

Along Azalea Row

By RUTH B. SMITH

Did you ever stop to think what a big difference in meaning just one little letter can make with a word? Take "pets" for instance: there are dogs, cats, goats, horses, birds, toads, monkies and on and on, most of the time all are endearing and important parts of our daily lives.

But now just add one little letter and the picture changes from the charmed circle of endearment to one of destruction and almost loathing particularly as concerns the gardener: "p-e-t-s" now becomes "p-e-s-t-s".

We cannot concern ourselves with all the tremendous category of pests, least of all the human one, in our brief column, but for the gardener the small animal pest plays havoc and becomes more and more an all year problem. Now is a good eradication period, before the rats and mice move in on you for winter shelter and before the gophers set up their winter quarters.

Highly recommended for rats and mice is Warfarin but its consumption can harm any human or animal so its use must be carefully handled. The bait, expertly compounded, is available in 5 and 10 pound bags and this ready mix is surer than something you'd mix up yourself after buying separate

ingredients,—also cheaper. Using old shallow containers, place them 10 to 15 feet apart where you think the rodents may be and keep them filled daily while you see the bait is being taken. Thereafter only occasional use is necessary.

Poisoned wheat, also available in the market, is a good mice eradicator and can be placed in little concealed piles where one thinks the mice may be running.

The eradication of gophers and moles is not so simple, at least to the non-scientific gardener, and it seems to be a never ending task. There seem to be two schools of thought on this subject,—trapping and poisoning with strychnine.

For trapping, it is necessary to locate the runways first, by means of a steel rod and then place the camouflaged trap down in the burrows. Just because one catches a first gopher, don't be satisfied for they have large families and five or six at least may be caught in one runway.

Now for poisons: Each user insists that his — or her — own process is best and a sure kill so here are a few for your choosing. 1. Carrots scraped to the size of your little finger, then dusted with strychnine and placed at the opening of the runway. (Best method, put the carrots in a paper bag, add strychnine, and "shake well before using.") 2. Back your car into the infested area (not recommended for lawns after a downpour), attach one end of the hose to the exhaust and place the other in runway entrance, and leave the engine running in low for some time. Of course all runway openings must be plugged. The carbon monoxide gas does the rest. 3. This last process is personally recommended since it worked 100 per cent in our own yard, thanks to Mr. Arp. It seems that fishworms are a great delicacy to moles and gophers, so the first thing to be done is to find them. Then this fishworm delicacy must be just that because the worms must not have been brought up in new manure piles, but old ones, therefore high-bred creatures. Well anyhow when you have the worms from the right side of the tracks, you can proceed. First, bathe the worms; then using one ounce of thallium sulphate in 1 1/4 pints of water (no chlorine), pour it over the worms and let soak eight hours. With a probe locate the mole runway and 8 to 10 inches from a fresh mound chop two worms into the runway and cover with an earth eld. About three of these baits in the system should turn the trick. Extra precautions are the use of rubber gloves in handling and the disposal of the surplus solution into a hole and covered with earth.

These are starters. If you have other simpler theories, do pass them on for the benefit of the amateur gardener.

Annual Veteran's Dinner Saturday

Every portable person, male or female, eligible to any veterans' organization, plus their immediate kin, young or old, is invited to the VFW Hall, November 7, for the annual get-together held for many years on the Saturday evening closest to Armistice Day. Possibly even this crowd will tax the hall so none other than those positively eligible should come. Anyhow, it's sort of a closed party.

A potluck supper is planned to begin around 6:30 with some sort of entertainment following until around 9 and from then on the evening will be spent as the participants please. Guests are invited not to leave their piano at home on their pocketbooks as there is a pretty good chance there will be offered some attractive opportunities for speculation.

Everyone is especially asked to help out, where they see a chance, because there will be at least some work to the affair and there may be a small bit of taxing, here and there, to take care of the overhead.

It is probable that there will be insufficient table wear to accommodate the expected crowd so, for those who can conveniently do so, it may be best to bring such as they require.

Fishing Still Good On Chetco River

Fishing remained fairly good on the Chetco last week, as salmon continued to come up the river.

A number of large fish were reported from the river, with the

largest Milt Foster's 48 pounder, taken out last Saturday.

A number of fish in the 30 to 40 pound class were also taken, and the run was continuing well yesterday.

Some steelhead, are also being taken in the river, according to John Hewitt of Parker's Anchorage.

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