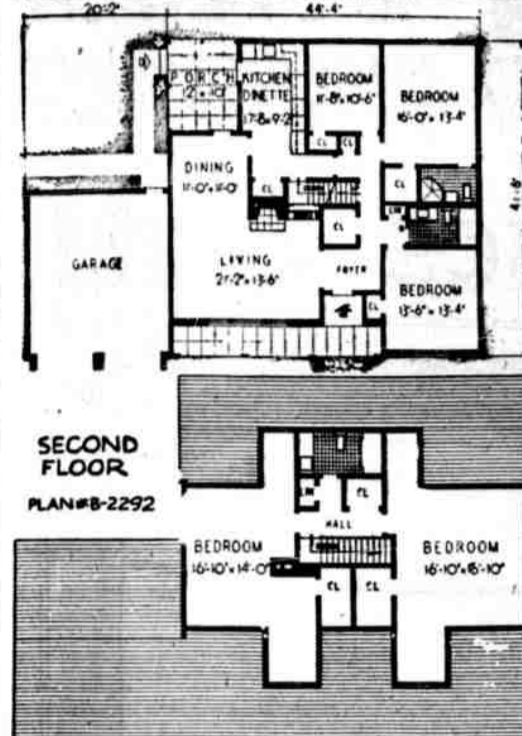


Capital Journal HOME PAGE

HOMES FOR AMERICANS



Frozen Lace of the Deep South adds charm to this low cottage-style dwelling with wrought iron columns on front porch. There is a capacity of five bedrooms and three baths when the attic is finished. A center hall gives the house unusually good traffic control. The house covers 2,082 square feet and the two-garage 420 square feet. The finished second floor adds 1,025 square feet of floor space. This is Plan B-2292 by Alwin Cassens, Jr., architect, 145 So. Franklin Ave., Valley Stream, N.Y.

Sow Perennial Seed to Cut The Budget for Your Garden

You can cut your garden budget by planting seeds of perennials. This is the best time of the year for this adventure. Unlike annuals which complete their entire life cycle in one growing season, perennials will flower year after year. In time the plants that develop from seeds of perennials may prove the most lasting and valuable assets in your landscape.



Perennial Shasta daisies are splendid cut flowers.

With the exception of certain woody shrubs, perennials form the backbone of every well designed garden. Many of them flower earlier in the year than annuals and their foliage will prove attractive during the winter months. Dozens of distinct types are available with a wide range of variations in each class. Several of the most popular perennials are improved or modern forms of such well known old time favorites as carnations, delphinium and Shasta daisies.

Perennials are relatively easy to grow. Once established they require comparatively little care or attention. Because of their permanent character you should visualize before planting, their size at maturity. With annuals this is not important for the mistakes you make will be temporary at most. Make sure that the tall growing varieties such as delphinium for example, are set to the rear of the border. Low growing types like phlox may be planted closer to the front. Also allow plenty of room for lateral expansion.

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Perennials seeded at this time should produce flowers next year. During the fall and winter months the roots will make rapid progress even though little top growth may be noticed. Different varieties have their own peculiar growing demands but in general, perennials seem to favor a neutral soil. A combination of sunlight and partial shade should prove satisfactory; normal applications of food and water will suffice. It is always advisable to feed the plants fairly heavily during spring when their growth is most active.

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Christmas Rose Balkan Native

By MARK M. TAYLOR

A plant we see much advertised in nursery catalogues and magazines at this time of year is the Christmas Rose, which is, in reality, not a rose but a perennial fibrous-rooted plant of the Buttercup family. History has given us much misinformation about this delightful plant, and many legends have sprung up concerning it.

Helleborus Niger is the botanical name for the plant commonly called Christmas Rose. We find that it is a native plant of the Balkans. It was sometimes called Black Hellebore because of its blackish roots. There are two principal species with which we should be concerned for our home gardens, Helleborus Niger, which may bloom about Christmas time, hence its name, and Helleborus Orientalis which blooms early in Spring and is often called Lenten Rose. Culture of the plants is simple, usually planted in May in a partially sheltered position. They prefer a good loamy soil with plenty of leafmold. Plants should be well watered in summer and left undisturbed as long as growth is evident.

The plants are erect and to one foot tall with bright green leaves that lend themselves well to a natural planting. Plant in your wild garden or in plants with early blooming bulbous plants for nice effects. **Poison from Roots** History reports the use of a poisonous powder made from the roots of the Hellebore. Some authorities have declared that it was this poison that was used by Socrates and not that of the Hemlock as is commonly believed. Its use has also been credited to Attila who had the unfriendly habit of poisoning those who opposed him. "Those who oppose Attila, the Hun, drank a potion and then they were done!" Undoubtedly this poison said to be from the Hellebore did not refer to our garden sort, but rather, to the Oriental Hellebore, the roots of which were powdered, made a strong poison associated with some of the malicious personages of ancient history.

Helleborus Niger is quite hardy and may be propagated by root divisions in fall or February to April. Walter Barkus, local seedman and enthusiastic home gardener, has found this little plant a satisfactory companion for his plantings of rhododendrons, azaleas and bulbs. There is also a false Hellebore, botanically called Veratrum, from which an insecticide is made. The American species of Veratrum is often called Bear Corn, Ich Weed or Indian Poke, because of its poisonous properties.

Questions Answered

BY MARK M. TAYLOR

Q—Will avocados grow from the seeds in this climate? If so, how should they be handled?—A.J.
Ans.—It is doubtful if you can successfully raise a tree from seed here, although they are quite often sprouted and used for house plants. An 18 degree temperature is about the limit for an avocado tree. To sprout a seed, stick three toothpicks around the sides of the broad end of the seed to suspend it over a tumbler. Let the seed rest so that the base just touches the water in the glass. When roots have developed you can pot up the plant. For planting outdoors, get freshly dug plants in the Spring with a good ball of earth. In cool Winters they must be mulched or protected from cold winds and frost. Soil must be well drained and fertile. I have never heard of one being raised out-of-doors here, but it would certainly be an interesting experiment.

Hydrangeas Are Interesting

By MARK M. TAYLOR

One of the brilliant Summer and Fall flowering shrubs in the Willamette Valley is the hydrangea in large round headed clusters of blue, pink or creamy white blooms. The common hydrangea most favored, locally, for its large flower clusters is Hydrangea Macrophylla Hortensia. This plant is most interesting because its large clusters of flowers, resembling huge balls, may be five to twelve inches across in diameter and the color may be pink or blue, depending on the soil constituents. To have pink flowers one should add lime to the soil. For blue blooms add an acid reacting fertilizer such as cottonseed meal, or aluminum sulphate. The blue flowers of the hydrangea are especially interesting as they maintain a semblance of beauty even as they are fading. As they begin to die, the flowers turn a greenish blue, then green and finally a purplish bronze. Consequently, they are seldom unsightly. The foliage is bright green with leaves to eight inches long and throughout the season is fresh and of a good color. Shrubs should be cut back to the second eye in late Fall after they are through blooming. Occasionally these shrubs are used as house plants, though not too successfully by the amateur. Other species of hydrangeas worthy of note include: Hydrangea paniculata Grandiflora, commonly called the Pee Gee Hydrangea. It has white flowers in pyramidal clusters, is easily propagated from cuttings and makes a big bush in a short time, even reaching a height of 25 feet under favorable conditions. The Oak-Leaved Hydrangea is a six foot shrub with small, erect panicles of white flowers four to eight inches in height. These

Plywood Siding Now Available

Now you can have a plywood siding on your home or office or a patio enclosed with plywood.

Western fir plywood manufacturers have come up with something new in plywood for exterior use. This new product is called Texture One-Eleven and is made with 100 per cent waterproof glue.

STRIKING BEAUTY

Texture one-eleven, western plywood industry's new high-style, low cost outdoor building panel, combines vertical line pattern and textured wood surface.

Texture One-Eleven has been developed initially for siding but it has other uses, such as gable-ends, carport and porch ceilings, fences, windbreaks, patio enclosures, office paneling, living room accent walls and other paneling jobs. Made in two standard widths, either of which fits over standard stud spacing, the face of the new panel is marked by deep parallel grooves, giving a line pattern, enhanced by light and shadow.

The surface of Texture One-Eleven is textured, having a slightly rough face characterized by attractive natural wood markings of grain, small knots and restricted knot holes.

Made of durable Douglas fir, with the waterproof glue the same as used in hundreds of thousands of boats, the edges of the panel are shiplapped so that vertical joints are completely hidden in the continuous surface pattern of the material.

Texture One-Eleven is also economical to finish. Because of its textured surface, the manufacturers recommend the use of low-cost opaque oil stains in the panel, rather than more expensive conventional exterior paint finishes.

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Silverton Boasts Array of Home, Commercial Gardeners

By MARK M. TAYLOR

The C. G. Halvorsons are well known throughout the Valley for their success with chrysanthemums. Mrs. H. T. Preston is keeping up the work of a home begonia bed, which includes many imported varieties, begun by her late husband. The George Benson ranch home boasts a wide variety of garden beauties. The Dickman Garden Bed Ranch is composed of several acres devoted to commercializing in blossoms or bulbs. These are but a few of the homes and growers in the Silverton area that makes Silverton such a contented, peaceful city. The residents are proud of their homes and their gardens, are happy and contented—a tribute to the forces of Nature that must surely be felt by every home owner who has at least a small plot in which to "grow things."

I have always contended that the active home gardener has no time to concern himself with trivial or distant matters, and thereby, he is able to relax and rest while actually working in his own garden. There is a mental relaxation or exhilaration when you bring a thing of beauty to maturity.

Halvorsons Win Prizes, Mum Show

Silverton—Of the 16 blooms entered by Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Halvorson of Silverton, 12 were awarded 12 blue and three red ribbons in the educational chrysanthemum show held in Portland. The Halvorsons were runner up with their Pickett's maroon for the Kate Gordon-Raymond award. Besides being runners-up for the best flower in the show, the Halvorsons took top honors for singles, both first and runner up of their Cleone, daisy center, nestled in five rows of shell pink petals. The Pickett's runner up was for the best flower of the entire show.

Mortgage Bankers Urged to Join Forces With Builders

Miami Beach — John M. Dickerman, executive director of the National Association of Home Builders, told the nation's mortgage bankers today that some "backward" elements in the industry are trying to erase the housing progress of the past generation and return to the "horse and buggy" financing of the 1920's.

In a speech before the annual convention of the Mortgage Bankers association here, Dickerman called upon the mortgage bankers to join the home builders in repudiating that movement for the well being of the industry and for that of the country as a whole.

"We must look forward, not backward to the dead past, in our approach to the great task of housing America," he said. "Home building today is a mass market industry and home financing must be fitted to the needs and buying power of that market."

Dickerman said the public interest requires a mortgage financing pattern based on low down-payments, long-term mortgages which reduce the home buyer's monthly payments, and a moderate interest rate that will yield the lender a fair return in line with the prevailing money market.

"There is nothing sacred about a 50 per cent down-payment, a 10-year mortgage limit or a 6 per cent interest rate, as some seem to believe," he said.

"These things do not guarantee the safety of a mortgage loan. A lender's real security lies in the integrity of the home buyer. And the record of the past 20 years proves conclusively that there is no sounder risk in the world than the American home buyer."

The NAHB Executive pointed out that fewer than 1/4 of 1 per cent of the millions of families who bought homes under the low down-payment FHA and GI loan programs have defaulted on their mortgages.

He scoffed at recent statements by certain prominent lenders who claimed that the demand for housing has been satisfied as a result of the tremendous post-war building activity.

He reminded the bankers that only 3,000,000 of the 18,000,000 veterans of World War II have bought homes under the GI Bill of Rights and that millions more who saw service during the Korean Emergency are returning to civilian life as potential family heads and home owners.

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