

# Cold Snap Does Little Harm to Garden Plants

## It Was Colder But Prelim Frost Saved Day

Indications are that our recent cold snap failed to do extensive damage to most garden plants because of the preliminary frosty weather before the low temperatures were reached. It is generally agreed among growers and horticulturists who have examined a large number of ornamental plants.

Even though the cold this winter was much colder than a year ago, the fact that the cold came unexpectedly in November, 1955, and caught many plants with their sap up, is the real reason for loss last year whereas this winter we had a bit of frost in November which forced laggard plants into dormancy and they were in much better position to withstand severe weather than a year ago.

Numerous inquiries have been received concerning specific plants and whether loss should be expected.

Generally, Camellias, Rhododendrons and Azaleas show practically no damage.

**Some Will Brown**  
Of course, there will be an occasional leaf on a Camellia that will turn brown or black, and, eventually, drop off. This browning is, for the most part, sunscald. When our first freezing temperatures struck, the leaves of many camellias curled and twisted. Shortly, though, we had a brief warming period with bright sunlight.

This sunlight, coupled with the glare of snow actually burned the leaves. For the most part, this is not a too serious condition for we are not wont to prune our camellias.

Nature sometimes takes things in her own hands when we fail to do a job. Thus, this injury to some of the leaves of some camellias is but Nature's own way of forcing them to shed. It is a well-known fact that even the evergreens must shed their leaves, periodically, to make way for the newer more vigorous growth.

The writer has not yet heard of one instance of real bud damage to camellias this winter. So, it is probable that our camellias will bloom as finely and effusively as ever.

Some varieties of camellias may suffer from bud drop a little later on but this should not be directly attributed to the freeze but, rather, to improper hardening off in fall care.

**Slight Setback**  
Roses may have suffered a slight setback because some new growth was evident after our initial blast of frigid weather. However, February is rose pruning month and proper pruning will insure lots of blooms in your rose garden for the June shows.

Here, again, Nature's wisdom is evident. While we like to keep our roses blooming well into winter in this part of the country it is necessary that the plants have a resting period. A nip on the new growth that may have begun following some mild winter weather is Nature asserting herself again!  
The same is true of some bulbous plants that started to appear. The cold, probably, did them no more harm than to delay their blooming to the accustomed time. Perhaps, the plants that may have suffered some damage, principally due to the freeze of November, 1955, and have been trying to make a comeback to normal health. In most of these cases, however, the additional trouble can be adequately

### HOME OF THE WEEK

## Latourette House Small But Quaint

By JANE TUGMAN STONE  
Capital Journal Writer

"It's been called the doll's house. And it was the first house built on the hill here and it is quaint and small—but that's why I like it—it's individual," says Mrs. Earl Latourette of her pink stucco house at 1650 John St.

Of course, this little house is not the same as it was when first built by Chester Cox who now lives next door. Judge and Mrs. Latourette have built on but, as she says, "we studied a long time to keep that 'quaint' effect." And the Latourettes have done a remarkably good job.

The home has retained its original charm but perhaps the most striking thing about it now is its expression of complete originality and real imagination.

Here is how it's been done.  
**No Period**  
In the first place there's no "period." Mrs. Latourette has furnished her home with pieces and colors she liked and blended them.

The living room has mixtures of green, aqua, blue and brown, with some gold and red. Not a combination most people would care to try but here again, it's not the what but the how that is important.

The rug, walls and couch in the living room are a soft green. Two red velvet chairs and one gold one, carry miniature cushions in the red, gold and green shades.

A black and gold marble table hold a two-foot high Delft China lamp. Two black tables, resting on either side of the couch, support tall brown and gold lamps.

There is a touch of turquoise in a large ash tray and a pottery dish and, a step from the living room is a green carpeted foyer with blue and brown cottage curtains at the windows.

The greens and blues then are blended into a background for the more brilliant reds and golds.

**Two Candelabras**  
On the mantle in the living room are two candelabras which are simply a series of curled gold

compensated for by pruning and watering and fertilizing this spring.

**Gluttons for Punishment**  
Actually, most plants are gluttons for punishment. If a tree, for example, loses a main branch due to wind, or some other cause, Nature not only comes to the tree's aid with its healing powers, sealing over the wound with a tough, bark growth, but renewed vigor will be sent to the damage area so that Nature's regeneration process will soon overcome the loss of an appendage by replacing it with one, or even more, substitutes. In a short time, the tree will resume its normal shape and growth!

Lawn grasses may have suffered some damage, principally due to the alternate freezing and thawing. Even this, however, is not too bad if the lawn was not walked upon during that period. Much of this damage can be overcome when the weather moderates by fertilization and aeration by spiking, so that food, moisture and a proportion of air may reach the feeding roots of the grass plants.

All in all, then, the freezing weather, which we hope is now past, did not do very much actual damage and, in fact, may be considered a constructive act of Nature.

metal with gold candles in the holders.

A series of gold framed pictures are grouped on one wall, and a rare print, matted in black with a gold frame, rests on another.

A brass samovar with tray and pitcher is the center of attention in the foyer off the living room.

Behind the living room is a den. The furniture is light, the walls paneled and there is a good deal of polished brass and copper. Above the fireplace there is a large copper holder stuffed full of laurel leaves. This, said Mrs. Latourette, was an old English antique, used to hold water in which people could wash their hands.

Against one wall is a roof-to-floor rubber plant. Louvered doors on the other side of the room open onto a stairway and a miniature bar. The end of the room is almost all window.

An unusual note is the ceiling papered with green plaid.

**Guest Room Brilliant**  
There are two bedrooms in the house and a staircase leads to each. The guest room is a brilliant display of coral-red and white.

The dressing table has a skirt as full as a young girl's party dress and on it rests an oval mirror framed in a plaster wreath of white and gold.

Perhaps the most unusual part of the house is the half bathroom right off the front hallway. Here Mrs. Latourette has given her imagination full reign. The wall has been papered with a butterfly print.

This is a house which raises comment from any person who ever saw it. More than for any other reason, this house is effective because it is completely individual—it is living proof that imagination, not a lot of time, space or money, is the single most important element in creating an interesting, attractive and comfortable home.

**Cubbyhole Under Stairs Becomes Organized Closet**

Changing the cubbyhole under a stairway from a dusty catchall into an organized closet is a satisfying project for the home handyman.

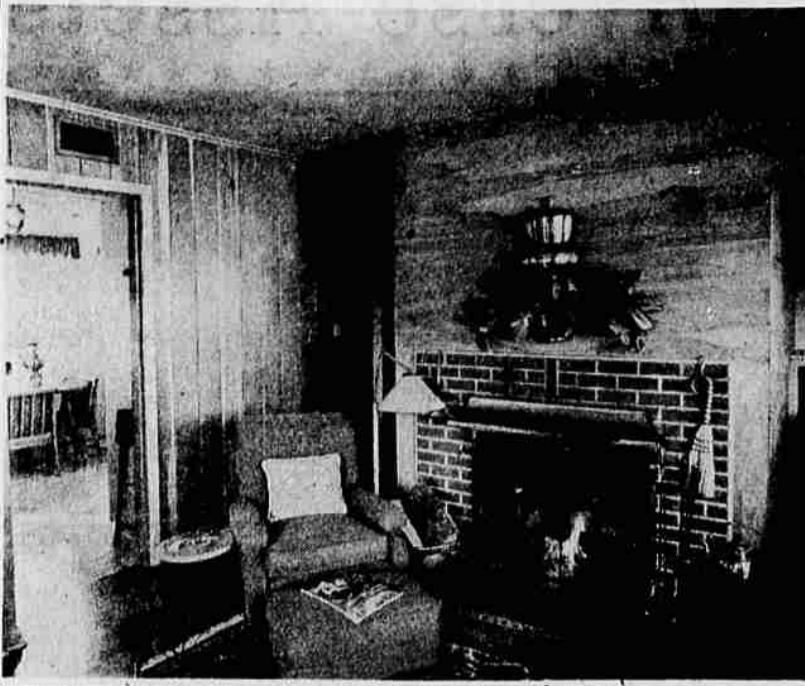
Creating an under-stairs closet is a simple operation with a modern building material like hardboard. Panels of this material, four feet wide, one-quarter inch thick and in lengths to fit, go into place rapidly over a framework of two-by-four lumber.

With hardboard, the amateur can do a professional job at low cost. Even the door can be built by covering a lumber framework with this smooth, tough panel material. Many leading manufacturers of flush panel doors are using hardboards as the skin coat.

Using a 3/4-inch-thick hardboard, the amateur can make a door even more easily. He need simply round the corners and lightly file the edges.

**Remove Sawdust**  
The longer sawdust is left on the workshop floor, the more of a fire hazard it becomes. The wise craftsman sweeps up the sawdust before he leaves the shop.

## Distinctive Den and Dining Room



Pictured above are the rather distinctive den and dining rooms of the Latourette home. In the top picture is the den. In it are an attractive fireplace and a holder over the fireplace which contains a pot of laurels. In the bottom picture is the dining room which is also adorned in such a way as to lend a quaint atmosphere to the house. (Capital Journal Photos)

## Questions Answered

By MARK M. TAYLOR

To what extent will Camellias have suffered during the freeze this year? E. R.

See article on "Freeze Damage" this page.

When should Callas be planted? Mrs. L. T.

Best to plant about the middle of March.

When should tuberous Begonias be started? Mrs. R. N.

Tubers may be started indoors now and be ready to set out when the weather moderates. If starting from seed, the seed should have been sown indoors last month, but you can still do it.

Can I divide Shasta daisies now? I neglected to last year. Mrs. A. W.

Yes, Shasta daisies can be successfully divided and transplanted in the early spring. Be sure the new bed is fertile and well mixed with humus.

What flowering branches can be forced into bloom ahead of the regular blooming season and how is it properly done? Mrs. S. H.

Forsythia will open its yellow bells after a few days in a warm room. Lilacs and Magnolias are not so large when forced indoors, but their beauty is intact. Crabapple, peach, quince, red-bud and cherry may all be forced, too. Simply cut the tree or shrub branches to any desired length and place them in deep containers of water in a rather dark location where the temperature is about 70 degrees. When the buds begin to swell move them to a lighter location. If the air is very dry in the room, spray the branches with water daily.

We are new to the gardening game and want to get the proper tools, but there are so many to choose from. What would you recommend as a start until we see what special equipment will be required for our new place? Mrs. A. W.

Basically, you will need a round-pointed shovel, a steel rake, an all-purpose hoe, a trowel, a hand cultivator or weeder, a sharp knife, pruning shears, a lawn mower, a lawn

sprinkler, enough hose to reach all corners of your property, and a sprayer. Later you may want to add grass shears, lawn edger, lawn rake and a small triangular hoe for cultivating.

Is it too late to plant bulbs? W. B. Tulips, Narcissus, Hyacinths and other Dutch bulbs may still be planted if you can get them.

Is there anything that can be done to make some lilac bushes that are well established come into bloom this year? Mrs. S. D.

Yes, root pruning may be the answer. Drive a spade full depth into the ground in a circle under the outer edge of the foliage spread.

### Wood Paneling Has Popularity Upsurge

"Why the tremendous upsurge in the popularity of wood paneling for new and remodeled homes? The frequency with which beautiful wood graces the walls of today's homes makes this question pertinent.

In the past paneling was rarely found outside expensive homes and institutions, but now family rooms, kitchens, attics—in fact many rooms in moderately priced homes boast wood paneling.

The long range economies of wood paneling, combined with the warmth it imparts to home atmosphere provide the answer to its popularity.

The economy of wood is demonstrated by the fact that while the costs of other building materials have risen sharply since 1951, the cost of the lumber product remains substantially the same.

Another consideration is the economy of maintenance. The numerous finishes which they readily accept are easily cleaned, eliminating costly painting and papering.

Probably the most important factor in popularity of wood is wide realization that is mellow tones bring warmth and beauty to the home.

Marriages in the United States increased in 1956 to 1,587,000 as compared to 1,542,000 in 1955.

## Home Repairs Dos . . . Dont's

AP Newsfeatures

DO . . . know that when water pours over the sides of a roof gutter, the cause is either debris in the channel or an improperly slanting gutter.

DO . . . when an examination shows no debris, get the gutter to slant toward the downspout by a readjustment of the brackets which hold the gutter to the house.

DO . . . fix a tiny leak in a metal gutter by scraping away the rust (if any) with a wire brush, coating with a preservative paint and spreading asbestos roof cement over the area.

DO . . . fix a larger leak in a metal gutter by pushing a piece of heavy roofing felt or aluminum foil into the wet roofing cement, then adding a little more cement to cover the edges of the felt or foil.

DO . . . close holes in a wooden gutter with wood putty or plastic wood—but when there is a split along the grain of the wood, fill the crack with a caulking compound.

DON'T . . . forget that, after making a readjustment of the gutter brackets, the slant should be immediately tested by pouring a can or bottle of water into the gutter and seeing whether it flows freely toward the downspout.

DON'T . . . try to repair a wooden gutter that has rotted, or a metal gutter that has rusted through in several places; a replacement of a section of the gutter is then necessary.

DON'T . . . fail to replace a section of a metal gutter with one of the same kind, as different types of metal sometimes produce unfavorable chemical reactions.

DON'T . . . neglect periodic inspections of the gutter . . . usually in the spring and the fall . . . as a pinhole which is easy to repair can turn into a major job a few months later.

DO . . . get ready for raising a long ladder against the outside of a house by laying it flat on the ground and pushing the bottom of it against the foundation.

DO . . . lift the top of the ladder, get under it, take a firm grip and raise it to the level of your eyes.

DO . . . walk forward, towards the house, moving your hands from rung to rung as you walk.

DO . . . when the top of the ladder is against the house, carefully move out the base about one-fourth the height of the ladder; this, with a 20-foot ladder, the distance from the bottom of the ladder to the house would be about 5 feet.

DON'T . . . while working on a ladder, reach out more than an arm's length from it.

DON'T . . . ever go higher than the 3rd rung from the top—and look at what you're doing, not up at the sky or down at the ground.

DON'T . . . paint a wooden ladder; use linseed oil or some other clear finish that will enable you to spot spills or other breaks in the wood.

DON'T . . . forget that, if your ladder is not equipped with a gadget to keep it steady on uncertain ground, you can buy an attachment for that purpose.

### Cabinets Joined

The "peninsula" units widely used for space dividing and extra storage in modern wood kitchens generally are made up of several stock base cabinets joined together. In addition, some wood kitchen manufacturers offer special, one-piece peninsula units.

## Your Garden Notebook

### WHAT TO DO IN FEBRUARY:

Complete your dormant spray program of ornamentals and fruit trees.

Prune fruit trees, grapes, deciduous trees and shrubs.

Roses should be pruned by March first.

More plants can be set out now than any other time of the year.

Annuals, such as Nasturtiums, Sweet Alyssum, Stocks and Calendulas can be started in a sunny window, coldframe or greenhouse to get a headstart on spring.

As soon as plump, pink buds appear on peach trees, spray with 26 percent calcium polysulfide to prevent leaf curl.

Small plants heaved above ground by the freeze should be carefully pressed back into place.

While fall is the best time for rose planting locally, you may still do so.

### COMING EVENTS:

April 12-13—Camellia show, Salem.

June 11-14—National convention, Men's Garden Clubs of America, Portland.

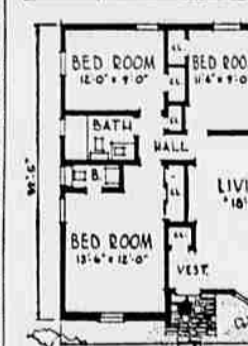
June 16-18—Rose Festival, Portland.

### Donald Parents Visit Oregon State College

DONALD (Special)—Norman Reiling, whose son Neal is an Oregon State College freshman living at the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity house, spent the Dad's weekend in Corvallis. He was an overnight guest at the fraternity house, attended the basketball game, and returned early Sunday. Mrs. Reiling was a guest at a luncheon at the fraternity house in early January.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Yergen spent the week-end in Corvallis. They enjoyed the entertainment provided for the "Dad's Weekend" and Mrs. Yergen visited in the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Yergen. Both Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Yergen are attending college this year as well as his sister Donna.

### HOMES FOR AMERICANS



A POPULAR HOUSE, this plan was used by builders at Huntington, N. Y., where 74 houses were sold in one week-end for less than \$20,000 each on one-acre plots. It's a flexible plan, easily suited for building with or without a basement. The storage space in the garage provides a place for a heating plant next to the chimney, the stair space can be used for a large closet or laundry and the garage can be enlarged for additional storage. The house covers only 1,272 square feet without garage and porch which figure separately. This is plan V-7389AP by Herman H. York, architect, 90-04 161st St., Jamaica 32, N. Y.

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## February Considered Best Month for Rose Pruning in This Area

By MARK M. TAYLOR  
Capital Journal Special Writer

February is, traditionally, rose pruning month in this area and proper pruning will determine, to a great extent, the quality, quantity and time of blooming of your favorite rose bushes.

Much in rose pruning depends upon the characteristics of the particular plant and the wishes of the owner. Personal expectations and, of course, the weather, determine whether you are to have average size blooms, or very large ones; a tall bush, waist or chest high or a low pruned one.

My own preference is to prune so as to allow the plants to grow as large as possible without harmful effect to the bush or bloom, but in keeping with the size of the space it is to occupy.

There is no justification in pruning low simply to keep the bush small. But, if a rose is to be grown for exhibition purposes, it is necessary to prune low.

**There's Satisfaction**  
There is satisfaction in having rose bushes tall enough to be admired without stooping or squatting. And, it stands to reason that a large bush, well cared for, should produce more blooms than a small bush.

Rose bushes, that are but one or two years old, should be pruned only lightly as they need all of the foliage possible to help make plant food.

In this area, where rose bushes live and produce for many years, it is a mistake to allow too many canes to come from the base of the plant. As many as a dozen canes are frequently seen on improperly cared for bushes.

If too many are allowed to grow, the plant will not develop into a large, well-shaped specimen. More shoots from the base will be encouraged by pruning. But only those needed to replace old canes pruned away should be left to develop.

**Follow the Rules**  
The average hybrid tea rose will stand about 24 inches high after pruning, but these principles, or rules, should be followed:

Remove all weak or dead wood. Always make the cut at an angle as a square cut leaves the cane more subject to disease.

Cut canes as close to the base as possible and lateral branches close to the main stem.

Remove crossing branches to prevent a congestion of growth in the center of the bush.

Canes should never be permitted to grow so tall as to become spindly.

To develop new branches, where ones have been removed, cut to an outside "eye" or bud. The new shoot, then, will develop from that bud and grow symmetrically.

Be sure the pruning shears are sharp so all cuts will be clean. Large cuts may be treated with a seal prepared for the purpose and will protect against infection.

Tree roses are pruned to shape them as desired, the head, usually, being pruned back to about twelve inches.

Pruning of climbing roses is, usually, limited to the branches and laterals from the main canes. The main canes are not cut back unless they have grown out of control. Branches and laterals should be cut back to two or three eyes. Old

canes may be cut out when new canes have arisen to replace them.

**Prune in Same Manner**  
Floribundas, having the same characteristics as the hybrid teas, should be pruned in the same manner. Those with the characteristics of the Polyanthas should be pruned as they are which is very little and only to regulate the growth and shape of the plant.

It has become customary among many local rose growers to prune their roses on Feb. 12 and Feb. 22, half of the bushes each time. But, the objective is to insure a succession of bloom throughout the season and the actual date of pruning is of little consequence.

However, it is advisable to start your rose pruning immediately (this week end, if possible) and finish the job by March 1.

As the weather warms, new growth will soon be evident and the foliage will put in its appearance. Then it is necessary to keep watch for signs of mildew and other diseases, all of which may be readily controlled with the fine spray materials now available.

Attention to pruning at this time, and the keeping of diseases and insect pests in check will result in quantities of fine, exhibition roses in time for the June rose shows.

## State's Cheese Champs Picked

CORVALLIS — State championships in cheese making, announced yesterday at the meeting of the Oregon Dairy Industries conference, went to Tillamook County for cheddar.

Williamette Valley and southern Oregon dairymen dominated the cottage cheese division.

The first-place winners: Medium cured cheddar, R. B. Price, Tillamook Cheese Assn.; aged cheddar, Donley Lommen, Alder Vale, Tillamook County Creamery Assn.

Cottage cheese, Leonard Taylor, Portland, Lucern Milk Co.

Other placings included, in cottage cheese, second for Milton Gordon, Central Point, Borden Co., third, Neil Jenkins, Eugene, Medo-Land Creamery; fourth, James LaVita, Central Point, Rogue River Valley Creamery.

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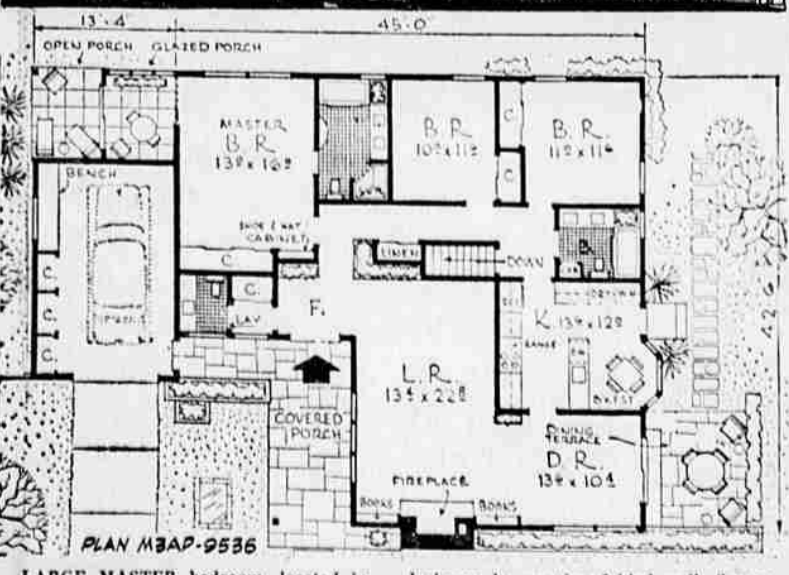
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## HOMES FOR AMERICANS



LARGE MASTER bedroom, located in rear for quiet and access to private outdoor living area, is the unusual feature of this three-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath home with full cellar and attached garage. The glazed porch in rear can be made part of master bedroom by opening folded wall. Square footage is 1,680, not including open porch and garage. The plan is M3AP-9536, by Rudolph A. Matern, 90-04 161st St., Jamaica 32, L.I., N.Y.