

HINTS FOR THE GARDEN

Edited by David H. Stevenson,
Director National Home Gardeners' Association

Editor's Note: This column is to be conducted continuously during the gardening season as an aid to amateur gardeners. The "hints" and careful instructions to be found in these articles are based upon expert investigation of the particular needs of the home gardener. If you have a garden you will want to be a constant reader of the "Hints for the Garden" column. Refer it to your neighbor gardener.

THE NEW LAWN

In order to start and maintain a good lawn it is necessary to thoroughly prepare the ground in the beginning. This can be done any time this spring, the earlier the better. If the ground is not very rich, scatter some pulverized manure over the surface, about ten pounds to every 100 square feet, and spade the ground deeply, turning the manure well under.

Rake the ground, breaking up lumps, and making a fine surface. Then roll with a heavy garden roller. Fill up all depressions with fine dirt and rake the entire area again. Roll again, to insure having the ground firm and smooth. Rake once more; and the ground is now ready for the grass seed.

The grass seed mixture, which you can obtain at any seed store, will do well under almost any conditions. The quantity to use is one pound of grass seed to every 300 square feet. Choose a day for sowing when there is no wind, as the wind carries the seed away. To insure an even distribution of the seed, dump your seed in a bushel basket half filled with dirt, and mix it evenly through the dirt. This is now ready to be evenly scattered over the ground, first in one direction and then across it at right angles. Gently rake the entire area after planting.

When the grass is about 1 1/2 inches high, it is a good idea to roll the roller over it to keep the ground firm. When the grass is about 2 inches high, it should be cut with the blades of the lawn mower set high so that very little of the grass will be cut. Young grass should be watered only with a fine spray, but the ground should be thoroughly wet, so that the roots receive abundance of moisture. The lawn should be cut about once every week, and the fine cuttings allowed to remain where they fall. If the grass is high when cut, it should be raked up and taken away after mowing. Any bare spots should be raked and reseeded.

It is an excellent practice in starting a new lawn to edge it with strips of sod, as the edges of a lawn are difficult to keep regular otherwise. If you are planning to put in any trees or shrubs this spring, dig holes for them before sowing the grass seed, so that it will not be necessary to break up the lawn afterwards.

ASPARAGUS

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"CHASE THE WEEDS" APPEAL FROM STATE

Department of Agriculture at Springfield Issues Statement Asking Eradication To Help Grain Crops

Springfield, Ill.—A campaign for the eradication of weeds on the farm, on vacant lots in the city and along the highways has been begun by the State Department of Agriculture through its Division of Seed Inspection. In the statement issued this week by the department it is pointed out that unless farmers and city lot owners make greater efforts to destroy weeds more drastic laws will have to be enacted covering this subject.

The statement says: "Owners and occupants of property have a duty to perform in keeping all weeds from growing to maturity and thus prevent their spreading by producing seed. It is a duty they owe themselves and their neighbors because there is nothing which detracts from the beauty of any surroundings more than these unsightly, good for nothing weeds. People who allow their property to become over-run with weeds cannot be very much interested in the welfare of their neighbors or themselves, because weeds not only damage the crops of the neighbor who is striving to produce clean seed that will bring the top price and keep his place looking respectable, but they lower the value of the property on which they are allowed to grow.

Indication of Thrift

"The absence of weeds in different communities throughout this state is very noticeable and is an indication that the people who live there are thrifty and are desirous of having clean surroundings in which to live and enjoy themselves.

It may seem idle talk at this time to advocate the destruction of weeds so that greater yields of grain may be obtained per acre while prices for farm products are so low, but economical production must be kept in mind because no farmer cares to expend his time and money in the production of unprofitable crops. Weeds have no value, yet the production of them is an added expense to the farmer in many ways. The wear and tear on his machinery is increased through weeds, some cause death of his live stock through poisoning, extra expense for twine in binding the grain where weeds are present, and extra labor and expense in cutting the weeds or cleaning the weed seeds from his grain after it has been threshed. The presence of weed seeds in grain has resulted in a loss through dockage, amounting into millions of dollars."

"SENIOR ECHOES"

The annual subscription drive was started this week at New Trier Township High school to make possible publication of "Senior Echoes," the school "annual."

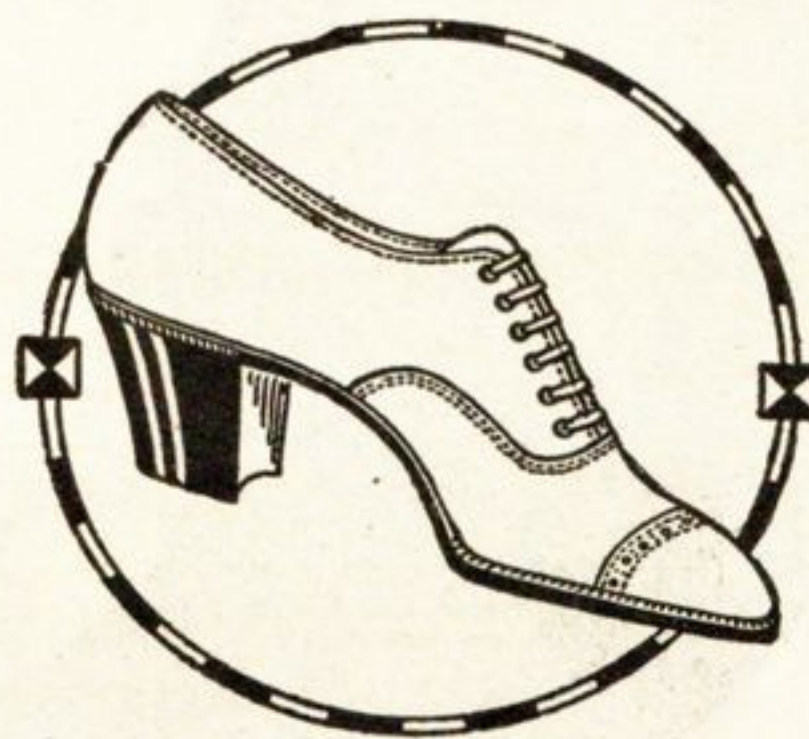
How to Enjoy the Springtime

Once a year Nature refreshes the earth. She adorns our land with pretty new frocks—apple blossoms, daisies, a wonderful new green on the hillside, a softer blue in the sky. Then, along the warm South winds, Nature sends her caresses—to all of us!

It's a time for laughter. Throw off the drab spell of winter, laugh and love, laugh and be well and be happy! You'll make the people around you happy, and that will be the most God-like thing you've ever done.

You can't do it so naturally, or with perfect sincerity, if your toes are pinched in tight shoes, if your feet are bound stiffly to rigid soles, if your body is tilted out of normal balance by heels too high.

But you will enjoy the springtime, you will walk with joy, you will go out-of-doors and take from Nature the tonic that she freely offers, if those wonderful feet of yours are comfortably and sensibly fitted in the Cantilever Shoe!



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