

# MASTER GARDENER

## 6. HOW PRICELESS ARE TREES AND SHRUBS!

Trees and shrubs are a much-neglected subject. To most people, raising flowers is by far the most exciting part of gardening. And so they concentrate on flowers, forgetting that grass and trees and shrubs are the framework, the really basic part of the garden. It's remarkable what trees and shrubbery can do for a place if they're well chosen and set out properly. I could show you a fine example in the home of a friend of mine. He bought a rather unattractive old house some years ago. But he planted a couple of good-sized trees beside it, massed some shrubs around it, and got some vines climbing over the harsh lines of the cornice. It's an altogether different place now, and mighty nice looking. This friend of mine didn't spend much money, either.

**Pruning Trees**  
Folks often write me, asking how to prune their trees. Now there are only a few circumstances under which I think cutting off branches is justifiable. One is when they hang so low they're in the way. Another is when a branch hides a lovely view. A third is when a branch is dead or split so that a wind might blow it down and hurt somebody. And one more occasion when it might be justified is when crotches form so close to the ground that the strain of the two trunks may split the base of the tree.

When one of these circumstances arises, remember the following points: Always cut the branch off flush with the trunk or next larger branch because if you leave a stub it makes a likely place for decay

and disease to enter. Cut with a saw, never an axe. Begin by making a small cut at the bottom, so that the bark won't strip off when the branch goes down. A big branch should be supported by a rope to prevent splitting before you're through. And when you've finished, coat the wound with paint or creosote.

Pruning shrubs is a bit different, because shrubs send up new growth from the ground instead of out from a trunk. The new canes that shoot up should be given room to grow, so from time to time you should cut out some of the older wood. Flowering shrubs should be pruned right after they've blossomed, and other varieties when they're dormant—after they've shed their leaves and before they bud again.

### Feed Trees and Shrubs

Shrubs vary greatly in different parts of the country. One generalization I can make, though—evergreen shrubs ordinarily do better in a somewhat sandy soil, and the others should have a loamy soil. But when it comes to choosing varieties for your own place, you'd best get the advice of a good, reliable nurseryman in your own community. Let him look over your garden, tell him how much you can spend, and he'll do his best for you.

One thing about trees and shrubs that might few people seem to realize—they must be fed! Year after year they draw eleven different food elements from the soil, and eventually these elements become exhausted. Then your bushes and trees begin to lose their vitality; branches die, foliage becomes yellow and scanty, leaves drop too soon. You can easily prevent these symptoms by feeding a square meal—a plant food that supplies all eleven of the needed food elements in scientifically balanced proportions. I'd certainly recommend that you do it this year. Your trees and shrubs take a long time to grow, and when you've got them they're an asset well worth protecting.

## Deerfield Pupils to Present Spring Concert Friday

Pupils of the Deerfield Grammar school will present their annual spring concert Friday, May 13, at 8 o'clock in the school auditorium.

The orchestra will play U. S. Orient March, "Melody" and "Gypsy Trail Overture." The String Quintet will play "Love's Dream After the Ball." The Girls chorus will sing "The Glow Worm," "The Galway Piper," and "Giddy Ap Little Rockin' Horse." The Boys chorus will sing "On the Road to Mandalay," "On the Levee," and "Anchored." The fifth grade will give a May Pole Dance. Bernice Ann Flanagan will play a harp solo.

The membership of the orchestra has been increased over that of last year because of the addition of a cello, viola, harp, another bass viol, French horn, and an xylophone. The members of the orchestra are:

Doris Cooksey, Betty Meyer, Ruth Jacobs, Betty Jean Vinde-Velden, Barbara Hurt, Norma Brenan, Jean Goodman, Shirley Beckman, Raphaela Drans, Freddie North, Patricia Lane, Betty Belle Russell, Jane Kruse, Doris Jean Peterson, Dorothy Jean Anderson, Roberta Blaine, Eleanor Gastfield, Laverne Kruse, Billy Tennermann, Jack Anderson, John Meyer, Earl Klemm, Norma Jacobs, Gloria Segert, Billy Anderson, Ruth Tennermann, Shirley Smith, Dorothy Jacobson, John Allen Meyer, Roger McKee, John Nots, Carl John Bates, Lily Jacobs, Jack Gagne, Rosemary Wilkes, John Kaatz, Ralph Sheridan, Raymond Johnson, Leslie Brand, Freddie Meyer, Bobby Hyett, Buddy Piger, Mark Hout, Willis Johnson, Nora Margaret Russell, George Weiss, Rosemarie Barrett, Constance Koebelin, Bernice Ann Flanagan.

The piano and instrumental recital will be on the following Thursday evening, May 19.

—by Jane Krause.

## Deerfield Children Make Poppy Posters

Upper grade children in the four grammar schools — Bannockburn, Wilmet, Holy Cross and Deerfield—are making Poppy Day posters which will be judged by a committee of the Deerfield unit of the American Legion Auxiliary and prizes will be awarded. Those posters winning awards will be sent to the district headquarters, and the winners there will be eligible for state contest. All the posters will be displayed in local store windows to announce Poppy Day.

Deerfield will pay honor to the World War dead May 23rd by wearing the little red poppy of Flanders Fields. Poppies will be distributed on the streets by members of the American Legion Auxiliary assisted by other volunteers.

The day is the approximate twentieth anniversary of the beginning of large scale participation of American troops in the World war, Mrs. Mary Welch, the Auxiliary's Poppy Day chairman, pointed out. From May until November, 1918, constantly increasing American forces were in action and more than 50,000 young Americans were killed on the poppy-studded fields of France and Belgium.

The poppies have been made by disabled veterans of North Chicago hospital, who have been given much needed employment during the winter and spring months. Each flower has been shaped by hand by the disabled workers.

The Auxiliary is expecting the most general observance of Poppy Day since the custom of wearing poppies in remembrance of the dead was started at the close of the war. More than 10,000,000 of the little red flowers will be worn and approximately \$1,000,000 raised to aid the disabled veterans and dependent families, Miss Welch predicted.

the story is the strength of the book, and the author's ability to understand and see life through the eyes of a child is a practical and valuable lesson in child psychology.

Kate Seredy's "White Stag" brings in beautiful prose the legend of Hungary's origin. Close to the text are the outstanding illustrations filled with the soul and beauty of her native land.

From the world of fancy steps Eleanor Farjeon's delightful "Martin Peppin in the Daisy Field", stories told six little girls whose names all begin with S, and one little baby girl with eyes "as gray as the sea."

Genuine Russian folklore comes to using Boris Artybasheff's distinguished and unusual "Seven Simeons," the story of a king in search of the perfect queen and the help he received from seven accomplished brothers.

An unusual and striking picture story book is Elizabeth Steen's "Red Jungle Book" which pictures the life of a South American boy in the midst of the jungle.

Another picture-story book with illustrations in delicate transparent colors is "Petite Suzanne" by Marguerite De Angeli, which portrays the life of a little girl among the fishers of the Gaspe country.

For our youngest one there is "Four and Twenty Blackbirds" collected by Helen Dean Fish, story-poems—nonsensical and irresistible.

"Treasurer Trails in Art" by Anna Curtis Chandler is a book that will be a delight to anyone; it presents biographical sketches of well known artists—illustrated with excellent colored plates made by the Medical society.

A delightful little volume is "Hop,

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"Skip and Floy" by Irmengarde Eberle—stories of small creatures.

In Dorothy Lathrop's lovely "Animals of the Bible" the text is carefully selected from King James version by Helen Dean Fish. "David" by our own Elizabeth Jones is another welcome addition to the few Bible stories for younger children.

An unusual little Christmas story, "The Shepherd's Trust," by Hughes should not be forgotten. The Christmas story is retold with reverence and love in a different version, and the illustrations are delicate, pastel-like—the right ones for this beautiful little volume.

Your Public Library will be glad to lend them to you, as well as many others of the year's outstanding and helpful children's books.

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**LIBRARY**

**Children's Room**

With the second annual celebration of the children's spring festival of books and with the influx of new books ahead, it might be worth while to stop a moment and consider some permanent values in last year's output.

"When we read a good book with a growing satisfaction that runs through the back of our minds and seems to say—this book promises greatness, this book seems to have greatness, this book has greatness, we must suspend judgment even after that last delighted pronouncement and make sure of a deliberate conclusion. The enthusiastic impression of vividness, convincing truth, charm of character or style may often carry us away to the voicing of too impulsive praise. No book can be said to have even the elements of greatness unless it can stand the test of recollection. To the appraising glance, turned backward, it must still offer the strength of conception, the graphic power of representation, the sense of character and the wholeness of execution which the designation of greatness must imply"—says Cornelia Meigs in the Hornbook for March 1938.

"Alice-All-by-Herself" has all the quality of beauty and poetic value which have always marked the works of Elizabeth Coatsworth. In a quiet story she presents everyday happenings in the life of a thoughtful little girl from a happy home. The very simplicity of