

# BEAUTIFY THE HOME GROUNDS GOOD SHRUBS FOR THE FARM LAWN

BY LIONEL STEVENSON.

Plant to have something attractive all the year, bloom and fragrance from the flowering shrubs during the spring and summer, colored fruit and foliage and twigs during the autumn and winter. Such flowering plants as the lilac, golden bell, spirea, weigelia, althea and hydrangea give a wealth of bloom, while the sumachs and the barberry and the dogwood give a glorious coloring during the season when there is no bloom.

There are a few groups of shrubs whose value is threefold as the dogwoods, the viburnums and the hawthorns. They not only have beautiful bloom, but have good foliage and are unusually interesting in winter time. In the autumn the leaves of the black haw, the Japanese snow-berry and the flowering dogwood are most striking. The sheepsbush, the arrowwood and the red berried high bush cranberry hold their berries late into the winter. The English hawthorn, the glossy thorn and the cockspur thorn hold their scarlet fruit all winter. For colored twigs the Siberian dogwood and the golden stemmed osier are most desirable.

### FOUNDATION PLANTING.

For planting about the house foundation it is best to use shrubs that grow from 3 to 6 feet high; using low shrubs under the windows and in front of the taller shrubs which are kept well back. Corners are best rounded out by spirea Van Houttei, a graceful shrub that is always symmetrical and full from the ground up. Of the shrubs best suited for foundation planting the following are most desired: spirea Van Houttei, slender deutzia, calliandra, snow-berry, Japanese barberry, coralberry, Japanese privet, Forsythia, and spirea Thunbergii. Avoid planting shrubs too close to basement windows as such will keep out light and air.

### PLANTING DISTANCES.

Tall shrubs such as the Lilac, Viburnum and Forsythia should be spaced 5 to 8 feet apart. This will give room for natural development. Low shrubs like barberry, snowberry and deutzia should be planted 3 to 4 feet apart, while medium height shrubs like Japanese privet, and spirea should be placed 4 to 5 feet apart. Do not crowd the plants too closely, give them room to grow and develop the shape characteristic for the species.

The following list will indicate the quantity of planting material required for the foundation planting of a medium-sized house:

- 2 Mugho pine
- 2 Japanese barberry
- 10 Regal's privet
- 10 Spirea Van Houttei
- 2 Double white lilac
- 15 snowberry
- 6 Tatarian honeysuckle
- 8 Forsythia.

There are many other shrubs that can be used, perhaps to advantage. The list is given to indicate quantity, not what should be planted.

If you are pressed for time in April and May the natural planting season, then prepare to carry out the planting in October.

### Upward Trend of Canadian Seed.

In observing that seed production in Canada is more and more becoming important and profitable, the Dominion Minister of Agriculture in his report for the year ending March 31st last is pleased to be able to say that Canadian grown seeds now command recognition on foreign markets by virtue of their winter hardiness, vigor of growth and standard quality of grade. Many kinds of grain, grass and vegetable seeds for which there is demand from abroad are continually on the increase in surplus exportable quantities and by their excellence have pretty thoroughly supplanted imported stocks on our home markets. Alfalfa, lucerne and brown-top or Rhode Island bent grass, the Minister states, show the most notable increase in seed crop acreage, the first-named having developed in six years, from 238,000 acres to 858,000 acres and from imports of 15,000 bushels to an export of 60,000 bushels.

### Easy to Grow and Sell.

Gladioli like you see at the florists and which usually sell for about \$5 a dozen are as easy for the farm wife to grow as onions.

I began in a small way two years ago. I plant the bulbs as soon as danger of frost is past, in rows eighteen inches apart, four inches apart in the row and four inches deep. I plant at intervals of two weeks until the middle of June and have lovely blossoms until frost. Cut spikes of buds keep and carry splendidly. If mailing them I place in real cool water, and put in ice box or cellar overnight, dip stem end in paraffin wax and pack in a box lined with oil paper.

The bulbs divide and multiply very rapidly. From a start of only ten two years ago I now have three hundred and expect to plant five hundred next year. Bulbs must be dug as soon as leaves turn yellow, dried and put in a cellar that is dry and not too cool.—Mrs. R. B.

Referring to the work of the Seed Branch of his Department the Minister notes that barley seed is receiving special attention in Northern Ontario, where the crop does particularly well, that in the Solisgr district of Manitoba where a centre has been organized for the production of seed oats, yields of 100 bushels per acre have been secured, that it has been found possible to supply other districts with superior seed and that efforts are being made towards the encouragement of the production of timothy seed, Kentucky blue grass and fescues to displace their importations.

In this connection it should be noted that the Dept. of Agriculture at Ottawa has published a convenient pocket edition of the Seeds Act, 1923, which farmers and soil cultivators generally would do well to possess themselves of, and which can be had free of all cost by merely dropping an unstamped postal card to the Publications Branch at the Nation's capital.

The following list will indicate the quantity of planting material required for the foundation planting of a medium-sized house:

- 2 Mugho pine
- 2 Japanese barberry
- 10 Regal's privet
- 10 Spirea Van Houttei
- 2 Double white lilac
- 15 snowberry
- 6 Tatarian honeysuckle
- 8 Forsythia.

There are many other shrubs that can be used, perhaps to advantage. The list is given to indicate quantity, not what should be planted.

If you are pressed for time in April and May the natural planting season, then prepare to carry out the planting in October.

In observing that seed production in Canada is more and more becoming important and profitable, the Dominion Minister of Agriculture in his report for the year ending March 31st last is pleased to be able to say that Canadian grown seeds now command recognition on foreign markets by virtue of their winter hardiness, vigor of growth and standard quality of grade. Many kinds of grain, grass and vegetable seeds for which there is demand from abroad are continually on the increase in surplus exportable quantities and by their excellence have pretty thoroughly supplanted imported stocks on our home markets. Alfalfa, lucerne and brown-top or Rhode Island bent grass, the Minister states, show the most notable increase in seed crop acreage, the first-named having developed in six years, from 238,000 acres to 858,000 acres and from imports of 15,000 bushels to an export of 60,000 bushels.

I have found that if the top ends of fence posts are sharpened they will not rot so fast.—A. G. H.



COLORFUL COSTUMES AT CARNIVAL

Alexander Znamensky, formerly a member of the Imperial Russian Opera, dressed in rich native Russian Boyar costume and accompanied by two other fair masqueraders enlivened proceedings at the great Fete de Nuit which is featured every year in Quebec City and was this year one of the outstanding items in the program of the Winter Sports Season which has had a very successful ten weeks run at the Ancient Capital.

## Sunday School Lesson

March 13. Making the World Christian. Matt. 28: 16-20; Acts 16: 6-15. Gold on Text—Go ye therefore, and teach all nations.—Matt. 28: 19.

ANALYSIS.  
I. THE GREAT COMMISSION GIVEN BY JESUS, Matt. 28: 16-20.  
II. HOW THE SPIRIT OF GOD OPENED UP THE WAY FOR HIS FULFILLMENT, Acts 16: 6-10.

INTRODUCTION.—The gradual entrance of the Christian church upon its world-wide mission was made in obedience to convictions inspired by the risen Lord, who revealed to his followers that he was enthroned over all nations, and not only over the Jews.

I. THE GREAT COMMISSION GIVEN TO THE CHURCH BY JESUS, Matt. 28: 16-20.

Vs. 16, 17. Jesus, as God's Messiah, is Lord of all. Yet it was only through the conviction of his resurrection from the dead that the faith of his disciples became of sufficient force to send them out everywhere, preaching salvation in his name. His death had crushed their hopes and scattered them. But now the vision of Jesus as risen and at God's right hand restores their faith and creates a tidal wave in their hearts which soon washes to earth's farthest bounds. We read that the vision of the risen one brought them to their knees in adoration, "though some doubted." The meaning of the last clause can only be that to some the resurrection seemed too stupendous a fact to be easily believed. But while these might question the reality of what they saw, no doubts attached to the moral character of the truth which the resurrection proclaimed to all the loyal followers of Jesus. It was, in a word, that "all power in heaven and on earth" now belonged to Jesus as the heavenly Messiah.

V. 19. Therefore the disciples are to take the whole world as their sphere of testimony. They are to make disciples not only of Jews, but of all nationalities. They are to baptize all who accept Jesus as Saviour, and the name they are to utter over every one so baptized is the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. God as Father, Christ as Son, the Holy Spirit as the power of the new life, belong not to the Jews only, but to all mankind.

V. 20. The nations are to be taught the commandments of Jesus. Jesus is universal Lord, and his words are to be the source and rule of life. All human life is to be brought into subjection to Christ, and meantime disciples "until the consummation of the age," that is, until the present world ends and the new heavenly world begins.

### II. HOW THE SPIRIT OF GOD OPENED UP THE WAY FOR HIS FULFILLMENT, Acts 16: 6-10.

V. 6. A passage from the missionary history of Paul now illustrates the part which, under God, events played in the opening up of the way to the fulfillment of Christ's command. Paul is on his second missionary tour. He has visited the South Galatian cities of Lystra, Derbe, Iconium and Antioch, and now he is on his way northwards. The Holy Spirit, we read, forbids him at this point to turn westwards into the Province of Asia. Doubtless the way was closed against him in that province. Prophetic voices in his own or other hearts were clear that the time of entering Asia was not yet.

V. 7. The same kind of experience repeated itself a little farther north. Paul would have liked to turn north-eastwards into Bithynia, but again the guidance of the Spirit opposed itself to the project.

V. 8. So Paul goes straight ahead, and at Troas on the Hellespont—the modern Dardanelles—he has a wonderful vision in a dream by night. This vision is the explanation of the mysterious veto pronounced on his previous turning either to the right hand or to the left.

V. 9. The vision is of a Macedonian standing, perhaps, on the opposite side of the straits, and saying with outstretched arms: "Cross over to Macedonia, and help us."

V. 10. Paul could not dismiss this vision as a mere dream. He was persuaded that God had spoken, and was calling him to undertake a vast and hitherto unthought-of extension of his journey. The same conclusion was shared by all the company. "We immediately," says Luke, "sought to get away to Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the glad tidings to them."

So by events, prophecies, dreams, and open gates of opportunity, the way is gradually mapped out for fulfilling the Great Commission of the risen Lord. God inspires voices in our hearts that impel us forward, and humanity, eagerly waiting for Christ's salvation, holds the doors open.

## A "MIKE" PARTY FOR THE 17TH ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN THE EVENING

BY JANE HEMMINGWAY.

Would you not be intrigued to receive a jolly little invitation to a St. Patrick Party, especially if it came through the mail on a white card, written in real Irish green ink and decorated around the edge with a border of radio symbols drawn in with green ink?

In preparation for the event, a most realistic "Mike" can be constructed from the standard of a floor lamp or a costume, with two perforated tin pans tied together and fastened on the top. On one of the pans paint a funny Irish face, perch a tall hat over it and stick a clay pipe in its mouth.

Give this "Mike" the place of honor in one corner of the room, where he can preside over the festivities. Green ribbons in the place of wires may be wound around the room. This will add the required color to your room.

When the guests have all assembled, pass around a basket containing little watches about the size of a quarter, which have been cut from green cardboard, with the dial drawn on them in gilt paint. Beginning at 8:30 the hands should be drawn to show the different times for the various stunts—a different time for each guest present.

The following program of the evening's stunts should be printed in green on a huge sheet of paper, post or fashion, and thumb-tacked to the wall in a conspicuous position:

- PROGRAM FOR SAINT PATRICK'S
- 8:30—Market Reports
  - 8:50—Bedtime Story by Uncle Mike
  - 9:00—Whistling Solo with Variations
  - 9:10—A Tenor Solo
  - 9:20—Setting-Up Exercises
  - 9:30—Entertainment, Greenie and Hue
  - 9:40—Fashion Talk, The Vogue of Green
  - 9:50—Tipperary Pat and His Golden Harp Orchestra
  - 10:00—Sport Corner, a Play-by-Play Description of a Game
  - 10:10—Household Talk
  - 10:20—Dinner Music.

There will be great excitement as the guests consult their watches to see just what time they "go on the air."

Market Reports. The one whose watch marks 8:30 manages this game. Little candy potatoes and pigs are hidden throughout the house and the guests are told to hunt for them. The pigs count ten each and the potatoes five. When the allotted time, twenty minutes in this case, is up, each one must report his earnings to the one in charge, who presents a pig bank to the winner.

Bedtime Story. The one who has charge of this stunt passes folded sheets of paper containing the following Irish romance written on them, the Irish words being left blank. Pencils are passed and each one has to fill in the spaces with the right word. A popular Irish story may be given for a prize.

AN IRISH ROMANCE.  
Now — was a — of a boy,  
And he loved a darlin' —  
With the blue o' — in her eye  
And a figure as neat as you've seen.

He wore out many a pair of —  
A-courting of his —  
And the way she wouldn't name the day  
Fair made our — fidget.

For she lived close by —  
And he lived down in —  
Says she, "My home I cannot leave  
'Tis a long way to —"

And so they fought like — cats  
Until a lad named O'Rourke  
Put the "come hither" on the lass  
And carried her off to —

Paddy, broth, colleen, Killarney,  
brogues, Bridget, gossoon, County  
Clare, Kerry, Tipperary, Kilkenny,  
Cork.

The Whistling Solo. This stunt will be much more fun for those "listening in" than for the performers. Two people have drawn this time—nine o'clock. One of them has to whistle an Irish tune and the other tell an Irish joke at the same time.

To insure a very funny joke that will make the crowd laugh heartily and so confuse the soloist, the hostess should have one written out on a piece of paper to be read.

The Tenor Solo. This should be very funny if the one who draws it happens to be a woman or someone who cannot sing. A brand-new sheet of music, a tenor solo, should be given him—or her—and the rest will sit about enjoying his agony in mastering it.

Setting-Up Exercises. The whole crowd stand in rows for this while the master of ceremonies gives the directions for the various exercises. The piano or the phonograph will furnish the music, which should go faster and faster until it ends in a real Irish jig.

Greenie and Paddy, the Shamrock Twins. The two people who have this stunt to answer for are supposed to tell funny stories to each other in true minstrel-show style.

The Fashion talk. Let the person who is to give this talk read the following, if he or she is not able to improvise one:

### THE VOGUE OF GREEN.

"And sure, my dear, and did you hear the news that's going round? It's this: It's green they are a-wearing of this season, all together. Cables from the fashion makers in France say Paris green, but don't you believe it at all, at all; it's Irish green. And you see it in every shade and hue, according to the use it's put to. For instance, there's banknote green. That's very popular for shopping costumes. And could you imagine a lovelier garden frock than one made of pea green or apple green? Crome de menthe will be favorites for re-arranging the year will be bottle green. Get a sea-green gown and you'll be on the top wave of fashion this spring."

Tipperary Pat and His Golden Harp Orchestra. Several people are in on this part of the program. These group numbers will take care of a big crowd. They are all provided with mouth organs, horns, combs and tissue paper—any kind of instruments available.

The Sport Corner. This is another stunt in which several people may participate. A line is drawn in chalk across one corner of the room, with three or four people on either side of it. They are given a big green toy balloon and told to bat it across the line with their hands, each side trying to prevent the other from crossing the line. The announcer has to describe the game play by play.

The Household Talk. This talk is a very brief description of the potatoes, given by the hostess herself.

In the dining room the table is arranged buffet style. The candies should be in the shape of potatoes. The cakes can be made to look exactly like potatoes by cutting ovals from thin sheets of sponge cake, putting two together with jelly or a soft icing, then icing them all over in caramel. Sprinkle very lightly with pulverized cinnamon and put in the "eyes" with a sharp knife while the icing is still soft.

Arrange the potato candies on a plate and garnish with green lime candy leaves. A potato flour sponge cake may be served with these. Most realistic potato croquettes may be made by rolling cone-shaped servings of vanilla ice cream in a fruit punch chopped nuts. Coffee or a fruit punch may be served also. Potato salad, potato chips, saltines and cheese crackers are suitable for a Mike party.

In the centre of the table should be either a loud speaker made of green cardboard or a square indoor aerial wound with green cord in place of wire. From whichever one is used green ribbons should extend to the edges of the table where they are tied to noise makers. This is the dinner music mentioned.

Raw ammonia will remove paint spots from a floor. Be careful not to allow the ammonia to remain on too long, as it will eat into the wood.

## BIG MOMENTS IN LITTLE LIVES

BY MARGARET COHN RHODAS.

Too often the big moment in a small child's life is wholly overlooked, not even recognized many times, by the parents. These moments are very important and really need watching for.

When Bobby was taken out for the first time on a star-lit night, he wondered at the glory of the heavens. In his early-to-bed regime he had never stood under a sky with twinkling stars and as he looked he marveled and suddenly tightening his grip on his mother's hand he said joyously: "Why, Mother, I think I almost need Good." This was indeed a big moment. Fortunately for Bobby, he had a mother who understood, she knew that her child had visualized God in his power more than he had ever done in his baby life, before. This moment needed her attention.

Billy, who was a sadly wilful child and was always being checked or chided on account of some misdemeanor, quite unaccountably did an unusually kind, self-sacrificing act. When he realized that he had been responsible for this voluntary goodness, he said in great surprise: "Why, Muvver, I isn't all bad, is I?" This was a big moment in his life, and his mother, recognizing the truth of his statement, began at once to take a different course in her training of Billy. To-day Billy and she have found out that her small son has many more "goods" than "bads" and they are both enjoying the quest for them. Billy has to be punished only rarely now because in a moment when his own self awakened to his actions his mother awakened also.

Little Betty, who sat upon the floor with a large family of dolls surrounding her, said with quiet decision: "I want to be a real mother of real children some day, Mother." She wasn't laughed at nor told not to be thinking such silly things yet, she was helped in her awakening moment. Taking her on her lap her mother told her that to be a mother was one of the most wonderful things on earth and that both she and Betty were already interested in just that thing. Then the mother told her that each day she would try to help her in the things that went to make for lovely motherhood.

Can any parent afford to miss these moments?—moments when the soul of the child begins to be felt by itself; moments when some divine touch reaches the child and opens up the future pathway of life; moments that need the companionship of a true comrade.

### Saint Patrick Contest.

Give each guest a pencil and paper, on which the following questions are written. Have a time-limit, and when that is up, let some one correct the answers, and give some small prize in keeping with the day:

1. Pat with mended clothes—patch.
2. Pat having forbearance—Patience.
3. Pat under a doctor's care—Patient.
4. Pat an old man—Patriarch.
5. Pat as a father—Pater.
6. Pat as a lady—Patricia.
7. Pat as a soldier—Patriot.
8. Pat doing police duty—Patrolling.
9. Pat supports the arts—Patron.
10. Pat plays a childish game—Pat-a-cake.
11. Pat in a rainstorm—Pat-pat.
12. Pat talks on the stage—Patter.
13. Pat in a little pie—Pat-pie.
14. Pat guides the dress-maker—Pattern.
15. Pat in a plate—Patten.

### Commercial Fertilizers.

The use of commercial fertilizers in Canada is increasing. In the year ending June 30, 1926, ten thousand more tons were used than in the previous year. It is estimated that in all 100,000 tons were used. A pamphlet just issued by the Seed Branch of the Agricultural Dept. at Ottawa gives statistics of analyses officially made in all the provinces. Simultaneously with the pamphlet is published the text of the Act and of the regulations thereunder in uniform pocket shape with other Acts relating to agriculture. By consultation of these publications users and purchasers of commercial fertilizers will know both to what they are entitled and what they can reasonably depend upon obtaining. Provision is made in the Act for the exact contents and description of fertilizers.

If you must worry, worry over what you can do to help your wife with her work.

### MUTT AND JEFF—By Bud Fisher.



Yes, the Twin Brothers Certainly Look Alike.