1. Planning Your Garden

Probably the most important step in making a garden is planning it. Of course, people who garden in a hit-or-miss way sometimes come out all right, but its been my experience that sound planning pays real dividends in extra beauty. One friend of mine—a man who's famous in his community for the wonderful effects he gets in just a small space—told me he always knows exactly what he's going to do with every square foot of his garden before he turns the first forkful of earth.

If I were you, the first thing I'd do in planning a garden would be to make a map of it on a big sheet of paper. And I'd make it pretty carefully to scale, so as not to overlook any space that could contribute to the beauty of my garden. On this map I'd locate the permanent things, such as trees, shrubberey, and the house. If you have a pool or a rock garden, put them into the map too. Then, around these, plan the sizes and shapes of the flower beds.

One of the best ways I know to get gardening ideas is to read seed catalogs. They'll not only give you a wonderful selection of flowers and plants to choose from, but they'll give you a very good idea as to which are best suited for the climate you live in, which will grow best in your kind of soil, when you should plant each variety, and when you can expect each one to blossom.

When I read seed catalogs I keep a list of the flowers and other plants that appeal to me. And I'm always careful to include some new flowers that I haven't grown before. I've found that one of the most delightful experiences in gardening is in finding new faces in my flower beds each year. It's just like making new friends!

When you have decided on the flowers you're going to grow, the next thing to do is to plot on that map of yours where you're going to put each variety and how much space you can budget for each. There are a number of things to keep in mind. Some flowers grow a lot taller than others, and the shorter ones have to be out in front where they can be seen. And since flowers don't all blossom at the same season, each flower bed should be planned so that it will have a pleasing variety of flowers in bloom at all times through the summer. Color combinations have to be considered, too.

Here's an important thing to remember about your soil. Your growing things depend on it to supply them eleven different food elements, every one of which is essential for healthy growth. From time to time these food elements become exhausted from the soil and have to be replaced . . . because growing plants, just like growing children, can't be strong and healthy without a complete balanced diet. To avoid all risk, I feed my garden a complete plant food—one that I can be sure will supply all eleven of the needed food elements in scientifically balanced proporitions. It pays to give everything you grow a square meal.

Home Modernization Movement Gains Ground Monthly

With the home modernization movement gaining ground each month, there is undeniable evidence that the word "obsolete" can be used in describing fewer and fewer homes. Not only are the exteriors and interiors of homes being brought up to date, but home equipment is being given a generous share of a family's attention.

Women, of course, have a vital interest in their kitchen and with most homemakers this room is among the first to be included in a home modernization program. Many new advantages are offered to women in modern cooking and refrigeration appliances; advantages that have been developed in recent years and not found in kitchens heretofore.

These advantages constantly are becoming more widely recognized, according to the North Shore Gas Company, with the result that gas cooking and gas refrigeration are more popular than ever. The gas company has inaugurated an unusually easy payment plan for the installation of gas ranges, gas refrigerators and gas water heaters that has been the means of bringing these modern services to many homes.

Read The Want-Ads

Easiest Way to Choke Weeds

The easiest, surest way to get rid of weeds is to *make your grass choke them out!*

Grass starts up earlier in the spring than weeds. If it gets a *square meal* just as soon as frost is out of the ground, the grass will get such a strong head-start that later, when weeds start up, they'll find little room to grow.

But the kind of thick, dense turf that chokes out weeds results only from feeding with a *complete* plant food—a food that supplies *all eleven* of the food elements grass needs from the soil. Bone meal, manures and sewage fertilizers supply only a few of these vital elements.

To eliminate all risk of failure from partial starvation, feed VIGORO. Vigoro supplies *all eleven* of the necessary elements—supplies them in scientifically balanced proportions. *Sure* . . . and economical. You can get it from your local garden supply dealer.

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Supplies all eleven food elements needed from soil

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Thursday — March 12
"MILLIONS IN THE AIR"
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Musical Act, "Starlit Days at the Lido" - Cartoon, "Scrappy's Boy Scouts" - Bill Corum Sports, "Bugle from Blue Grass" Metrotone News

Friday-Saturday — March 13-14
"I DREAM TOO MUCH"
with Lily Pons, Henry Fonda, Eric Blore, Osgood Perkins
Novelty, "Desert Death" - Cartoon, "Camara Hunting"
Latest Pathe News

Sunday-Monday-Tuesday — March 15-16-17
"MAGNIFICENT OBESSION"
with Irene Dunn, Robert Young, Charles Butterworth, Betty Furness
Cartoon, "Toonerville" - Latest Paramount News

Wednesday-Thursday — March 18-19
"LONE WOLF RETURNS"
with Melvyn Douglas, Gail Patrick, Arthur Hohl
Comedy, "A Return Engagement" - Novelty, "Etiquette" - Cartoon, "Bird Stuffer" - Sport Reel, "Cannibal Capers" - Latest Metrotone News

NEXT WEEK — "Metropolitan" - "Bride Come Home" - "Captain Blood" - "Mr. Hobo" - "If You Could Only Cook" - "Dangerous"

Concrete House Being Built In Purdue Research Project

Resistance to fire, durability and low maintenance costs are features of the house shown in the accompanying illustration that will appeal to the average homeowner. It is being built under winter conditions at Purdue university at a cost of $4,997, as a unit in the Purdue Housing Research project, which seeks to develop better, low-cost homes.

All foundation walls, exterior and bearing walls and floors are of reinforced concrete. The floor construction consists of reinforced concrete joists, which are factory made, delivered and set in place in the house. The joists and the spaces between them are covered with a concrete slab. The second story joists over the living room will be left exposed, forming a beamed ceiling. Elsewhere the joists will be concealed by a plaster ceiling. The roof construction also consists of concrete joists and concrete slab. It is protected with one inch of insulation and four-ply asbestos, felt composition roofing. The exterior walls are provided with a three-quarter inch air space on the inside, one-half inch insulating board and three coats of plaster.

After the forms are removed from the walls the exposed surfaces on the exterior will be rubbed with carborundum stones to remove the rough edges left by the forms. The walls will then be painted with two coats of cement waterproof paint. The exposed joists and concrete slab over the living room will be treated in a similar manner.

This house is as virtually fireproof as a house can be made, and the basic structural elements are durable. Repairs or the renewal of surface finishes are easily made at relatively small cost. Rigidity of the construction is anticipated will greatly reduce the extent of plaster cracks which frequently annoy housekeepers.

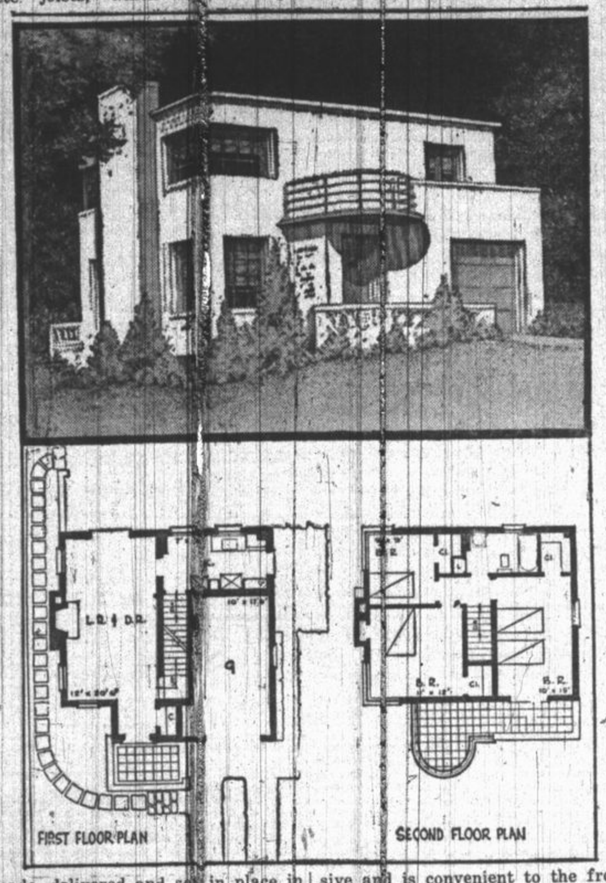
The plan of this house is simple, direct and will minimize house work, since it is compact and has not waste areas in the form of long halls and dark corners. The living room serves two purposes — living and dining. The kitchen is simple and adequately arranged for the efficient preparation and serving of food. And from it there is easy access to both basement and out doors. While the garage is on the front of the house it is not obtrusive and is convenient to the front entrance door.

The bed rooms have unusually good wall space for furniture which has been partially achieved by the use of attractive corner windows in two of the second story rooms. A door from the third bed room opens on a balcony which extends over part of the garage and the entrance vestibule. Closets are well arranged to provide ample space for the clothes of all members of the family.

Linoleum will be used for the floor covering of the closets, bath room and kitchen. Carpets will be used in the living room and the bed rooms. The carpets will be placed directly on the concrete slab and attached to wooden carpet strips.

This house is designed to meet the needs of a family of four, consisting of two adults, a boy and a girl. It was designed by Burnham Brothers and Hammond, Inc., architects of Chicago. Charles Gambsky company of Menasha, Wisconsin, is the contractor.

The house is one of nine being built in the first unit of the Purdue Housing Research project to develop more efficient methods of small home construction.



Household Hints

Swiss chard may be served in many delightful ways, but one of the most appealing to the appetite is boiled chard mid-ribs or stems cut to form pieces the shape and size of asparagus tips. These are cooked until tender in boiling water, then coated with butter and served atop toast slices smothered with cheese sauce.

* * *

For a change, when making your next white cake, add a teaspoon of cinnamon. It gives it a lovely flavor and it's quite a change from the regular white cake.

* * *

If lace is very fine and old and you are afraid to launder it, shake powdered magnesia over it thoroughly. Wrap in a towel and let stand for several days. Then shake powder out and press carefully. You will be pleased with the results.

* * *

Cut sweet peas will keep much longer in a vase in which there is a little water than they will in one in which a large quantity of water is used.

* * *

A solution of ammonia and water, a teaspoon of ammonia to a pint of water, will remove iodine stains from white linen. Soak in the solution and stain will quickly disappear.

* * *

The flavor of an apple pie is much improved if the juice of half a lemon is squeezed over the apples.

* * *

When making peppermints drop them onto a piece of waxed paper instead of onto a pan. They are more easily removed from waxed paper.

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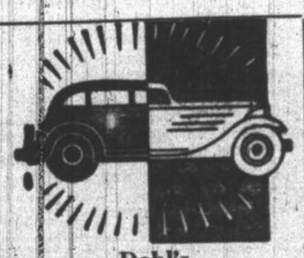
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Public Service Gives Home Building Exhibit

A novel home building and modernization exhibit in which actual building conditions have been duplicated indoors, is now going on at the Public Service Company's Evanston store, 911 Church street.

"We are inviting people to see this exhibit," said J. W. Kehoe, division manager of the company, "because we believe they will find it a helpful and practical source of information on modern kitchens, basement recreation rooms, and other new features now available to the home maker.

"Placing ourselves in the position of a family about to build a home, we called in a firm of local architects with instructions to design, arrange and equip the exhibit rooms according to the latest practical developments in the art of building. Local carpenters, plumbers and builders did all the construction and installation of equipment. Equipment and materials were furnished from local sources with the exception of the cabinets for the kitchen. These were obtained from the St. Charles Cabinet company. The architects are Maher and MacGrew of Evanston.

"In place of conventional displays, the exhibit on the first floor consists of a modern kitchen, serving pantry and breakfast nook, surrounded by regular walls of dimensions ordinarily found in a home. In addition, a section of the store's basement has been modernized in the same manner as the basement of a home would be treated.

"Not only have we built a realistic display of modern gas and electric equipment, but we also have tried to show its flexibility. Whatever the home builder's budget, he will find that he can afford more modern conveniences than was thought possible even a few years ago. Modernization doesn't have to be done all at one time. New home comforts can be added step by step as the homemaker is able to afford them. We believe this fact is apparent throughout the exhibit," concluded Mr. Kehoe.

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