

Letter From Washington

By HARRIS ELLSWORTH
Member of Congress From Oregon

There is a real battle going on between Arizona and California. It is a fight over water similar to the struggles in the days of the "old West" over water holes. The principal differences are that this water problem is millions times bigger, the fighting is more dignified and guns are not used. California lost the first round when the U. S. Senate approved a river project in Arizona by a substantial majority. The Californians, however, do not propose to take this defeat lying down. Said one California congressman in describing the project to me: "It proposes to use water which the state (Arizona) does not own, to lift the Washington monument, convey it farther than from Washington to New York, at a cost to the federal treasury of three quarters of a billion dollars, to irrigate 200,000 acres of privately owned, war-boom desert land which would not be required to repay the construction cost, for raising crops which are now surplus. I haven't yet heard the Arizona side of the story but it will have to be good to tie that one-lit alone beat it!"

NOW THAT THE British people have halted their socialist government dead in its tracks, I am inclined to believe that there is developing world-wide distrust of socialistic control of governments. In those rather limited areas of the world where people are still free and may select a government of their own choice they are discarding socialism and the inevitable loss of freedom which goes with it. Some people failed to stop it in time. You must remember that the Hitler party had the word "socialist" in it. The present Russian government is a union of "socialist" states.

Webster's big dictionary says socialism is a political and economic theory of social reorganization, the essential feature of which is government control of economic activities. We are attempting to fight off socialism in the United States but most people do not seem to realize it. Much of the so-called Truman program is clearly socialistic. The Brannan plan is socialistic because it would control farmers. The administration medical plan is already called by its proper name—"socialized medicine." The valley authority scheme (of which CVA is one of nine) is socialistic because it means that entire regions would be placed under rigid government control. Certainly part of the housing legislation already enacted is socialistic when the government builds and owns the homes people live in. I have seen and heard enough indications around here to convince me that there is a planned effort being made to drive coal mining, wire communications and the railroads into nationalization.

FOR THE PURPOSE OF stopping this trend, and I believe we do want to stop it, our system does not work as well as the

British system does. There the socialists received less than a majority of the total votes cast. As a result, the socialistic program is stopped. Here, in 1948, Truman and his program received less than a majority of the total votes cast but the result was considered a "mandate" to carry out the program. Fortunately our people have another opportunity this fall to speak their minds through their ballots. Our system works a little more slowly than the British, but it will work surely.

Proper Rose Care Needed As Spring Growth Beginning

Warm spring days are close at hand and rose gardeners in the northern states should make ready to uncover their plants and prepare them for the growing season. If the proper measures to protect the plants from severe winter weather have been taken, spring chores will be relatively simple and will assure the grower of an endless array of beautiful flowers throughout summer and fall. Hybrid teas and floribundas may be uncovered when there is no longer danger of a severe freeze. Some gardeners advocate the gradual removal of protective soil mounds but this must be done with extreme care to avoid injury to early growth. Perhaps the safest method is to wash the soil from around the plants, using a gentle spray, not the full force of water from a hose.

Uncover Climbers
This is also the time to uncover climbers and tree roses which have been laid down for the winter. Give your tree roses the added support of a stake or pole to prevent "whipping" by the strong winds that are usually common to this season of the year. Secure climbers to their supports with strips of cloth, not string which may cut or damage the canes. There are a number of commercial fasteners available which can be obtained from leading nurserymen.

When winter protection has been removed, bush-type roses including hybrid teas and floribundas should be carefully pruned. The main objectives of pruning are to remove dead or injured wood and to shape the plants. Major pruning rules to remember are: eliminate wood that has been injured during the winter cutting back to healthy tissues, but do not take out any more green wood than is necessary; remove spindly, undernourished stems for they will never attain full, healthy growth; make each cut about one quarter of an inch above a bud that points outward so that the plant will spread; shape the plant as you prune. Dead wood can be identified by its dark brown color as opposed to the

ANTELOPE GET BREAK

Leevining, Cal. (AP)—The remnants of California's original herd of 500,000 antelope are being given a chance to hold their own against civilization. The state has transferred 50 of the animals from their home in Lassen county to the less-crowded wilds of southeastern Mono county.

Geologists call the molten rock material within the earth "magma," a Greek word which may be translated as "dough." When this "dough" is ejected from the earth's interior by volcanic action, it is spoken of as "lava."

healthy greenish live wood.

Best Pruning Height
The question of the best pruning height has long been a bone of contention even among the most experienced growers. For general garden purposes, however, hybrid teas such as Mission Bells, Capistrano and Sutter's Gold, All-America Rose Selections for 1950, should not be cut back too severely. Remember that the plant needs plenty of strong green wood to store reserve food which will nourish new growth. The same rules holds true for floribundas such as Fashion, another 1950 A.A.R.S. winner.

Tree roses are pruned at the same time as hybrid teas but in their case, more wood must be removed to prevent overbalancing. Cut the branches to a length of 8 to 12 inches from the top of the trunk. As in the case of hybrid teas, make your cut about a quarter of an inch above a bud on the outer side of the cane.

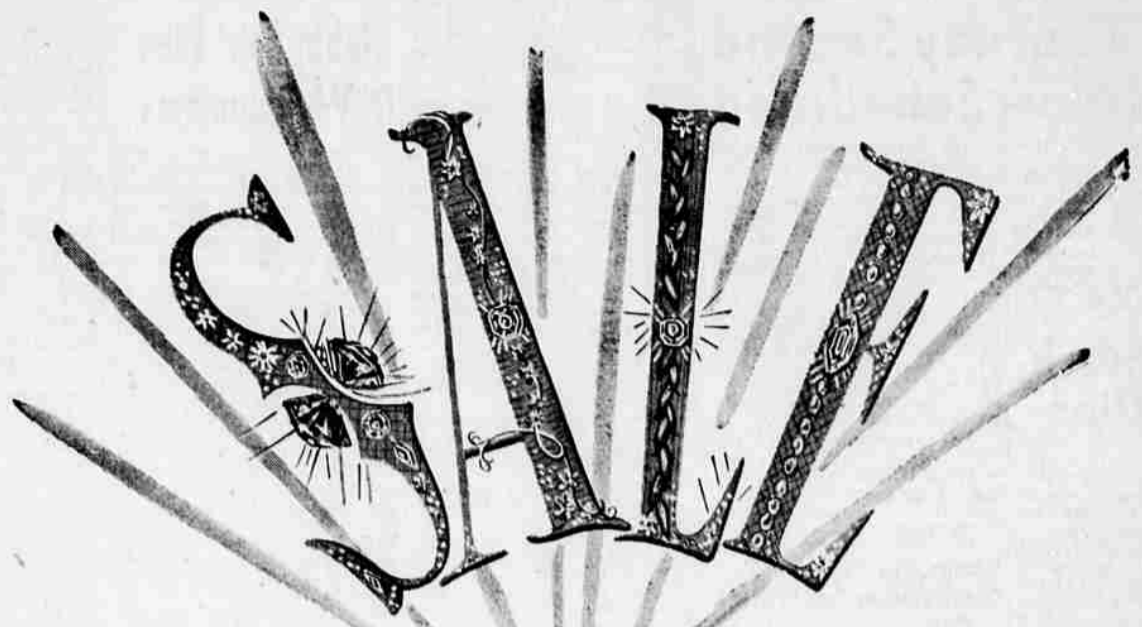
Trim Injured Wood
Large flowered climbers are not pruned until the close of the blooming season but wood injured during the winter can be trimmed in the spring. When the time for pruning climbers does come, all damaged or weak canes should be cut out for these plants produce their best flowers on second year or older wood.

Ramblers are also pruned at the end of the blooming period but the method is different from that used on climbers. All shoots that have flowers should be cut back almost to ground level for this class produces a new set of canes each year. Always burn pruned wood to eliminate the possibility of infection from diseases or insects which it may harbor.

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