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The SNAPSHOT GUILD

RAIN AND FOG



Don't leave your camera on the shelf when bad weather keeps others indoors. You may produce a picture equal to this nationally famous prize winner.

NATURALLY, most of us prefer fine weather for our picture taking outdoors. However, in our enthusiasm for sunshine, it's not wise to overlook the beauty in certain other moods of weather—the glow of light through mist and fog, the sparkle of rain-wet streets, reflections in after-the-shower puddles, even raindrops hanging like diamonds from twigs and branches of the trees. If you're alert you'll find many possibilities in "bad" weather, and each will add interesting items to your picture collection.

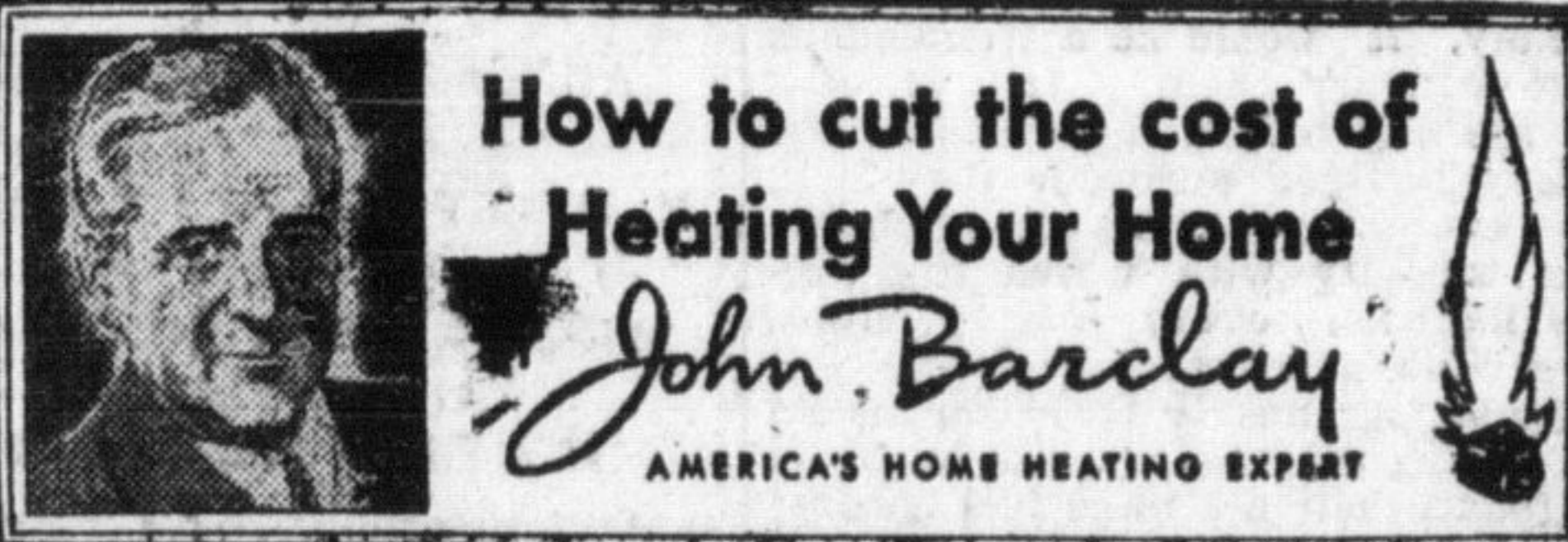
It's not necessary to get soaking wet either. You'll find the best rainy-day opportunities shortly after a rain, or between showers, or you can shoot from the shelter of a window or doorway. However, remember this: On rainy days and foggy mornings, light is weak and you'll have to adjust your exposure accordingly. Load your camera with high-speed film, and you will be able to get satisfactory rainy-day shots of average subjects at about 1/25 second at f/11 or f/8.

unless the clouds are extremely heavy. Very early in the morning, or late in the afternoon, two or three times these exposures may be necessary.

Our illustration this week which, incidentally, was selected three years ago as the outstanding snapshot of the year in a national snapshot contest, was made after dark during a heavy fog—and the figure was, of course, carefully posed. In fact, a posed figure is necessary for night shots similar to this, for usually a time exposure ranging from a few seconds to several minutes is required. In this case the exposure was approximately one minute at f/11 on panchromatic film.

This picture should point out a moral for every photographer. Don't let bad weather keep your camera on the shelf. Load it up, take it out whenever it looks as if "bad weather" pictures are available—and you'll find that extremely interesting snapshots are yours for the taking.

John van Guilder



How to cut the cost of Heating Your Home

John Barclay AMERICA'S HOME HEATING EXPERT

"Poor Heat" Complaints With Hot Water Heating Systems

WITH hot water heat, as with steam heat, "poor heat" complaints are sometimes registered because of cold rooms. These complaints can be very easily investigated and corrected by checking on the following suggestions. However, let us again assume that the physical features of the heating plant in the basement are satisfactory.

Make sure the whole system is full of water. If radiators are partly filled or empty, it is impossible to heat them. On every hot water boiler there should be an altitude gauge. Keep sufficient water in the system by checking on the position of the indicator pins on the gauge. The indicator pin shows when the system is full.

Hot water radiators should be located on outside walls, preferably underneath windows. On each radiator, opposite the end where the hot water enters, is located a manually operated vent valve.

This vent valve is a tri-cock arrangement or it may be simply a plug with a square end. In the latter case, a small key is supplied that fits the vent valve on each radiator. This key is similar to a roller skate key, having a socket end.

Take a cup or small container, hold it underneath the vent valve, insert the key—if it is

a tri-cock arrangement—turn the handle a little to the left. If there is air in the radiators, you will hear a sizzling sound due to it escaping, and finally water will flow out of the radiator. Catch this water in the container. Close the valve with the key anytime after the water begins to escape. This radiator has now been vented. Perform the same operation on any other air bound radiator.

Water circulation will stop with air bound radiators. These in turn will become cold, causing room temperatures to drop. Whenever fresh water is added to a system, air is also added, because city main water is usually aerated. By this we mean the water is charged with minute air bubbles. Subsequent heating will free this air and it may become trapped in the radiator sections.

It is an easy matter to tell if the hot water radiator is air bound. The sections adjacent to the vent valve will be chilled or cold. If this condition exists, immediately vent that radiator. If all the sections of the radiator are hot and the room remains chilled or cold, this condition definitely indicates that the radiator is underseized.

If it is impossible to locate the trouble, get in touch with your local oil dealer. He is in a position to aid you in solving most heating problems. (20)

Reduction in Moisture

Prepares Grass for Silage

Farmers in recent years have proved that grass silage keeps satisfactorily and makes excellent feed for all types of livestock, but most of the silage has been made by using molasses or phosphoric acid as a preservative. Ohio State University agronomists say grass silage will keep well without preservatives if the silo really is airtight and if the forage contains between 60 and 70 per cent of moisture when placed in the silo.

Standing grass or legumes contain more moisture than 70 per cent as they should be allowed to wilt after cutting if the material is to be made into silage without using a preservative. Usually the moisture content must be brought down from the original content about 78 per cent to a safe 68 per cent. The removal also makes the grass at least 10 per cent lighter to handle.

Silage is preserved by the formation of acids that are derived from the fermentation of sugars in the plants. Removing part of the water from a plant does not increase the total amount of sugar present but it does increase the proportion of sugar to total weight after part of the water has been evaporated.

Leakage from the bottom or sides of a silo is likely to occur if silage contains more than 70 per cent of moisture, and the liquid which is lost contains an important amount of nutrients. Forage which is properly wilted will not lose liquids by leakage.

Rabbits Can Be Controlled

If They Damage Crops

Rabbits may sometimes invade home gardens and cause serious damage, as they return after dark to feed on the carefully tended crops. If weeds, grass, and brush are near the garden, these animals are likely to cause some damage.

A good wire fence around the garden will keep these animals out, but it is expensive. Furthermore the wire for such a fence is not available to a gardener at present.

In the country, or in suburban districts where shooting is safe, a gun may easily be used to control rabbits if the law allows this where rabbits are damaging crops. Rabbits are most active from twilight until early morning.

Repellents are not often effective, since strong chemicals of this sort damage the plants. Nicotine sulfate may reduce rabbit injury, but it must be sprayed on the plants every few days, and after every rain. Simple box traps, baited with apple or carrot, are probably the best means for rabbit control. Several of these placed in the garden near the borders where the animals enter, will enable the gardener to put a stop to their damage.

Rogue Raspberry Mosaic

When symptoms of red raspberry mosaic are most easily detected agriculturists advise growers to take advantage of it and start roguing all diseased plants immediately. Although this virus disease is most serious on black raspberries, it can also be very destructive to red and purple varieties. The best control measure is the removal of all plants showing the symptoms.

You can identify red raspberry mosaic by large irregular green blisters or swellings on the leaves, surrounded by yellowish green tissue. Diseased plants are stunted and the leaves have a dark green and yellow speckled appearance. New growth is shorter than that of healthy plants, and fruits of diseased plants are usually dry, seedy and tasteless. When roguing, remove and destroy not only the young shoots showing the symptoms, but also the entire mother plant from which the shoots grow.

Fortunes Told on Ox-Bones

The Bronze age Chinese predicted future events or tried to learn the outcome of their plans by consulting their ancestors. To do so they inscribed a question on the shoulder bone of an ox or on a piece of tortoise-shell. Then they applied heat to the other side of the bone. This produced a crack upon the face. The direction in which the crack ran was believed to indicate a positive or negative answer to the query. It is due to this practice of divination, known as scapulimancy, that we know as much as we do about the Shang people at Anyang, because great piles of used oracle bones have been discovered and translated. Thus we know what the Shang people worried about, and what was foremost in their minds. The Black Pottery people also practiced scapulimancy in a primitive form.

Counsel Women in Plants

The field of personnel administration in industry was virtually closed to women prior to the war, but today production heads find it necessary to adopt policy and practice when employees in slacks replace workers in overalls. The women's counselor, between the actual job supervisor and the executive personnel officer, is charged with the duty of fostering good employer-employee relationships. Successful accomplishment of the counselor's functions will lessen the resentment of foremen and male employees against women as co-workers and will aid the woman in adjusting herself to factory life.

U. S. Produces Camphor

The United States today uses more than 5,000,000 pounds of camphor a year—and practically all of it comes from our Southern pine trees. The largest requirement is for the so-called technical grade for manufacture of cellulose nitrate plastics, used in making pen and pencil sets, heels for women's shoes, photographic film and some war products. More than 1,000,000 pounds of the USP grade of camphor are used principally in the pharmaceutical field. Less than a decade ago, Japan had a monopoly on natural camphor, distilled from the wood of camphor trees grown on the island of Formosa.



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- You can continue to place out your fats and bones for collection by your Street Cleaning Department where such a system is in effect.

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL WAR SERVICES

Industry Enlists Robot For Chemical Production

A "robot" control which opens and closes dozens of valves with split-second timing now controls processing in many of the nation's plants producing aviation gasoline, butadiene for synthetic rubber, and toluene for explosives.

In such plants steam, air and hot gases flow intermittently through an intricate system of piping and tanks. These gases must follow each other at predetermined intervals, and any error in timing or route of flow would slow up production not only through loss of materials but possible damage to equipment.

The processing might be compared to the job of scheduling, dispatching and regulating trains on a congested railroad system. One small error can tie up railroad traffic for hours, possibly resulting in collisions which would damage both trains and goods in transit.

The "robot" control performs the same functions in some parts of gasoline, butadiene and toluene plants as dispatchers and switchmen do in a railroad system. In many of these plants, even if the required numbers of skilled operators were available for them to open and close the numerous valves with the precise timing provided by the "robot" control, consisting of automatic cycle-timers and valve control.

Spinach Regains Its Lost Favor as Food Nutrient

Spinach has had a rather varied career. At one time everyone was urged to eat it because of its high calcium content, but when it was learned that the calcium was not all available for the body's needs, it fell into disfavor. However, when vitamin requirements and the amounts in different foods were realized, it was rapidly returned to favor.

Weight for weight freshly harvested raw spinach may contain two times as much ascorbic acid as orange juice and ten times as much vitamin A as milk. If by some chance cooked spinach is taboo in your household, now is certainly the time to introduce the tender green leaves into different salad combinations. While if the cooked spinach is a favorite, your family will probably appreciate getting it in a new form and continue to enjoy the delicate flavor.

Four Factors in Storage

For the successful storage of fresh vegetables, four important factors must be taken into consideration: temperature, moisture, ventilation, and light. Those which are similar in nature and require similar storage conditions. No one storage place can be used successfully to store all vegetables. Another thing that is very important is to put into storage only high quality produce—vegetables that are free from insect damage, disease, bruises, cracks, blemishes, cuts, sunburn, frost, or mechanical injury. Care must be used in harvesting to avoid bruising. Sanitation of the storage room or house is good storage insurance. Thoroughly clean and ventilate the place before putting any products in for the winter. The inside of the storage structure and all boxes or crates should be disinfected with a solution made by adding one pint of formaldehyde to six gallons of water, or one pound of copper sulphate to ten gallons of water.

Guard Against Gall Aphids

Because serious damage from spruce gall aphids may start at any time, Dr. Farlow B. Mills, entomologist of the Montana Agricultural Experiment station, urges daily inspection of the trees and prompt spraying the moment new growth starts to curl or shows the beginning of an infestation. Spruce gall aphids are so tiny they are hard to see, Dr. Mills explains. However, at this time the female, hidden under cottony masses on the underside of last year's growth, has laid eggs which will hatch soon. Little nymphs will migrate to new growth and cause the characteristic unsightly gall. The gall resembles a spruce cone with needles extending all around it. It is green or purplish at first, turns brown later and eventually kills the tip.

Ear Sensitive

Believe it or not, the ear is so sensitive that it can detect the changes of less than one tenth of a milligram, according to Dr. Harold K. Schilling, associate professor of physics at the Pennsylvania State college. The ordinary air pressure against the ear is equal to the weight of a million mosquitoes per square centimeter (about one-sixth of a square inch). A change in pressure caused by adding only one-thousandth of a mosquito to the pile could be detected by the ear, Dr. Schilling said. If only two or three molecules of air move against the ear, and displace the drum a distance of only one of the molecules, the ear would notice it, the physicist stated.

Cucumbers Like Loam

Due to the prevalence of insects and diseases the growing of cucumbers is a little difficult. Do not plant cucumbers on land that has been recently used for melons, pumpkins, squash or cucumbers, as this increases the danger from insects and disease. Cucumbers can be grown on almost any good soil, but a sandy loam is ideal. Good drainage, together with moisture-holding power, is essential in soils on which cucumbers are to be grown. To grow cucumbers of good quality and that yield heavily, it is necessary to provide a complete diet, through application of a complete plant food.

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