

Authority on Gardening Outlines Steps for Novice

By EDNA KING MANDEVILLE

An hour a week is all it takes to have an honest-to-goodness flower garden. Last week we discussed what to do during the first two weeks. The first hour is devoted to planning—strictly an arm chair assignment. The hour of the second week is spent in choosing varieties from one of the flower seed displays in your local stores, a most interesting, if not downright exciting assignment. Now we come to the business of making a garden.

Third Week: Preparing Your Soil. Now you can really get started on the garden itself. It's best to begin by raking off the surface to free it from any vegetation that cannot easily be spaded under. If your soil is not rich, throw on a light coating of any well-balanced fertilizer. Then, for the remainder of your third hour, spade the earth to the depth of the spade, turning the earth full over in the same spot where you dug the soil.

Fourth Week: Keep on Spading. It's not only necessary, but it's healthful exercise as well—and it's a good way to reduce your waistline. If the soil is heavy, break up such spadeful as you turn it over. Then rake the garden thoroughly to break up any remaining lumps and level it off. All that remains is to fill in any hollow spots that may have developed, and you're ready to plant!

Fifth Week: Planting. This, to me, is one of the most satisfying and rewarding parts of flower gardening. I seem to enjoy sowing a nice straight row in a carefully prepared plot almost as much as seeing the first tiny shoots appear, or even picking the first blossoms. The seed companies are very careful in their instructions on the back of the packets, and you can follow them for most of the directions you'll need. There may even be a map on the back telling you when to plant the particular variety in your locality. Do not plant earlier than it suggests, as a too early planting could end in disaster.

Very small seeds will not germinate if planted too deeply, so follow the packet instructions as to depth of planting, too. For a beginner, it is probably best to sow the seeds in straight rows, using a string tied from stake to stake. You can also use a stake or rake handle to mark off trenches of the required depth. Straight line planting is not always the best for design and

color schemes, but it does require the least time.

Sixth Week: Sprinkling the Ground. If it hasn't rained during the week the ground should be moistened. Soak it thoroughly, but be careful not to wash away any of the seeds. A very light soaking does little good, so take your time with it. Few seedlings will have appeared as yet, and even the weeds will hardly be large enough to bother about. If there's been a heavy rain during the week you can sit back and take it easy.

Seventh Week: Cultivating. Now is the time to hoe out the weeds between the rows. Many seedlings will have appeared, unless the weather has been unusually cold, and do not trust your hoe too close to them. It's best to kneel right down and pull those weeds by hand! There should be a picture on the back of the seed packet to help you tell the seedlings from the weeds. Even after so many years I still find these pictures most helpful.

Eighth Week: Thinning Out. Varieties that have now grown over an inch high should be thinned. The packet will tell you how much space to allow between plants. Even if the space seems too great, it's important to follow these instructions. A crowded plant means an inferior one, regardless of the seed quality. Flowers do not like crowded living any more than you would. I certainly know that it takes real discipline to pull out healthy seedlings and just throw them away, but adequate thinning is a gardening "must." Actually, you needn't throw away all your seedlings. Unless the packet says "not transplantable" the surplus seedlings may be planted elsewhere.

Ninth Week: Killing the Weeds. From now until late Fall, your only duty will be to keep the garden weed-free by hoeing and pulling. If this is done regularly, only a few minutes a week will be required. You'll find that the first flowers are usually the poorest, and if you wish you can pinch off the first buds. This will give the plant more strength and room for more flowers.

Where your garden is one place where you can "have your cake and eat it too." Believe it or not, the more flowers you pick, the more there'll be! In fact, if the flowers aren't picked blooming is likely to stop. When your own vases and bowls are full, remember your friends and neighbors.



Mr. and Mrs. Morris Boughner (Landis-Shangle photo)

Annual Installation Held By Star Chapter Thursday

Officers for Reames chapter, Order of Eastern Star, were installed in a colorful ceremony at Medford Masonic temple March 28. Taking office as worthy matron was Mrs. V. Morris Boughner, who succeeds Mrs. E. G. Randolph.

Spring blossoms, yellow daffodils and candles were used to decorate the chapter room.

Installed with Mrs. Boughner were her husband, Morris Boughner, as worthy patron; Mrs. Earl E. McKinney, associate matron; Herbert Morris, associate patron; Mrs. Ray K. Bailey, secretary; Miss Pauline Champlin, treasurer; Mrs. Frank C. Roberts, conductress; Mrs. Roy V. Nordwick, associate conductress; Mrs. W. R. Duffy, chaplain; Mrs. J. Peters, marshal; Mrs. George Ketchum, organist; Mrs. Jennie Creager, warder; Mrs. Roy Hise, sentinel; Mrs. Gene Dyke, Adah; Mrs. Lloyd Caton, Ruth; Mrs. Stewart Pennington, Esther; Mrs. Don Ashpole, Martha; Mrs. Alva Perkins, Electa. Mrs. E. G. Randolph will be soloist.

Past matrons, and past patrons were installing officers. They were Mrs. John Esp, installing matron; Mr. Esp, installing patron; Mrs. Jack Caldwell, installing marshal; Mrs. Eva Mae White, installing chaplain; Mrs. John Smith, secretary and Mrs. L. G. Frink, organist.

Mr. Boughner led the prayer at the altar, Job's Daughters participated by forming a cross in the West, after which Mr. and Mrs. Boughner were escorted back to the East by Miss Ann Garner, queen, of Bethel 14, and Jay Walker, master counselor, Medford chapter, Order of DeMolay.

During the ceremony Mrs. Charles Champlin sang, accompanied by Mrs. Frink, and Fred Graten, accompanied by Mrs. George Ketchum, also sang.

The gavel which Mr. Boughner presented to his wife, was one that he himself had made.

Mrs. Boughner introduced her mother, Mrs. John G. Edwards from Lindsay, Calif., her sister, Mrs. Ralph Gann from Tehachapi, Calif., and her sister-in-law, Mrs. John Edwards from Lindsay. Representing the family, little Mikelynn Boughner presented her mother with a bouquet of talisman roses.

Special entertainment during the evening included an adendum by the new corps of officers. Mrs. Randolph, now junior past matron, and Mikelynn Boughner also participated. A gift from the incoming officer was presented.

Ritual Practice Planned by WOTM

Women of the Moose will hold ritual practice at the hall Monday, April 1, at 8 p.m. Theme of the float for the Pear Blossom festival will be discussed at this meeting.

At the next special meeting to be held Wednesday, April 10, balloting on candidates will be held. Those elected to membership will be initiated Wednesday, April 17 at Moose hall, 8 p.m.

Cascade lodge, Canyonville, and Harry W. Arbogast, Maple lodge, Myrtle Creek.

General chairman for the evening were, Mrs. Esp, Mrs. Jack Caldwell, Mrs. E. G. Randolph, Mrs. Frank Little and Mrs. John Smith. Hostesses were, Mrs. Fred Purdin, Mrs. R. L. Ray, Mrs. Frank Little, Mrs. Thomas Freed and Mrs. C. E. Kunz.

Love and friendship was the reception theme. Refreshments were served from tables arranged in star form and decorated with yellow daffodils, greenery and tall yellow tapers and glistening colored stars of varying sizes. The ceiling of the room was woven with pink, blue, green and yellow crepe paper, through which hung hundreds of glistening colored stars.

State Director Attends Session

Finis L. Snodgrass, Oregon state director of Townsend clubs, was a guest speaker at the local club luncheon and meeting last Wednesday at Carpenters hall. Thirty-three members attended.

Mr. Snodgrass talked on the coming Townsend National convention to be held June 23-29 in Denver, Colo. The Medford club is entitled to send two delegates.

Two members were honored with birthday cakes.

Mrs. Thornton Arnold, club president, presided. A letter was read by the chairman giving a full account of the fourth district council meeting held at Cottage Grove, Ore., March 3. The meeting closed with a penny drill and musical entertainment. For the Townsend auxiliary meeting to be held Wednesday, April 3, the ladies have volunteered to bring pies, and the men are asked to bring food in cans for a potluck luncheon at 12:30 p.m. The two clubs welcome visitors.

Power less than is required to operate an average flashlight is sufficient to send a short wave radio message completely around the world.

Olive Rebekah Lodge To Meet on Monday

Olive Rebekah lodge will meet Monday, April 1, at 8 p.m. at the Odd Fellows hall. A cake walk will be held by the Theta Rho girls during the evening.

Hostesses for the evening will be Mrs. L. O. Howard, Mrs. Liza Hamilton, Mrs. Mary Brown, and Mrs. Clarence Jordan.

Plans Work Shop

Central Point—A work shop will be held Wednesday, April 3, by the Central Point Garden club in preparation for the club flower show to be held May 8. The meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. John Holmer starting at 9 a.m.

Members are asked to take flat containers, frogs, clay snips, and daffodils, as well as a sack lunch.

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