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MAPLE Old Home Week

September 3, 4, 5th

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Richmond Hill

ONTARIO GARDENER

(Condensed from the Broadcast
of Sunday, August 1st)

By BOB KEITH

Prolonged Rains Do Most Good

Every summer we seem to get our share of thunder storms and take them for granted as part of our summer weather. Usually with such storms there is a heavy rain, often a regular cloud burst, and they are generally accompanied by high wind. But the trouble with these heavy showers is that they come so hard and fast that a lot of the water often runs off, rather than soaking in. Then, too, they beat the soil down, especially clays, and if you don't get it worked up as soon as it's fit afterwards, it will bake and crust hard. But the all day rains don't usually hit so hard and because they come more gently, the water gets a good chance to soak in, to get right down where it can do some real good, and provide a reserve for the dry weather to follow.

Rain and slightly lower temperatures which accompany it do slow up some insects a bit. The aphids get knocked about by a good shower, and it certainly slows up the activities of the thrips. Thrips are always most destructive during hot dry weather. In a cool moist season the lower temperatures slow up their activities and then, too, the rain itself washes off and kills some. And so it goes, but still while the cool weather may slow up the insects a bit, it does just the opposite with many of the fungus diseases. The spores get spread around by the wind and rain, and the moisture is on the stems and foliage so that they can germinate readily and attack the plant. That's why apple scab is so hard to keep under control when there is a prolonged wet spring, and that's why roses generally show more black spots in the fall when the weather is cooler and there's more rain and dew. And of course the late summer and early fall is the time for potatoes to get the late blight if they are not protected with a good fungicide.

Spraying for Potato Blight

If you have a patch of late potatoes it will pay you to keep up the regular spraying or dusting to control the blight. If the control measures are not thorough and timely the disease will do a lot of damage. It attacks the leaves and stems, often causing the tops to die prematurely. The blight also attacks the tubers where it appears as dark brown discoloured areas. Under these areas in the flesh there is a reddish brown rot. To help prevent this late blight you should spray or dust about every 10 days. Bordeaux mixture is good, some of the new fixed copper compounds are very good, too, and are not so liable to clog the sprayer. They can be had in dust form as well, if you prefer to apply them that way.

Fungus on Beans

Did you ever have your beans get those brown rusty spots on the pods? Well, it's a fungus disease, and as it develops it causes those dark reddish brown spots; and damp weather is one of the things that makes it spread. Of course, heavy dews will do it, too. It's a good idea not to cultivate your beans or walk through them when the plants are wet with rain or dew. If the disease is present, then moving through the plants will often spread it from one plant to another and when the moisture is there the spores can readily germinate and infect healthy plants.

The little plant lice or aphids seem to be around as much as ever this year. I've noticed them on quite a few weeds as well as garden plants. Aphids, green fly, or plant lice — these names all apply to the same thing. I guess most of you have noticed them at one time or another. They are small, delicate, soft bodied insects, and they increase very rapidly, and if left unchecked they can do a lot of damage. They are sucking insects, so you can't kill them with things like arsenic or other stomach poisons. You have to use a contact insecticide. You can spray them with nicotine sulphate or one of the rotenone or pyrethrum sprays or, if you want to use a dust, the derris dust is quite effective.

Beware the Root Aphid

There's another kind of aphid which often causes quite a bit of damage, and because you don't see it on the leaves and stems of the plant you don't realize that it is an insect doing the damage. It is the root aphid I refer to. They are found in the ground, clustered along the roots. They suck the juices from the plant, often causing it to become stunted and dwarfed. The leaves get somewhat sickly looking and on the whole the plant looks anything but thrifty. Asters are quite a common victim of root aphids. You can use the nicotine spray mixture for this pest only, instead of spraying it on, you pour about half a cupful about the base of the plant. The best way to do this is to make a cup-shaped depression in the soil about the base of the plant, then pour about half a cupful of the solution into this depression. A very good strength to use would be 2 teaspoons to 1 gallon of water or, for smaller quantities, ½ a teaspoon to

1 quart of water.

Control of Cabbage Worm

If there are any plants of the cabbage family about the garden it doesn't seem long before there are a few cabbage worms about. You know those white butterflies you so often see flitting about the garden? Well, they're the adult form of the cabbage worm. The butterflies lay their eggs on the leaves, mostly on the undersides. The eggs hatch in about 5 days and the young worms begin eating the leaves. When the worms are full grown they are an inch or a little better in length and about the same shade of green as the leaves. You'll find the worms in almost any cabbage patch, but then they'll feed on other members of the cabbage family too, such as cauliflower, brussels sprouts, broccoli and turnips.

If nothing is done about them, they'll soon make the plants a sad looking sight. So as soon as you notice any holes in the leaves, or see the worms, get on some spray or dust. Any of the bug killers will do a good job, arsenate of lead is good too, but anything containing arsenic should not be used later than three weeks before harvesting. An insecticide that a great many gardeners use now is derris dust. It is not poisonous to humans or animals, but it will certainly get the insects. There are often at least three generations during the season, so it means that a watch will have to be kept and spraying or dusting done whenever the worms show up.

POLISH IMMIGRANTS

HAVE MADE GOOD

Permanent residence will now be granted by the Canadian Government to the majority of the 4,500 Polish veteran immigrants who were brought to Canada in 1946 and 1947 for work in agriculture, the Minister of Labour announced recently.

When these veterans volunteered for Canadian farm jobs, they undertook to remain in agriculture for two years, and the arrangement provided that they were to complete this two-year period before being allowed to apply for permanent residence, the Minister explained. So satisfactory has been the conduct of most of these immigrants, that the Canadian Government has decided to shorten this waiting period before they are allowed to take this first step towards their citizenship. All those who have co-operated in the operation of the scheme and who can satisfy the requirements of the Immigration Act will now be granted "permanent landings", to use the technical description.

The granting of "permanent landings" will in no way relieve the veteran of his responsibility to his undertaking with respect to farm employment, it was emphasized. However, by obtaining "permanent landings," they will acquire the right to apply for the immigration of their close relatives.

It seems one can never wear out the grindstone by holding his nose to it.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH YORK

Polio Danger Period
June Through September

The annual poliomyelitis — infantile paralysis — period runs from June through September, with the peak in September.

During these months it is well to be on guard against this disease, particularly if an outbreak occurs in your own community.

It is well to remember that extreme fatigue and chills should be avoided in the danger months.

Cleanliness — personal and communal — is essential. Avoid swimming in polluted waters. Try not to mingle with crowds unnecessarily.

Beware of flies! It has been ascertained that flies can carry the polio virus.

Also beware of minor illnesses. They can prove to be serious.

Early signs of polio resemble those of many other illnesses, starting with headache, slight fever, head cold or sore throat.

Other early symptoms may be poor appetite, fatigue, irritability, nausea, diarrhoea, or constipation, trembling pain, or stiffness in the back or neck.

If any of those symptoms appear, a physician should be consulted.

Remember! Prompt treatment of polio enhances chances of complete recovery.

CARL E. HILL, M.D., M.O.H.

MAPLE

Dr. Fred W. Rontley and Mrs. Rontley left this week for Europe. They will be gone for several weeks.

Mr. Lorne Rothwell of North Bay was a week end visitor with Mr. and Mrs. George Merrick.

Miss Betty Park spent her 2 weeks' vacation with her sister, Mrs. Percy Campbell in Alliston.

Miss Jeanette Jackson spent several days at Alcona Beach, Lake Simcoe, last week.

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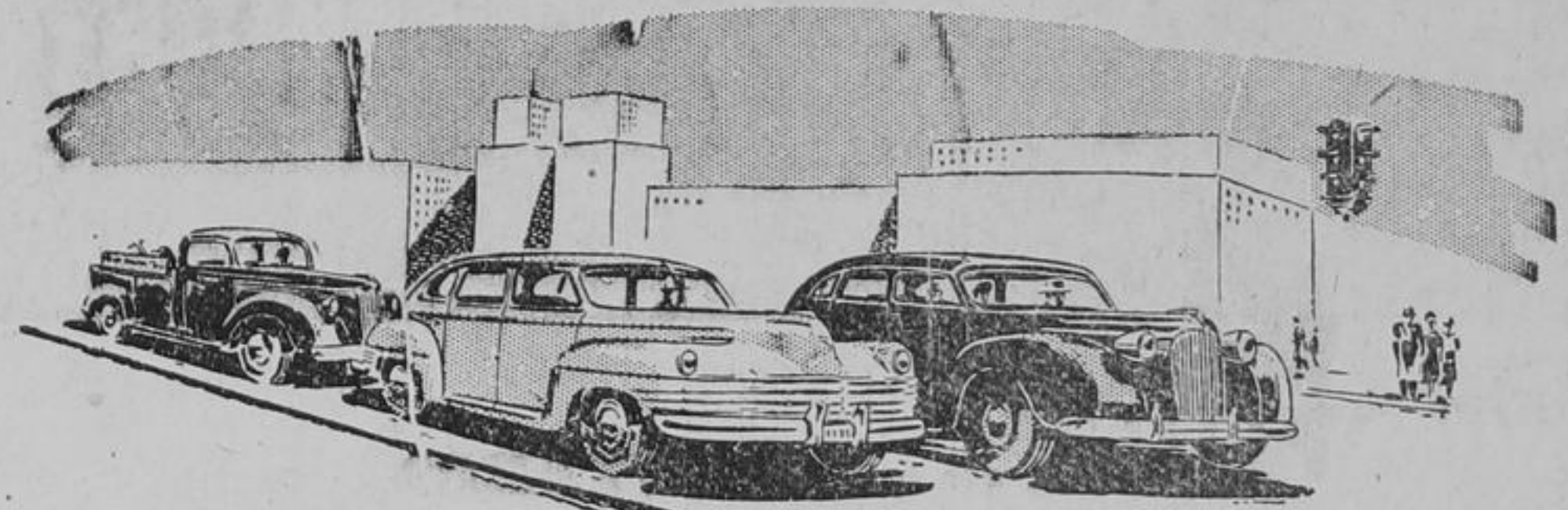
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