



THESE GORGEOUS, large and creamy blooms are of the General MacArthur strain of iris grown by Mrs. Loella Kucera. Mrs. Kucera, who has been growing iris for more than 30 years, has more than 900 varieties in her garden at 3951 Summers Lane. Specimens from her collection, which include some of the finest grown, have been sent to locations throughout the United States.



Over the GARDEN GATE

By RUTH KING
IRIS
Author Unknown

Endless snow and frosted pane,
How sure you feel that winter will
not wane.
'Til suddenly at dawn you feel
The air grow soft—a robin sing,
And while the earth, breathless,
deep in rain
That touches every yearning to
be growing things
You wait to find the lawn
Has had its birthday fling.
You'll be enraptured over violets
And the joy the jonquils bring,
And marvel at the blueness of the
sky
Where calling birds have taken
wing.
And in the hush that follows,
You'll give thanks for everything,
But most of all, it's Iris,
That you'll think of,
For Iris is the heart of Spring.

Iris is just about the most easily
grown of all the blossoms in the
flower border. From Iris expert,
Loella Kucera, who scans an Iris
catalogue with eagle eye, and who
has over 900 varieties, old favorites
and the newest on the market,
comes this comment, "Those leaf
spots seen this year are not the
result of a disease, but the result
of the recent wet winter, wet
spring." And here we have been
moping over the prospect of dis-
carding some of our own beauties,
that came originally from Loella's
garden as a gift.

Leaf spot is prevalent wherever
there is excessive winter moisture
and spraying in early spring and
late fall with a Bordeaux mixture
is the answer to healthy foliage.

Wondered why some of the iris
we divided last fall did not bloom
this spring and found out from
Mrs. K. that we had discarded
the new growth and kept the
"mother rhizome." The rhizome
that has already produced a bloom
is done, except for producing new
foliage. If you — as we do, find
that come August when plants
should be divided, you are too

rushed to lift all the plant and
divide the new growth for setting,
take a sharp knife and cut out
the rhizome that has produced a
flower stalk. This gives new
growth room.

The newly developed Mohr strain
of iris has larger flowers and less
foliage, an advantage in garden
displays. Blooms of many of the
new strains sez, Mrs. K., are not
so fragile, can take wind beating
and moisture without too much
damage.

Pinks are deeper and coming
more true to color, June Mere-
dith and Mary Randall, being par-
ticularly heavenly.

Watch out for barnyard fertilizer
when planting . . . 'tis good to
spade into the soil for next year's
boost but beware using it when
setting our rhizomes . . . use
instead a bit of bone meal stirred
into the earth . . . good drainage
is important too.

So . . . happy gardening!

Helicopter Is Used For Cement Pouring

WASHINGTON (UPI) —The
helicopter, the most versatile man-
made "bird" has a new use —
pouring cement from the air.

Planes, official publication of the
Aircraft Industries Association,
said the helicopter was given the
cement assignment in the construc-
tion of power lines across a moun-
tain range.

The publication said that after
the helicopter delivered the crews
to the mountain construction sites
where holes were prepared for the
cement footings, the whirlybird re-
turned and picked up containers
of wet cement at the base camp.

It then poured the wet cement
directly into the holes while it hovered
overhead. Next it brought up
prefabricated tower sections and
lowered them onto the footings.

Admiral Richard E. Byrd made
his first flight over the South
Pole in November of 1929.

Farm Adviser Relates Ways To Prevent Soil Packing

It's hard to undo damage once
soil is compacted or packed to a
concrete-like consistency. This in-
creasingly common farm problem
should be avoided if possible.

The use of heavy machinery in

farming operations may pack cer-
tain types of soil to form unpro-
ductive hardpans, to hard layers
of soil, just below plow depth,
explains Ken Baghott, Tulelake
farm adviser. These layers reduce
a soil's ability to absorb water at
the surface, and decrease penetra-
tion of moisture into the lower lev-
els. In some cases it also restricts
the normal root development of
crops.

The New Pantry Gives Housewife Much More Room

Modern housewives have taken a
long, close look at the old-fashioned
pantry and decided that it still has
an important use in family living.
Delegates to the second annual
Women's Congress on Better Living
in Washington added a few inno-
vations to the same pantry that
Grandma used so successfully, and
came up with an all-purpose room
that serves as a food preparation
center, laundry area, storage
space, writing room or even a
snack bar.

Washer-dryer units can be built
into the pantry quite readily, and
their central location eliminates
hundreds of steps each day. A
folding ironing board can be low-
ered when needed to keep the en-
tire operation in the room. All sort-
ing can also be done in this pantry.

Soft pastel walls seem to make
the time go faster, and they can
be damp-wiped in minutes.

Many women consider the pan-
try their "den" and have equip-
ped it with a small fold-down desk
for handling correspondence and mak-
ing out grocery lists. A radio or
even a small portable television
set makes this area a haven for the
busy homemaker. A clever
decorative touch can be added by
finishing this area in handsome
woodgrain paneling of the same
predecorated hardboard used on
the main walls.

If more extensive work is to be
done in the pantry, a wall may be
eliminated to provide space for a
snack counter, or a pass-through
may be added to facilitate work
between the food preparation area
and the kitchen proper. If the pan-
try is to be used primarily as an
eating area, it can be finished in
woodgrain planks to contrast with
the pastel paneling in the kitchen.

ORIGIN UNKNOWN

Students of plant origins are
still trying to determine the ori-
gin of corn. All vegetables are
known to have ancestral form, but
not corn.

Wooden Fences

Q. What are the different kinds
of wooden fences that I can build
for my home?

A. There are numerous individ-
ual fence designs possible. The
best thing to do is to design one
that satisfies the needs of the
homeowner and the area it will
serve. A popular practice is to
construct a fence of ordinary
boards of the western pine region
available at any lumber yard.

CAPTAINS BY DOZENS

In the American colonies, any
man who could raise a company
of 59 men could win a captaincy
in the army, according to the En-
cyclopedia Britannica.

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