioners are incorporated in the state statutes governing municipal corporations.

These statutes provide that a city of 15,000 population and not over 20,000 may pay its mayor not over \$2,000 and its commissioners not over \$1,700. That was the salary rate received by Waukegan's council until four years ago, when the city census showed that Waukegan was well over the 20,000 mark. At that time, the scale provided for cities of over 20,000 and not over 30,000 was adopted, and this scale is still current. It gives the mayor a maximum of \$2,500 and the council members a maximum of \$2,000.

The statutes provide, however, that when a city is 30,000 and not over 40,000, the salaries may be \$3,500 for the mayor and \$3,000 for the commissioners. These figures do not include salaries received by the council members as members of the board of local improvements, which would bring the total salary for the mayor and commissioners under the new census figures to \$4,700 and \$4,200.

The salaries do not apply automatically, and they are not a set scale in the Illinois statutes. The statute merely provides that the raise may be voted, and provides that it shall not exceed a set figure. It does not make that figure a mandatory one.

## Report Plans Under Way for New Theatre at Libertyville, Ill.

While plans are still in the formative stage entirely, it is reported that there is possibility of the erection of a \$200,000 theater arcade and six store building on the site of the old Heath residence on the west side of Milwaukee avenue in the heart of the business district in Libertyville.

Reports at Libertyville state that J. Meyer, Waukegan tobacco merchant, Nathan Slepian, manager of the LaVilla theatre, at Libertyville and his brother, who manages the Sheridan theater in North Chicago, are the backers of the plan, according to a Waukegan newspaper.

Reports state that the tentative plans call for a \$200,000 building of the arcade type which will include a theater of modern design with seats for 300 patrons, while the front of the building would include six stores as well as the theater foyer.

The old Heath residence is considered an ideal location for the building and as the property has been in a run down condition for a number of years, would add greatly to the appearance of the down town section of Libertyville.

William B. Smith, father of States Attorney A. V. Smith, died at his home, 410 Hickory street, Waukegan recently. Mr. Smith was 78 years old.

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