

Special Value in North of the Use of Hot-beds

How to Make These Aids to Good Gardening in the North. Neither Difficult to Make, Nor Too Costly. Effective Arrangement for the Foreground of a Flower Bed.

(Contributed by Timmins Horticultural Society)

A very effective arrangement for the foreground of a flower bed can be built up by employing Blue Gem or Crystal Palace Lobelia, or Sweet Alyssum, backed by Rose Gem Petunias, Alyssum and Lobelia can be used in combination, if preferred. Miniature or "Gem" Petunias are a distinct group, growing five to six inches tall, forming compact, ball-like plants about six inches across. There are many colours and shades to choose from in this species, but Rose Gem has a rich, deep rose that goes very well with dark blue Lobelia. The flowers of Rose Gem are about two inches across and stand out in bold relief to the foliage, which is so thick and compactly formed as to hide all of the stems.

Behind Rose Gem, plant Jubilee Gem. Jubilee Gem is a comparatively new variety of the old-fashioned Cornflower, or Bachelor Button. It is very compact in shape, growing about nine inches high. The flower is more double and richer in colour than Bachelor Button and comes only in dark blue. It can be sown outside as soon as the ground is prepared or—for earlier flowering—started in boxes, hot-beds or cold-frame.

Fireball—a variety of dwarf annual Phlox—can be substituted or combined with Jubilee Gem. Fireball is brilliant scarlet, compact and fairly symmetrical. If you like vivid colouring you will find it among the annual Phloxes, both tall and dwarf. This can also be said of Nasturtiums, Pansies and Violas fit in anywhere, either as edging or bedding plants. Ageratum is well adapted to edge beds of Geranium; it has a long blooming period, blooms profusely and is very compact. Unfortunately Ageratum is very susceptible to frost. The same might be said of Geranium, although both are grown successfully in this locality.

The edgings and colour combinations suggested in the foregoing paragraphs are merely tentative examples—to be improved upon or altered to suit individual tastes or the requirements of the particular border that you may have in mind.

Perhaps the greatest joy of gardening is in the work of experimentation. The gardener who finds out for himself what he can do and what he cannot do is the one who turns his hobby into progressive as well as a truly constructive pastime.

The above quotation belongs to George Dickson, F.R.B.S., of the Royal Botanical Gardens, London, England. It has a special significance for gardeners in localities where climate conditions are unduly severe. Only by experimenting can we discover what plants will or will not survive our northern winters and what plants will bloom before they are cut down by frost. To hasten the blooming period of annuals—and the maturity of certain vegetables—it is advisable to have them well started before the ground is ready to receive them. To achieve this end a gardener should be equipped with a hot-bed or cold frame.

Nothing very elaborate is required. A rectangular wooden frame built of odds and ends of scrap lumber, placed on the ground open end downwards and banked with earth to retain heat, will suit the purpose. Storm windows laid on top serve very well to admit light and exclude the elements. The frame should be placed preferably against the south side of a building to shield it from the north winds. Make your frame about three feet high, long and wide enough to fit your storm windows snugly. The windows are better sloped toward the front to shed water. We will discuss this subject in detail later.

If you are thinking of planting Marigolds don't overlook Crown of Gold. It blooms earlier and more freely than the old type of African Marigold and its foliage is entirely odorless.

Mines Pay Heavily in "Hidden" Form of Taxes

The Northern Miner last week says: "The taxes paid by mining companies are something more than meets the eye. It is the custom with mining companies to show in their reports only the taxes directly paid; sometimes reference is made to numerous other taxes but their amount is never offered in figures. One of the Canadian mining companies which last year paid out a little over a million dollars for direct federal, municipal and provincial taxes, got curious as to what it was paying in indirect taxes. It found that in addition to the million dollars straight taxes it had paid out over \$100,000 in sales tax on supplies and equipment, and had disbursed nearly \$30,000 in a varied assortment of other taxes. Obviously the items specifically mentioned in annual reports are only part of the tax story, and included in operating costs there is a very respectable figure for numerous other impositions."

SNOW PILES UP 25 FEET ALONG FERGUS ROADS



The Ontario department of highways, according to an official, has had more trouble this winter keeping clear Highway No. 6 between Fergus and Arthur than any other in the area. The figure on the ledge is dwarfed by the wall of snow plows have piled up throughout the winter. In places snow has been

packed up to a height of 25 feet. Small centres in this district have been isolated several times and travellers have been often marooned. Driving along this highway is like moving in a canyon of snow and ice. The countryside is shut out by the lowering walls.

Text of Statement From Premier King

Address of Premier on Foreign Affairs on Monday.

The following is the full text of the address on foreign affairs as given by Premier King in the House of Commons on Monday:

"The developments of the past week render it desirable that I should make a brief statement on the international situation. Many of the factors are not yet clear. When I come to take up the estimates of the Department of External Affairs, I shall seek to go fully into many questions which the happenings of last year and, in particular, of the past few months have created for Canada, as for other countries.

"I have been taken to task for some guarded references I made at the beginning of the month to the European situation. I pointed out on the first instant that a critical situation was still existing in the world, and that at some moment we might be called upon to consider questions larger than any we had thus far discussed. It will be realized now that these apprehensions had some foundation; so, I believe, had the feeling that the outlook was improving, to which I referred a week later. It will be observed that in stating on March 7 that I believed relief had been experienced in the foreign office of Europe, that the situation had somewhat cleared in the few previous days, I was careful to add that I still adhered to what I had said on the previous occasion, as something which, all the circumstances considered, it was proper I should have given to honorable members.

Latest Move Surprise

I made no claim to any exclusive sources of information or to any ability to forecast the future. The form and place of the latest disturbance was a surprise to me, and a surprise to many governments more nearly concerned, and more minutely informed. I am sure this House will always be desirous alike of facing unwelcome realities and of avoiding giving away to panic or propaganda. I have myself no desire either to ignore the serious shock the events of the past week have given to the world's hope of peace, or to exaggerate the imminence or extent of danger, as if the world were heading for Armageddon.

We have witnessed this past week the wanton and forcible occupation by Germany of the greater part of what remained of the Czechoslovak Republic. Following this action, whether or not with Germany's approval, Hungary has occupied the remaining fragment, small, but racially and strategically important. After Munich it was hoped that what remained of the Czechoslovak Republic would be immune from aggression. That hope has not been realized. There are few countries that do not regret the fate which has now overtaken that gallant and valorous small nation. They regret still more the evidence a great country has given that it does not consider itself bound by pledges freshly exchanged a few short months before, and that it looks to force as the sole basis of relations with its neighbours and apparently with the world. The occurrences of the week cannot find any defense, as may have appeared to be the case with some of the earlier excessive terms of the Treaty of Versailles, or in the principles of self-determination and racial unity.

Stock-Taking Needed

For the present at least, so far as we know, no country in all Europe is planning by counterforce to reverse the result of force in Czechoslovakia. It is rather a question of weighing the results and considering what further moves may lie in the future. What is now needed is to take stock, as fully as may be possible, and to be ready for developments as they take actual shape out of the fog of conjectures; to prepare for all possible contingencies.

Mr. Chamberlain, in his frank and moving speech at Birmingham, asked, was this the end of an old adventure or the beginning of a new, the last attack on a small state or the beginning of an attempt to dominate the world by force? He did not attempt to answer those questions, but declared they would require consideration, not only by Germany's neighbours but by others even outside of Europe, and that the Government of the United Kingdom would consider them in consultation

Finds Proposed Amendment Noteworthy and Laudable

Amendments to the Ontario Mining Act introduced in the Ontario Legislature are noteworthy and laudable.

The prospector is aided by permitting him to stake more claims on his own license. Other concessions give encouragement to this fundamental branch of the mining industry.

Licensing of refineries is to be commended. It is a neat method of combatting the highgrader whose nefarious, highly profitable operations have been extremely hard to detect.

A third important gain is the rewriting of the great body of operating regulations to bring them up to date with best modern practice. This reform, especially in regard to making mining safer, is long overdue.

The method of drawing up the amendments is a demonstration of democracy at its best. Neither mine nor government interests shook a stick over the head of the other demanding this or that.

When re-drafting of the Act was decided upon a year ago, officials asked that mine operators form a committee to assist. Miners were asked to write in their suggestions. On that committee sat many of the best mining brains in the country. Every phase of the industry was represented. The present amendments are the result of a year's co-operative effort and study.

Minister of Mines Leduc, his deputy and their collaborators deserve congratulations.

The Commentator—Plastic surgery has advanced with leaps and bounds in recent years, but plastic surgeons are still having their troubles. One doctor had a man's inner throat to patch and the only skin he found suitable was on the man's neck. The surgeon operated and grafted the skin of the neck to that of the throat quite successfully. But, according to the medical report, the strip from the neck grew a beard and prevented the luckless patient from swallowing his food.

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Issue Must Be Clarified

The first necessity for Canada, as well as for Great Britain, is to set, rumor from fact, to examine whether there is a probability of further drives, and if so in what direction, and in what form. It is essential to clarify the actual issue that may arise. It is important to know what country or countries may be concerned, and whether it is a case of agitation and propaganda, or of economic pressure, or of military force. It is equally important to know exactly what policies are being suggested to meet the situation, and what measure of support and feasibility those policies are likely to receive. With this knowledge, the Canadian government will have little difficulty in proposing to this Parliament any action which it believes should be taken in the contingency anticipated.

If there were a prospect of an aggressor launching an attack on Britain, with bombers raining death on London, I have no doubt what the decision of the Canadian people and parliament would be. We would regard it as an act of aggression menacing freedom in all parts of the British Commonwealth. If it were a case, on the other hand, of a dispute over trade or prestige in some far corner of the world, that would raise quite different considerations.

Will Discuss a Common Health Board for Camp

Representatives of Tisdale, Whitney and Timmins to Meet and Discuss Question. To Investigate Poor Lighting in Town Hall. Federation de Femmes Francais Canadian Tag Day on May 16.

The question of a full-time Medical Officer of Health and a full-time Sanitary Inspector for the whole camp, the town of Timmins and the townships of Tisdale and Whitney, was discussed on Monday night at a special meeting of Council. Representatives of the three municipalities will meet at an early date to further discuss the matter.

The subject was introduced when a letter from Frank Evans, clerk of the township of Tisdale, asked the Timmins Council to set a date for a meeting to discuss the matter of a full-time Sanitary Inspector for the camp.

"Is it possible to have one man take care of the three places?" The Mayor asked the Sanitary Inspector, James Meenan, who was present.

"Well, it means looking after 40,000 people in an area of 1,000 square miles," was the response. However, he believed that if the inspector had an automobile he could do the job.

If they did get together with representatives of the townships, said the mayor, he would rather discuss the broader issue of whether or not the three municipalities should have one big health department and even one common employment department.

Final decision was to have the meeting and discuss the broader issue.

Dental Clinic

At the same meeting a copy of a letter which the public school board forwarded to the Board of Health was read to the council. The school board was not in favour of a central dental clinic, it said, but had inaugurated its own plan to take care of public school pupils who needed dental work done.

"Well, that's that," said Councillor Armstrong, and the matter of a dental clinic which had occupied so much time during earlier meetings, was disposed of.

Town Hall Lighting

A report was submitted to the council to the effect that the lighting in the town hall was poor. The candle-power of illumination in the various offices was seen to be much lower than it should.

"How is it we build this building and find the wiring all wrong. We placed such matters in the hands of a competent architect, did we not?" asked

the mayor.

Mr. Shaw, town treasurer, explained that the building had been wired for indirect lighting. The system was meant to be supplemented by desk lamps. However, running on a 25-cycle current the desk lamps flickered.

Decision was to place the matter in the hands of the town engineer, Jack McLean. He will submit the question to the Hydro Electric Commission for recommendations.

Tag Days

The Federation de Femmes Canadianes was granted permission to hold a tag day on May 16. Although the council was not in agreement with the principle of tag days, said Councillor McCabe, it did not feel that it could refuse the right to hold one in an organization, such as the Federation, which did charitable work.

On May 16 the Federation Tag Day will be held. On May 27 a tag day will be held for the Canadian Institute for the Blind and on April 18 the Mackenzie-Papineau Battalion friends will ask the public for support.

Wants Dust Control Plant for Kirkland Lake Roads

Apparently they have dust in Kirkland Lake, as well as in Timmins. But the Kirkland Lake authorities as yet have not adopted the Timmins plan of putting on an extra tax for oiling the streets there. The following is from the last issue of The Northern News, of Kirkland Lake:

"One local housewife, who was bothered by the dust from the street last summer, was wandering if the new dust control plant now in operation at the Hollinger Consolidated Mine could be placed in her living room."



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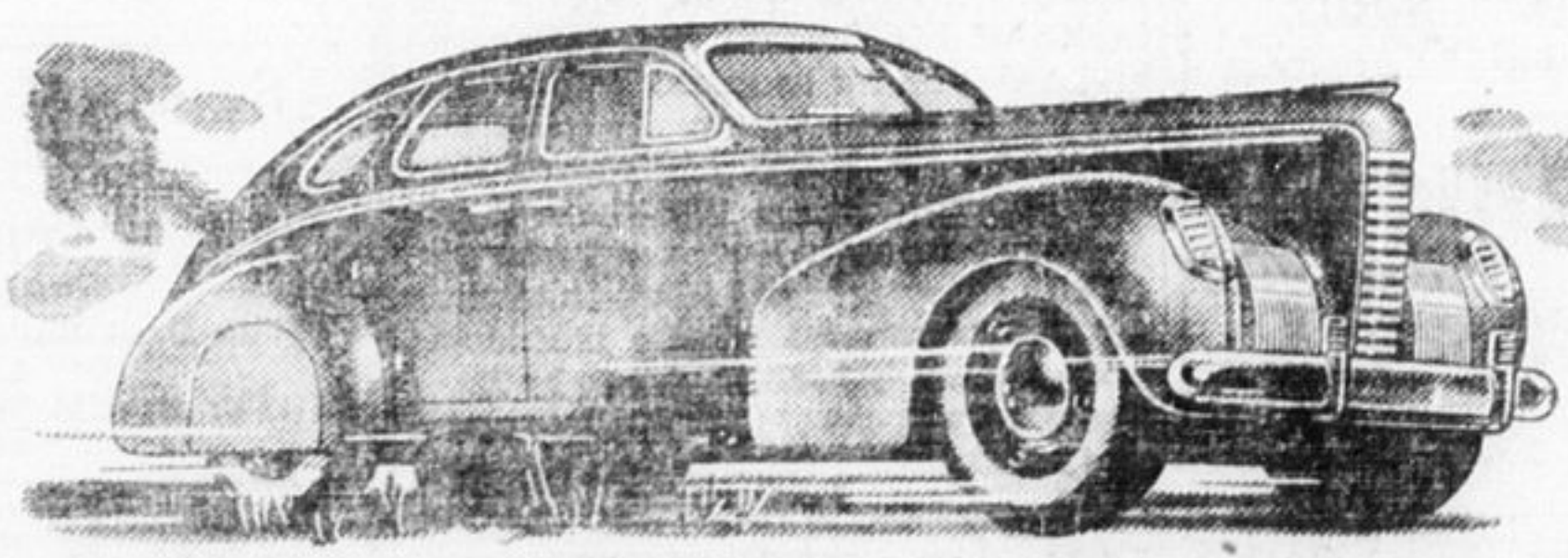
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