Chats with the Master Gardener

5. Build for Permanence in a New Lawn

Your lawn is the most important part of your garden. Without its expanses of smooth, green turf, your flowers would look lonely and forlorn. Please keep its importance in mind, while I tell you this: If your grass has never got a good start, or if it's full of weeds, the chances are you'd better figure on building a new lawn this spring. I know that isn't a pleasant prospect, but if you do it and once get a fine new lawn established, I'm sure you'll look back and agree that in the long run you've saved yourself trouble and disappointment.

Now, the first thing to do in building a new lawn, of course, is to spade up the soil. Then go over it with a hoe and rake to pulverize the lumps and clean it up. After that you can give some thought to the nature of your soil, because its texture is mighty important in establishing a good stand of grass. If it's too sandy, you can correct it by spading in peat moss. If there's too much clay in it, you should mix in some sand or finely sifted ashes.

Then comes the grading of the lawn. It's mighty important to have it sloped right for good drainage. That is, it should carry water away from the house and not have any low spots where water will collect and stand. After you've finished the grading it's a good idea, if you have time, to let the ground settle a couple of days so that if any low spots develop you can level them off.

Insure Ample Feeding

Next comes the most important step of all—feeding. Very likely the old troubles you've had with your lawn were caused directly or indirectly by lack of nourishment in the soil. Your grass didn't get all the food elements it needed. It gradually got weaker and thinner, and lost its ability to keep weeds chocked out. So this time don't take any chances; give your new grass a good square meal right at the start. Get a plant food that supplies all eleven of the food elements growing things need in balanced proportions. Spread it evenly over your soil, four pounds to every 100 square feet; then rake it in thoroughly and level the ground off smooth.

Now you're ready for seeding. Be sure you use good seed. Ask your garden supply dealer's advice on the kind of seed best for your soil, and be sure to get special seed for the shady places on your lawn. Apply the seed on a day when there's little or no wind, sowing half of it one way and half the other, to help you get it even. And don't be stingy with the seed; use five or six pounds of it to each thousand square feet of lawn. That much, on properly-fed soil, should produce real thick turf, heavy enough to keep weeds pretty well chocked out.

Rake your seed in lightly, and if the soil is dry enough it's a good idea to roll it with a light roller. Then water it gently but thoroughly, and don't let the ground get dry again until the grass is growing strongly.

Highwood Family in Car Collision

Three members of a Highwood family were slightly hurt Wednesday evening when their car crashed into the rear of a stopped vehicle on South Green Bay road, near Highland place.

The injured were Robert Alverson, the driver, left wrist sprained; John, his brother, cut on right wrist, and Mrs. Robert Alverson, their mother, cuts on leg. The Alversons, who live at 120 Wrendale ave., were treated by Dr. L. E. Josselyn in his Highwood office.

The rear-end collision occurred when a vehicle driven by Mrs. William C. Henrichs, of 1641 S. Green Bay road, stopped on the southbound pavement of Green Bay road when the car lights failed. The Alverson car, following southbound, was unable to stop to avoid the crash.

PLAN TO REOPEN

Plans are being perfected for the reopening of the Old Pearl theater, located on First street, south of Central avenue, some time in the late summer or early fall. Mr. William Pearl, is the owner of the building.

One Setting Only an Innovation in Annual Production

Boris Minevich and his famous "Rascals" who made mouth organ history in Hollywood will find plenty of competition in a French-harp trio to be featured in the 1937 edition of Student Stunts at the Highland Park high school on May 15. Vince Meyer, Ralph Southerton, and Frank Spaulding are the members of the trio. A sad, sad old-fashioned melodrama whose cast including Lionel Uhlman, Leon Drew, and Bill Bigley, will appear on roller skates will also prove to be one of the most popular "stunts."

This year's Student Stunts, the eighth annual presentation under the guidance of Miss Rinkenberger, dramatic coach at the high school, will have but one curtain and one setting, a distinct innovation in the history of these annual productions. The theme will be built around an evening house-party on a southern plantation. The host, a stately Colonel of the Old South, will act as master of ceremonies and his guests will provide the entertainment.

D. A. R. BETTER FILMS REVIEW

Feature No. 1

"Maid of Salem." Cast, Claudette Colbert, Fred MacMurray, Harvey Stephens, Thursday, Friday, Sept. 6, 7. One of the most fascinating chapters in early American history, that of Salem in 1692, is unfolded in a tense drama in which historical accuracy and human interest are so skillfully blended that the spectator is transported into those stirring times. The production is authentic, direction able, cast excellent, scenery beautiful, especially the rocky "New England" shore line. In all, this is a picture of absorbing interest. Adults and young adults.

Feature No. 2

"Criminal Lawyer." Cast, Lee Tracy, Margot Grahame, Edward Ciarrelli," Thursday, Friday, May 6, 7. A young lawyer who has shrewdly learned to mix law and politics for his own advantages comes to realize the hollow mockery of his career. A tense, melodramatic travesty of criminal court procedure, which holds the attention. Adults.

"Man Of Affairs." Cast, George Arliss, Romilly Lunge, John Ford, Renee Ray, Saturday, May 8. Fans of George Arliss will be pleased with his newest picture, in which he plays a dual role, that of distinguished, pompous member of the House of Lords and his clever, unconventional, devil-may-care twin brother. The interest in the picture lies in the clever acting of the inimitable star, who masterfully establishes the two characterizations. Family.

"Love Is News." Cast, Tyrone Powers, Loretta Young, Don Ameche, Slim Summerville, Dudley Digges, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, May 9, 10, 11. A breezy, romantic comedy with an original slant on a newspaper story. Direction, acting and photography excellent. The assured comedy of Stepin Fetchit and Slim Summerville is delightful and the ingenious plot moves quickly and without a dull moment. Family.

"A Doctor's Diary." Cast, George Bancroft, Helen Burgess, John Trent, Ruth Coleman, Wednesday, Thursday, May 12, 13. This story is told in a sincere, convincing manner, with suspense well sustained and the climax a dramatic one. Intelligently directed and excellently cast. Adults.

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Do You Know Illinois?

Q. When was the Chicago Sanitary fair organized?

A. In October 1863. This fair was organized by the women of the city and netted over $86,000 for the invalid soldiers.

Q. Where did Wm. Jennings Bryan open his first law office?

A. In Jacksonville, Illinois, July 4, 1883, in connection with the law firm of Brown, Kirby and Russell.

Q. What was Bryan's first law case?

A. Bryan's first case as a lawyer was as a lawyer-collector. He agreed to work on commission basis, won his case and collected his fee of 52 cents.

Q. Where did Bryan receive his early education?

A. At the Whipple Academy and Illinois College, Jacksonville, Illinois.

Q. Who was the first Regent of the University of Illinois?

A. John Milton Gregory. He was elected to office March 12, 1867, at a salary of $3,000 per annum.

Q. When and where were the first town to town electric lines in the United States established?

A. nI 1893. Elmwood, Douglas, Brumfield, Maquon, Monica, and Princeville, Illinois, were the first towns in the county linked together with electric lines.

Q. Who was Col. George Croghan?

A. The Deputy Superintendent of Indian affairs of the British Goyernment who signed the peace treaty with Chief Pontiac at Polermo, Illinois, on July 18, 1765.

Q. What city in Illinois was called the "Mesopotamia in the West?"

A. Galesburg. Its present name is derived from its founder Gale, New York minister.

Q. When was the song "Illinois" declared the official State song?

A. This song was declared the official State song by the 54th General Assembly in 1934.

Q. What was the total vote of Bond County during the last presidential election?

A. 7,908 votes.

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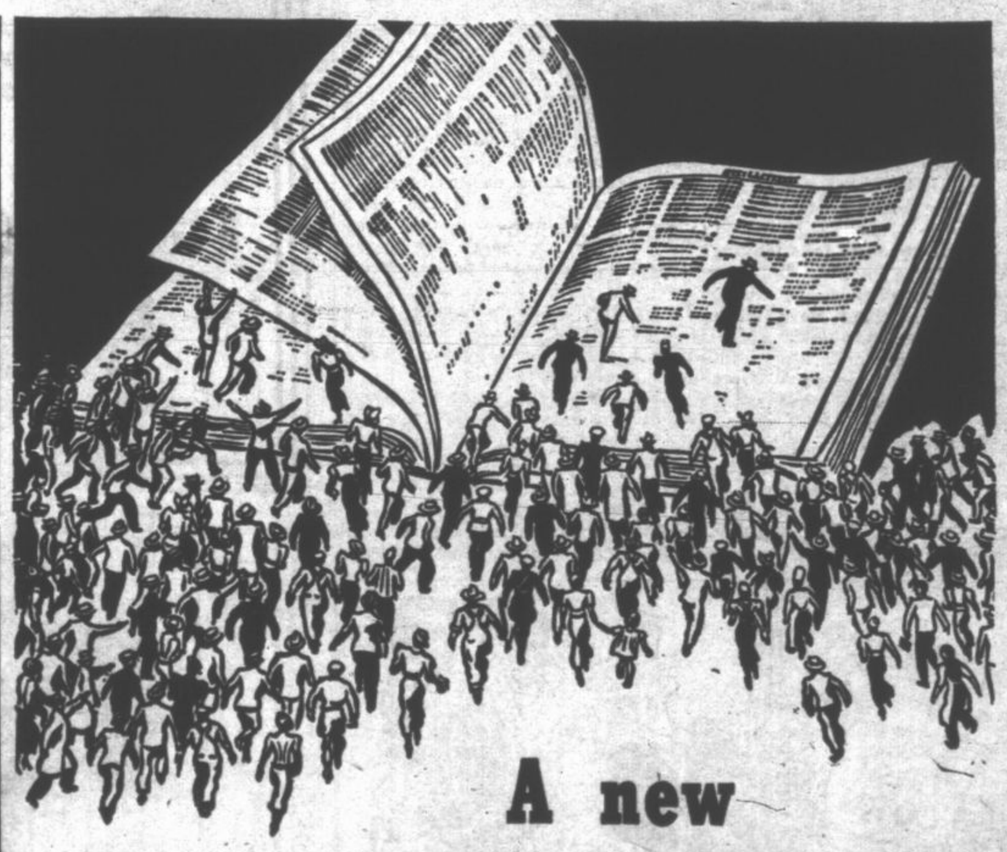
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