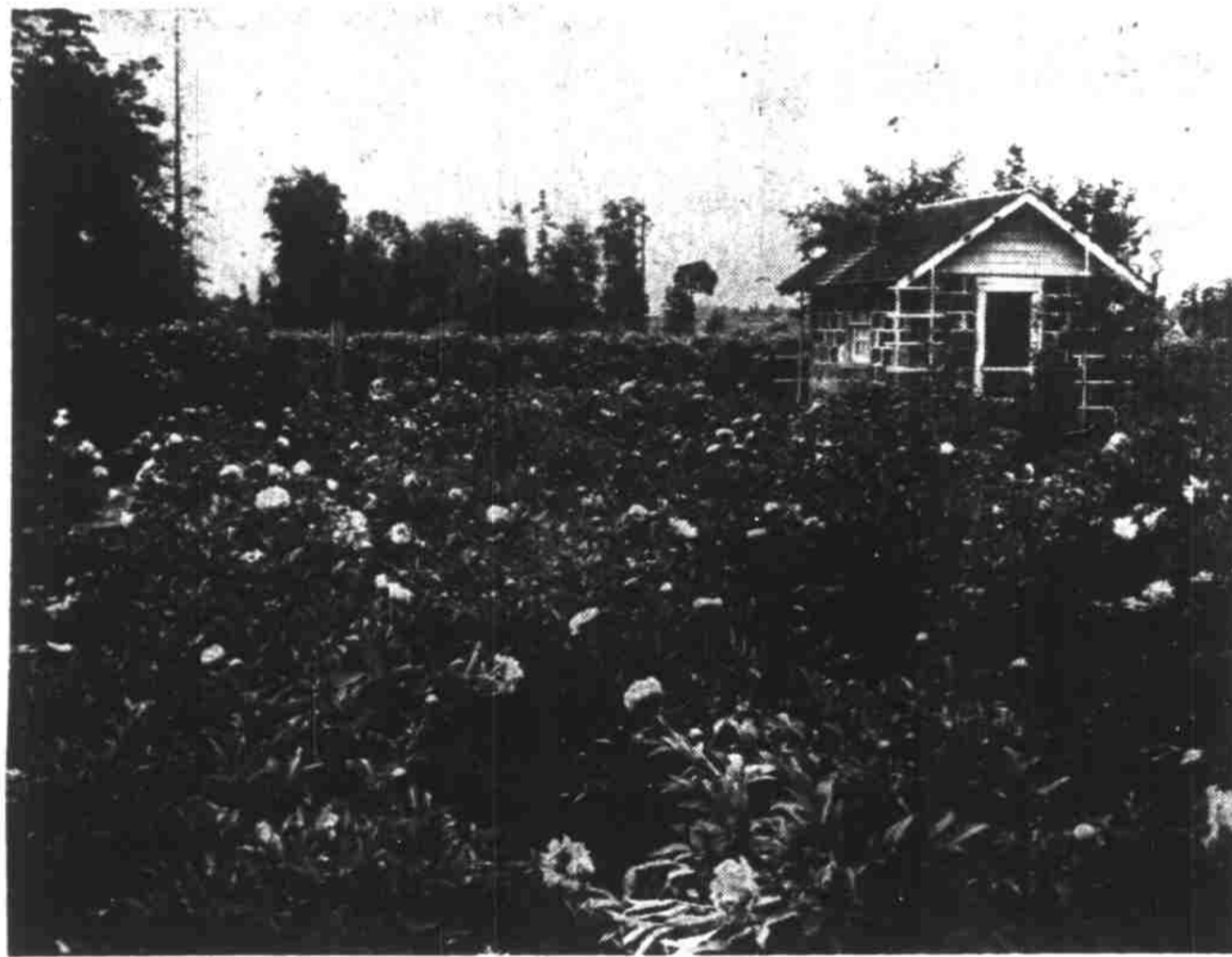


Farm, Home and Garden

By Lillie L. Madsen



Festive Maxima, developed in France more than 100 years ago, remains one of the great peony favorites. Here are Mr. and Mrs. Otto Beatty admiring a plant of this variety in their garden near Chemawa. (Statesman Garden Photo)



Growing peonies is a job even for a man not too strong. The Statesman Garden Editor was told while visiting this Otto Beatty peony garden between Keizer and Chemawa. The little tile house at the right covers one of the first bored wells in the Willamette Valley. (Statesman Farm Photo)

Garden Gabbing

By LILLIE L. MADSEN
Garden Editor, The Statesman

EVERYONE DOING NICELY—A hearty ailment and peonies go well together it seems. Anyway, Otto Beatty no longer looks like the same man I recall seeing last six or seven years ago at the Marion County Spring Jersey Cattle Show.

Then he was unable to get out of the car to watch his favorite sport—Jersey cattle judging. He had just sold his fine herd of Jerseys, no longer able to manage the project he had worked since he was a youngster.

And the peonies in the Beatty garden—I had never seen better looking ones than I saw in these gardens Friday.

IT WAS A HOBBY—When Otto first began getting around after his heart attack in 1945, he knew that dairying was, for him, a thing of the past. He held a sale, retaining only one milk cow. He had to have something to occupy his time while up and around. A friend suggested dahlias. He tried them. They required digging and storing and replanting every year. He got tired, he said, in winter just thinking about them.

Another friend gave him a start in gladioli. Pretty soon they, too, turned into too much work. In addition to planting and digging and storing there was spraying and treating for thrips.

Then one day he recalled a pink peony which his grandmother had cultivated on the place when he was a small boy. In fact the grandparents, Sarah Rose and Silas Pugh, took up the donation land claim in 1845—more than a century ago. Otto's mother was born here, and so was Otto.

A search brought forth the pink peony which he learned was Eduk's Superba. That started the Beattys in their new hobby, that of growing peonies. Eduk's is still one of the favorites now after seven years of peony growing.

NO TROUBLE AT ALL—Peonies, the Beatty's say, give so little trouble. For their garden spot, they chose the old bull pen. Beatty used his little garden tractor and worked up the piece, putting in some bonemeal for good measure, and scattering some oyster shell about the place because "experienced peony growers said to do that."

The peonies, just a few at first picked up from a Washington state grower, were set according to directions. In the fall the old plants were clean off the spot, and that was that.

In the spring again, the spot was cultivated—the plants are set four feet apart each way—and a handful of bonemeal scattered around each plant. Most of them would grow for five years in one spot without dividing. Each year they were better than the year before.

Because of an open garden, not too heavy fertilization, keeping the ground sweet, little disease has bothered. A few blasted buds have appeared. Varieties that repeat in this are removed.

OVER 100 VARIETIES—Like drink to some, one peony has another, until out of that Grandmother's one little pink peony has now grown two gardens of peonies on the Beatty place and there are more than 100 varieties.

They are divided into three types—the early, the medium and the late. The early ones are just about finished blooming and the medium-time bloomers are now on. The late ones are merely showing color as the beautiful large white Mrs. Frank Beach, or the deep red Philip Rivorie.

Among those I liked best which are now in bloom are Festive Maxima, a large white; Philomele, a pink with a yellow center; Felix Cross, a rose red; Mrs. Bryce Fontaine, a deep red double; Nymphia, a big white with a yellow center; Lady A. Duff, a pink single; Cherry Hill, a very deep red, now almost through blooming; Auguste Desert, a rose pink with silvery tips; Nich Shaylor, a flesh pink; Sea Shell, a huge beautiful shell pink; Mrs. Wilder Bancroft and Mestger, both pink; Ruth Elizabeth, one root for which they paid \$15; Susan White, a creamy one, opening like a Chrysanthemum, almost shaded green; Baroness Schroeder, another good white, and the Japanese ones like Tokyo, Beauty, Rushomon. . . . But there were 100 kinds, I can't mention them all.

HOBBY PAYS—Mr. and Mrs. Beatty had no intention of growing these for sale—just for their own amusement and to give Otto something to fill his time.

Then along comes a friend who says that another friend in Portland is looking for peony blooms—nice ones. Would the Beattys sell some? That was a couple of weeks ago when the early varieties were just coming out. The Beattys "guessed" they could spare some.

That's how it started. Now they are cut systematically. The Beattys are again in business.

"We are going to sell that one cow we got left and plant her pasture into more peonies this fall," Otto said as he showed me his new seedlings just coming into bloom. "It took four years to bring them from seed to bloom," he boasted, as he displayed some beautiful varieties, unlike any of their parents. "Peonies seem to agree with me. I feel excellent this summer."

Sightless Will Have Garden Of Fragrance

The Brooklyn Botanic Garden, visited by so many westerners each year, is going to have a new division. A garden of fragrance is being planned for sightless persons.

The proposed garden, expected to be available in the spring of 1955, will be constructed with funds currently being raised by the Women's Auxiliary of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden and other volunteer citizens.

The Garden of Fragrance will be patterned after the one at Brighton, England, complete with guide rails and benches, braille signs augmenting the roman-lettered plant labels, and pathways planted with patches of camomile and thyme which give off fragrance when crushed under foot.

Lilac, lavender, honeysuckle and rose, whose fragrance is quite familiar, will be mixed with the less known aromas of flowering tobacco, Russian olive, artemesia and some of the more exotic herbs.

One garden sign, quite foreign to the ordinary garden or park,

Things to Do

Carefully lift older forget-me-not plants to a corner where they can self-sow seeds for later replanting.

New forget-me-not seeds now for next year's bloom. Carefully nip out withered heads of azaleas and rhododendron bloom. Trim out any dead or broken twigs.

Rub off or cut off all sucker growth near your trees—apples,

cherries, lilacs, or wherever it appears. You'll save a lot of trouble later.

Visit Salem Rose Society Show at Izaak Walton League and select new varieties. You can buy them in pots at garden stores and set out for continuous bloom this season.

Divide primroses and reset.

Since World War II, the U. S. steel industry has spent \$5,600,000,000 on a 35 per cent expansion of its capacity.



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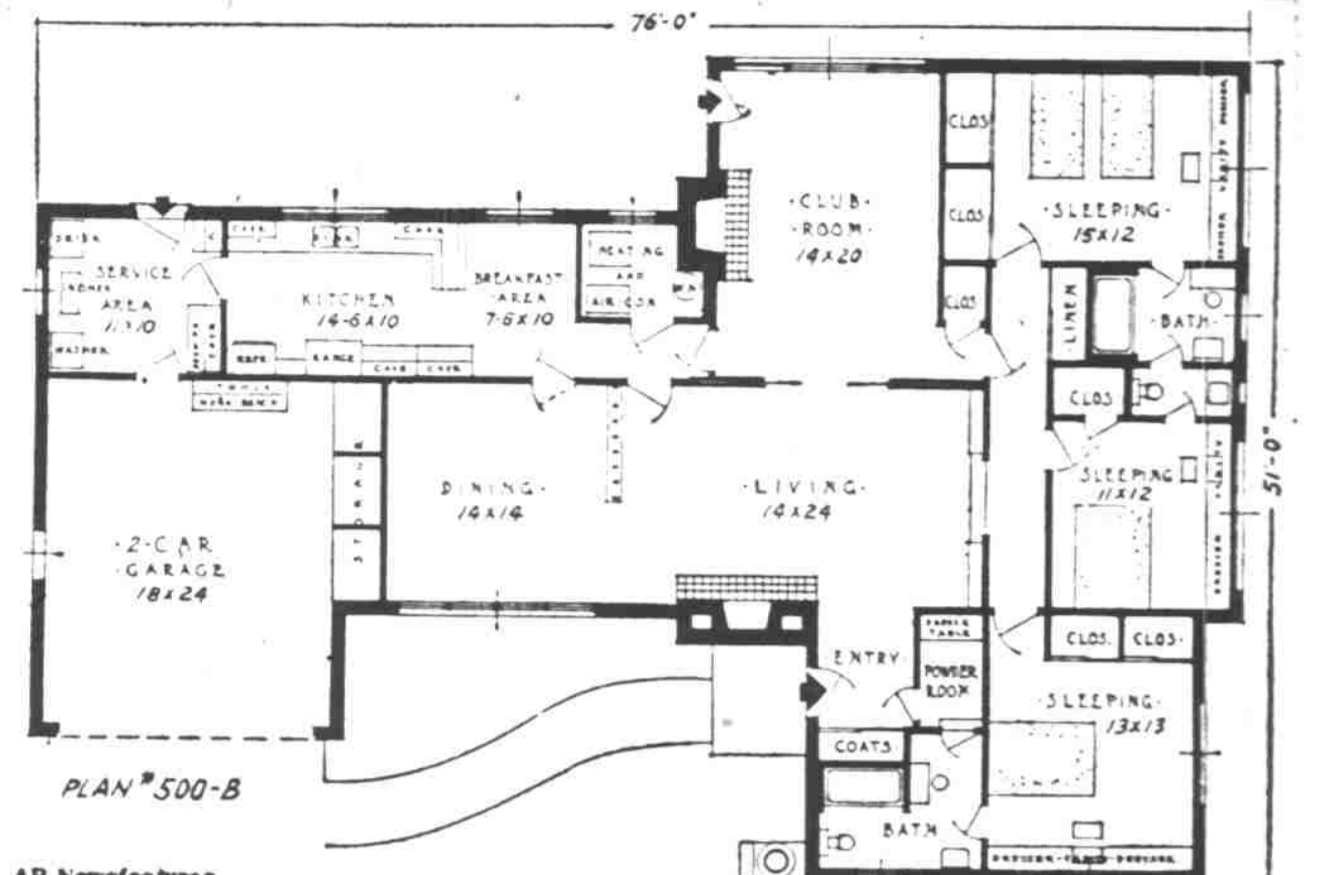
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(Further information and blueprints available from the architect.)

Garden Calendar...

- June 13 — Final day of Salem Rose Society show. Izaak Walton League building, 500 S. Cottage St. 12 to 6 p.m.
- June 16-17 — Oregon Association of Nurserymen, Corvallis.
- June 18 — Stayton Garden Club, 8 p.m. Mrs. Marie Freres, hostess, assisted by Mrs. Lucy Peabody and Mrs. Nell Stewart. Topic: "Roses for Fall Bloom"; Commerce Flower Arrangement, and corsage making by club members.
- June 19-20 — Seattle Rose Show.
- June 19-20 — Tacoma Rose Show.
- June 19-20 — Corvallis Rose Show (postponed from earlier date).
- June 19-20 — Southern California Gladiolus Show, Civic Auditorium, South Gate.
- June 21-22 — 50th annual meeting of American Peony Society and show, Minneapolis, Minn.
- June 22-24 — Annual meeting of Herb Society of America, New York City.
- June 25-26 — Rose Show, Vancouver, B.C.
- June 25-26 — Pacific Northwest District of American Rose Society meeting and show, Davenport Hotel, Spokane, Wash.
- June 26-27 — Annual meeting of American Delphinium Society, Garfield Park Conservatory, Chicago.
- June 26-27 — Northern California Gladiolus Show, Clunie Auditorium, Sacramento.
- Aug. 7-8 — Oregon State Gladiolus Show, Canby.
- Aug. 11-12 — Grants Pass Gladiolus Show.

Gardeners Told To Use Fuchsias For Added Color

Gardeners who need extra color and have difficulty making some flowers bloom, are advised to get a couple of fuchsias already in bloom. These are among our best natured plants in the Pacific Northwest. Also they are among our most colorful. They seem to like nothing better than to just grow and bloom.

However, they'll respond to any little special care given them and they cooperate fully with feeding experiments.

In general the fuchsias want a moist, rich and slightly acid soil, plus moist atmosphere and filtered sunlight. That's why they do so well in a basket beneath a tree.

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Answers to Garden Questions

Judging from the number of letters received by the Statesman garden editor the past 10 days, gardens are sick places this spring. However, we've seen some very beautiful ones, too. As many of the questions were duplicates, the garden editor is using the question first received on each subject with hopes that the other inquirers will be able to find the knowledge they, too, are seeking. The garden editor welcomes questions at all times, and will do her best to find the answers.

Question—What is wrong with enclosed laurel leaf? Looks like some insect might have damaged it. H. R.
Answer—No, this is a fungus disease. The irregularity of the hole sometimes gives the idea that it has been chewed or eaten out by an insect. Spray with Bordeaux mixture, foliage strength, or use a fixed or proprietary copper compound spray according to directions on the package. The spray may have to be repeated two or three times at 10-day intervals.

Question—Some of our azalea buds shriveled up and didn't bloom. They turned sort of silvery in appearance. Now the twigs with the buds are dying. What to do to save plant. C. M.
Control—Sounds like bud and twig blight. Prune out and burn infested buds and twigs. Spray with Bordeaux mixture or dust. The Bordeaux is the most effective but will discolor the foliage somewhat. Unless very severe, pruning will control quite well.

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Question—Can you help me with my peonies. The plants were all budded out nicely and then most of them stayed as little brown buds and never developed. Some of the flowers came out beautifully. A couple of the stalks sort of wilted and died off. Last year we had a little of this, but this year we have much more. Is there anything we can do? R. P. T.
Answer—This is peony blight. Sanitation is the most important step. Cut off and burn any stem now showing disease, and then in early fall or late summer cut off all of the plant just below ground level. Do not use this in the compost heap, but burn. But throughout the summer, take a paper bag and pick off all blighted parts. Don't carry these pieces loose around the garden as you may spread spores to healthy plants. This is very contagious. Spray with Bordeaux mixture or Fomate, as the young plants come through the ground next spring. Repeat two or three times at 10-day intervals.

Question—Am having trouble with my holly. Looks like it has a rose blackspot. Is this new? Have had holly in my garden for more than 50 years and had no trouble before. What can I do to save the bush? B. M.
Answer—Holly has been developing a fungus in recent years. Seems like a copper fungicide will control it. Pick up and burn all the affected foliage. Trouble with holly is comparatively new in this area.

Question—Once you mentioned something to control cabbage maggot. Lost information would you please repeat? T. T.
Answer—Have two fair-sized white oaks which we planted 20

Question—Am having trouble with my holly. Looks like it has a rose blackspot. Is this new? Have had holly in my garden for more than 50 years and had no trouble before. What can I do to save the bush? B. M.
Answer—Holly has been developing a fungus in recent years. Seems like a copper fungicide will control it. Pick up and burn all the affected foliage. Trouble with holly is comparatively new in this area.

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