

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

United Press—Full Leased Wire

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2nd Section

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Pages 1 to 6

North Dakota Soil Not Necessarily Best for Plants

Fargo, N.D.—(U.P.)—The rich heavy North Dakota soil that raises bumper field crops isn't necessarily the best potting material for house plants.

Experimental potted plants that were just managing to struggle along in heavy Fargo clay soil at the North Dakota State College greenhouses took a new lease on life when potted in sphagnum moss, reported horticulturist Don Hoag.

Sphagnum moss is that dry, springy material you often find packed around the roots of nursery stock prepared for transplanting, he said. Properly fertilized, the moss has proved to be an excellent growing medium for nearly all popular house plants.

If you have an ailing, soil-potted plant, and household conditions such as a gas stove or furnace can't be blamed for its lack of vigor, try potting it in sphagnum moss, advised Hoag.

Remove the plant from its pot, and wash all clinging soil particles from its root. Repot the plant by taking bits of moss, soaked in water and squeezed dry, and packing them around the plant. Pack the moss until it is firm, but not hard.

Since moss alone has little or no fertilizer value, the horticulturist said that monthly applications of a fertilizer solution one-half the strength normally used in soil-potted plants is advisable. Any good quality complete fertilizer will be satisfactory.

Sphagnum moss retains moisture for over a month under average spring, summer and fall conditions. This means you can enjoy vacations without making special arrangements with the neighbors to water the plants.

In the winter, plants should be watered about once a week, depending on the amount of humidity in your house.

Washington—(U.P.)—The Senate has confirmed the nomination of John Hay (Jock) Whitney of New York to be ambassador to Great Britain.

Lincoln, Neb.—(U.P.)—Floyd Root, Wasco, Ore., rancher, has been reelected a vice president of the National Association of Wheat Growers.

Farmers today are producing more animal and vegetable fats than can be consumed for domestic purposes.

On The Side

(Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

Give me a kiss now. That will hang upon my lip. As sweet as morning dew upon a rose. And full as long.—Middleton.

Among the recent aids for the relief of persons whose matrimonial mates snoring keep awake is something called a "snore mask." This keeps the snorer's jaws shut. That strikes me as rather a rough remedy. I also question its safety and believe it might be injurious to the health. I suggest that before taking any such radical step as affixing a snore mask to a husband or wife's face, that the book titled "How To Stop Snoring" by David Horwich be carefully studied.

Horses and Women
The combined opinions of health, beauty and fashion experts indicate the ideal figure for women in the 18 to 25 age group is height, 5 feet, 5; weight 116; bust, 34½; waist 25-2 and hips, 35½. If your wife has these measurements, she might have a chance to win a Mrs. America title. Her chances would be better if she clipped an inch and a half off her waist. The Mrs. America title is usually won by women with a waist measurement of 24 or less.

Asking
Queries from clients. Q. Was George, now of Burns and Allen, ever in a dancing act? A. Yes, sir, Mr. Burns, then a very agile and graceful young fellow, was a partner in the ballroom dancing act of Jose and Burns. At the same time there were being featured in vaudeville, such ballroom dancing acts as Carl Hyson and Dorothy Dickson, Joan Sawyer and John Jarrott, Mae Murray and Clifton Webb and Fanchon and Marco.

Q. What was the amount of money left by the feminine financial wizard, Hetty Green? A. About \$100 million. Hetty was a smart financial operator but she was got off to a good start when her father, Edward Mott Robinson, left her \$6 million.

Sidelights
It takes eight years to train a bartender so he can be said to really understand his business. So states a man who has supervised the training of many bartenders.

When Donald Brian was the star of the original New York production of "The Merry Widow," his salary was \$100 a week. Ethel Jackson, who played the title role, was paid \$75 a week.

Kissing
How many consecutive kisses can a couple exchange before the lip muscles are exhausted? A Broadwayite once wagered he could kiss Anna Held 200 times without stopping. After 152 kisses he quit completely exhausted and paid off the bet.

Home of Future Vastly Different

San Francisco — (U.P.) — If an experimental home near here is a proper sample, the home of the future will be as different from the home of the present as the Model-T from the 1957 luxury auto.

The structure is Eichler Home X-100, which further develops the modern architectural concept that a house design should be based on the normal activities of its occupants. The X-100 rejects the notion that a house should be an ornamental box which necessarily limits the activities of the people inside.

Following are some features of the X-100:
Skydomes and other great expanses make the visual distinction between indoors and out virtually non-existent.

Gardens are enclosed inside the building to further incorporate the interior with nature.

An exposed steel frame bears most of the structure's weight and makes possible the use of glass and plastic walls.

Composition cabinet doors can be reversed within seconds so that a housewife can change the color scheme of her kitchen.

A reversible fireplace can be turned to face either the living room or an interior garden area.

A dining table with a concealed cooking surface so meals can be kept warm or even prepared while the family remains seated.

The X-100 was designed by architects A. Quincy Jones and Frederick E. Emmons with the guidance of Joseph L. Eichler of Palo Alto, Calif.

Education by Mail Seen as Effective

Madison, Wis. — (U.P.) — An experiment at the University of Wisconsin indicates that education by mail may be as effective as classroom study.

The experiment used an introductory psychology course for its comparisons. Students taking the course in university extension classrooms used the same text and were given the same exam as their counterparts using the mails.

The test results put the "mail-bag" students on a par with their competition who could listen to lecturers and question the professor face-to-face.

However, the university said their experiment "confirms other studies in other subject fields which showed that correspondence study students can do as well as those enrolled in a regular class."

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Neuberger Attacks John Day Dam Stand

Washington — (U.P.) — Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D-Ore.), has attacked the administration for sticking to "the discredited partnership scheme" for John Day on the Columbia river.

North Hollywood — (U.P.) — Singer Yvonne King, one of the four King Sisters, and bandleader Del Courtney were married here Sunday.

The letter "R" at the start of a doctor's prescription stands for Latin "recipe."

There are about 1,500 rail tunnels in the U.S. with a total length of 320 miles.

More fish are used in the U.S. each year for industrial processing than for food.

About 400,000 persons are ill of pneumonia in the U.S. each year.

A person is injured in a home accident every six and one-half seconds.

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