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**Plant  
this  
Fall!**



and assure successful  
growth next spring!

FALL is the ideal time to plant nearly all varieties of trees and shrubs. Then plants are dormant, the soil workable and the ample fall rains pack the earth firmly about the roots so they are ready to respond to the first growing urge of spring.

To delay planting until next spring may mean the loss of a full season—plant this fall!

We will be glad to help you select exactly the right varieties to give the effect you desire. Call, phone or write our advice is free.



**CHARLES FIORE**  
Specialists in  
**Landscape Gardening**  
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**ANOTHER EXCERPT  
FROM EGAN PAPERS**

**Gasplant, Iris and Knotweed  
Are Discussed in This Article; Is Interesting**

Following is another excerpt from the papers of the late W. C. Egan, entitled "Gasplant, Iris and Knotweed":

Every pretentious country estate should possess a well established gasplant, not the modern one, strung like a bead on a corporation line of public utilities, but the old fashioned one that delighted our grandmothers in the days of long ago, one that thrives without a meter and gives out its gas free of cost.

Such is *Dictamnus albus* (*D. Fraxinella*), bearing the common names of Dittany, Burning-bush, and Gasplant. The more recent introduction, the variety *caucasicus*, also known as *D. grandiflora*, is a stronger grower, producing larger flower spikes.

Both are exotic species and to my mind should not be included in the wild planting, as their form and general appearance are not in keeping with the usual aspects of our native plants. If so used one would imagine at once that they were intruders "escaped from cultivation," as the botanists would say.

Their place in the border, informal planting and for dwarf hedges. In either situation the Gasplant is a most admirable herb, perfectly hardy, long-lived, possessing a foliage of

rich, glossy green that remains bright and fresh up to frost, and requiring no insect powder to keep it tidy.

The books say—and they do not always tell the truth, but I hope this article does—that it thrives as well in the shade as in the sun. My experience does not coincide with this statement. I have a hedge of it some 50 feet long, which is partly shaded by a large spreading Hawthorn whose branches reach over it but are fully six to seven feet above the ground. There is plenty of diffused light over the plants, but no direct sun-light until late in the afternoon. The plants where shaded are fully eight to 10 inches lower in height and the flower spikes shorter and the foliage is not as luxuriant, as of those in full sun. I have seen the same result in other places.

The Gasplant makes an effective herbaceous hedge in open sunny situations. When in bloom—June and July—on well established plants, the flower spikes, which are held well above the foliage, will reach a height of three feet. The spikes on *D. caucasicus* are some six inches wide at the base, tapering to a point a foot or more above. Had I anything to do with the paint pot when this flower was given its color I would have made it a more pleasing pink. The white form is fine. When in bloom the plant possesses the stateliness and dignity of the Lupines and the Foxgloves.

When the flowers fade the bloom stalks should be cut well back, back

a few inches below the main height of foliage, and just above a leaf stalk, thus leaving no stub to die back and turn brown. You will then have a compact if well-grown, glossy green hedge about two feet tall and almost as even in contour as if sheared. A little sheep manure worked into the soil every other spring is a great help to the plants.

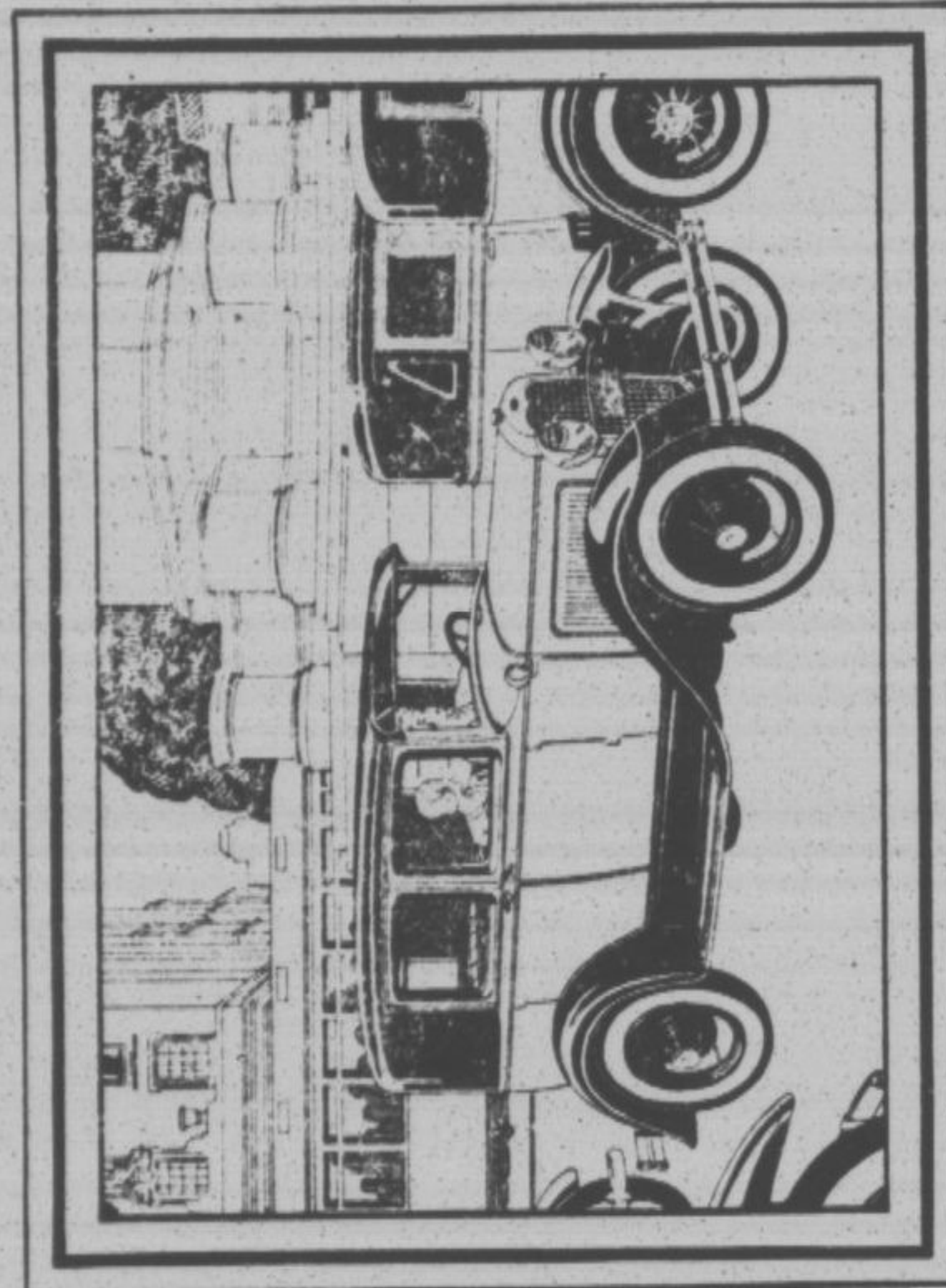
So far I have been doing all the "gassing." Let us give the plant a chance to show why it received its name.

Again I must find fault with the books. All that I have read when speaking of this plant, state, "it is said that if a lighted match be applied to the flowers, a gas will ignite." I tried it for over 20 years and almost impoverished myself on wasted matches, and with no results. I came to the conclusion that the story was a myth.

Late one afternoon Mr. E. O. Orpet strolled in to "Egandale" and approaching my hedge, remarked, "This ought to be a good time to try the Gasplant," and placing a lighted match to the base of the flower stalk, I was astonished to see a flame rush to the top with a perfectly audible hiss. The myth became a reality. The secret was out and I wondered why some one, who must have known it long ago, had not published the facts, since I, for one, have lost many opportunities of amusing the children—and we are all children in some things — by showing them a flower that produces a flame that does not injure itself.

How came this curious phenom-

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