

**"The Day Before Spring" At Studebaker**

Direct from a season's engagement on Broadway, where it was hailed as the gayest, brightest musical in many a year, "The Day Before Spring" opened at the Studebaker theater in Chicago on Easter Sunday evening, April 21.

Irene Manning, Bill Johnson and John Archer have leading roles in John C. Wilson's production of this new musical, which boasts a score by Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe, dances by Antony Tudor. Screenagers will remember Miss Manning as star of "Desert Song" and "The Dough Girls," Johnson for performances opposite Lana Turner in "Keep Your Powder Dry," Sonja Henie in "It's a Pleasure."

Other leading roles will be played by Patricia Marshall, Tom Helmore, Hugh Laing, recently seen with the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo, and Dennis King Jr. This will be the first of two John C. Wilson musicals scheduled for Chicago showing this year, the other being the long-run hit, "Bloomer Girl."

"The Day Before Spring" tells the story of Katherine Townsend, who revives an old flame at a college reunion with the most astonishing results. Ten years earlier, Katherine had planned an elopement with Alexander Maitland, wound up by marrying Peter Townsend. What happens when all three attend the same class reunion forms the gay and sprightly story of "The Day Before Spring."

The entire production has been staged by Mr. Wilson, producer of such Noel Coward successes as "Blithe Spirit" and "Tonight at 8:30." The settings were designed by Robert Davison, the costumes by Miles White. Franz Allers, conductor for the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo, will preside in the orchestra pit.

The entire cast which the New York critics cheered were present at the Sunday evening Chicago premiere of "The Day Before Spring."

**Highland Park Women Assist Invalid Children**

This season is the beginning of a come-back for 40 boys and girls with hearts damaged by childhood's most fatal disease—rheumatic fever. Nine Highland Park women who helped make the happy day come true joined in telling the story this week.

They are: Mrs. Sidney L. Schwartz, Mrs. Milton K. Arenberg, Mrs. Harold Lachman, Mrs. David Levinson, Mrs. Walter E. Lillienfeld, Mrs. Richard Loewenthal, Mrs. Thomas Nathan, Mrs. Henry L. Stein and Mrs. John Wineman. Their work on the board of directors of the Sunset Camp Service league enabled that organization this week to open Herrick House for year-round service in the vital job of teaching children with weak hearts how to live as well as possible in spite of their handicap.

Herrick House, at Bartlett, Ill., is one of the few such institutions in the United States. It was formerly open only four months of the year. Most of the 40 boys and girls come to Herrick House directly from hospitals where they have just lived through attacks of rheumatic fever.

The Herrick House staff leads and guards each child as he learns what the limits of his activities are. This is vital for rheumatic fever can strike again and again, often in the wake of common respiratory diseases.

"What makes the work tremendous is the way the children learn to enjoy life again and look forward to supporting themselves as useful citizens," the Highland Park women said, quoting Mrs. Edwin Eells, executive director of Herrick House.

Only children who need the special care that Herrick House offers are admitted. More children between 5 and 15 years of age die of rheumatic fever than of any other disease, the women pointed out. Yet only three cents per case is contributed to the fight against rheumatic fever, in contrast to 94 dollars per case for infantile paralysis, which kills or permanently affects far less children.

**CORN ON THE COLUMN**

By "Kernel" Alex McPherson

**"CASEY" IS BACK AT THE BAT**

Joy has returned to "Mudville" and all the other American baseball hamlets, as "Casey," the veteran of World War II, once again strides up to the plate for the 1946 horse-hide hammering campaign. Yes, and that ain't all! Even the Frogtown hurler who "whiffed" our mighty hero of the hickory in his only swinging failure is back from the war. In fact, nearly all the diamond stars of pre-Pearl Harbor days have thrown away their Army issue brogans in exchange for the alligator skin shoes with spikes. A few of our athletic artists have answered the "Call of the Greenbacks," which are being flashed in front of their faces by the fabulously wealthy Pasquel brothers.

These five big-time operators of the Hot Tamale circuit are doing their utmost to lure our money-eyed performers down south of the Rio Grande. However, the Pasquels' pesos are not talking loudly enough to seriously affect our national game. Playing in Chicago, Boston and New York at \$10,000 per season seems far more popular with Uncle Sam's sockers than in Mexico City, Vera Cruz and Tam-

pico at double that amount. The American fan is glad of that. The Mexican rooster is not. At any rate, it appears that our national pastime will soon be very international if more Pasquels turn up in the world.

**THE LOST NINE**

Perhaps it was just coincidence, but according to World War II Honor Roll published in the April issue of Baseball Magazine, exactly nine out of 629 Major League service veterans died in uniform. Some of them might have been the World's Champions of 1946. One could have entered Cooperstown's Hall of Fame. One thing is certain about all. They became the lost nine so that our United States could be the WINNING 48. They paid the top premium to win. Let every baseball fan cheer the noblest performance in the lifetime careers of: Howard De Martini (Giants), Henry Nowak (Cardinals), Walter Navie (White Sox), Eugene Stack (White Sox), Frank Schultz (Indians), Ardyss Keller (Browns), Forest Brewer (Senators), Elmer Gedson (Senators) and James Trimble (Senators). Baseball is grateful to them.

may be utilized to store plants that require some protection against the elements.

The cold frame is usually made in multiple of three feet as standard window sash are of these dimensions and always available. In some individual cases it might pay to shop for second hand window frames and to build the cold frame to fit the available windows. There are several excellent window substitutes on the market which will prove worth investigating. A sunny spot in the garden, pro-

supplied to the hot bed. The lumber should be at least on inch thick and the corners well-braced.

In installing the frame, dig a hole about a foot deep. The sides of the frame should extend about six inches into the ground. This will prevent drafts from entering. The extra soil should then be banked against the frame.

Windows should be on hinges so that they may be raised and securely fastened as desired. On warm sunny days, the windows should be left open. Plants and seeds require fresh air.

**Hot Beds Prove Profitable Investment**

By W. J. DRYDEN, WNU Farm Editor.

Gardeners in sections that have a short growing season because of late springs and early falls need a hot bed to insure successful vegetables. Even in a section where the growing season is long, fresh vegetables can be brought to the table much earlier when started in hot

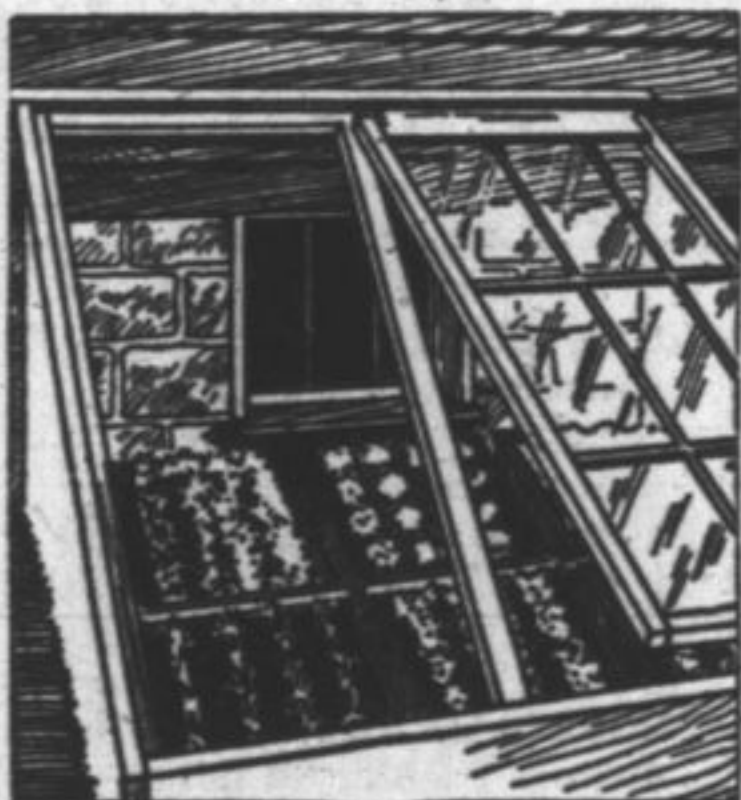
where heat can be easily provided. Electric heat has the advantage in that it can be automatically controlled by thermostat. In former days it was customary to furnish the heat with fermenting manure. This practice is not recommended, as the manure will prove a breeding and carrying agent for many insects and plant diseases.

The hot bed should be placed at the southern side of a building where it will get the benefit of whatever sun warmth there is and be protected from cold winds. This is true whether the hot bed is to be heated by electricity, hot water, or an underground flue.

The seed may be sown broadcast or planted in carefully laid out rows. The more care given the planting the better the results will be.

The moisture and temperature within the hot bed must be carefully watched. Keep a thermometer inside and when the temperature approaches 90 degrees, ventilation must be provided. Care in providing ventilation must be taken so no radical change is made. The sudden chilling of the plants will prove disastrous. With proper heat it should be possible to keep the hot bed sash raised almost every day, at least a fraction of an inch.

Some gardeners prefer to grow the plants in small paper containers or very small flower pots placed inside the hot frame. When this is done, it makes possible the transplanting to the garden proper with little or no disturbance of the roots.



Basement window type of hot bed.

beds when the nights are cold and the frost is not yet out of the ground.

The recently developed fluorescent hot bed makes it possible to raise plants or seeds in the basement, barn or other building. The fluorescent light furnishes the "sunlight" and heat is supplied artificially below the soil.

The hot bed may be constructed the same as the cold frame with the addition of heat to the soil. This may be provided by electricity, or may be outside basement window,

**Major Baldwin Honored With Bronze Medal**

Maj. Robert Bruce Baldwin, son of Judge and Mrs. Francis Baldwin, 359 Hazel avenue, Highland Park, has been awarded the Bronze Star medal by Lt. Gen. A. C. Wedemeyer, commanding general of the United States forces, China theater.

The citation accompanying the award follows: "For meritorious service in the India - Burma and China theaters during the period from July 2, 1944, to Jan. 2, 1946. Upon arrival in Burma, Maj. Baldwin headed the photographic intelligence section, G-2 headquarters, Northern Combat Area command, whose function it was to determine the necessity for aerial photographic coverage of areas suspected of enemy activity, for immediate and pending operational plans, bombing targets, terrain studies, maps and mosaics, and to coordinate these highly important activities with the air corps.

Studies Air Photos  
"It was his responsibility to examine in minute detail the many thousands of aerial photos requested, and to interpret and annotate them with utmost speed for the various interested sections of the headquarters—a task involving many hours of extremely tedious work. Mosaics reproduced by Maj. Baldwin's section proved of inestimable value to American,

British and Chinese forces in their operations against the enemy.

"Upon successful conclusion of the North Burma campaign, Maj. Baldwin was assigned to the headquarters, China theater, and rendered exemplary service in the evaluation, recording and dissemination of vital intelligence bearing upon railways, roads and waterways in China, and subsequently as officer in charge of administrative matters for the G-2 section.

Record Lustrous  
"Throughout this entire period, Maj. Baldwin consistently displayed a high degree of efficiency, resourcefulness and a keen sense of responsibility, and his excellent record of accomplishments reflects great credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States."

Maj. Baldwin entered the army in October, 1941, from the advertising business. Prior to going overseas in April, 1944, he was a member of the teaching staff of the coast artillery anti-aircraft officers' candidate school at Camp Davis, N.C.

**LEGION POST COMMANDER GIVES BIRTH TO BABY**

ST. LOUIS, Mo. — The commander of a St. Louis county American Legion post has given birth to a baby girl.

The commander is Mrs. Harriet Shannon of St. Louis county Women's Memorial Post 454,

**Highland Park Members Of Seeing Eye Committee Attend Chicago Luncheon**

Highland Park members of the Chicago Seeing Eye membership attended a luncheon at the Casino club today, Thursday, and heard talks by Mrs. John V. Farwell III, chairman of the membership enrollment, and Mr. Huntington B. Henry, chairman of the Chicago executive committee.

Mr. Henry, also a member of the board of trustees, told of the progress being accomplished at the Seeing Eye in Morristown, N. J. It is in accordance with the Seeing Eye's program, he stated, in answer to questions, to provide dog guides without cost to blinded veterans who want and can use them. Seventy World War II veterans have already left the school with their new guides. The Seeing Eye does not solicit funds for this specific post-war activity, but accomplishes the work through its general fund, which is used for civilians as well. The goal within the next four weeks is 1000 members.

The committee workers in Highland Park are:

- Mrs. Ellsworth L. Mills, chairman; Mrs. Gordon Adamson, Mrs. Ralph C. Archer, Miss Jean Butz, Mrs. Robert M. Cobb, Mrs. J. Page Conley, Mrs. Harold J. D'Ancona, Mrs. Charles E. DeLeuw, Mrs. Howard F. Detmer, Mrs. C. Longford Felske, Mrs. Lellie R. Gage, Mrs. Edwin M. Hadley Jr., Mrs. Robert H. Herbst, Mrs. W. J. Hodge, Mrs. Henry H. Hixson Jr., Mrs. Ben Lazard, Mrs. Elwood B. Low, Mrs. George A. Mason, Mrs. Willard Medway, Mrs. Joseph Myers, Mrs. Baldwin Newman, Mrs. George W. Ross Jr., Mrs. W. Harold Rutherford, Mrs. Jackson W. Smart, Mrs. John T. Snite, Mrs. Thorwald Trolle, Mrs. J. K. Tyson, Mrs. R. R. Wible, Mrs. Paul B. Zeisler and Mrs. George O. Strecker.

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**THE HIGHLAND PARK PRESS**

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**Practical Gardening**

**Seed Boxes for Early Start**

By W. J. DRYDEN, WNU Farm Editor.

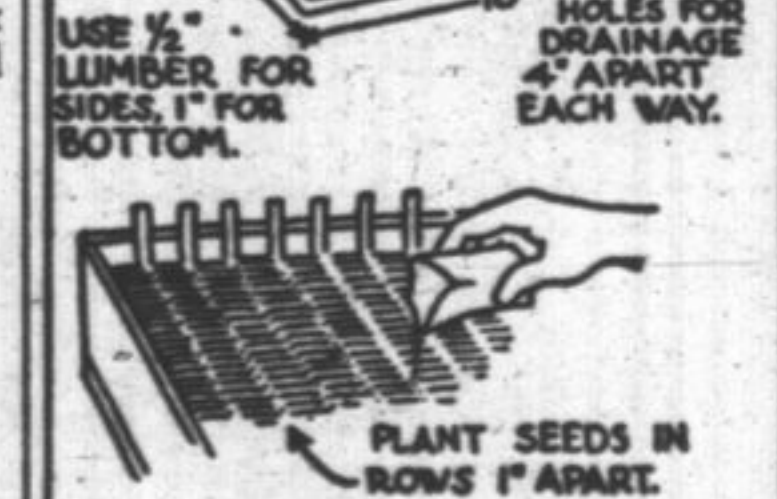
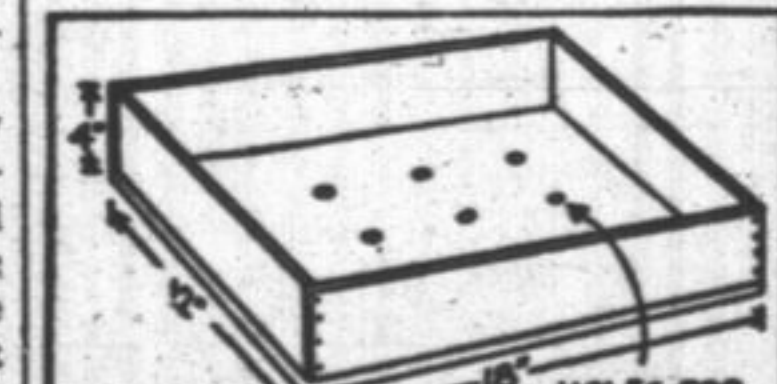
A seed box should be a part of every well planned garden. Not only will it be utilized to give plants a head start by sowing seeds before the outdoor's soil is workable, but it may be used to advantage throughout the gardening season.

A small box in a sunny window will give the seeds of a few favorite vegetables or flowers, several weeks' head-start this spring. While the first crop is being raised in the garden, replacements can be kept going in the seed box. The seed box will never remain idle in a well planned garden.

The size and type of seed box will depend upon the individual requirements. It will be advisable for gardeners to consider the new method of wick feeding or watering in their seed boxes. Bore a hole in the shallow seed box, insert a wick, preferably of fibre glass about four inches long. Even a piece of cotton rope will serve as a wick. The box is raised over a pan containing water. Before the wick will start to carry water to the seed bed, it will be necessary to first saturate the soil. This method will provide the soil with the proper amount of moisture, provided water is always kept in the pan.

Seed boxes should be filled with a highly porous soil or one of the newer soil substitutes such as torpedo sand, peat moss, mixed in equal parts with good black top soil. Vermiculite or sphagnum moss also prove excellent soil substitutes,

and, in addition to being reasonable in price, prove more effective in growing better plants than soil. The small amount of these substitutes



required in the seed box makes them very practical. They are sterile and there will be no loss from fungus. When these substitutes are used, it will be necessary to furnish the plant food upon nutrient solutions.

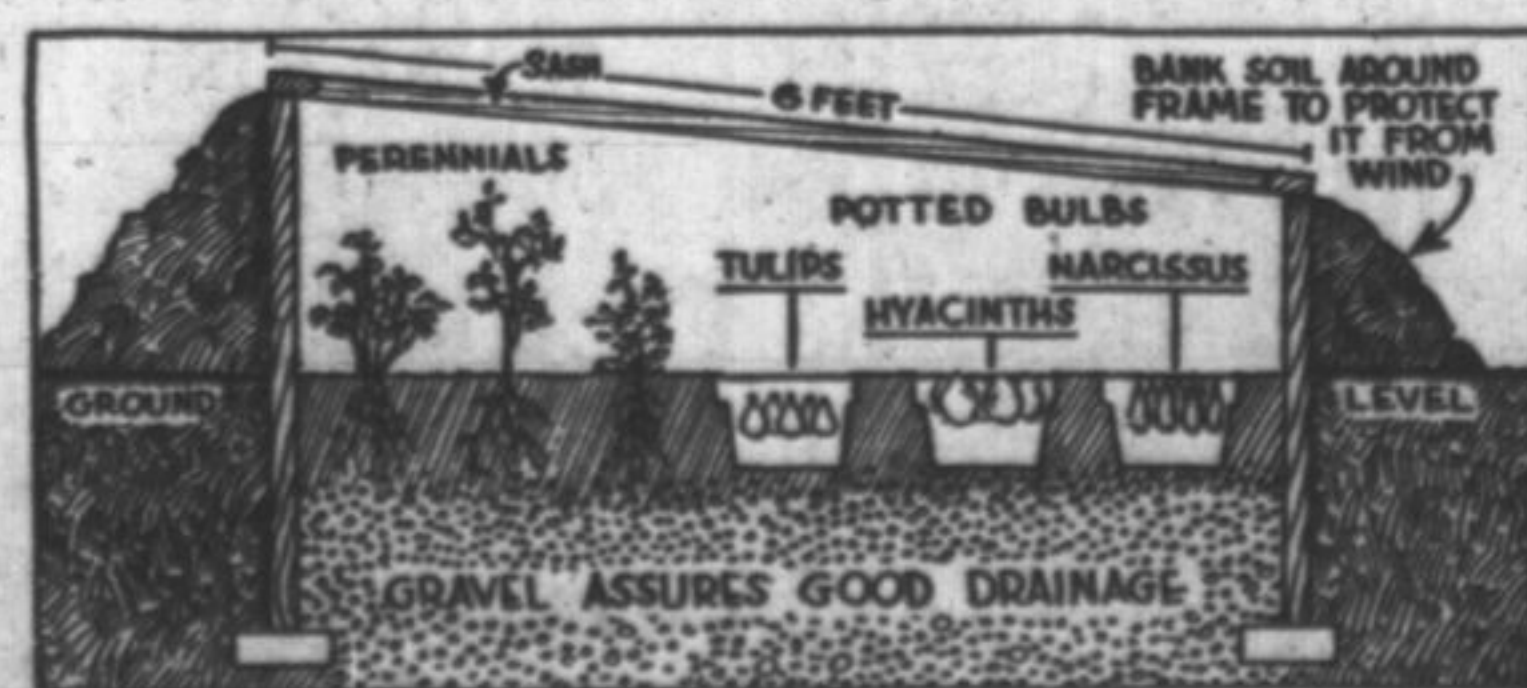
**Use Cold Frames Continually**

By W. J. DRYDEN, WNU Farm Editor.

Cold frames serve as bulwarks against frost and provide means by which the gardener can be assured of an early start with his plants. They also provide space for him in which he can properly raise plants throughout the season until they are ready for transplanting. After the garden season is over, cold frames

ected as much as possible from the full force of winds and driving rain, is the best location for the cold frame.

The lumber used should be moisture-resistant. The construction must be solid. It should be made with as much care as the hot bed. The prime difference being the heat



An Orchid for Miss P.B.X.

This is a tribute to the women who operate private switchboards for stores, offices, factories and institutions all over America.

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